



## **Exit Conference: Jefferson County Public Utility District No. 1**

The Office of the Washington State Auditor's vision is increased trust in government. Our mission is to provide citizens with independent and transparent examinations of how state and local governments use public funds, and develop strategies that make government more efficient and effective.

The purpose of this meeting is to share the results of your audit and our draft reporting. We value and appreciate your participation.

### **Audit Reports**

We will publish the following report:

- Accountability audit for January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021 – see draft report.
- CPA review report for financial statement audit for January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 – see report.

### **Audit Highlights**

It was a pleasure working with Mike Bailey and everyone else at Jefferson PUD. We appreciate the time and effort put forth to keep the audit running smoothly and efficiently. It was great to have the opportunity to conduct some of the fieldwork onsite, which allowed us to have a greater understanding by seeing the work the District performs first hand.

### **Recommendations not included in the Audit Reports**

#### **Exit Items**

We have provided exit recommendations for management's consideration. Exit items address control deficiencies or noncompliance with laws or regulation that have an insignificant or immaterial effect on the entity, or errors with an immaterial effect on the financial statements. Exit items are not referenced in the audit report.

### **Work of Other Auditors**

A financial statement audit of Jefferson County Public Utility District No. 1 was performed by Jackson Thornton CPAs and Consultants. Professional audit standards require us to evaluate relevant work done by other auditors and communicate certain matters to the governing body.

- We performed procedures to ensure we could rely on the work of the external auditors and reference their audit in our audit report. These procedures included consideration of attendance at key meetings, evaluation of the firm's last peer review report, review of the other auditor's work, review of the other auditor's results and communications with the other auditor.
- We did not become aware of any instance in which the work of the other auditors gave rise to concern about the quality of their work.

- There were no limitations that restricted our analysis of the other audit.
- We did not become aware of any instance in which a material misstatement of the financial statements has or may have resulted from fraud or suspected fraud.

## **Finalizing Your Audit**

### **Report Publication**

Audit reports are published on our website and distributed via email in a .pdf file. We also offer a subscription service that notifies you by email when audit reports are released or posted to our website. You can sign up for this convenient service at <https://portal.sao.wa.gov/SAOPortal>.

### **Management Representation Letter**

We have included a copy of representations requested of management.

### **Audit Cost**

At the entrance conference, we estimated the cost of the audit to be \$24,000 and actual audit costs will be approximately \$21,000. As the District was able to provide us with requested documentation timely and there were no significant issues, we were able to complete fieldwork under budget in multiple areas.

### **Your Next Scheduled Audit**

Your next audit is scheduled to be conducted in fall 2023 and will cover the following general areas:

- Accountability for public resources for January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022
- Review of CPA financial audit for January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022

The estimated cost for the next audit based on current rates is \$22,000 plus travel expenses for the accountability audit and \$3,500 for the CPA review. This preliminary estimate is provided as a budgeting tool and not a guarantee of final cost.

### **Examination of compliance with the Clean Energy Transformation Act**

We will provide an opinion on the District's compliance with the following requirements in effect during the period January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2021:

- Greenhouse gas content calculation (2020, 2021)
- Energy assistance to low-income households (2019-2020)
- Clean Energy Implementation Plan development (2022-2025)

We asked our contracted subject matter expert at SBW Consulting to examine the District's compliance in developing the interim targets as part of the Clean Energy Implementation Plan.

### **Examination Costs and Timeline**

Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA)

We estimate the costs of this compliance examination to approximate \$13,000 plus travel expenses, if travel is necessary. This includes costs associated with our subject matter expert's examination of the District's compliance in developing the interim targets as part of the Clean Energy Implementation Plan.

## **Working Together to Improve Government**

### **Audit Survey**

When your report is released, you will receive an audit survey from us. We value your opinions on our audit services and hope you provide feedback.

### **Local Government Support Team**

This team provides support services to local governments through technical assistance, comparative statistics, training, and tools to help prevent and detect a loss of public funds. Our website and client portal offers many resources, including a client Help Desk that answers auditing and accounting questions. Additionally, this team assists with the online filing of your financial statements.

### **The Center for Government Innovation**

The Center for Government Innovation at the Office of the Washington State Auditor offers services specifically to help you help the residents you serve at no additional cost to your government. What does this mean? We provide expert advice in areas like Lean process improvement, peer-to-peer networking, and culture-building to help local governments find ways to be more efficient, effective and transparent. The Center can help you by providing assistance in financial management, cybersecurity and more. Check out our best practices and other resources that help local governments act on accounting standard changes, comply with regulations, and respond to recommendations in your audit. The Center understands that time is your most precious commodity as a public servant, and we are here to help you do more with the limited hours you have. If you are interested in learning how we can help you maximize your effect in government, call us at (564) 999-0818 or email us at [Center@sao.wa.gov](mailto:Center@sao.wa.gov).

