

# Northwest Public Power Association **BULLETIN**

October 2016  
Volume 70, Number 10

## **Smart grid demo project brings enhanced reliability to Idaho Falls Power**



# What is website access ABILITY?

Nearly one in five Americans has a disability. Here are a few ways to make sure everyone can use your website:



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**On the cover:** Lineman Darren Rhoades installs an AMI meter on the home of an Idaho Falls Power customer who volunteered to participate in the Pacific Northwest Smart Grid Demonstration Project. The five-year demonstration project tested many elements of a future smart grid, specifically involving 112 megawatts of coordinated resources featuring both load and generation that were set up to respond to a signal from system operators.

Opinions expressed in single articles are not necessarily policies of the Association. For permission to reprint articles, write or call the associate editor.

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The *Bulletin* is published monthly by Northwest Public Power Association, 9817 N.E. 54th Street, Ste. 200, Vancouver, WA 98662.

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**Coming in the next issue: Missoula Electric's experience with cybersecurity testing.**

## Over 100 attendees camped out in Missoula for the 2016 NIC



(L-R) Columbia River PUD's Libby Calnon, and Clatskanie PUD's Sarah Johnson and Brian Fawcett sport their best plaid shirts for the camping-themed conference.

The Northwest Communications & Energy Innovations Conference (NIC) returned to Montana last month and it did so with an event of Big Sky proportions! Over 100 attendees, plus speakers, sponsors, and spouses, came to Missoula, September 11-14, for a camping-themed conference that addressed hot topics such as change management, cyber-security, drones, and how to engage members.

The annual NIC has not been in Montana since 2006 (when it went to Whitefish) and attendees agreed it was great to be back in Big Sky Country. The location on the Clark Fork River at the DoubleTree Edgewater was beautiful and those on the early morning fitness walks started their day in dry — albeit cold — weather. Thankfully, the weather cooperated most of the time, though Sunday evening's welcome reception was moved indoors due to rain in the forecast. But regardless of being inside or outside, attendees had a great Sunday night as they used the time to connect with old friends and network with new ones before getting down to business bright and early on Monday morning.

After Monday's insightful opening general session about change management with Large Public Power Council President John Di Stasio (also the former general manager of SMUD), attendees were able to choose between the communications track or the energy-efficiency track — or a mix of the two — during three separate breakout sessions. Because of feedback in previous years, the Planning Committee opted to reduce the number of breakout sessions and increase the number of general sessions this year — and that seemed to be a hit with attendees. The nine general sessions touched on everything from social media to communicating safety messages to the effect of cannabis on electric utilities. This year's conference also included a session with a TEDx trainer, Tom Stenzel, on how to be a better communicator as well as a lively debate on the status of energy efficiency.

In addition to the breakout and general sessions, atten-

dees stayed busy with roundtable discussions, which are always a conference favorite. The first one on Monday was split up by hot topics, and the second one on Tuesday was split up by utility size. Expanding on the hot topic roundtables, this year the Planning Committee opted to add in conversation starters at lunch on Tuesday. With table toppers defining various hot topics, attendees participated in a working lunch where they sat at tables with a topic they were interested in to facilitate more discussion and learning.

After two days of educational sessions and discussions, attendees were ready to have some fun at the casual, camping-themed reception and awards banquet on Tuesday night. In addition to the annual Excellence in Communications awards, the Tom Hougan Award for Overall Communications, the Lacy Peoples Award, and the Jim Brands Award, this year NWPPA added a People's Choice Award for photography. (See pages 5-7 for more information about the awards.)

After the 2017 chair, Libby Calnon of Columbia River PUD, announced that next year's NIC will be in Sacramento, attendees enjoyed s'mores and camp song singalongs with John Doogan, a local singer/performer. However, it was back to business for the last half day of the conference on Wednesday morning with two final general sessions and an excellent optional half-day workshop with Stenzel, who taught students great tips for public speaking — something all communicators can use.

NWPPA and the Planning Committee thank all of the sponsors, attendees, and speakers for their support of this year's conference! Please mark your calendars for the 2017 NIC, September 17-20, 2017, at the Embassy Suites in Sacramento, Calif. Look for more details about the conference in the *Bulletin* and on [www.nwppa.org](http://www.nwppa.org) in the late spring.

Interested in a presentation from the conference? Presentations can be found on [www.nwppa.org](http://www.nwppa.org) under the Member Resources tab. **NWPPA**



Flathead Electric Cooperative's Mike Radel used his drone to get this awesome aerial photo of the 2016 NIC attendees.

# Barbara Johnson, Van Ashton honored with lifetime achievement awards

The 2016 Northwest Communications & Energy Innovations Conference (NIC) Planning Committee selected Tillamook PUD's Barbara Johnson as this year's winner of the Lacy Peoples Award for her lifetime commitment to the public power industry and remarkable work in the areas of marketing and communication. The committee also chose Idaho Falls Power's Van Ashton as this year's recipient of the Jim Brands Award for his lifetime commitment to the public power industry and remarkable work in the areas of energy efficiency. Both awards were presented to Johnson and Ashton at last month's awards banquet at the 2016 NIC.



*(L-R) NIC Chair Julee Cunningham presented the 2016 Lacy Peoples Award to Barbara Johnson.*

Johnson has been in the public power business since 1992 when she joined Tillamook PUD (Ore.) as a part-time receptionist. Her leadership and communication skills helped elevate her in 2006 to the position of public relations manager, the position she holds today. She also represents her utility well in her community, serving on the boards of organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce and Greater United Way.

In the industry, she has served on the Ruralite Publications Committee since 2008 and received Ruralite's Communicator of the Year Award in 2003. Ruralite Editor Mike Teegarden said, "She is always such a pro. Nothing seems to rattle her and her smile never fades. Her service on Ruralite's Publications Committee has helped us shape our message as well with her thoughtful input."

In 2001, she chaired the NIC and recently her team has garnered several Excellence in Communication awards for their website, brochures, and pamphlets.

"I am honored and humbled to accept this award and to join past recipients who I have long admired and respected," said Johnson. "Thank you so very much."

First given to Lacy Peoples of Cowlitz PUD at the Consumer Services/Communications Conference in 1978,

the award is now presented to recipients at the annual NIC. Recent Lacy Peoples Award winners include Larry Owens of Silicon Valley Power (2015), Teresa Lackey of Midstate Electric Cooperative (2014), and Phil Steyer of Chugach Electric Association (2012).

"It is truly an honor to be recognized by this award. It is especially meaningful to me because Jim was such a good friend," said Ashton of the Jim Brands Award. "Working in the energy efficiency arena has been an enjoyable highlight in my career in the utility industry."

Ashton joined Idaho Falls Power (IFP) in 1981 as the first customer service representative, and over the last 35 years his name has been synonymous in the region with energy efficiency. Not only did he singlehandedly create the energy services program at IFP, but he also was the driving force behind the immensely successful collaboration of energy efficiency efforts for a group of public power utilities (cooperatives and municipals). In addition, he has served in a variety of capacities related to promoting energy efficiency regionally and has also written a monthly energy efficiency article for the local newspaper over much of his career.

