

2013 Annual Report



Producer profile: Vic Rasmussen

Location: 1521 Medina Pl.,
Wenatchee

Installation: 15 solar modules
are tucked away on the south-
facing side of Rasmussen's home
on a quiet cul-de-sac



Capacity: 2.85 kW

Joined SNAP: March 2, 2012

Vic Rasmussen says he had three reasons for putting solar panels on the roof of his garage: Capitalize on a federal tax credit, stabilize expenses (utility bills) before going into retirement, and improve the value of his house.

So far, so good. The credit will show up on his taxes this year. In the summer, he's producing up to a third of the energy used at his home. And along with a major remodeling project, he's secured a lasting investment in his home.

As a matter of fact, there's room for additional solar panels on the roof of his garage, should he decide to add them. The roof has optimal sun exposure, grabbing up to 98 percent of each day's rays.

"Even though electricity is inexpensive here, I don't see power getting any cheaper," he said. "The more control I have over my bills in retirement the better off I'll be."

Rasmussen is the service manager at Town Ford. He's planning ahead for retirement.

"I endorse this technology," he said. "Solar is very non-obtrusive, there are no moving parts. It should go on for a long period of time and just continue producing electricity."



SNAP 
Sustainable Natural Alternative Power



CHELAN COUNTY
www.chelanpud.org

Eight is great

Eight solar producers signed on to SNAP in the past year, helping push the program to a production record of 175,142 kilowatt hours of energy.

The new record beat the old, set in 2012, of 156,911. The previous peak was 136,065 kilowatt hours in 2007.

The eight new producers, all with fixed solar systems, added 26 kW of capacity. They are:

- Vic Rasmussen, 1521 Medina Pl., Wenatchee
- Gail Mueller, 2986 Lakeshore Dr., Manson
- Gro Buer and Bruce Williams, 8050 E. Leavenworth Road, Leavenworth
- Greg and Mary Steeber, 12512 Wilson St., Leavenworth
- John Smith, 5108 Old Blewett Pass Road, Peshastin
- Harrison Mekeel, 654 Loop Ave., Manson
- Travis Fox, 6555 Pioneer Ave., Cashmere
- Chuck Fowler, 10420 North Road, Leavenworth

Three applications from potential SNAP producers are pending for installations totaling 11 kW in Leavenworth, Manson and Wenatchee.

The program is growing largely due to generous state-sponsored incentives. Producers using solar modules and inverters manufactured in Washington are eligible for the highest payouts available through the state's renewable incentive program. Taking advantage of the state incentives, in addition to SNAP, brings a faster return on investment.

The state payments come from the state's utility tax fund; SNAP payments come from PUD customers interested in renewable energy. Customers contributed \$24,674 this past year, for payments of 14 cents per kilowatt hour to the schools, nonprofit agencies and individuals who are generating solar, wind and small-hydro power.

A list of our SNAP producers is at <http://www.chelanpud.org/snap.html>.

Thank you, SNAP supporters, for your contributions.

Go Lightly

Sign up for our Lightly e-newsletter and receive monthly updates on money-saving rebates and energy efficiency efforts at Chelan PUD. To sign up, visit chelanpud.org (click on "Sign up for our newsletters" on the home page) or send an email to conservation@chelanpud.org.



Continued →

Producer profile: Bruce Williams and Gro Buer

Location: 8050 E. Leavenworth Road,
Leavenworth

Installation: 38 solar modules mounted on
a wooden framework

Capacity: 7.2 kW

Joined SNAP: July 16, 2012

Bruce Williams is a former banker who knows a good investment when he sees it. Placing solar modules at the home he shares with wife Gro Buer and their daughter Marina made economic sense, he said.

“The system will pay for itself in six to seven years,” Williams said. “When you think about where to invest your dollars these days... it’s a much better investment than bank CDs.”

Economics was not the only factor behind the decision Williams and Buer made to plant solar panels next to their vegetable garden. They’re also making a personal statement about support of alternative energy.

“As a country we are way too dependent on



foreign oil,” Williams said. “Then there’s the issue of climate change. This (solar) will take awhile to develop, but it’s worth it to us as a country to try to figure out how to reduce our consumption of foreign oil and our carbon output.”