### **Questions?**

Please contact us with any questions about information in this document or related audit reports.

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# Accountability Audit Report

## Public Utility District No. 1 of Jefferson County

For the period January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021

*Published (Inserted by OS)*

Report No. 1031933



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**Office of the Washington State Auditor  
Pat McCarthy**

Issue Date – (Inserted by OS)

Board of Commissioners  
Public Utility District No. 1 of Jefferson County  
Port Townsend, Washington

**Report on Accountability**

Thank you for the opportunity to work with you to promote accountability, integrity and openness in government. The Office of the Washington State Auditor takes seriously our role of providing state and local governments with assurance and accountability as the independent auditor of public accounts. In this way, we strive to help government work better, cost less, deliver higher value and earn greater public trust.

Independent audits provide essential accountability and transparency for District operations. This information is valuable to management, the governing body and public stakeholders when assessing the government’s stewardship of public resources.

Attached is our independent audit report on the District’s compliance with applicable requirements and safeguarding of public resources for the areas we examined. We appreciate the opportunity to work with your staff and value your cooperation during the audit.

Sincerely,

Pat McCarthy, State Auditor  
Olympia, WA

***Americans with Disabilities***

*In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, we will make this document available in alternative formats. For more information, please contact our Office at (564) 999-0950, TDD Relay at (800) 833-6388, or email our webmaster at [webmaster@sao.wa.gov](mailto:webmaster@sao.wa.gov).*

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## AUDIT RESULTS

### Results in brief

This report describes the overall results and conclusions for the areas we examined. In those selected areas, District operations complied, in all material respects, with applicable state laws, regulations, and its own policies, and provided adequate controls over the safeguarding of public resources.

In keeping with general auditing practices, we do not examine every transaction, activity, policy, internal control, or area. As a result, no information is provided on the areas that were not examined.

### About the audit

This report contains the results of our independent accountability audit of Public Utility District No. 1 of Jefferson County from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021.

Management is responsible for ensuring compliance and adequate safeguarding of public resources from fraud, loss or abuse. This includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal controls relevant to these objectives.

This audit was conducted under the authority of RCW 43.09.260, which requires the Office of the Washington State Auditor to examine the financial affairs of all local governments. Our audit involved obtaining evidence about the District's use of public resources, compliance with state laws and regulations and its own policies and procedures, and internal controls over such matters. The procedures performed were based on our assessment of risks in the areas we examined.

Based on our risk assessment for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, the areas examined were those representing the highest risk of fraud, loss, abuse, or noncompliance. We examined the following areas during this audit period:

- Accounts receivable – adjustments, late fees, account forgiveness and voluntary contributions
- Accounts payable – electronic funds transfers
- Ordering, receiving and tracking of materials inventory
- Open public meetings – compliance with minutes, meetings and executive session requirements
- Financial condition – reviewing for indications of financial distress

## RELATED REPORTS

### Financial

A financial statement audit was performed by a firm of certified public accountants. That firm's report is available on our website, <http://portal.sao.wa.gov/ReportSearch>.

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## INFORMATION ABOUT THE DISTRICT

Public Utility District No. 1 of Jefferson County supplies water to approximately 4,500 customers on water systems throughout Jefferson County. The District also operates community septic systems and monitors alternative drain fields. The District also supplies electricity to approximately 19,950 customers throughout Jefferson County.

An elected, three-member Board of Commissioners governs the District. The Board appoints a Manager to oversee the District’s daily business operations as well as its approximately 55 employees. The District operated on an annual budget of approximately \$40 million for fiscal years 2020 and 2021.

Contact information related to this report	
Address:	Public Utility District No. 1 of Jefferson County 310 Four Corners Road Port Townsend, WA 98368
Contact:	Mike Bailey, Finance Director
Telephone:	(360) 385-5800
Website:	jeffpud.org

*Information current as of report publish date.*

### Audit history

You can find current and past audit reports for Public Utility District No. 1 of Jefferson County at <http://portal.sao.wa.gov/ReportSearch>.

## ABOUT THE STATE AUDITOR’S OFFICE

The State Auditor’s Office is established in the Washington State Constitution and is part of the executive branch of state government. The State Auditor is elected by the people of Washington and serves four-year terms.

We work with state agencies, local governments and the public to achieve our vision of increasing trust in government by helping governments work better and deliver higher value.