IFP's Jackie Flowers, his general manager, said, "While he nears the end of his career at Idaho Falls Power, he has not slipped into a 'coasting' mode. Instead, he welcomed the opportunity to embrace new technology and new approaches in an effort to once again lead Idaho Falls Power in evolving its energy efficiency program. That's his legacy."

This annual award honors Jim Brands and his 35-year career in the electric utility and energy efficiency industries. Brands, a previous employee of NWPPA and longtime friend to the public power industry, passed away in 2014 from cancer at the age of 61. Columbia River PUD's Tim Lammers was the inaugural recipient of the award last year.



*(L-R) NIC Chair Julee Cunningham presented the 2016 Jim Brands Award to Van Ashton.*

# NWPPA communication contest breaks record for most entries



*The 2016 Excellence in Communication winners at the camping-themed awards banquet.*

Now in its 23<sup>rd</sup> year, the Excellence in Communication contest recognizes the top communication efforts from NWPPA member utilities and associations. NWPPA presented the 2016 Excellence in Communication awards at its Northwest Communications & Energy Innovations Conference (NIC) awards banquet at the DoubleTree Hotel in Missoula, Mont., on Tuesday, September 13.

This year, NWPPA received a record-breaking 204 entries from 37 different utility and association members. In comparison, NWPPA received 176 entries from the same amount of members last year.

“I am super excited that this was the year that everyone kicked it up and sent in the most entries ever in the history of this communication contest,” said 2016 NIC Chair Julee Cunningham of Snohomish County PUD in Everett, Wash. “I would like to personally thank the NWPPA members who participated — their participation is what makes this annual contest the highly regarded event that it has become.”

Categories are broken up into four groups: Group A utilities having the smallest number of customers and Group D having the largest. Nine local marketing and communication professionals volunteered their time to judge the

entries. A complete list of the first-, second-, and third-place winners can be found at [www.nwppa.org](http://www.nwppa.org).

In addition to the Excellence in Communication awards, NWPPA presented the 2016 Tom Hougan Award for the best overall communication effort to Clearwater Power Company (Lewiston, Idaho). Clearwater received an impressive average of 45.4 points out of 50 possible, which includes their four first-place awards (Advertising Campaign, Special Publication, Internal Communication, and Wild Card), their second-place award (Photography), and their third-place award (Annual Report). This was the 15<sup>th</sup> year for this award and Clearwater is the first utility from Idaho to win it. Clearwater Power Company Marketing Communications Specialist Jeff Marshall accepted the award on the utility’s behalf at the banquet.

“As a consumer-owned utility, Clearwater Power has a duty to keep our consumers informed. We’re a company with a long history yet we’re moving into a brave new world of change,” said Marshall. “I’m honored to be trusted with that responsibility.”

A fun new award that NWPPA also presented at the awards banquet was the inaugural People’s Choice Award in photography. Attendees viewed all of the photography sub-

missions at Sunday night's opening reception and voted on their one favorite photo. Pend Oreille PUD (Newport, Wash.) won the award with its photo of Dick Shaw in the field. The same photo also won a first-place Excellence in Communication award in photography in Category A earlier in the evening.

"We are very surprised and honored to receive the People's Choice Award," said Pend Oreille PUD Contracts and Public Information Administrator Eileen Dugger. "The photo, which was taken by Rod Schoener, the foreman of our tree trimming crew, was taken at the end of a long day working with the Forest Service to suppress a forest fire in the county."

The 2017 Excellence in Communication awards will be presented on September 19, 2017, at the Embassy Suites in Sacramento, Calif. **NWPPA**



(L-R) NIC Chair Julee Cunningham presents the 2016 Tom Hougan Award to Jeff Marshall on behalf of Clearwater Power Company.

## NWPPA welcomes Lodi Electric Utility

**L**odi Electric Utility serves Lodi, a city located in San Joaquin County, Calif., in the northern portion of California's Central Valley. Lodi is best known for being a center of wine grape production (the "Zinfandel Capital of the World"), and in recent years, the Lodi Appellation has become increasingly respected for its Zinfandel wine and other eclectic varieties, along with its focus on sustainability.

When the City of Lodi was incorporated in 1906, area water and minimal electricity was provided by Bay Cities Gas, Water and Electric Works, a privately owned company. By 1910, operation of the existing utility had been transferred to the city's jurisdiction and the need for new equipment and higher voltage capacity became apparent as residential and industrial demands for electricity escalated.

Looking toward the future with the addition of new substations, upgraded equipment, and installation of underground facilities, Lodi Electric Utility continued to provide quality, reliable electric service to meet customers' specific needs. In the 1960s, Lodi Electric Utility joined forces with a group of 15 other customer-owned utilities under the Northern California Power Agency. This joint effort allows the collective to purchase and supply electricity at minimal cost with savings passed directly on to the consumer.

Electric Utility Director Liz Kirkley oversees the 48 employees who provide service to approximately 26,000 customers. Together they reinforce the utility's tagline: "Large enough to meet your needs, small enough to care."

For more information, visit [www.lodielectric.com](http://www.lodielectric.com). **NWPPA**



For more photos of this year's NIC, visit NWPPA's Facebook page or search #2016NIC on Twitter. [www.facebook.com/NWPPAssoc](http://www.facebook.com/NWPPAssoc) [www.twitter.com/NWPPAssoc](http://www.twitter.com/NWPPAssoc)



## 2016 linecrew survey open online

**T**he biennial 2016 Linecrew Wage and Benefits Survey is now open and available for utility members via the following link: [www.surveymonkey.com/r/CDXRTBW](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CDXRTBW).

This latest survey will remain open for members to complete until **October 23, 2016**. At this time it will be closed and a report will be generated with the survey results. A final report summarizing the survey results will be available in mid-November.

Please set aside some time to participate in this very important survey process. We estimate that the survey should take no more than 30-45 minutes, and the survey report that will be generated is a valuable source of comparison information for utilities and their boards. Because we can only report aggregated data, we need as many responses as possible. If you would like hard copies of the survey questions to



collect the needed information before starting the online process, or if you would like a copy of your 2014 responses, please send a request to [Brenda@nwppa.org](mailto:Brenda@nwppa.org).

Please note that this is the only utility compensation survey that NWPPA will facilitate this year. (Labor and Employee Relations Group surveys are managed separately and will continue to be offered annually.) Last year, the Association began rotating its annual surveys on an every-other-year basis. The Linecrew survey will be offered this year, and then not again until 2018. Next year, we will open up both the General Managers Compensation Survey as well as the Directors, Commissioners, and Other Elected Officials Annual Compensation Survey; those surveys will again be available in 2019.

Thank you for your participation! **NWPPA**

# NWPPA says goodbye to longtime graphic artist Glenda Waite

Staff and members are saying goodbye and happy retirement to one of its longest tenured employees, Glenda Waite. Waite started her career at NWPPA on September 5, 1989, working part-time and helping the meeting manager at the time, Janet Bolzell, by creating artwork, laying out event brochures, and sending out media kits to prospective advertisers.

“After I finished college, I had two interviews and NWPPA was one of them. I was hired by NWPPA two weeks after the interview,” said Waite. “It was clear this job was for me.”

