

## Study Shows Integration is Key to Clean Energy Future



More and different electricity sources will be needed in the Northwest to maintain energy reliability and achieve a carbon-free system by 2045, according to a new study released by Energy Northwest. The study was prepared by Energy + Environmental Economics (E3), a San Francisco-based consulting group, which calculated energy capacity needs in the northwest over the next several decades and analyzed a suite of clean, reliable and affordable energy resources available to meet that demand.

Energy Northwest is a not-for-profit utility agency of which Grays Harbor PUD is a member. It commissioned the study as part of a comprehensive, multi-year effort to evaluate all carbon-free options that can maintain system reliability while ensuring Washingtonians have enough power through the next twenty years and beyond.

"The motivation for this study is Governor Inslee's Clean Energy Transformation Act, which set our state on a path to 100% clean electricity by 2045," said Brad Sawatzke, Energy Northwest chief executive officer. "That's an ambitious and worthwhile goal, so we have to start planning today to ensure the people of Washington State have the right mix of energy sources tomorrow. And it's our job to make sure that mix is not only reliable, but affordable."

The optimal future energy picture, according to E3, is a combination of current and new renewable and clean resources. E3's study utilized published conservation and efficiency projections and costs, and examined the value of creating additional solar and wind facilities, as well as extending operation of the Columbia Generating Station power plant beyond its current anticipated decommission date of 2043. The study also explored whether Washington's expanding population and growing energy needs can be met in part by new innovations, such as small modular nuclear reactors, a technology that is carbon-free and provides an ideal mix of reliability, capacity and seamless integration with renewables.

## Commission Meeting Dates

Meetings are held in the Nichols Building, 220 Myrtle Street, Hoquiam.

### March 2020

Monday - March 9  
Monday - March 23

### April 2020

Monday - April 13  
(rescheduled from April 6)  
Monday - April 27  
(rescheduled from April 20)

**Regular business meetings are scheduled to begin at 4:30 pm.** A one hour workshop (3:30 to 4:30 pm) will precede each business meeting, unless otherwise noted. The public is welcome to attend all commission meetings, special meetings, workshops and public hearings. **Public comment periods are included at the open and close of every meeting.**

Commission meetings may be cancelled and special meetings may be scheduled. Please visit our website ([www.ghpud.org](http://www.ghpud.org)) for updated information.

## ON-LINE BILL PAYMENT

Want to pay your bill on-line? Now you can pay your bill instantly without ever leaving home. Just go to [ghpud.org](http://ghpud.org), click the "Pay Bill/Smart Hub" button on the bottom left hand side of the screen and follow the instructions. If you have any difficulties using the online service, please call Customer Service at 1-800-562-7726 or you may email [customerservice@ghpud.org](mailto:customerservice@ghpud.org).



## SCAM ALERT

## Don't Become a Victim

By Dave Timmons, District Two Commissioner

As most of you know, there are people out there just looking for the opportunity to take advantage of you. They'll try to convince you that if you don't pay your PUD bill immediately, on the phone, your power is going to be shut off. They'll ask for credit card or other banking information trying to steal your money. That's their entire motive. Every year we will hear from some of you that have received those phone calls. Be assured, that call is not from Grays Harbor PUD.



Grays Harbor PUD Employees will:

- Never call, email, or make a home visit demanding an immediate payment.
- Never call, email, or make a home visit requesting credit card, banking, or financial information.
- Never request payment on a prepaid card.
- Never shut off service without providing written notice at least several days in advance.

So what do you do if you get one of those calls?

- #1 Do not give out your personal information. The PUD message from day one has been: These scams only work when you volunteer your personal information.
- #2 Call the Grays Harbor PUD Customer Service Office at 360-532-4220 and ask for a Customer Service rep. Tell them what happened. They can tell you exactly what your bill status is. Customer Service will also advise the GHPUD Government Relations is who'll get the SCAM info to the news media who'll alert our community.
- #3 Report it to your local Police Dept. Alert them to what's going on because they may get calls from victims who received similar phone calls. You can also contact 911 on their business line at 360-533-8765.

If you're ever in a position where you have a hard time paying your bill, GHPUD will do whatever we can to help you, but we're not going to SCAM you with you with a phone call trying to collect a payment over the phone.

## Utility Priorities Shared at PUD Day on the Hill

Staff from the Grays Harbor PUD joined colleagues from around Washington in Olympia last month to advocate for public power during the annual PUD Day on the Hill.

The event is aimed at raising awareness in the legislature of the value not-for-profit, community-owned public utility districts provide communities, and giving opportunity to advocate for PUD issues, not the least of which was the value of the hydroelectric dams on the Columbia and Snake Rivers.

The February 12 event saw staff meeting with Representatives Brian Blake and Mike Chapman and Senators Dean Takko and Kevin Van De Wege. In addition to speaking about policies important to public power and the hydroelectric system, the event also provided the chance for updates on the project to increase the power capacity at the Satsop Business Park and PUD's growing telecommunications system.



Banners advocating for hydropower surrounded the Capitol Rotunda during PUD Day on the Hill.

**ENERGY**, an informational newsletter, is published monthly for families and businesses energized by Grays Harbor PUD.

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