The Williams/Buer home is situated on 4 ½ acres with a captivating mountain view (shown on front cover). Buer, who used to teach science, was the driving force behind the solar installation; she had insisted on placing panels at the couple’s former home in Seattle as well. Buer now teaches English as a Second Language for the Cascade School District and Wenatchee Valley College. Williams is retired yet serves on the boards of the public hospital district that operates Cascade Medical Center, PCC Natural Markets and his former employer, HomeStreet Bank, where he was CEO. They moved here from Seattle two years ago and “feel really, really lucky to be here,” Williams said.

They acknowledge neighbors Lauren Johnson and Barbara Rossing, who have a similar solar set-up, for getting them started. They’re happy with the work done by Leavenworth Electric to install their system. And they have kudos for the SNAP program. “The combination made it easy for us to do this,” Williams said.



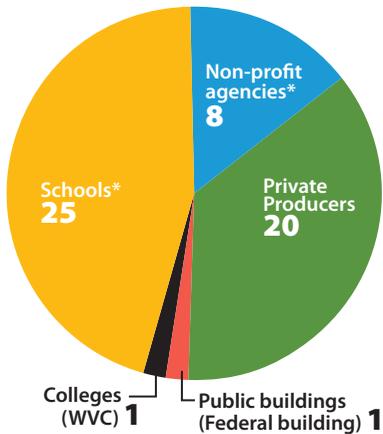
Our thanks is in the bag

Bring this coupon to your nearest Chelan PUD office in Wenatchee, Leavenworth or Chelan and exchange it for a free reusable grocery bag. These bright green bags made from 30 percent recycled materials have the look and strength of a cloth bag. Pick up a bag as a token of our appreciation for your continued support. Tell your friends about SNAP. If they sign up as supporters they'll get a bag, too! Offer available while supplies last. Contact us at (509) 661-8008 or on the web: <http://www.chelanpud.org/snap.html>.



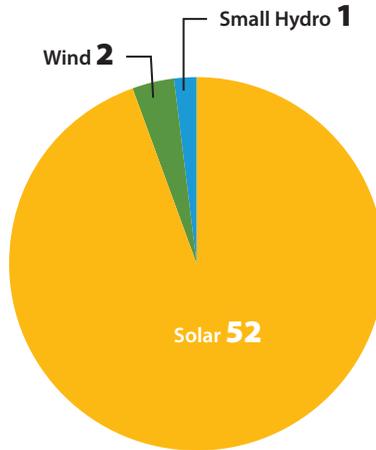
A snapshot of SNAP in 2013

Number of SNAP Producers: 54



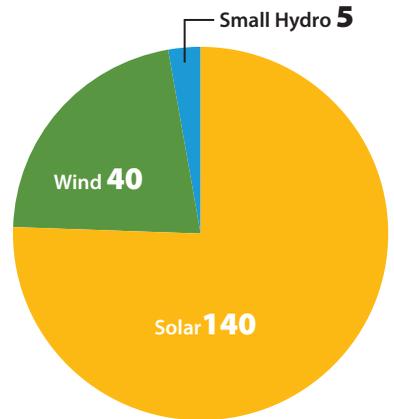
(*installations funded by Alcoa/IBEW)

SNAP Producers by type

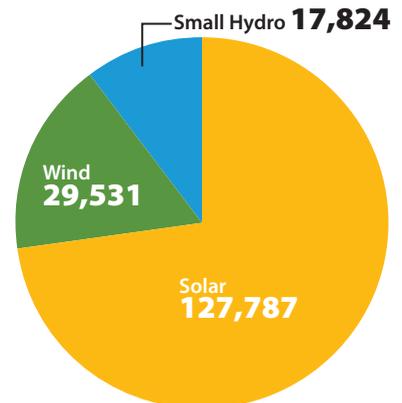


(One producer has both solar and small hydro.)

Capacity: 185 (in kilowatts)



Generation: 175,142 (total kilowatt hours in 2012-2013)



Point of reference: An average home in Chelan County uses approximately 22,000 kilowatt hours of electricity per year.