Mission: To provide sustainable, reliable utility services that enhance the quality of life in Chelan County.

PUD PROFILE

Chelan County PUD owns and operates one of the nation’s largest nonfederal, customer-owned hydropower generating systems.

Chelan PUD’s highest priority is keeping our core assets in top shape. Investing in our hydropower projects, distribution systems, facilities and people ensures we continue to produce clean, renewable, carbon-free energy and create value for our customer-owners.

Chelan PUD’s three dams have demonstrated for decades the value of public power and local control. Together the dams can generate nearly 2,000 megawatts of power at their peak. In 2015, they produced 9.2 million megawatt-hours of affordable, emission-free electricity.

CUSTOMER-OWNERS GIVE CHELAN PUD HIGH RATING FOR ITS LOW RATES, GOOD CUSTOMER SERVICE, GREAT COMMUNICATIONS AND FEW OR QUICKLY FIXED OUTAGES

A satisfaction survey conducted in late February and early March showed Chelan PUD enjoys “an enviable relationship with its customers.” In particular, customers reported reliable service, quick outage restoration, the new website and communication with customers as exemplary. The English and Spanish gathering answers from 406 customers, a statistically valid and randomly-selected group. Customers were asked questions on topics from customer service and power outages, to advanced metering and energy efficiency.

Overall, more than 90 percent of customers rated Chelan PUD a 4 or a 5 on a five-point scale. Customers also rated the District communications highly, with 94 percent giving communication efforts a 4 or 5. The PUD’s target for response to inquiries or calls by the extraordinary wildfires of 2015 made a very favorable impression on customers, even more than six months later.

ALCOA CURTAILMENT CONTINUES PAST 90-DAY SHUTDOWN THRESHOLD

In December 2015, Alcoa curtailed its Wenatchee Works smelting facility. When the current contract with Alcoa was crafted in 2007, several provisions were included as incentives for Alcoa to remain in Wenatchee and keep operating, with increased financial benefits for more production and for the employment of plant workers. Keeping well-paid industrial jobs in the community was a high priority for the District commission.

Under terms of the power sales agreement, Alcoa must continue to pay its 26 percent share of the costs and charges regardless of the actual amount of energy produced or the amount of power used to operate Wenatchee Works. In accordance with contract provisions addressing a shutdown, the District is selling unused power in the wholesale market on Alcoa’s behalf. Since the 90-day shutdown threshold was met in March 2016, proceeds from the sale of any unused power are being applied to Alcoa’s monthly contractual costs.

Any surplus proceeds in excess of Alcoa’s costs are being retained by the District and any shortfalls are paid by Alcoa.

To incent Alcoa to return to operations, there are additional contractual charges that will apply during shutdown, depending on how long the plant remains idle. The Alcoa shutdown is not expected to adversely impact the District’s 2016 finances.

DISTRICT CONTINUES TO REINVEST IN CORE, VALUE-CREATING ASSETS SUPPORTING STRATEGIC PLANS

The District continues to move forward under an existing contract with Alcoa to economically repair the large units at Rock Reach and restoring variable pitch blades. Currently, there is one unit under turbine repair with others scheduled to follow one unit at a time. Additionally, the District is addressing end-of-life plans for the windings of the same large units at Rocky Reach to permanently repair them either in advance of or during the turbine outage.

In February, PUD commissioners directed staff to accelerate repair of the main hoist drums in two powerhouse cranes at Rocky Reach Dam. Reports of cracks in similar cranes at other dams triggered an inspection of the Rocky Reach bridge crane drums with the discovery of cracks. Safe operation of the cranes is critical for hydro operations and for staying on schedule with ongoing turbine and winding repairs or replacements on the large units. Both cranes were back in service by early April.

The rehabilitation of four units at Rock Island continues to progress on schedule one unit at a time. There are currently two of the four units under repair for outage at this time, with one currently under repair and the other remaining idle until schedule allows. There are four additional smaller Rock Island units that are out of service due to concerns with blade cracking. The final evaluation of this issue is pending, however the District is currently evaluating alternatives regarding the future state of those units should they be at end of life.

