



# solar

## Power for the next generation

**SNAP Progress Report**  
Spring 2005

## We're the state's solar leaders

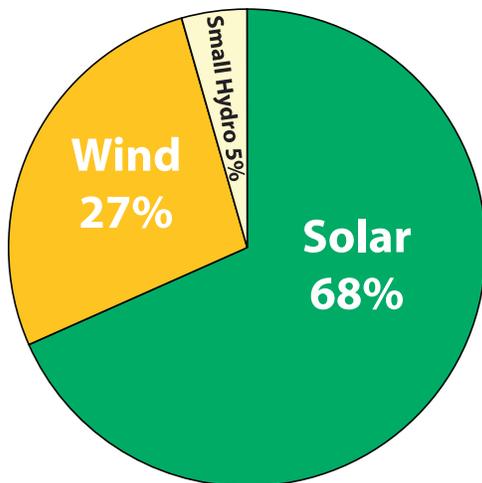
Thanks to Alcoa, McCandlish Electric, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), and all of our SNAP contributors, Chelan County now has more grid-connected solar power than any other county in Washington.

This past year has been a banner year for the SNAP program, with more than 30 new solar power stations installed at schools and nonprofit agencies in our communities. With 75 kilowatts of solar capacity, Chelan County is now the state's leader in solar power-production.

**This is an outstanding accomplishment, and we thank you for helping make it happen.**

Customer contributions to the Sustainable Natural Alternative Power program are benefiting local schools

SNAP Producers 2005



and nonprofit agencies such as the Chelan-Douglas Community Action Council, Bank of America Performing Arts Center, and Special Olympics (through Mission Ridge). Voluntary contributions from customers, paid over and above their electric bills, go into a pool of funds that is divided once a year among solar-power producers in the SNAP program. These funds are used to pay schools and nonprofit agencies for their power generation, providing a lasting source of revenue for educational and community programs.

As an example, the Bank of America

Performing Arts Center in Wenatchee received a check for \$3,406 for the solar power produced from April 1, 2004, through March 31, 2005. Solar equipment for the schools and community groups was purchased by the Alcoa Community Solar Endowment. Labor to install the systems was donated by Alcoa workers, McCandlish Electric of Wenatchee and IBEW Local 191.

*We thank all the organizations and individuals involved for their generous support of renewable energy development in Chelan County.*



*Mackenzie Rivera, fourth-grader at Washington Elementary School, takes a lap around the playground in the PUD's solar go-cart. The go-cart is used at schools to demonstrate possible uses of solar power.*



*Students and staff from Beaver Valley Elementary School in Plain pose in front of their pole-mounted solar panels.*

## From the sun to the classroom

During the next year, Chelan County PUD staff will research the best computer technology to allow students to gather information from the solar stations and use it to hone math and science skills. Staff also has met with school officials to explore ways to use the solar panels as part of a science curriculum.

PUD Engineer Jim White is visiting schools now to talk about solar power. On May 9, White met with physics students at Wenatchee High School. He visited all Wenatchee School District fourth-graders in May, and was a featured speaker for the Cashmere Middle School sixth-grade conservation camp on May 18. In June, White will conduct solar-power sessions at the Icicle River Middle School science camp at Tall Timbers at Lake Wenatchee and at Beaver Valley Elementary School in Plain.

## Legislature passes bill to spur installation of wind and solar

The Washington State Legislature this spring unanimously passed a measure to encourage customers to install solar and wind power systems at their homes and businesses. The law helps make new renewable energy systems cost-effective and should be a natural complement to Chelan County PUD's SNAP program. The renewable energy incentives go into effect in July. PUD staff is researching the best way to combine the state's production incentives with SNAP. Stay tuned for more details.



*Panels at Cascade High School, Leavenworth, are mounted onto a tracking device that follows the sun's movement.*

Contact us

For more information about SNAP (Sustainable Natural Alternative Power), visit our Web site: [www.chelanpud.org/snap](http://www.chelanpud.org/snap) or call 661-4249.