

HAVE YOU TAKEN OUR BROADBAND SURVEY?

On May 1st, the PUD launched an online survey regarding broadband service in Jefferson County. The survey will help the PUD, and potentially retail providers, with information about consumer interest in high speed broadband, leading potentially to fiber optic or wireless neighborhood buildouts.

Q Is the PUD going to provide broadband services directly to residents?

A No. By law, the PUD cannot be your internet service provider. Customers would use the JPUD broadband network to gain access to broadband services from retail services providers.

Q Why is the PUD conducting this survey?

A Over the years, many customers have complained to the PUD about having few or no options to access high speed broadband, especially in rural parts of Jefferson County. As a public utility, the PUD needs to get more specific information about public interest in expanded broadband services before investing significant dollars.

Citizens and communities have found that broadband is essential to their well-being and future growth and recently the FCC declared broadband a Type II Utility. In rural areas of the county, private companies have not expanded broadband services because they can't recover their investment within a few years. Public Utility Districts (PUDs) and their customer-owners can spread the costs of expansion over a longer timeframe. What the survey is designed to show is where fiber expansion will be cost-effective, based on customer demand and need.

Q Will I have to pay to have expanded broadband services brought to my community?

A Possibly. In some cases, private companies may determine that it will be cost effective for them to build to you and will recover their investment through your monthly service fees.

Based on demand, the PUD may decide to incur the upfront costs involved in expanding broadband capability to your community. In that case, you may be required to repay the PUD through a special assessment over a period of a number of years. Exact costs will not be known until the fiber expansion is planned, which will depend on demand for service in your area, the cost and feasibility of the expansion.

Q Is there an obligation to purchase service if I express interest through the survey?

A No. The survey is for informational use only to identify areas in the county where there is interest in expanded broadband services. The survey assists the PUD in prioritizing those areas of interest.

Q Who compiled this survey?

A JPUD is working with COS Service Zones, an international software company that has developed a tool to determine local demand and assist customers in the selection of services after construction is complete. This system has been used by other PUDs to determine which areas have a need for greater broadband services and are willing to hook up to fiber.

Q Will the PUD provide cable TV?

A No. The survey assumes that retail service providers will offer TV, phone and internet once the fiber optic infrastructure is built. The "Triple Play" service on the survey is based on the cost of similar "bundled" services provided in Kitsap County. To participate in the survey go to www.jeffpud.org.

Need Wood Chips?

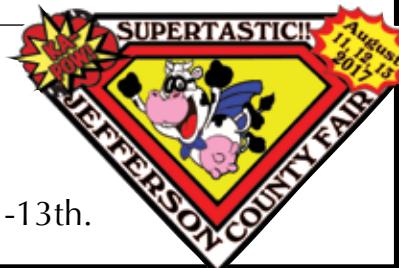
The PUD's annual tree trimming program has begun! Our contractors have wood chips and they are FREE to customers who request them on a first-come, first-served basis. Priority is given to customers in the vicinity of the tree trimming work.

The next tree trimming project is along Beaver Valley Road. This project includes Rhody Drive to Ness Corner Road in Port Hadlock. Customers in the vicinity who are interested in wood chips should call or email Bob Phillips at 360-302-0467 or bphillips@jeffpud.org. Customers requesting chips will need to provide their address and identify an area on their property for the wood chips to be dumped. The area on the property needs to be marked with a sign for the delivery crews. No appointments are made for the delivery of chips and there is no guarantee that every requestor will receive chips. For safety reasons, customers should not attempt to contact tree trimming crews working in the field.

SEE US AT THE FAIR

We're Supertastic!

Stop by the PUD's booth at the Jefferson County Fair August 11-13th.



PUD CHOOSES VENDOR FOR METER REPLACEMENT



Jefferson County PUD Board of Commissioners have chosen to purchase new electrical meters for all of its 19,000 electric customers from Itron. Itron is a technology and services company that provides solutions that measure, manage and analyze energy and water. Itron has customers in more than 100 countries and manages data from 38 million meters globally. The PUD currently has some Itron electric meters in use.