After six months, Waite accepted a full-time position with the Association and took charge of membership records. Her primary job was to create and maintain the membership database in FileMaker Pro. In 1993, she began doing the layout and design of the 132-page *Northwest Electric Utility Directory* on a McIntosh SE (“Those were really small screens!”) and her title then changed from membership records to graphic artist, the title she held until retirement. The 2016-2017 issue of the Directory was her 24<sup>th</sup> and final one.

In 1995, she also began designing and laying out the *Bulletin* magazine; this in turn saved the Association a lot of money that was being spent on having a contractor do the job every month. After creating more than 250 issues, the November 2016 *Bulletin* will be her last one.

Waite has been responsible for the look and feel of the Association’s branding and has been responsible for all the marketing and printed materials that are sent out on behalf of the organization.

“Glenda has been a joy to work with over the past 21 years. Her can-do attitude and willingness to help out on any project will be missed,” said Communication Director Debbie Kuraspediani. “These are truly big shoes to fill and we will miss her as our staff historian.”

In her 27 years at NWPPA, Waite has seen many other staff come and go; she says it is now her time to go.

“It’s time for me to enjoy doing things other than work — like spending time with my grandchildren here and traveling to see the ones who don’t live here,” she said. “But I’ll miss the everyday mingling with NWPPA staff. It’s been a great job with lots of variety and I’ve made some really good friends.”

Waite retired on October 14. Congratulations and best wishes from all of us! **NWPPA**



## A look back at public power

### 50 years ago — 1966

Sen. Warren G. Magnuson made the key address at the groundbreaking ceremonies for the Paul J. Raver Power Center, which is 25 miles southeast of Seattle (Wash.) ... Jess Nicholas of Homer was elected president of the Alaska Rural Electric Cooperative Association at the association’s 15<sup>th</sup> annual meeting ... Okanogan PUD cut municipal pumping rates by a total of \$10,000 per year (Wash.) ... George E. King was appointed to be assistant manager at Clearwater Power Co. (Idaho) ... With settlement of the strike, the first 400,000-kilowatt Hanford generator went on line (Wash.).

### 25 years ago — 1991

Lane Electric Cooperative and Blachly-Lane Electric Cooperative announced they will be conducting a detailed evaluation of the benefits of combining the operations of the two utilities (Ore.) ... The Montana Electric Cooperatives’ Association adopted a resolution supporting the construction of a new 230-kilovolt line in Southeastern Montana ... Randall W. Hardy was named administrator of Bonneville Power Administration ... Seattle City Light ventured beyond computer-aided drafting and developed geographic information systems (GIS) to significantly reduce work time on certain projects (Wash.).

### 5 years ago — 2011

Eugene Water & Electric Board teamed up with Oakshire Brewing to create three separate beers to honor the utility’s first 100 years of service to Eugene, Ore. ... Columbia REA was named the 2011 Business of the Year by the Walla Walla (Wash.) Valley Chamber of Commerce ... Emerald PUD’s Jaime Cranmer and Richard Gunn were acknowledged by the American Public Power Association (APPA) as being “Rising Stars in Public Power” (Ore.) ... The Kodiak Electric Association Board of Directors took a giant leap forward in using technology by replacing bulky paper board meeting packets with slim, streamlined iPads (Alaska). **NWPPA**

# November and December 2016, January 2017

Please go to our website ([www.nwppa.org](http://www.nwppa.org)) to view the full descriptions for these and other courses.

### ELECTRIC UTILITY SYSTEM OPERATIONS

**Who Should Attend:** Any electric utility industry employee (utility or vendor) whose job performance will benefit from a basic understanding of the operations side of the utility business, including engineering; operations; safety; purchasing; information technology; regulatory and rates; customer service; public relations; legal; accounting; as well as utility commissioners and board members.

PQXGODGT 4/5."4238" "CPEJQTCI G."CNCUMC

### MAJOR CHANGES AND GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE 2017 NESC

**Who Should Attend:** Engineers, staking engineers, operations supervisors, foremen, technicians, linemen, safety personnel, and inspectors. Prior knowledge of the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) is not required.

PQXGODGT 5."4238" "XCPEQWKG."Y CUJ 0

### STAKING TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATION PROGRAM – OBTAINING PERMITS

**Who Should Attend:** Staking technicians.

PQXGODGT 5/6."4238" "RQTVNCPF."QTG 0

### OUTLOOK AND ONENOTE: DYNAMIC DUO

**Who Should Attend:** Anyone who uses Outlook and would like to increase efficiency organizing electronic communication; and anyone who could benefit from OneNote's function as a simple, quick storage and reference system.

PQXGODGT : ."4238" "XCPEQWKG."Y CUJ 0

### FOREMAN LEADERSHIP SKILLS #3 – REDUCING CONFLICTS; COMMUNICATION AND CUSTOMER SERVICE

**Who Should Attend:** Foremen and crew leaders.

PQXGODGT : /; ."4238" "TIEJNCPF."Y CUJ 0

### WOMEN IN PUBLIC POWER CONFERENCE

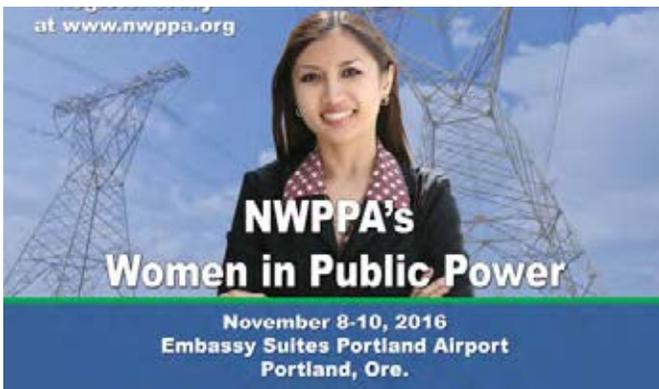
**Who Should Attend:** Women in the power industry.

PQXGODGT : /32."4238" "RQTVNCPF."QTG 0

### MASTERING ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER

**Who Should Attend:** Policymakers, general managers, clerks to the board, executive secretaries, administrative assistants, and any utility employee participating in board or commission meetings.

PQXGODGT ; /32."4238" "RQTVNCPF."QTG 0



### QUALIFIED WORKER TRAINING – OSHA 1910.269

**Who Should Attend:** Individuals who do not hold an electrical journeyman certificate, but as a part of their duties must enter or open secured areas such as substations, padmounted transformers, switchgear, vaults, and metering cabinets.

PQXGODGT 37."4238" "XCPEQWKG."Y CUJ 0

### ELECTRIC UTILITY SYSTEM OPERATIONS

**Who Should Attend:** Any electric utility industry employee (utility or vendor) whose job performance will benefit from a basic understanding of the operations side of the utility business, including engineering; operations; safety; purchasing; information technology; regulatory and rates; customer service; public relations; legal; accounting; as well as utility commissioners and board members.

PQXGODGT 37/38."4238" "URQMCPG."Y CUJ 0

### LINEMAN SKILLS SERIES: AC TRANSFORMER THEORY AND APPLICATION; REGULATORS AND CAPACITORS

**Who Should Attend:** Linemen, linecrew foremen, substation personnel, electrical engineers, safety managers, and all personnel that would benefit from a theoretical and practical knowledge of AC transformers, regulators, capacitors, and grounding.

