

2019 Legislative Session Update

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Shaun Seaman

Tracy Yount



CHELAN COUNTY
POWER

www.chelanpud.org

Top Issues

- Bid Limits
- Transportation
- Broadband Access
- Hydro Tax Parity
- Wildfire
- Low Carbon Fuel Standard

SB 5418 PUD Bid Limits

- Bill Outline
 - Increase contract thresholds
- Status
 - Awaiting Governor's Signature
- Outcomes
 - Increase threshold for District performed work
 - Equipment now includes cable, conductor, wire, pipe for electric, water and telecom
 - Small works limit increase
 - Materials, equipment, supplies threshold increase
 - Work/labor levels for competitive procurement increased

Transportation

- HB 1512 – Electrification
 - Utility authority to offer programs
 - Signed by Gov. Inslee April 23
- HB 2042 – Green Transportation
 - Sales and use tax exemptions
 - EV charging infrastructure grant program
 - Grant program for transit charging electrification
 - Bill sent to Governor for signature

SB 5511 - Broadband Access

- Bill Outline Highlights
 - Establishes State Broadband Office
 - Safe Harbor
- Status
 - Awaiting governor's signature
- Issues
 - Duration of Safe Harbor Service: 6-months
- Position
 - Neutral

SB 6012 – Hydro Tax Parity

- Bill Outline
 - Provides for tax treatment of hydro similar to wind and solar resources
- Status
 - Did not leave Senate Rules Committee

Wildfire Related Legislation

- SB 5996 – DNR funding for wildfire prevention
 - Legislature did not take action
- SB 5305 – Utility Wildland Fire Taskforce
 - Delivered to Gov. Inslee April 16

Low Carbon Fuel Standard

- Bill Outline
 - Limit GHG emissions for Transportation to 20% below 2017 levels by 2035
- Status
 - No action taken

SB 5116 – Clean Energy Standard

- Bill Outline
 - 100% Clean Energy
 - Low Income Energy Assistance
- Status
 - Awaiting governor's signature
- Issues
 - Low Income Assistance Program
 - Offer programs with flexibility how they are designed and implemented to reflect customer needs
 - Commerce to calculate energy burden for low income customers
 - Program details TBD