GM Steve Wright: Hearing from you

By any account, 2015 was a very good year for the District. We had an exceptional year financially – the best year in the history of the PUD. We have paid off significant amounts of debt and are on course to get below a 35 percent debt ratio a year earlier than forecast. And we are making significant investments in our infrastructure and our people in order to prepare this utility for the next 75 years.

You have been a big part of helping us look to the future through the Public Power Benefit Program and providing the best for the most for the longest period of time. This year ends the first cycle of projects you recommended. In a few months we will have a report to you on our progress.

You also are involved with us on other significant issues such as locating two new substations – one in Leavenworth and one on the northshore of Lake Chelan and hope to complete that effort in the fall. We’ve heard from you, too, on a possible rate structure for energy-intensive businesses such as bitcoin and blockchain operations. The Commission will act in June on a rate proposal and the current moratorium on new, high-intensity services will be lifted in October.

We value your guidance and wisdom. Please continue to involve yourself with your utility. Our new website makes it much easier for you to get news and information and to provide us with comments – take a look at the new chelanpud.org.

Enjoy the spring and be thankful for above-average snowpack as we move into the summer.

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.

Switch to better lighting = savings

Businesses benefit from new PUD rebates

Our energy-efficiency incentives can help business customers install better lighting, refrigeration and other improvements with big savings. Consider:

• EnergySmart Grocer - Whether you run a large grocery chain, independent store, restaurant or any facility with commercial refrigeration, we can help you find energy-saving opportunities.

• Ductless heat pumps - Rebates are available for retrofit add-ons to buildings with non-ducted heating systems.

• Irrigation pumps - If you have an irrigation pump that is served by Chelan PUD, it may qualify for an incentive to install a variable frequency drive (VFD).

• LightSmart - Incentives help customers modernize lighting at their shops and buildings by paying part of the cost.

Good outdoor lighting starts with shining the light only where you need it and minimizing glare. Join PUD lighting experts for a free outdoor lighting design workshop 7-8 p.m., April 1, at the Wenatchee River Institute in Leavenworth.

Questions?
Email Scott Stanford or Jim White, or call (509) 661-8008.
MARCH/APR 2016

PUD profile: Dave Parkhill
Safety stirs his soul

His nickname, “Safety Dave,” says it all for this nearly 20-year PUD employee. “I care about this community. I care about the District and the employees here and that they go home from work safe every night,” said Dave Parkhill, safety training administrator. A fortunate combination of education, training and timing brought Parkhill to his dream job in 2003 after working for six years at Chelan PUD. He relies on his teaching degree from Pacific Lutheran University, as well as field experience while a PUD apprentice.

He shares safety best practices in teaching classes at the District and Wenatchee Valley College and oversees PUD apprenticeship programs. “I know the dangers of the job. The biggest thing for me is the relationships I have with employees,” he said. “I bring real-world perspective to class.”

He credits his approach to his PLU football coach Frosty Westering, a revered motivator. Parkhill played on the 1987 national championship team. He uses specifics in classes to get people talking. “My passion is to bring them safety information they can use on the job and at home.” He encourages employees to share the District’s safety value with customers, friends and family.

He and wife Cari have two sons.

Earth Day
Stop by the PUD booth to talk about renewable energy, conservation and stewardship of natural resources.
April 16 – 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Chelan Riverwalk Park
April 24 - Noon to 4 p.m., Leavenworth Lions Club Park

Arbor Day
Learn to plant the right tree in the right place at the Greater Wenatchee Arbor Day tree seedling distributions.
April 23:
• Wenatchee – 10 am to 3 pm at Walla Walla Point Park
• Leavenworth - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the U.S. fish hatchery
• Cashmere – 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Martin’s Market
• Entiat - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at City Hall
• Orondo - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Market Place

Lincoln Rock State Park Open House
Check out the new deluxe cabins available for families and the new group camping area at this community open house. The eight new cabins sleep six, have a bathroom and kitchenette. The group camp has new RV hook-ups, expanded, accessible restrooms and showers for families and a picnic shelter.
April 23 – 3 p.m., Cabin loop and group camp

River Ramble
Experience Native American culture at this hands-on program for all ages.
May 21 – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Rocky Reach Visitor Center