Current News - Go Lake Chelan

Confusion and concern about Chelan PUD's sub-station intentions

Contributor: Richard Uhlhorn 7/10/2015

Susan Hartman, Chelan PUD spokesperson, showed up towards the end of Thursday's council meeting to address PUD sub-station rumors.

Confusion and concern about Chelan PUD's sub-station intentions

Karen Hogan, a Chelan resident, shared concerns about Chelan County PUD constructing a new sub-station without any public plans or opportunity to comment on this issue. "We haven't had any opportunity to comment and I haven't seen any plans," said Hogan.

Council looked to Planning Director Craig Gildroy for an answer to Hogan's questions. "It's the first I heard of it, too," said Gildroy. "They are in the initial stages of planning a new sub-station, and no decision has been made to its location."

Gildroy went on to tell the Council that the PUD would have to set-up a pre-application meeting with the City, hold public hearings and obtain proper permits before any construction could take place.

"I understand that the PUD will have public outreach on this issue," said Gildroy.

Councilman Michael Steele stated that the rumor got started when some PUD engineers got ahead of the curve. "The actual process will include public outreach and notifications," said Steele. The sub-station is being planned for the North Shore.

Towards the end of the meeting, PUD representative Susan Hartman showed up and spoke to the rumor as well. "It's really in the preliminary planning stages," she said. She assured the Council that the PUD has every intention of getting out and talking to the community, the Rotary, the Chamber of Commerce, and the City Council. 'We are going to work with the community," she said. Chelan resident Karen Hogan asked about Chelan PUD's plan to build another sub-station in the Chelan area without having a plan and not allowing any comments from the public.