In fulfilling our mission to provide citizens with independent and transparent examinations of how state and local governments use public funds, we hold ourselves to those same standards by continually improving our audit quality and operational efficiency, and by developing highly engaged and committed employees.

As an agency, the State Auditor’s Office has the independence necessary to objectively perform audits, attestation engagements and investigations. Our work is designed to comply with professional standards as well as to satisfy the requirements of federal, state and local laws. The Office also has an extensive quality control program and undergoes regular external peer review to ensure our work meets the highest possible standards of accuracy, objectivity and clarity.

Our audits look at financial information and compliance with federal, state and local laws for all local governments, including schools, and all state agencies, including institutions of higher education. In addition, we conduct performance audits and cybersecurity audits of state agencies and local governments, as well as state whistleblower, fraud and citizen hotline investigations.

The results of our work are available to everyone through the more than 2,000 reports we publish each year on our website, [www.sao.wa.gov](http://www.sao.wa.gov). Additionally, we share regular news and other information via an email subscription service and social media channels.

We take our role as partners in accountability seriously. The Office provides training and technical assistance to governments both directly and through partnerships with other governmental support organizations.

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- Toll-free Citizen Hotline:  
(866) 902-3900
- Email:  
[webmaster@sao.wa.gov](mailto:webmaster@sao.wa.gov)



**Office of the Washington State Auditor  
Pat McCarthy**

October 24, 2022

Board of Commissioners  
Public Utility District No. 1 of Jefferson County  
Port Townsend, Washington

**Contracted CPA Firm's Audit Report on Financial Statements**

We have reviewed the audit report issued by a certified public accounting (CPA) firm on the financial statements of Public Utility District No. 1 of Jefferson County for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021. The District contracted with the CPA firm for this audit and requested that we accept it in lieu of performing our own audit.

Based on this review, we have accepted this report in lieu of the audit required by RCW 43.09.260. The Office of the Washington State Auditor did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion on those financial statements.

This report is being published on the Office of the Washington State Auditor website as a matter of public record.

Sincerely,

Pat McCarthy, State Auditor

Olympia, WA

***Americans with Disabilities***

*In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, we will make this document available in alternative formats. For more information, please contact our Office at (564) 999-0950, TDD Relay at (800) 833-6388, or email our webmaster at [webmaster@sao.wa.gov](mailto:webmaster@sao.wa.gov).*

## LETTER OF REPRESENTATION TO BE TYPED ON CLIENT LETTERHEAD

January 24, 2023

Office of the Washington State Auditor  
3200 Capitol Blvd  
P.O. Box 40031  
Olympia, WA 98504-0031

To the Office of the Washington State Auditor:

We are providing this letter in connection with your audit of Jefferson County Public Utility District No. 1 for the period from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021. Representations are in relation to matters existing during or subsequent to the audit period up to the date of this letter.

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are significant or material. Information is considered significant or material if it is probable that it would change or influence the judgment of a reasonable person.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, having made appropriate inquiries to be able to provide our representations, the following representations made to you during your audit. If we subsequently discover information that would change our representations related to this period, we will notify you in a timely manner.

### **General Representations:**

1. We have provided you with unrestricted access to people you wished to speak with and made available all requested and relevant information of which we are aware, including:
  - a. Financial records and related data.
  - b. Minutes of the meetings of the governing body or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared.
  - c. Other internal or external audits, examinations, investigations or studies that might concern the objectives of the audit and the corrective action taken to address significant findings and recommendations.
  - d. Communications from regulatory agencies, government representatives or others concerning possible noncompliance, deficiencies in internal control or other matters that might concern the objectives of the audit.
  - e. Related party relationships and transactions.
  - f. Results of our internal assessment of business risks and risks related to financial reporting, compliance and fraud.

2. We acknowledge our responsibility for compliance with requirements related to confidentiality of certain information, and have notified you whenever records or data containing information subject to any confidentiality requirements were made available.
3. We acknowledge our responsibility for compliance with applicable laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements.
4. We have identified and disclosed all laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements that could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts, including legal and contractual provisions for reporting specific activities in separate funds.
5. We have complied with all material aspects of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements.
6. We acknowledge our responsibility for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls over compliance with applicable laws and regulations and safeguarding of public resources, including controls to prevent and detect fraud.
7. We have established adequate procedures and controls to provide reasonable assurance of safeguarding public resources and compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
8. We have no knowledge of any loss of public funds or assets or other illegal activity, or any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud involving management or employees.
9. In accordance with RCW 43.09.200, all transactions have been properly recorded in the financial records.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)  
Kevin Streett  
General Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)  
Mike Bailey  
Finance Director