

PUD Audit Finds 'No Significant Issues'

An annual review of the Grays Harbor PUD accountability and financial statements resulted in no findings and a strong report on the financial workings and accountability of the utility.

"This report makes me very proud of the staff of the Grays Harbor PUD," said PUD Commission Secretary Dave Timmons. "These reviews and reports from the state tell our customers that their trust is well placed and that their utility is in the hands of a professional and responsible staff."

In closing the month long review, representatives of the Washington State Auditor's Office commended the utility for its accountability and transparency and reported that the utility's financial statements were presented fairly and "in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America."

"You guys really are running a top notch shop here," said State Auditor Audit Lead Jordan Coleman.



Commission Meeting Dates

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

October 2019

Monday - October 7

Monday - October 21

November 2019

Monday - November 4

Monday - November 18

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) for updated information.

Clean Energy Powers Grays Harbor in 2018

The annual fuel mix report from the Department of Commerce again shows that Grays Harbor PUD is served almost completely by carbon free energy. The combination of hydro power, power from biomass generators and nuclear power totaled 97.2% of the utility's power portfolio.

Grays Harbor County PUD #1		
Utility Fuel Mix		
Fuel	Percent	Total MWh
Biogas	0.00 %	0
Biomass	2.84 %	27,000
Coal	0.00 %	0
Geothermal	0.00 %	0
Hydro	84.00 %	798,533
Natural Gas	0.01 %	63
Nuclear	10.45 %	99,305
Other Biogenic	0.00 %	0
Other Non-Biogenic	0.00 %	0
Petroleum	0.00 %	0
Solar	0.00 %	0
Waste	0.00 %	0
Wind	0.00 %	0
Unspecified	2.70 %	25,627
Total	100.00 %	950,528

2018 Department of Commerce Fuel Mix Report

ON-LINE BILL PAYMENT

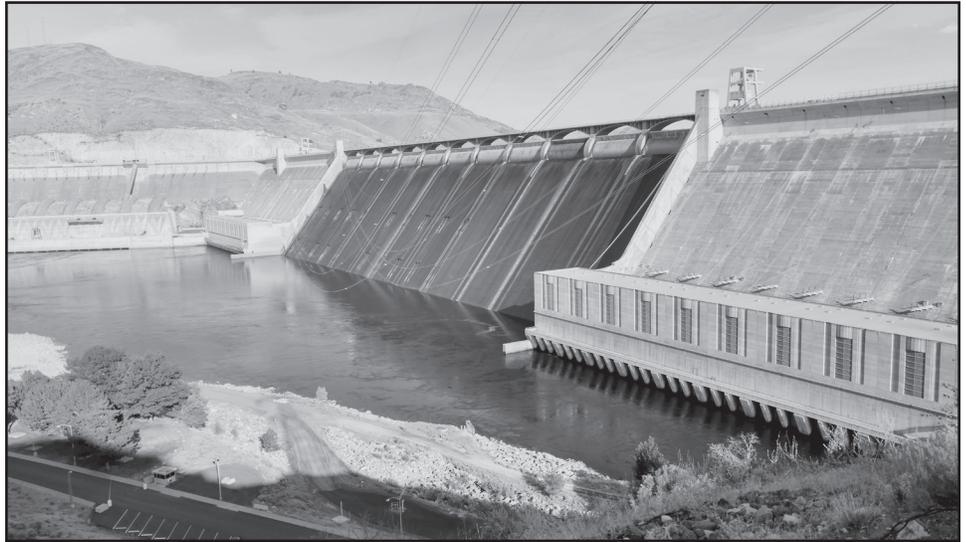
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Let's Protect and Preserve Hydropower

By Dave Ward, General Manager

Last month, I visited Eastern Washington and toured Grand Coulee Dam. Having been in the utility industry for almost 35 years, visiting Grand Coulee has been one of my goals for a long time. I would sum up the tour in one word ... AWESOME! When completed in 1942, Grand Coulee was the largest hydro facility in the world and is still in the top ten. Behind the dam, Lake Roosevelt extends for 150 miles to Canada. The Bureau of Reclamation operates Grand Coulee with a primary purpose of flood control on the Columbia River. It irrigates 600,000 acres of land and produces power ... a lot of power! The total generator capacity at Grand Coulee is 6,809 megawatts; enough to power 4.2 million homes. I stood next to the largest generator in the world. It had a shaft 11 feet in diameter and is rated at 805 megawatts (by comparison, Grays Harbor PUD's peak load is just over 200 megawatts).



After the visit, I reflected on how fortunate we are to have so much reliable, renewable and carbon free hydropower in the Pacific Northwest. Hydropower is a premier renewable resource. It can provide important attributes necessary for a reliable and flexible electrical grid to avoid blackouts. It has an important role in integrating wind and solar resources (called variable resources) by filling in those energy gaps when the wind doesn't blow and the sun doesn't shine.

While Grays Harbor PUD is almost 100% carbon free (we're at 97%), there are coal plants providing power to the investor owned utilities and selling into the open market. Many of these plants are scheduled for shut down and decommissioned by 2030, leaving a potential shortage of generation resources in the Northwest. This is not the time to be considering removal of valuable hydroelectric resources, like the Lower Snake River Dams. There may be a time when technology catches up and large scale, clean generation resources could replace our aging hydroelectric resources, but we have a long ways to go before that is possible.

For decades, dams on the Columbia and Snake Rivers have powered industry, irrigated crops, provided recreation, controlled flood waters and created a means of transporting goods. Hydroelectric power is the foundation of the Northwest power system and we need to protect and preserve this valuable resource.

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

**2720 Sumner Avenue
Aberdeen WA 98520**

**Customer Service 360-532-4220
Toll Free 800-562-7726
Fax 360-532-6085**

**Outage Numbers 360-537-3721
Toll Free 888-541-5923**

Visit us at: www.ghpud.org

**General Manager: Dave Ward
Editor: Ian Cope**

Commissioners:

**Arie Callaghan • 360-538-6514 • acallaghan@ghpud.org
Russ Skolrood • 360-538-6289 • rskolrood@ghpud.org
Dave Timmons • 360-538-6267 • dtimmons@ghpud.org**

