

NOTES & ACTION ITEMS
Meeting No. 7 – September 25, 2017
North Shore Chelan Substation Community Focus Group

Focus Group member attendees: Fred Cleveland, Steve Firman, Tom Anglin, John Dryer, Wendy Isenhart, Michael Gibb, Mayor-Mike Cooney

PUD staff attendees: John Stoll, Andy Wendell, Chad Rissman, Teka Sellers, Gary Rice, Suzanne Hartman

Purpose: Update focus group on two sites under consideration and outreach next steps.

Desired Outcomes:

- Understanding of the two sites under consideration
 - Hear any community concerns about the two sites under consideration
 - Understanding of timeline and outreach next steps
 - Agree on focus group role moving forward
-

10 members of the public (non-focus group members) attended:

- Robin Vogel & Corky Thoreson
- Carolyn & Carl Glosenger
- Kathy Branch
- Larry & Caroline Summers
- Bill & Angell Clark
- Virginia Beckley

Meeting Summary:

- John Stoll opened the meeting and provided an overview of the project status.
- Introductions by staff, focus group members and members of the public, who each provided a bit about their interest in the project
- Chad Rissman reviewed work by staff since last focus group meeting:
 - March – Three outlying sites under consideration – presentation to Commissioners
 - May – Determined underground transmission is infeasible for this project
 - May – Staff directed to seek sites closer to the load center and above the Chelan-Manson transmission line
 - Staff has been working with willing property sellers to secure property options
- Chad provided an overview of what we know about each of the two sites under consideration.
- PUD staff believes the two sites meet operational needs.
- When building new distribution lines, the PUD typically matches what's existing in the area and this was used as a starting point on the conceptual maps showing the distribution circuits.
- Underground distribution has a higher cost than overhead.
- Property options expire at the end of November. The Henderson property option includes purchase of other property near Stehekin Way. The PUD is only evaluating the Boyd Road and Henderson site #7 sites for a future substation.
- Chad reminded those in attendance that all additive load since 1984 is responsible for the need for an additional substation. The need for the substation cannot be attributed to any specific developments.
- The Henderson site could be double-banked (two transformers installed) to keep from needing to use the mobile substation during maintenance and repairs. The mobile substation would be needed when the capacity of the second transformer is needed.
- The PUD does not want to condemn, want to find a win-win for the community. Staff must justify spending to Commissioners, auditors, and PUD customer-owners.
- PUD staff attempted to assess view impact but recognizes that it is personal and case by case.
- PUD staff did a site walk with Clarks and Summers to visit site ideas on property they own.

Comments and General Concerns:

- Do not want more overhead lines, bigger wires or taller poles – concerns about views and health impacts.
- Concerns about the substation include health, impacts to land and animals, views, noise, lighting, and property values.
- Underground distribution should be used in areas where overhead distribution is shown on the conceptual maps.
- Many in attendance said they would be willing to pay for underground lines (transmission). Michael Gibb suggested a surcharge to a “zone” on the north shore.
- Tom Anglin expressed it may be difficult to get Chelan-area residents to pay more to put lines underground.
- Mayor Mike Cooney mentioned that the comprehensive plan includes undergrounding electrical lines for the city moving forward; he also encouraged the group present today to continue working on this issue to help site the next two Chelan-area substations; and said that this group should be ambassadors to the community about the project.
- Carl Glossenger suggested the ideal location be chosen regardless of the cost.

Boyd Road site (Hellyer property):

1. Additional overhead transmission would have visual impact.
2. Requests if substation is located at Boyd Road site:
 - Must put transmission underground
 - Must put distribution underground
 - Prefer to move site to the east on Hellyer property
3. Michael Gibb expressed the above is non-negotiable and there is community intent for filing public information request and encouraging an EPA study.
4. Alternate route suggested for circuit #2 to follow recently installed irrigation line underground down Purtteman Gulch.

Henderson site #7:

1. Visual and noise impacts of substation.
2. Construction impacts of underground distribution along Pinnacle Place.
3. Access to the site along Henderson Road.
4. Requirement of purchasing additional Henderson property.
5. Visual impacts of transmission tap.
6. Option not acceptable by Chelan Hills or adjacent property owners.

Q&A:

Q: Can the substation site be moved to different locations on the Hellyer or Henderson property?

A: These locations are what the property owners agreed to for a substation site.

Q: If new distribution lines are put overhead, will they look like what we see in the area now?

A: Assume the wire may be 1-3 inches larger in diameter and poles may be about 5 feet taller than what's existing. If a single circuit line is installed overhead, there would be four lines – three energized wires and one neutral. If a double circuit line is installed overhead, there would be seven lines – six energized wires and one neutral.

Q: Does underground distribution impact well water?

A: No. The conduit is PVC. The ground is a natural insulator.

Q: Is it possible to put a substation in a building?

A: Yes, it is possible, but not feasible for this project.

The PUD welcomes the public's input. You can share your comments on our website,

chelanpud.org/NewChelanSubstation, by calling 509-661-4294 or emailing teka.sellers@chelanpud.org.