



GM Steve Wright

 Dollars and sense equal stewardship



Steve Wright

myself surrounded by like-minded coworkers at Chelan County PUD.

As I meet and talk with more and more of you, it's probably becoming clear that I'm a Columbia Riverphile. Happily, I find

Finances are fundamental

Protecting this life-giving river is a great responsibility as well as a privilege. Many things go into meeting that responsibility; sound finances are fundamental. Our customer-owners expect that.

The significant repairs we're facing to four turbines at Rocky Reach Dam show why the PUD's solid finances are so important. The discovery of a cracked rod and other damage in one of the units prompted us to take three

other units of similar design out of service to protect employees, the public and the river. It was a decision with the potential for big financial impact.

Those four units at Rocky Reach (out of 11) are a quarter of our capacity to generate the clean, renewable hydropower we produce. The District's share of repair costs will be substantial. So, why am I still able to sleep at night?

Because the same high level of dedication and expertise that goes into maintaining our dams also has gone into putting District finances in order, the impact to the District is manageable.

Dedication pays off

From rock-solid power sales contracts to our insurance coverage and our employees identifying ways to keep producing power while repairs are made, we have turned this situation into a manageable repair bill that doesn't require a change in electric rates.

Chelan PUD customers – along with me – can rest easier knowing District finances are strong.

Skinny down power bills with PUD rebates

Chelan County PUD's popular rebates on items from insulation to efficient new refrigerators and freezers are continuing into 2014.

This past year was one of our best ever for conservation, with nearly 400 customers adding energy-efficient windows and/or insulation to save money and improve the comfort of their homes.



Here are the 2014 rebates:

- *Energy-efficient windows: \$6 per square foot*
- *Insulation: 50 cents per square foot*
- *Refrigerators and freezers: \$50*
- *Clothes washers: \$30-\$75*
- *Water heaters: \$25-\$100*
- *Heat pump water heaters: \$300-\$500*
- *Ductless heat pumps: \$750*
- *LED retrofit kits: \$10*

We offer refrigerator and freezer recycling, too. Our contractor will haul away and recycle old units at no charge, plus provide a \$30 rebate.

2014 budget keeps electric rates steady

The 2014 spending plan forecasts the PUD will end the year with a combined positive bottom line of \$85.5 million to meet financial targets and customer priorities. Total spending is forecast at \$226 million including capital expenditures for major projects of \$51.8 million.

Plans are to reduce long-term debt by another \$82 million to \$735 million, which is ahead of earlier targets.

Budget details are posted on chelan-pud.org, under "Your PUD>Finance."

Make a resolution that's easy to keep

It's an easy New Year's resolution to make and to keep: update the contact information linked to your Chelan PUD account.

Help us keep in touch with you about your account or when there are outages planned in your neighborhood. Your information is secure and only used for PUD business.

Update on chelanpud.org or call us at (509) 661-8002.

Go "lean and green" on new electronics

 You'll save on your electric bill by purchasing products with the ENERGY STAR label. And, once you have them at home, you'll save even more when they're "off." That's because home electronics still use power when "off" – really "standby" – to run clocks, remote controls and channel/station memory.

ENERGY STAR-qualified home electronics in the "off" position use up to 50 percent less energy than conventional equipment.

Welcome to Connected!

This newsletter brings you the latest news about your public utility including money-saving energy tips, updates on PUD projects and ways your utility is working with you to enjoy this beautiful area we call home.

In this edition:

- Benefits of stewardship pay off
- An energy diet for new electronics
- Make an easy New Year's resolution
- Go paperless; stay Connected



In your neighborhood

Crews will be working in these neighborhoods to keep utility service reliable:

- Chelan – alley from Washington to S. Sanders installing new poles and overhead line
- Cashmere – continue converting city lines to PUD voltage
- Okanogan Substation (Wen) – installing underground lines south to Circle Street



CHELAN COUNTY

Let's talk: We want to hear from you. Talk to us on Facebook.com/ChelanPUD

• Find us on Twitter @ChelanPUD • Email us at contactus@chelanpud.org • Give us a ring at (509) 663-8121 or toll-free, (888) 663-8121.



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Help warm the homes of those in need

Helping Hand offers a boost to low-income families who are struggling to pay their electric bills. Helping Hand donations are collected year-round, but as winter settles in the requests to Chelan-Douglas Community Action for heating assistance rise.



You can make tax deductible donations – one time or monthly — online or contact us at (509) 661-8002.

The donations we collect are matched with other funds managed by Community Action, increasing the ability of each dollar to help our neighbors in need.

Go paperless; stay Connected

A digital edition of your PUD customer newsletter is available at chelanpud.org. Sign up to receive email notification and a link to each edition by clicking from the home page to "Your PUD>News>Newsletters."

At the same time, sign up for our energy newsletter, **Lightly**, an online resource for power-saving tips and interesting tidbits.

Previous editions of Connected, and other PUD newsletters, are also posted online: search on "Newsletters."