PQXGODGT 37/39."4238" "URQMCPG."Y CUJ 0

### GROUNDING AND POWER QUALITY

**Who Should Attend:** Engineers, engineering technicians, and engineering supervisors and managers, as well as personnel in operations that would benefit from an understanding of grounding and power quality.

PQXGODGT 38."4238" "XCPEQWKG."Y CUJ 0

### LEADERSHIP SKILLS #3: PERSONALITIES AND ATTITUDES IN THE WORKPLACE

**Who Should Attend:** Supervisors and managers, and employees who will be transitioning to a supervisory or managerial role in the future and have completed *Leadership Skills Session #1: Situational Leadership*.

PQXGODGT 38/39."4238" "UGCVWG."Y CUJ 0

### POWER FACTOR AND HARMONIC ANALYSIS

**Who Should Attend:** Engineers, engineering technicians, and engineering supervisors and managers, as well as personnel in operations that would benefit from an understanding of power factor and harmonic analysis.

PQXGODGT 39."4238" "XCPEQWKG."Y CUJ 0

### ENTERPRISE RISK MANAGEMENT: A SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION

**Who Should Attend:** Chief financial officers, senior-level accounting staff, auditors, general managers/CEOs, policymakers, and legal counsel. (Please note that *ERM: Adding Value to Your Organization* is not a prerequisite for this class.)

PQXGODGT 39/3: ."4238" "UGCVWG."Y CUJ 0

### EMPLOYER COLLECTIVE BARGAINING TEAM PREPARATIONS

**Who Should Attend:** General managers, operations managers, members of the employer bargaining team, and chief negotiators. We recommend that you send more than one team member to this class.

PQXGODGT 4: /4; ."4238" "MGPPGY IEM."Y CUJ 0

# TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

## LEADERSHIP SKILLS SERIES SESSION #5: SUPERVISING UNION EMPLOYEES

**Who Should Attend:** Operations directors, managers, line superintendents, labor relations professionals, and human resource managers who supervise union employees and deal with stewards and officers of the union. This is an optional course in the Leadership Skill Series.  
**PQGODGT 52/FGEGODGT 4.'4238' "MGPPGY IEM."Y CUJ 0**

## HACK ATTACK 2.0

**Who Should Attend:** CEOs, general managers, and board and commission members.  
**FGEGODGT 9.'4238' "RQTVNCPF."QTG 0**

## LINEMAN SKILLS SERIES: AC TRANSFORMERS, ADVANCED THEORY, AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION

**Who Should Attend:** Journeyman linemen, foremen/supervisors, engineers, and those involved in planning, scheduling, and engineering operations for a utility.  
**FGEGODGT 9/. '4238' "UCNV NCMG EKT . 'W/CJ**

## FOREMAN LEADERSHIP SKILLS #4 – DEVELOPING MANAGEMENT SKILLS; BUILDING AN EFFECTIVE WORK GROUP

**Who Should Attend:** Foremen and crew leaders.  
**FGEGODGT 36/37.'4238' "T I E J N C P F . " Y C U J 0**

## ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE MEETING

**Who Should Attend:** Utility environmental professionals (new and experienced), government agency staff, vendors, and anyone who is tasked with or interested in environmental issues, regulatory compliance, or mitigation in the environmental arena of electric utilities.  
**LCPWCTI 32.'4239' "UGCVVNG."Y CUJ 0**

## PCB MANAGEMENT – FOUNDATIONAL & ADVANCED TRAINING

**Who Should Attend:** All utility operations and technical personnel, as well as employees who are involved in managing, handling, and maintaining records and EPA reports for PCB items and PCB waste.  
**LCPWCTI 33/34.'4239' "UGCVVNG."Y CUJ 0**

## SENIOR LEADERSHIP SKILLS SESSION 5: SERIES 4: LEAD YOUR ORGANIZATION, SUSTAIN EXCELLENCE, AND MANAGE CHANGE

**Who Should Attend:** Directors, managers, graduates of the Leadership Skills Series, and newly appointed senior leaders.  
**LCPWCTI 3:/3; . '4239' "XCPEQWKT."Y CUJ 0**

## FOREMAN LEADERSHIP SKILLS #1 – PREPARING FOREMEN FOR LEADERSHIP; LEARNING TO LEAD OTHERS

**Who Should Attend:** Foremen and crew leaders.  
**LCPWCTI 47/48.'4239' "XCPEQWKT."Y CUJ 0NWPPA**



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by Garrett Hylton

# Wells Rural makes its presence known through community rallies



The Carlin High rally (below) serves as a tailgate for that week's football game with the coaches, WREC linemen, and football and volleyball players preparing and serving food to members.



WREC's four rallies combine to draw more than 2,200 people each year. At the Wells High rally (above), the school uses the event as a pep assembly to kick off homecoming week where all of the sports teams are introduced to the town. All photos provided by WREC.

While the calendar turn from August to September represents a transition from summer to fall for most people, Wells Rural Electric Co. employees mark that occasion as the beginning of a different exciting season that has nothing to do with the weather: Community Rally Season.

For the fourth year in a row, WREC is getting ready to host its own version of an annual meeting, a community event scheduled in conjunction with an event at each of the four high schools in the cooperative's service territory

Not satisfied with waning excitement and participation over a more traditional format, the cooperative set out in 2013 to take a different approach and fill a void in each of its communities. The solution was to sponsor community rallies to raise support for local schools during tough economic times while still celebrating the cooperative difference with members. The results were staggering.

The four events have combined to draw more than 2,200 people each year, more than half the cooperative's membership, and led to significant contributions at each school. Aside from school support, WREC members have contributed to other causes ranging from contributions to local food banks to joining the fight against breast cancer.

"Our number-one priority is making our members' lives better," said Jeff Cromie, WREC manager of office and member services. "That primarily means providing reliable, affordable electricity, but we're also committed to improving our communities in any way that we can. We live here, too, and we want our schools to know they have our support."

Each year, WREC partners with Carlin High, Wells High, and West Wendover High in Nevada, as well as Wendover High in Utah, to design an event to help raise excitement for the students and their programs.

Employees have a fantastic time interacting with members on topics ranging from the importance of voting to energy efficiency to promoting the benefits of being a member in a cooperative and watching each community celebrate together. Members take advantage of a meal with great food that allows them to rally around their local schools and support their communities.

"Everybody was so excited," said Lysette Perez, president of the West Wendover High School Booster Club. "First of all, they were so thankful because everything was provided. In a community like ours, a lot of families struggle with a lot of different things. When we hold an event of this magnitude it gives them an opportunity to have fun in our community and do it for free."

Each of the events takes on a little different flavor that reflects each community. Perez works with WREC to organize the largest of the four rallies in West Wendover, which draws more than 1,200 people during homecoming. Kids and students enjoy a carnival section with multiple bounce houses and play pickup football games while parents and other members fully cover the other half of the football field.

"Wells Rural Electric is amazing for giving us this opportunity," Perez said. "Everybody appreciates it so much."

Across town, Wendover High holds their rally in conjunc-

tion with parent-teacher conferences. The Wildcat mascot dances out front to draw people in while vocational students participating in FCCLA (Future Career and Community Leaders of America) prepare a large lasagna feed for 400-plus people. Several other school groups participate in face painting and other activities.