Itron was one of 9 respondents to a Request for Proposals (RFP) sent out by the PUD in February. The RFP was the first in a multi-step plan to upgrade the electrical infrastructure acquired by the PUD when it purchased the electric utility business from Puget Sound Energy (PSE) in 2013. Itron received the nod from commissioners after a thorough review and scoring of the RFP based on pre-determined criteria, including cost. Not only did Itron score the best in the review, they also came in with the lowest bid price.

Most of the PUD's current meters are an older mechanical style that use a radio transmitter to remotely read the meter. In addition to using an older technology, parts for the meters are hard to come by, require manual reading and may not be adequately capturing the total electric usage for the service location.

The new meters will help the PUD serve you better through reliability, efficiency and affordability. Benefits include:

- Faster response to outages
- More efficient power distribution, which keeps costs down for customers
- Improved power quality (fewer spikes, blinks, and surges)
- More accurate information about outages and restoration times
- Remote reads, monitoring and reconnection of meters from PUD offices
- Daily usage information for all customers

- Enhanced abilities to detect power theft
- Ability to offer "pre-paid" utility accounts

An implementation plan will be developed and communicated to customers prior to the replacement of any meters. The first meter replacements are projected to begin in late 2017. There is no cost to the customer for the replacement meter. The project costs have been built into the PUD's budget.

The entire project is estimated to cost the PUD \$2.5 Million, which is less than originally budgeted. It is anticipated that it will take up to 4 years to replace all meters in the PUD service area. The PUD expects to recoup the costs of the project within 5 to 7 years through more accurate meter reads, less PUD staff requirements, less third party meter reading costs (currently costing the PUD \$355,000 per year), lower cost meters (replacement), better customer communications, better outage management, and better system controls.

The customer impact of the actual installation will be minimal. PUD customers can expect to lose power for a few minutes on the day of the installation.

Several policy areas still need to be worked out. Although PUD staff will inspect all meter bases and connections for safety prior to the meter replacement. If defects are found, the PUD has yet to determine who will pay to replace the customer-owned meter base. Meter base inspections are required to ensure the safe and reliable operation of the new meter.

The Board of Commissioners will also be considering policies and costs for customers to "opt out". "Opt-out" is an alternative for customers who wish to have the radio frequency feature of their meter turned off. Other policies to be reviewed and potentially revised or created will deal with reconnect procedures, options on disconnects, demand response, and time of use rates.

THERE IS NO COST
TO THE CUSTOMER
FOR THE
REPLACEMENT
METER.



Casey Alm



Drew McKnight



Baili Shaw

PUD WELCOMES NEW EMPLOYEES

Three new employees have joined the PUD!

Chimacum High School graduate and Chimacum resident **Casey Alm** joined the PUD in April as a Journeyman Lineman. Casey previously worked for Christenson Electric and Michels Corporation as a Journeyman Lineman. While working for Michels, Casey spent time working under contract for the PUD and worked on larger projects and outages. Casey is looking forward to working for the PUD and not spending so many hours and days on the road away from his family. Working locally means Casey will be home every night unless there is an outage in which case he will work through the night if that's what it takes to restore power to a customer.

Port Hadlock resident, **Drew McKnight**, joined the PUD in May as a Customer Service Representative. Many PUD customers will recognize Drew. Prior to coming to work for the PUD, Drew worked at First Security Bank (and formerly Bank of America) in Port Hadlock. Wanting to be closer to family, including his mother, a long-time resident of Port Townsend, and two sisters, three nieces and a nephew in Port Hadlock, Drew relocated to Jefferson County a few years ago. Drew looks forward to seeing many of the same customers he got to know while working at the bank and continuing to provide them with excellent customer service.

Joining the PUD for a summer internship is Port Townsend resident **Baili Shaw**. A Port Townsend High School graduate (as are her parents Charlie and Veronica), Baili is currently attending Central Washington University in Ellensburg pursuing a degree in psychology. As a PUD summer intern, Baili will be given opportunities to see the behind-the-scenes activities that go into keeping the water running and the power on for customers.

Safety is priority!

Know whats below.
Call before you dig.





