

PUDs are Green

PUD FAST FACTS

PUDs are leaders in renewable energy

More than 80 percent of the electricity sold by Public Utility Districts in Washington comes from clean, renewable hydroelectric dams.

Most PUDs purchase their power from the Bonneville Power Administration, which markets electricity generated by the 29 dams that make up the Federal Columbia River Power System.

In addition, eight PUDs (Chelan, Cowlitz, Douglas, Grant, Klickitat, Lewis, Pend Oreille and Snohomish) own their own hydroelectric facilities.



Plugging into Washington's winds

In 2006, the Cowlitz and Klickitat PUDs joined with two Washington electric cooperatives to develop the White Creek Wind Project in Klickitat County near Goldendale. The 205-megawatt project was the largest wind farm in the country developed by public power utilities.

Cowlitz PUD is currently involved in helping develop phase 2 of the project. In addition, Douglas County PUD is planning a wind farm for the Waterville Plateau.

Klickitat PUD also operates the H.W. Hill Landfill Gas Power Plant, which captures methane from decomposing rubbish at the Roosevelt Regional Landfill before it is released into the atmosphere and uses it to generate renewable electricity.

RCW 54

Conserving water and power resources is an essential element of the PUD mandate. Adopted by initiative in 1931, RCW 54 authorizes the establishment of PUDs "to conserve the water and power resources of the State of Washington for the benefit of the people thereof, and to supply public utility service, including water and electricity for all uses."



Energy Northwest

The 19 Washington PUDs that provide electricity across the state are also members of Energy Northwest, a joint operating agency that operates the Packwood Lake Hydroelectric Project, Nine Canyon Wind project, White Bluffs Solar Station, and the nuclear power Columbia Generating Station.

With its wind, solar, hydroelectric and nuclear generating facilities, Energy Northwest delivers nearly 1,400 megawatts of renewable energy to the Northwest Power grid.



The Washington PUD Association headquarters in Olympia was the first new office building in the state to be certified "LEED Platinum" — the highest rating possible — under the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design program.

The innovative building also boasts the largest rooftop solar energy system in the state, which provides more than 40 percent of all the association's energy needs. During daylight hours excess electricity generated by the 34-kilowatt solar system is sold to Puget Sound Energy through net metering.

WASHINGTON PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

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