



**Jefferson County
Public Utility District**
August 2026 Newsletter

FROM INVENTORY to INFRASTRUCTURE

Warehouse Storekeeper, Zach Barbieto slips between a row of 9-foot-tall substation regulators standing like monoliths in the PUD's laydown yard. Tucked behind the PUD headquarters, the six-acre yard stores the essential equipment that keeps utility projects moving—from utility poles and wire spools to concrete vaults and transformers.

Barbieto's head tilts side to side as he walks, sizing up the 10,000lb piece of equipment. It's never a good plan to casually lift a nearly \$100k piece of equipment, so he checks and re-checks clearances and assesses the pallet it rests on. A quick hand signal to fellow Warehouse Storekeeper Jesse Bland waiting in the large forklift and the regulator is airborne and on the move. One down, two to go.

It's a scene that reflects the warehouse team's role every day. Whether moving regulators the size of a small vehicle or tracking thousands of critical parts from across the country, warehouse staff play an essential role in keeping planned and emergency projects moving along safely and efficiently.

Led by Head Storekeeper/Purchasing Agent Alyson Dean, the warehouse manages thousands of parts



PUD Storekeeper, Jesse Bland sets his sights on the next regulator to move.

and materials supporting the PUD's electric, water, and broadband services. Nearly everything that passes through the PUD's gates has crossed Dean's desk.

"It's a really interesting job working with our line crews and engineering department to gather materials for both large and small projects," Dean said.

Dean helps keep major projects moving by managing requests for proposals and procuring specialized equipment, where delivery timelines can span months, or even years.

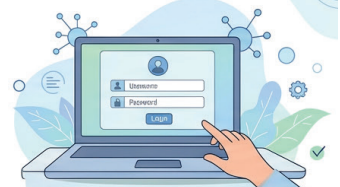
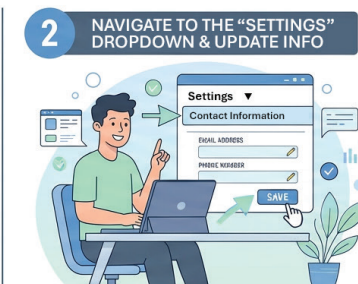
The warehouse team

[see Warehouse on back page](#)

SMARTHUB: STEPS FOR UPDATING PERSONAL ACCOUNT INFORMATION

SmartHUB is your portal to all things utilities, providing a detailed look at service billing, energy and water usage, and tools to help you better understand and manage your utilities. It's also how our team ensures you receive timely updates that impact you.

Updating your contact information via SmartHUB is essential and can help avoid confusion! Simply follow these quick steps – it only takes a matter of minutes!



ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS?

CONTACT OUR CUSTOMER SERVICE TEAM

(360) 385-5800

Warehouse continued manages several million in inventory between the utility departments. Every piece must be charged correctly to ensure each division stays on target with its annual budget.

Just as importantly, the warehouse crew is on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. During storms and emergency outages, they are available to locate critical materials, replenish supplies, and even assist in the field as flaggers

Safety is central to every task. Whether moving 45-foot utility poles or 5,000-pound 3-phase transformers, every lift is carefully planned, and every piece of equipment has its place.

Jefferson PUD maintains more than 800 miles of electric distribution line, 29 miles of transmission line, approximately 10,000 utility poles, seven substations, as well as water and broadband infrastructure across the county. Keeping the right materials in stock is no small task—but it's one the warehouse team quietly accomplishes every day, ensuring crews are always ready for the next project, planned or unexpected.

"You really never know what might come through those gates some days," said Warehouse Storekeeper, Jesse Bland.



Alyson Dean confirms the count of overhead line splice tubes, a commonly-used item in the field.

PUD WATER SYSTEM ADVISORY STAGES

JPUD maintains and closely monitors water systems across the county and tracks seasonal condition outlooks to provide usage advisories.

STAGE 1

Advisory*



- Voluntary conservation encouraged
- Informational outreach
- Not requiring a declaration by PUD Board

STAGE 2

Voluntary Restrictions



- Suggested off-peak watering hours
- Limit non-essential use
- Not requiring a declaration by PUD Board

STAGE 3

Mandatory Restrictions



- Requires declaration by PUD Board
- Mandatory watering restrictions in effect
- Fines for non-compliance

STAGE 4

Emergency Curtailment



- Requires declaration by PUD Board
- Severe restrictions/all non-essential use banned
- Potential water rationing

***As of August 2026, PUD systems are at a Stage 1 advisory.** Heightened stages (3 & 4) are in the plan, though current trends do not anticipate these conditions.

PUD AWARDED \$1.3M HEAR FUNDING GRANT

The PUD has been awarded \$1.3 million through the WA Dept of Commerce's Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates (HEAR) program with funding being used to help income-qualified households reduce costs for home energy efficiency and electrification upgrades. Program funds will support the PUD's enhanced low-income rate reduction program for customers experiencing the highest energy burden.

Energy burden is the percentage of a household's income spent on home energy costs. Under state law, households spending more than six percent of their income on energy are considered to have a high energy burden.

The HEAR program is supported with funding from Washington's Climate Commitment Act, and is designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by helping replace fossil fuel-powered or other higher-emission heating and appliance systems, such as propane, natural gas, or wood-burning equipment, with energy-efficient electric HVAC systems.

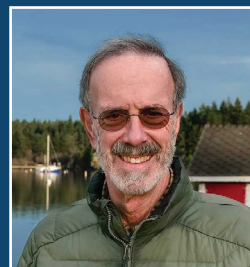
The PUD will distribute HEAR grant funding and additional funding from the sale of carbon offset credits, which are expected to provide approximately \$3 million for energy efficiency projects.

Households eligible for HEAR funding must be enrolled in the PUD's income-qualified assistance program and will work directly with the PUD's energy efficiency specialist to identify cost-effective home improvements.

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