

Frequently Asked Questions

Rate 35 – High Density Load



CHELAN COUNTY
www.chelanpud.org

Q. How soon can I have power?

A. There are many factors that contribute to the length of time it may take the PUD to connect a new load or evaluate an expanded load. Some factors include:

- How complete is your application
- Are your payments on time
- Available PUD energy system capacity
- Completed permitting
- Weather

The application process starts when an application is complete and the necessary fees are paid.

Applications that are not complete may be delayed until staff can obtain the needed information from you in order to continue the process. Timeliness in your response will help staff process your request.

Completed applications are routed to District engineering staff to evaluate system impacts and design any necessary line extension improvements to meet your connection request. The estimated project cost will be provided for your consideration and is valid for 60-days. If you choose to proceed, your payment of the estimate and other required fees (see below) will move the project to scheduling for construction. Scheduling times are based upon availability of PUD construction resources.

Q. Why is it taking so long to process my application?

A. Completed applications are processed on a first come – first served basis, and generally only one application per substation can be processed at a time. Engineering staff have many factors to consider while evaluating impacts associated with load requests including infrastructure needs, potential and planned load growths and much more. Careful consideration is essential, especially when multiple applications are received within the same substation or feeder distribution area.

Q. How much will connection cost?

A. Connection costs vary due to load size, whether the service is primary or secondary, and if any system improvements are required. The following provides a summary of the costs to consider:

Application Fees

(based on total requested load)

Up to 300 kW	\$450
300 kW - <1000 kW	\$3,000
1000 kW - <5000 kW	\$5,000
5000 kW and above	Estimated on an individual basis

Secondary Service Connection Fees (transformer, meter, materials, and labor)

Vary based on required transformer size.

Primary service connection fees are included in line extension costs.

Line Extension Costs

Costs are estimated individually for each project. Estimates are an approximate cost of labor, materials, tools, transportation, engineering, inspections, permitting, easements and other related costs such as on-site and off-site costs associated with getting power to your location. Your application fee is credited to the final estimate.

Upfront Capital Charge (new or expanded HDL loads)

One-time charge per-kilowatt of \$190/kW that is based upon your total requested/approved load size.

Security Deposit

The deposit amount is based on the highest monthly billed amount, multiplied by a factor of two. If no applicable history is available, the District may estimate the highest monthly billed amount, multiplied by a factor of two.

Q. What loads qualify as HDL?

A. The HDL rate class is covered by Rate Schedule 35. The term High Density Loads, applies to server farms or similar technologies with an energy use intensity (EUI) of 250 kWh/ft²/year or more. This includes crypto-currency mining, block-chain technology, etc. Schedule 35 applies to loads up to 5 annual aMWs.

Q. How do I know that the HDL designation applies to my use?

A. Server farms and similar technology loads are presumed to be High Density Loads with an EUI of 250 kWh/ft²/year or more. If you feel your energy consuming activity has an EUI less than 250, you can provide additional information to our engineers. This may include:

- Detailed load profile
- Verification from professional engineering services
- Building permit
- Pictures
- Arrange for a site visit with District engineers

The District will make the final determination as to the appropriate rate schedule for your service.

Q. Why can't the PUD tell me where capacity is available?

A. The PUD does not track the availability of capacity at specific locations. The System Improvement Plan and Sub Area Plan (SIP/SAP) studies conducted during the application process are needed to determine capacity availability at a specific location. These studies are site and load specific, and are not performed until an application and engineering fee is submitted.

Q. Can I reserve capacity for future growth?

A. As a standard practice, the District does not reserve capacity beyond 12 months from the date of connection. However, per Section 41 of the Utility Service Regulations, the District may agree to a reasonable ramping plan that extends beyond 12 months. This still requires all fees to be paid in advance. Remember you must always notify the District and receive approval of changes to previously approved load levels; any damage to the District system resulting from lack of notification will be billed to you.

Q. When do I need to make a decision on moving forward with my service application?

A. You have 60-days from the date on your estimate letter to pay the estimate and associated fees. If no payment has been made when the 60-day period expires, the estimate will be considered void and capacity released. Staff will begin working on the next pending application. If you wish to proceed after the 60-day period has expired, a new service application and application fee will be required and the process restarts. There is no guarantee that previously available capacity will still be available.

Q. What type of metering is appropriate, secondary or primary?

A. Whether a customer wants primary or secondary metering is typically determined by the anticipated load size and whether the customer wants to own/maintain their own distribution facilities.

Secondary metered services for HDL customers may serve loads up to 2MW. Beyond 2 MW, primary metering is required. This means you will install, own and maintain the electric service facilities beyond the point of delivery. This may include: a transformer, primary conductors and primary switches. There are benefits with either option, and you are encouraged to discuss the benefits and impacts with the engineering staff to determine the best option to meet your needs.