“It’s a great thing. The kids enjoy doing it and I think the community really likes the dinner as well. It’s a good fundraiser for the students. It really helps Wendover High,” said Wendover High Principal Clint Spindler. “It’s tough for kids to raise money for their activities and their events. We greatly appreciate the fact that we’ve been invited to participate and we thank Wells Rural Electric for thinking of us here at Wendover High.”

The event in Carlin serves as a tailgate for that week’s football game. In the past, coaches and WREC linemen have helped prepare food while football and volleyball players help serve members.

“This is a great opportunity offered by Wells Rural Electric to bring our community together and honor our students during homecoming,” said Carlin Principal Janice Alexander.

Wells Combined Schools use the event as a pep assembly



WREC’s rally at West Wendover High in Nevada is the largest of the four rallies and draws more than 1,200 people during homecoming.

to kick off homecoming week where all of the sports teams, from the youth level to the high school varsity squads, are introduced to the town. The Wells FFA Chapter uses their experience in winning 13 of the last 14 state Meats Evaluation contests to prepare tri-tip for the group.

*Continued on page 14*

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## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

*“We’re always looking for opportunities to build relationships with our members and promote all the services and programs we provide.”*

Jeff Cromie, WREC manager of office and member services

“The WREC Community Pep Rally has become a focal point of our community at the beginning of the school year,” said Don Noorda, the Wells FFA Chapter advisor who oversees the food preparation. “It allows the community to come together as students, staff, family, and friends, and ignites our community spirit.”

Of course, WREC employees and board members are present at each event to engage with members about important cooperative issues and programs. As the cooperative began exploring more effective ways to engage with its members during the annual meeting, discussion kept coming back to one of the guiding pillars of the cooperative model:

“Commitment to community.”

“I’m just really glad we can be involved with our communities and be able to let our members know that we’re part of their community,” said Jerry Anderson, vice president of the WREC Board of Directors. “We serve on behalf of our members and it’s critical that we help strengthen the communities we serve.”

“We’re part of these communities, too, and we want our members to know how much we value them,” Cromie added. “We’re always looking for opportunities to build relationships with our members and promote all the services and programs we provide. When we can do that and celebrate the places we all live, that’s what being a cooperative is all about.”

With the events still building in popularity heading into year number four, WREC’s members seem to agree.

“This was a great way for Wells Rural to make its presence known,” said

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City of Wendover Mayor Mike Crawford. “It was a great way to donate to both high schools. As far as events go, both were very successful. This, by far, was a better way to show member appreciation. They hit a home run on this.” **NWPPA**

*Garrett Hylton is the communications director at Wells Rural Electric Company in Nevada. He can be reached at [gwhylton@wrec.coop](mailto:gwhylton@wrec.coop).*

by Wendy Ostrom Price

# Flathead Electric Co-hop anyone?

Malted barley and hops are a couple of ingredients we typically think about in making beer, but the folks at Flathead Lake Brewing Co. (FLBC) in Bigfork have infused their recipes with a heaping helping of efficiency and sustainability. Owner Greg Johnston says their business model is based on a philosophy that is paying off: “Great beer calls for quality ingredients and quality ingredients require a healthy environment. So it should follow that sustainable brewing makes for better beer, right?”

Besides using energy-efficient appliances, FLBC installed solar collectors on the roof of their building, which then heat the water in their kitchen. They also employ a low-emission boiler so, according to Johnston, patrons can “keep enjoying the clean air and view, while they have their brew.” And while the list of measures the company has taken toward environmental stewardship and energy efficiency is extensive, the most impressive investment is their “not so typical” geothermal system, which recently garnered them a check for more than \$72,000 from Flathead Electric.

Rich Jarvis and his team with JE Engineering Inc. designed the system and Jarvis is also Flathead Electric’s Energy Smart Industrial Partner through the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). He says the project (which was a couple years in the making) was one of the most complex — and satisfying — he’s been involved in.

“This took a big group effort, but it was the sustainable focus of the owners, in cooperation with the City of Bigfork, Flathead Electric, BPA, and the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, that allowed for this unique project to be imagined and built,” said Jarvis.

The FLBC facility borrows clean effluent from the nearby Bigfork Water and Sewer District and uses it to run several water furnace heat pumps. The equipment provides heating and cooling for outbuildings and processes. Jarvis says the energy savings provided by the system adds up to approximately 300,000 kilowatt-hours on an annual basis, which translates to \$18,000 a year in avoided energy costs.

Johnston says they are incorporating the project as a marketing tool. “We’ve received nothing but great feedback from our customers, some of whom say they continue their patronage with us not just because we make great beer, but because of our stewardship,” he said.

FEC Director of Member and Energy Services Ross Holter said the co-op plans to utilize the efforts at the brewery for promotional material as well. “By publicizing their work, we hope to inspire other companies to take advantage of the energy efficiency and savings programs we have to offer,” he said. “In many ways, FLBC has set a precedent in the industry in our area and beyond.”

The \$72,000 incentive check that the system generated stems from a BPA program that encourages industrial customers to install energy-saving technology by providing significant rebates toward the cost of energy-efficiency projects. BPA enlists the partnership of their wholesale power

*“This took a big group effort, but it was the sustainable focus of the owners, in cooperation with the City of Bigfork, Flathead Electric, BPA, and the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, that allowed for this unique project to be imagined and built.”*

Rich Jarvis, Flathead Electric’s Energy Smart Industrial Partner through the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)



*(L-R) Flathead Lake Brewing Co.’s David Brendgard explains the distilling process to Flathead Electric’s Don Newton and Ross Holter, and JE Engineering’s Rich Jarvis.*

customers (like Flathead Electric) to facilitate the program.

In presenting the check, FEC Supervisor of Energy Services Don Newton hinted that maybe the brewery will be inspired to name a beer after the co-op: “Flathead Electric Co-hop, anyone?” **NWPPA**

*Wendy Ostrom Price is the public relations officer for Flathead Electric Cooperative in Kalispell, Mont. She can be reached at either (406) 751-1820 or [w.ostrom-price@flathead.coop](mailto:w.ostrom-price@flathead.coop).*

by Nora Doyle

# Engineering internships prove to be a win-win for Tacoma Power and students

If an internship is ideal, the intern and the workplace win. Achieving that means identifying and fulfilling the needs of both.

Employers need help getting extra work done. They need to provide interesting, fruitful projects so interns gain useful skills while also developing a healthy interest in the electric industry. Interns need to gain valuable experience to propel their careers forward and stand out among the competition.

Tacoma Power is up to the task, and has been for decades. Based on their track record of success after a summer with the utility, the interns are, too.

Each summer, Tacoma Power's Generation and Transmission and Distribution groups hire interns studying civil, mechanical, and electrical engineering.

"We have an obligation as professionals in this industry to do this," said Terry Ryan, plant engineering and construction services manager. "We need to do this, especially as a public entity. We're here to benefit the public, and taking on interns helps serve that mission."

And then there's the actual work that needs to get done.

Chris Mattson, production engineering manager, said one of his goals with interns is to supplement Tacoma Power's labor force during the busy summer construction and maintenance season. A former Tacoma Power intern himself, Mattson knows the impact of an internship and does his best to offer opportunities around all aspects of the job. Starting in January each year, he prepares by evaluating upcoming utility projects. Typically, Tacoma Power interns in the Generation group get to see equipment, crawl around in generators at power plants, complete a basic design, and assist engineers in the field.