**IT TAKES A VILLAGE
AND THE PUD!**

The recent move of a house through the streets of Port Townsend took advance planning and participation from the PUD to accomplish. "Overhead power lines are always a concern in situations like this. We worked with the City to create the safest possible envi-

ronment for the move while minimizing the impact to our customers," said Senior Electrical Engineer Jimmy Scarborough.

The height of the structure at 30 feet required some power lines to be disconnected, or elevated, to allow

for the movement of the house through city streets. Local residents experienced intermittent power outages to ensure the safety of PUD and other crews involved with the house move, as well as observers on the ground.

PUD BURSTING AT THE SEAMS

TCF Architecture of Tacoma has been engaged by Jefferson County PUD for planning and consultation services related to current and future building space needs. The PUD Board of Commissioners have identified concerns related to space limitations and future needs as the PUD continues to add staff as a result of taking over electrical service for East Jefferson County. Since becoming an electric utility, the PUD has grown from 8 employees to 44 employees. The PUD anticipates adding an additional 8 employees this year. The PUD has recently rented office space in Port Hadlock to accommodate additional staff and is facing increasing maintenance and upkeep costs on existing buildings. Additionally, increases in equipment, vehicles and inventory items are stretching the limits of current facilities.

TCF has been tasked with researching options

for the PUD's future facility requirements. Consolidation at the PUD's Four Corners Road location is being studied hard. However, to keep other options open, the PUD has signed an option to purchase contract for the former Union Bank building at 2200 West Sims Way in Port Townsend. "We have 90 days, and an additional 60 days, if necessary, to conduct inspections and logistical and environmental reviews of the building and location to determine if it meets our needs," said General Manager Jim Parker.

TCF Architecture will help guide the PUD through those evaluations and needs assessments. The PUD Board of Commissioners expects to receive the final report and begin evaluating options in August or September. TCF has worked with a variety of public sector organizations including Jefferson County Transit and Mason County PUD #3 on similar projects.

CAB CORNER

The Jefferson PUD Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) is working hard to address areas that might be of benefit to both the PUD and to our community. To highlight just a few, the CAB is currently working on broadband delivery strategies, community solar, and PUD rate design policies. The CAB reviews and researches areas of interest to the Board of Commissioners and makes recommendations to the Board for PUD consideration. The Jefferson PUD Board of Commissioners have a full slate of areas they will be working on during this year so the CAB's agenda will, most likely, be expanding over the next few months.

The CAB welcomes its new members, Karen Bennett, Tom Engle, Norm Norton, Tim Tibbals, and Erik Wennstrom. They are getting an inflow of new ideas and exploring new areas of interest. Returning CAB members include Chair Roger Risley, Vice Chair Douglas Huber, Peter Lauritzen, and Dan Toepper.

PUD COMMISSION MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!



The PUD Commissioners generally meet twice a month on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. There are exceptions to that for holidays, and in the months of October and December.

Meetings start at 5:00 p.m. and are held at the Administration Building at 230 Chimacum Road in Port Hadlock. Meeting materials are available a few days in advance on the PUD's website at www.jeffpud.org.

Upcoming meetings are scheduled for:
August 1st and 15th
September 5th and 19th
October 2nd* and October 17th

*October 2nd is a Monday. This meeting date is required by law.

The Commissioners may call a special meeting for emergent business. Such meetings are advertised on the PUDs webpage at www.jeffpud.org.

We hope to see you at an upcoming meeting!

Do you have enough?

500 Jefferson County homes, many with children, don't. They won't be able to afford home heating costs this year.



You helped your neighbors last year and please do so again this year.

Donate \$1 to \$20 (or more) each month through your PUD bill.

100% of funds go to OLYCAP and St. Vincent De Paul.

The PUD does not deduct any administrative costs.

POWER BOOST PROGRAM

a partnership of



--- Sign up today! ---

Call the PUD: 360-385-5800
or visit jeffpud.org

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- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov

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contact us

Customer Service:
(360) 385-5800

Monday-Friday
8:45am-5pm

Mailing Address
310 Four Corners Road
Port Townsend, WA 98368

Payments
Pay-by-phone: (855) 386-9916

Customer Portal:
jeffpud.smarthub.coop

 @Jefferson_PUD

 Jefferson County Pud #1

Public Utility District #1 of Jefferson County is an equal opportunity provider and employer.