

2012 Annual Report



SNAP sets production record

Chelan County PUD's SNAP program added five new private producers in the past year — the most in any year since SNAP began in 2001.

SNAP producers generated 156,911 kilowatt hours of energy in the past year, setting a new record. The previous peak of 136,065 was reached in 2007.

Forty-seven schools, nonprofit agencies and individuals are producing power for the PUD through SNAP. The five new private producers in 2011 are John Alt of Entiat, Dennis Vogt of Chelan, Regge Egger of Plain, Lauren Johnson and Barbara Rossing of Leavenworth, and Shlomo Freiman and Mindy Stern, who have a summer home in Cashmere. Together they added 22 kilowatts of capacity to the SNAP program.

Four of the five new producers are using solar modules and inverters manufactured in Washington, making them eligible for the highest payouts available through the state's renewable incentive program. Taking advantage of the state program, in addition to SNAP, brings a faster payback, making the investment in solar equipment more cost-effective.

While state payments come from the state's utility tax fund, SNAP payments come from green-minded PUD customers who want to see new renewable resources developed. In the 2011-12 production year, customers contributed \$24,986 to SNAP. That comes out to 16 cents per kilowatt hour in payments to the schools, nonprofit agencies and individuals who are generating solar and wind power.

The 2011-12 production equals the average annual use of about seven homes in Chelan County. While that's not a lot of power, it demonstrates that the seeds have been planted for a future resource that, as time goes by, will become more and more viable.

Thank you, SNAP supporters, for your contributions to this growing program.



SNAP
Sustainable Natural Alternative Power

Producer profile: Lauren Johnson

Location: 7785 E. Leavenworth Road, Leavenworth

Installation: Thirty-eight solar modules are installed at this home near the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery – 18 on the roof of a garage/guest house and 20 on a handsome, wood-framed ground mount that inadvertently doubles as a garden shed.

Capacity: 7 kW

Joined SNAP: October 2011

The story: Lauren Johnson had thought about setting up a solar installation for quite some time

before his wife, Barbara Rossing, a Lutheran pastor, spurred him to action. A trip to Germany convinced her of the importance of feed-in tariff legislation to help people switch to wind, solar, and other new renewables. "When Barb found out about the state (incentive) program, she did the math and said, 'We



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need to get on this thing right now," Johnson said. At about the same time, Leavenworth Electric received certification from Silicon Energy, a manufacturer of solar modules and inverters in Arlington, Wash. The Johnson/Rossing installation was Leavenworth Electric's first. Johnson is extremely pleased with the firm's handiwork – "no dangling wires, everything neat and tidy" – and with the solar system's performance. Johnson, a retired ultrasound technologist, checks the production meter frequently. "I just believe in solar energy," he said.



Flower power

Tell your friends about SNAP. Customers who sign up to support SNAP will receive a solar-powered "happy flower" for their desktop or windowsill. Longtime SNAP supporters can receive a flower by adding \$2.50 a month to their contribution. Offer available while supplies last. Sign up at chelanpud.org or call us: (509) 661-8008.

Be happy!



Producer profile: Regge Egger

Location: 16595 River Road, Leavenworth

Installation: Twenty-four Silicon Energy panels dot the roof of Egger's detached garage/shop at his isolated home among the pines near Plain.

Capacity: 4.68 kW

Joined SNAP: June 2011

The story: Egger lived and worked most of his life on the west side of the Cascade Mountains but now, in retirement, can't imagine living anywhere but his own 22-acre mountain meadow. Egger and his wife, Helen, enjoy a stunning view from the deck of their home of Big Jim Mountain and other Cascade peaks. They also enjoy most of nature's critters that fly or wander by – except for the occasional bear and cougar. Though they're out in the country, they enjoy the camaraderie of their neighbors. Egger, who has served as a volunteer firefighter for Chelan County Fire District 9, commends local businesses and families for supporting the fire department and helping keep firefighting equipment up to snuff in that heavily forested area. Egger purchased his solar panels as an investment, he said, which he expects to recoup in about six years. Plus, he said, "It's good knowing I am a very small part of another source of renewable power."



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College, foundation give back to the community

Wenatchee Valley College is celebrating 10 years of solar power production this year – and 10 years of giving back to the community. The 10-kilowatt system at the college was installed in 2002 using a \$43,000 grant from the Bonneville Environmental Foundation. Under a unique agreement between the foundation, WVC and Chelan County PUD, all revenue generated from the production of solar energy, up to \$43,000, is being used to maintain or purchase solar equipment in Chelan County. The \$43,000 mark will be reached in 2013 or 2014, meaning revenues from solar generation will go directly to WVC at that time.

Hats off to the Bonneville Environmental Foundation and Wenatchee Valley College for their generous support.