"We try to look for small summer projects that are integrated with our larger projects," he said. "That makes interns a part of the project team and gives them a better experience. What they learn from working with seasoned professionals is invaluable. Interns are part of the team. They feel like it and act like it."

Former Tacoma Power intern Brian York agrees. Two years ago, he interned for Tacoma Power's substation engineering group, replacing a feeder vacuum recloser at LaGrande Substation. He worked on design for wiring into the control house and helped professional engineers with drawing reviews.

"I liked it. I hadn't done any reading of drawings in school, and I needed to," York said. "That helped when I went back to school and later when I got into my job."

Job? You bet. York, a former University of Washington student, is now an electrical engineer for Puget Sound Energy — a job for which the competition was stiff, he said, and the work is interesting. He's now providing engineering support for PSE's generation sites.



Tacoma Power's summer interns were (L-R) Jacob Medley, Ian Casasola, Anthony Davis, Joshua Ogden, and Christina Chung. Photo provided by Tacoma Public Utilities.

"Having already worked for a utility and having utility projects under my belt — that was huge in getting the interview and the job," York said. "All of my friends who interned with utilities had jobs lined up by the time we graduated."

### Utility challenge

While that's a story York knows the ending to, not all engineering students do. Many think working for an electric utility means ancient equipment, no opportunity, and no fun.

"Engineering students often think we only work with old generators, transformers, and transmission lines — that we're archaic compared to other industries," Mattson said. "We do a lot of other stuff. For example, we design advanced control systems using software, computer networks, and servers. Our civil engineers use modern software for structural analysis. Interns can put these experiences on their resumé and it means something."

No matter the work, the interns come to impress.

Tacoma Power recently embarked on rebuilding two generators at its Mossyrock Dam and took video from multiple cameras throughout the entire two-year project.

"We had an intern come in after the project was complete and work with our staff to identify important phases of the rebuild project and then put together a Web-based video," Mattson said. "This digital product lets us view the generator rebuilds from several different camera angles at the same time from any point in time during the construction project. This provides a valuable record of how the machine was assembled. I don't think we could have hired a consultant to do that. Interns are so good at adapting and innovating, espe-

cially with technology-focused work. They're often more comfortable with new technology than our own engineers."

Of course, interns also receive more traditional assignments that are critical to the foundation of engineering work and not often a part of the school curriculum; it's important for them to understand practical application in addition to the theory and calculations they get in class.

Aba Adjepong, a self-described coraller of interns, also seeks to give the students real-world experiences. As an engineer in the utility's New Services Engineering group, she makes sure interns meet customers at new building sites; create design sketches and cost estimates for electrical service for new construction; and build contracts for customers to sign.

"It's important to show them what a real day in the life of this job looks like," she said. "There's a lot of traditional engineering work, but there's also interaction with customers and the process side of the job, like completing contracts. I want them to see it all so they can make an informed decision."

#### Reality check

A critical piece of an intern's education at Tacoma Power is their own understanding and reflection of what a career in a utility means for their future — and whether they want it.

"We tell them, we want 12 weeks of the best work you

have, the most questions you can ask, the most dedication you can give, and we want you to know whether you want to work in the utility industry," said Mike Allen, who leads Tacoma's substation engineering group. "We are conservative and long sighted. We are stable. We give back to the community. We ensure people can maintain quality of life by providing a service that is useful. That's not a hard sell to a 20 year old, surprisingly."

He estimates that by the end of those 12 weeks, 80 percent of Tacoma Power's interns know the answer on whether engineering is the career for them; usually, it's "yes."

"Internships have always been critical for engineering. Schools ensure students learn theory and basics, but they don't have access to industry equipment and processes. Students need internships to be well rounded and prepare them for a career. There should be a strong partnership between education and industry," Mattson summed up. "We can't expect the top students who are in these disciplines to get excited about our industry if we don't give them an opportunity to participate in what we do." **NWPPA**

*Nora Doyle is a communication and marketing strategist at Tacoma Public Utilities in Washington state. She can be reached at either (253) 502-8117 or [ndoyle@ci.tacoma.wa.us](mailto:ndoyle@ci.tacoma.wa.us).*

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## Fair goers enjoy Okanogan demos

Okanogan PUD (Wash.) provided entertainment, education, and opportunities to learn about energy safety and conservation for all ages during the 2016 Okanogan County Fair, September 8-11.

Opening day, Kids Day, saw over 200 children taking part in this year's Youth Pole Climb to earn the Okanogan PUD Pole Climb t-shirt. The crews put on three shows demonstrating different scenarios of unsafe practices when dealing with electricity. The crowd could be heard yelling "do it again" after demonstrating the spectacular fiery end to a kite string, hot dog, and a tree branch.

In the commercial building, staff offered several selections of information on energy conservation and Okanogan PUD programs. As in the past, kids swarmed the PUD booth to obtain a coveted yellow lineman hat that was the trophy of the day. Approximately 2,500 hats were given out at this year's County Fair.

The success of this event could not be achieved without the diligent planning of Energy Services Coordinator **Debbie Peters**, and the coordination efforts by Operations Manager **Mark Pritchard** and the Okanogan PUD crews for the youth pole climb and electricity safety show. Additionally, the time and support of Okanogan PUD employees who volunteered throughout the weekend helped make this year's Okanogan County Fair very successful. **NWPPA**



*The grandson of Okanogan PUD Journeyman Lineman Wolter Abbink shows that he can climb like grandpa and ring the bell.*

## Cowlitz cuts bond debt by \$18M

Cowlitz PUD (Longview, Wash.) commissioners approved a resolution to use \$18 million to finish paying off decade-old bonds. The approval of this resolution will result in saving the utility \$500,000 a year on interest.

Board President **Dena Diamond-Ott** said, "It's good to get our debt down. I think ratepayers would like to see that, and it's a win for the District."

**Steve Kern**, the utility's general manager, has facilitated a new five-year budgeting plan allowing the utility to set aside the \$18 million and applied it to the repayment of the debt.

The bonds were taken out in 2006 to finance the 2002 Swift Canal embankment failure. The bonds were used for relicensing and infrastructure upgrades. **NWPPA**

## Seattle City Light partners with UW on solar

The University of Washington is installing solar panels on three residence halls in partnership with Seattle City Light's Green Up program to support research on clean energy and smart grid technology.

"This project will put our students in the middle of a quiet revolution, the digitization of energy," said UW Clean Energy Institute Director **Daniel Schwartz**. "Setting up a major new testbed facility takes vision and partners, so we truly appreciate the way local industry, the state, and federal funders came together to support the UW team."

Seattle City Light's Green Up program is contributing \$225,000 toward the purchase of the solar panels. This contribution enabled the UW to compete for the Washington State Department of Commerce Solar Grant Program, which is also giving \$225,000 in matching funds. In addition to the solar panels, the project will include advanced meters, communications equipment, a battery system, and control center.

"Seattle City Light is excited to partner with the UW and the state of Washington on this innovative project, which utilizes solar energy to augment the utility's clean energy supply, provides 'learn by doing' educational opportunities for students, and enables the UW to further its cutting-edge grid management research that will be shared with the utility and the region," said **Craig Smith**, director of Seattle City Light's Customer Energy Solutions Division.

