

Outreach Summary & Next Steps

Chelan Dam Substation – May 2019

Background

On Wednesday, May 15, the PUD held an informational drop-in session to present updates on three topics of interest in the Chelan area:

- Chelan Dam Substation
- Chelan Transmission Fire Hardening
- Lake Levels

The purpose of the meeting for the Chelan Dam Substation was to reinforce the need for a new substation, and begin preliminary evaluations of potential substation sites in southeast Chelan.

How we informed

Prior to the event, Chelan PUD reached out to stakeholders in the following ways:

- Postcard to Chelan and Chelan Falls customers
- Emails to Chelan and Chelan Falls customers
- Press release and mentions on KOZI
- Advertisements in the *Mirror* and on LakeChelanNow
- Posters posted in key locations around town
- [Project website](#)
- [Project Fact Sheet](#)

What we heard

Staff recorded questions and comments about the substation from attendees, including:

- Generally, attendees were supportive of the need to build a new substation in southeast Chelan.
- Generally, attendees preferred Sites A and B over Sites C and D.
- The PUD should site the substation as far east as possible to reduce the miles of transmission lines.
- Is the PUD only looking at PUD property? Have you considered private property like the scrap yard?
- Can the substation be sited on top of the penstock?
- How will constructing the substation/transmission line benefit existing/future trail infrastructure? Is there any potential to improve parking, trails, or Gorge Road as part of this work?
- Does the PUD know how many substations will be needed in the valley to meet anticipated growth in the next 20 years? 50 years?
- Will Gorge Road still be accessible to cars/pedestrians if the transmission line is sited in that area?
- The PUD should work closely with the hang-gliding community when siting the substation and transmission line because of the safety hazards this infrastructure can pose (these stakeholders prefer sites A and B).
- Will distribution lines from the substation be put underground?
- Is the PUD considering underground transmission?
- Will the poles for the new transmission line be steel (like the fire hardening project)?

Substation next steps

Community outreach in May showed general public support for further evaluation of the proposed sites – particularly Sites A and B. PUD staff will work to incorporate public feedback about the sites into the evaluation, with the hope of selecting a site by June. Then the PUD will work with the community to evaluate transmission alternatives to serve the substation.

Proposed Chelan Dam Substation Timeline