Even with the unit outages, hydro generation for the three months ended March 31, 2016, was 91 percent and 98 percent of average for Rocky Reach and Rock Island, respectively. The District is evaluating potential schedule options to accelerate repairs, while ensuring any schedule modifications create value for our customer-owners.

The District is well-positioned financially and operationally to respond to the repairs, outages and costs.

COMMISSIONERS CONTINUE HIGH DENSITY LOAD RATE MORATORIUM

After more than a year of study PUD commissioners are considering a new electric rate class for customers with intense energy use of 250 kilowatt hours (kWh) per square-foot or more per year, such as data servers, block-chain and bitcoin operations. In February, PUD commissioners started formal consideration of a proposed rate for high density loads (HDL) and voted to continue the moratorium on applications for electric service from energy intensive users until October. The moratorium does not affect normal load growth, such as requests to serve new subdivisions, stores, schools, medium-size fruit warehouses or manufacturing firms. All of those typically use less than 1 average megawatts (MW).

The District load growth for all types of electric customers in the past has been 1 to 3 MWs a year.

In March, PUD commissioners reviewed the proposed rate class definition of HDL for technology operations with average electrical load up to and including 5-average megawatts at a single meter. Businesses that would be subject to the proposed rate would likely have an energy use intensity of 250 kWh per square foot per year. PUD staff proposed a rate aimed at recovering the full costs of serving the high density loads over time by charging them the production cost of the power plus customer and delivery costs. In addition, an upfront capital charge would reduce risk to the District from the costs of accelerating construction to serve HDL loads and protect against losses if those customer-owners were to leave the system.

Commissioners have targeted June for considering a decision on the proposed HDL rate to provide time through the summer for implementation.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

For the three months ended March 31, 2016, Chelan County PUD recorded a change in net position of $25.2 million, a decrease in earnings of $5.0 million from the same period in 2015. The decrease in earnings is primarily due to a decrease in wholesale sales offset somewhat with a decrease in purchased power costs and reduced interest on long-term debt. Wholesale sales are lower as a result of lower average market prices. Purchased power costs are also down compared to the prior year due to lower average market prices. The District continues to purchase power to balance system loads and resources and to support its power hedging strategy. Interest on long-term debt is reduced primarily as a result of the significant retirement of debt in 2015 lowering balances on which interest is charged.

As of March 31, 2016, combined unrestricted cash and investments totaled $263.2 million compared to $282.6 million from the same period in 2015. The decrease in unrestricted reserves compared to the same period in 2015 is primarily attributable to a combination of the District’s aggressive debt repayment program and the funding of capital assets out of cash reserves.

The $40.8 million increase in Other Assets was due primarily to an increase in long-term investments as a result of higher overall cash and investment balances and in the lengthening of investment strategies.

Current liabilities decreased $21.3 million from the prior year due primarily to a decrease in the current portion of long-term obligations as a result of changes in regularly scheduled repayments of bond principal on existing debt combined with early debt repayments. Long-term debt decreased by $89.0 million due to continued implementation of the District’s aggressive debt reduction plan.

The reduced debt leverage supports the District’s financial policies, customer-owner priorities, strong credit rating and long-term financial sustainability.
CONDENSED COMBINING STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION (Unaudited)
Three months ended March 31, 2016
(Thousands)  

OPERATING REVENUES  
$ 23,292  $ 25,025  $ 2,022  $ 69,724  $ 2,341  $ 3,946  $ (41,749) $ 84,601  $ 93,118  

OPERATING EXPENSES  
16,319  13,133  1,759  61,362 - 3,733 (41,749) 54,557  55,532  

NET OPERATING INCOME  
6,973  11,892  263  8,362  2,341  213 - 30,044  37,586  

OTHER INCOME (EXPENSE) (2)  
(2,860) (5,842) (432) 1,545  1,607  85 - (5,897) (8,038)  

CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS  
- 191 - 838 - - - 1,029  639  

CHANGE IN NET POSITION  
$ 4,113 $ 6,241 (169) $ 10,745  2,341  213 - 25,176  30,187  

CONDENSED COMBINING STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION (Unaudited)
March 31, 2016
(Thousands)  

ASSETS AND DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES  

Intra-District Transactions (1) 03/31/16 03/31/15  

TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS  
$ 9,386  $ 11,031  $ 1,479  $ 63,737  $ 14,076  $ 5,092 $ - 104,801  166,842  

NET UTILITY PLANT  
312,000  314,205  91,420  309,320 - 29,094 - 1,056,039  1,059,561  

RESTRICTED ASSETS - NONCURRENT  
48,423  96,300 - 4,934  22,016  6,070 - 177,743  171,525  

OTHER ASSETS  
9,312  24,583  6,480  151,720  77,229  15,085 (14,446) 269,963  229,135  

DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES  
1,701  4,540  215  2,729  5,352 - - 14,537  13,688  

TOTAL ASSETS & DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES  
$ 380,822  $ 450,659  $ 99,594  $ 532,440  $ 118,673  $ 55,341  (14,446) 1,623,083  1,640,751  

LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND NET POSITION  

CURRENT LIABILITIES  
$ 25,022  $ 33,839  $ 3,030  $ 32,148  $ (10,502)  $ 18,634 $ - 102,171  123,461  

INTERSYSTEM PAYABLE (RECEIVABLE) (CURRENT)  
[291] [144] [277] 6,318 - (5,606) - - -  

LONG-TERM DEBT  
165,640  328,749  8,774 (3,610) 53,640  33,727 - 586,920  675,870  

UNEARNED REVENUES  
8,998  9,412 - 80,528  8,790 - (14,446) 93,282  100,051  

OTHER LIABILITIES  
23,094  24,009  10,311  22,210 - - - 79,624  68,153  

TOTAL LIABILITIES  
222,463  395,865  21,838 137,594  51,928  15,085 (14,446) 861,997  967,535  

DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES  
2,921  30,554  341  6,296  3,463  240 - 43,815  52,956  

TOTAL NET POSITION  
155,438  24,240  77,415 388,550  63,282  8,346 - 1,623,203  1,640,751  

NOTES TO CONDENSED STATEMENTS
(1) Intra-District transactions are eliminated.  
(2) Consists primarily of investment income and interest expense on long-term debt.  
Public Utility District No.1 of Chelan County (Chelan County PUD) has prepared condensed financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Condensed financial statements should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements included in Chelan County PUD’s Annual Report as of December 31, 2015. This information is provided for general information. Not all the information is intended for nor should it be relied upon for making investment decisions by current or prospective investors.

ELECTRIC
As of March 31 2016 2015
Number of Customers 49,779 49,609  
Number of Residential Customers 37,297 37,103  
YTD Average Residential Rate (Cents/kWh) 3.06 3.10  

POWER GENERATION (MWh) (000)
3 months ended March 31 2016 2015
Lake Chelan 127 128  
Rocky Reach 1,456 1,900  
Rock Island 747 977  

HYDRO PRODUCTION COST/MWH GENERATED ($/MWh)
3 months ended March 31 2016 2015
Lake Chelan $ 15 $ 14  
Rocky Reach 13 9  
Rock Island 25 18  

HYDRO PRODUCTION COST/MWH GENERATED ($/MWh)
Lake Chelan $ 15 $ 14
Rocky Reach 13 9
Rock Island 25 18

HYDRO PRODUCTION COST/MWH GENERATED ($/MWh)
Lake Chelan $ 15 $ 14
Rocky Reach 13 9
Rock Island 25 18

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Rocky Reach 13 9
Rock Island 25 18