**NWPPA**

## BPA wins awards for recycling

The Bonneville Power Administration continues to be recognized for its sustainability efforts. The Environmental Protection Agency awarded BPA a 2016 Federal Green Challenge Award for recycling and reducing its paper use.

EPA's Federal Green Challenge is a national effort that encourages federal agencies to lead by example in reducing their environmental impact in the areas of waste, energy, water, electronics, transportation, and purchasing. In fiscal year 2015, BPA increased its recycling efforts by 71 percent through the recycling of 2,397 tons of metal, 312 tons of glass and ceramics, 167 tons of wood, and 97 tons of e-waste.

In June, the Association of Oregon Recyclers named BPA and property disposal officer **Kevin Kertzman** its Recycler of the Year for finding a home for hundreds of 30-year-old office cubicles. After a remodel of BPA's headquarters in Portland, Kertzman faced the task of disposing of the surplus workstations. Early on, due to the age and condition of the furniture, there weren't any takers. But after about a year of looking, Kertzman learned that Providence

Health & Services, a not-for-profit health and medical care organization, had offices throughout Washington and Oregon that needed that exact type of desks, panels, and filing cabinets.

“It was a great outcome,” Kertzman said. “We were able to support an important local not-for-profit agency, while eliminating waste and protecting the environment.”

In the past five years, BPA has reduced its total energy use by 6.6 percent; saved nearly 30 million gallons of water; cut its fossil fuel use by 285,127 gallons; and diverted 12,498 tons of waste from landfills. **NWPPA**

## Positive bond ratings continue for Benton PUD

**B**enton PUD’s (Kennewick, Wash.) bond ratings were recently affirmed by three rating services: S&P Global Ratings, Fitch Ratings, and Moody’s Investor Services. S&P Global Ratings affirmed their A+ rating with a stable outlook, Fitch Ratings affirmed their A+ rating with a stable outlook, and Moody’s Investor Services affirmed their rating of Aa3.

Overall the rating services attributed the excellent ratings to Benton PUD’s competitive rates, favorable power supply, reduced exposure of wholesale sales, and a history of maintaining solid financial metrics. **NWPPA**

## OPALCO doubles down on low-income bill credits

**O**PALCO’s (Eastsound, Wash.) Energy Assist Program will double the monthly bill credit for participating low-income members through the end of the year. The number of members participating in this new program is lower than budgeted and the board decided to increase the assistance for those who need it.

As of August 31, 159 co-op members have applied for and received a monthly credit on their power bill since the new Energy Assist program began in February. The doubled monthly bill credit ranges from \$20/month (one-person household) up to \$50/month (six or more people per household). Members who meet the qualifications for other assistance programs, such as Federal Free Lunch, LIHEAP, or OPALCO’s Project PAL, are likely to qualify for the Energy Assist Program. Members on the Energy Assist Program are also qualified for the same bill credit with Rock Island Communications for Internet services.

The Energy Assist Program is funded through a line item on all member bills (on average of about 45 cents per month). This program is distinct from Project PAL, which provides one-time emergency grants to eligible members during the heating season only and is funded by voluntary member donations. **NWPPA**

## Salem Electric says goodbye to four retirees

**T**his year, four long-term employees retired from Salem Electric (Ore.) and they took a combined 112 years of service with them.

**Debbie Addison** contributed 22 years and retired as a member services coordinator. **Tim Lulay** served 19 years assisting members as a customer service field representative. **Larry**

**Michaels** retired as foreman of the line crew after 37 years. **Cecelia Darby** served 34 years in conservation and IT, retiring as information technology coordinator. Their dedication, commitment, knowledge, and experience will be greatly missed.

Salem Electric prepared for their departures by implementing a career development program that encourages employee development, ensuring that employees have the tools and skills they need to apply for positions made available by retirements. **NWPPA**



Debbie Addison



Tim Lulay



Larry Michaels



Cecelia Darby

## SMUD Board appoints two unopposed candidates

**A**cting at the request of county voting officials, California’s Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) Board of Directors appointed two incumbent board members to serve as SMUD directors because no other candidates filed to challenge them in the November election.

At a special meeting on August 23, the board appointed **Nancy Bui-Thompson** (Ward 2) and **Rob Kerth** (Ward 5). Bui-Thompson and Kerth are unopposed incumbents.

Legislation enacted in 2014 establishes an appointment procedure for municipal utility districts if no candidate or only one candidate files for candidacy by 5 p.m. on the 83<sup>rd</sup> day before the election (August 17). The law requires the board to make the appointment no later than August 24. Although the board has made the appointments, the appointed directors will not take office until January 1, 2017.

*Continued on page 20*

The rationale behind the legislation is to spare SMUD customers the expense of an election in the event that a candidate is running unopposed. The legislation became effective in January 2014.

The SMUD Board of Directors represents seven wards, different geographic areas, in SMUD's service territory. They cover all of Sacramento County and small adjoining portions of Placer and Yolo Counties. **NWPPA**

### Ashley Slater joins PNGC Power

**P**NGC Power, a Portland-based generation and transmission cooperative, has named **Ashley Slater** as vice president of Government Affairs and Policy. In this role, Slater will be responsible for the management and oversight of PNGC Power's strategy related to engagement with state and federal lawmakers and other regional policymaking entities. Slater will advocate on behalf of PNGC Power's members, 15 Northwest electric distribution cooperative utilities with service territory in seven western states.

Slater brings a wealth of experience in energy policy. Prior to PNGC she worked for the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) in Washington, D.C., where she served as an agency liaison to policymakers within the Department of Energy and on Capitol Hill. Slater's experience also includes serving as the associate director of Legislative Affairs at the White House Council on Environmental Quality. In addition, Slater has cooperative experience, advocating on behalf of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) before the U.S. Congress.

"We need someone who knows Northwest power issues, BPA, the cooperative message, and has good relationships with our congressional leaders," said PNGC Power President and CEO **Beth Looney**. "Ashley's unique background makes her a great choice for this role."

Slater joined PNGC Power on September 26. She brings over 18 years of experience in federal and regional energy policy, and obtained her degree in political science from the University of Washington. **NWPPA**

### American River Basin study is launched

**T**he Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation announced it has launched a new basin study for the American River Basin. The decision was applauded by the Placer County Water Agency (Auburn, Calif.), El Dorado County Water Agency (EDCWA), Regional Water Authority (RWA), and Cities of Sacramento, Roseville, and Folsom, all of whom will partner with the federal agency to complete the study.

The study offers the agencies an opportunity to gather relevant data to diversify the region's water supply portfolio, therefore increasing reliability. The study will also provide information to help the Bureau of Reclamation operate its Central Valley Project (CVP), in light of changing environmental conditions.

Drought, in recent years, has stressed statewide operations of the State Water Project and the CVP, resulting in an increased reliance on Folsom Reservoir by the CVP to maintain compliance with Delta Water Quality Objectives and the Federal Endangered Species Act. Folsom Reservoir reached record low storage levels in 2015 as a result.

Completing a study for the American River basin has been a priority for local agencies for a number of years, and the request for the study received full, bipartisan support from the region's Congressional delegation.

The American River Basin Study is funded by the Department of the Interior's WaterSMART program. **NWPPA**

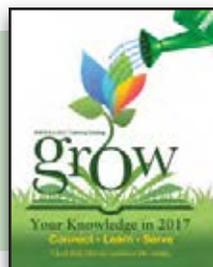
### KEA names new general manager/CEO

**K**otzebue Electric Association Inc. (Alaska) has named **Martin Shroyer** as its incoming general manager/CEO. Earlier this year, **Brad Reeve**, KEA's general manager/CEO since 1988, announced he would be retiring at the end of his latest contract in February 2017.

Shroyer is currently the office manager for KEA; he began working for KEA in 1993 and worked his way up from customer service clerk to the office manager in 1996. Before taking the position at Kotzebue Electric Association, he was the first manager of the NAPA Auto Parts Store, establishing the franchise for Kikiktagruk Inupiat Corporation.

"In Martin, we have found a candidate with the skills and appreciation of our community to respectfully lead us into the future," said **Craig McConnell**, president of KEA. "He has been both on the customer service side and the management side of the organization. He also has experience in multiple management positions that will allow him to bring those skills to the organization's management and operations. We are pleased to have him as our new general manager/CEO."

Shroyer will begin working along with the current manager until February 2017; at that time, he will fully take over the cooperative's management duties. **NWPPA**



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## We remember

**F**ormer Grays Harbor PUD commissioner Diane Ellison passed away on August 22, 2016.

“Diane was a tremendous advocate for Grays Harbor and the customers of the Grays Harbor PUD,” said Board President Russ Skolrood. “Her time on the board was brief but her willingness to serve in elected office and represent the interests of her friends and neighbors is an example to us all.”

Ellison served as the PUD commissioner for District Two from January 1, 2005, until she resigned the office on September 18, 2007. In her resignation letter, Ellison noted the victory in the Bonneville Power Administration residential exchange case, upgrades to the PUD infrastructure, and her efforts to keep PUD rates down as the proudest accomplishments of her two and a half years in office.

“It was a privilege and joy to serve with Diane,” said former commissioner Jim Eddy, who served as board president during Ellison’s time in office. “She was very proud to be a commissioner for our PUD and for as long as she could worked hard for the PUD customers and employees.” **NWPPA**

**A**laska Village Electric Cooperative’s operations manager, Mark Bryan, passed away in the early morning of August 22, 2016, due to cardiac arrest. He was 56 years old.

Bryan was born on May 18, 1960, in Oxford, Ohio. Being a military brat, he moved around a few times in his younger years, having to go wherever the Army sent his father. When his family came back to Alaska for the second time in 1973, he settled in and decided to never leave the state he loved.

He started working for Alaska Village Electric Cooperative in 1980 and started a wonderful career as a field technician before he was promoted to the operations manager, the position he currently held.

He was preceded in death by his father, Joe Bryan, last October. Bryan is survived by his wife, Angelina Bryan; children, Sarah and Dylan Bryan, and Preston Bolton; mother, Ann Bryan; sister, JoAnne Conway; brother, Barry Bryan; nephews, Zachary Bryan, Dakota, and Hunter Nicolson; and niece, Lindsey Bryan. **NWPPA**



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### Thomas & Betts releases two new products

The T&B® Cable Tray flexible coupler kit, new from Thomas & Betts (T&B), features a bendable plate that allows for electrical continuity, which eliminates the need for a bonding jumper.



The flexible coupler kit also provides maximum horizontal installation flexibility and easy installation that eliminates the need for cutting cable tray side rails.

“We designed the T&B Cable Tray flexible coupler kit to be quickly and easily installed, and it provides excellent cable protection that ensures electrical conductivity without bonding devices,” **Ralph Donati**, product marketing director at T&B, said. “It is a flexible and economical alternative to the more common AU/AH fitting.”

In addition, the Lug Link™ App, also new from Thomas & Betts (T&B), guides the selection of Color-Keyed® Compression Connectors from the convenience of a smartphone device.

“The new Lug Link App is compatible with both iPhone and Android operating systems,” said Donati. “Now contractors and specifiers can select the appropriate Color-Keyed compression connector with a smartphone, eliminating the need to refer to a catalog or search on the Internet.”



The iPhone version is available on the Apple AppStore; the Android version is available on the Google Play store.

Thomas & Betts Corporation, a member of the ABB Group, is a global leader in the design, manufacture, and marketing of essential components used to manage the connection, distribution, transmission, and reliability of electrical power in utility, industrial, commercial, and residential applications. For more information, please visit [www.tnb.com](http://www.tnb.com) or call (800) 816-7809. **NWPPA**

### ABB to divest cable business

NKT Cables is acquiring ABB's global high-voltage cable system business with a total enterprise value of \$934 million. High-voltage cables are key components in sustainable energy networks, used for transmitting large amounts of electricity over long distances. The business is part of ABB's Power Grids division, which is currently undergoing a strategic review.

NKT Cables designs, manufactures, and supplies power cables for low-, medium- and high-voltage solutions mainly in the alternating current (AC) area. It has major production facilities in Europe and China as well as sales offices around the world, and employs around 3,200 people.

“We are combining two strong cable portfolios rooted in a shared Nordic heritage that will be more competitive on a larger scale under NKT Cables' ownership, while maintaining access to supply through a long-term strategic partnership,” said ABB CEO **Ulrich Spiesshofer**. “The combination of our niche cable system business with the strength of NKT Cables demonstrates our commitment to active portfolio management, a key element of our Next Level strategy.”

The transaction is anticipated to close in Q1 2017, subject to regulatory clearances and fulfillment of the closing conditions.

ABB ([www.abb.com](http://www.abb.com)) is a leading global technology company in power and automation that enables utility, industry, and transport and infrastructure customers to improve their performance while lowering environmental impact. **NWPPA**

### POWER acquires G2 Electrical Testing & Consulting

POWER Engineers Incorporated (POWER) announced that its wholly owned subsidiary, POWER Testing and Energization (PTE), expanded its testing and compliance capabilities through the acquisition of G2 Electrical Testing & Consulting LLC of Rockwall, Texas. The acquisition expands PTE's presence in the important Texas market while allowing POWER to offer expanded testing and regulatory compliance services to customers from coast to coast.

G2 Electrical Testing & Consulting LLC, founded in 2005, provides acceptance testing, maintenance, and North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) compliance planning and testing for electric utilities.

“We welcome the G2 employees into the POWER family,” said **Chris Zavadlov**, PTE's business unit director. “G2's NERC compliance testing capabilities, combined with POWER's NETA certification, allows us to better meet the needs of our clients.”

**Bret Moffett**, POWER's president and CEO, added, “We don't look for acquisitions just so we can grow; we expand so that we can solve more problems for our clients. Our culture is really important to us, so even if a company is a great technical fit for us, we want to make sure that the people we bring onboard are a good match. G2 is truly a great fit for us and for our clients.”

POWER Engineers is a global consulting engineering firm specializing in the delivery of integrated solutions for energy, food and beverage facilities, communications, environmental, and federal markets. For more information, please visit [www.powereng.com](http://www.powereng.com). **NWPPA**

## Darlington receives partnership at Moss Adams

**M**oss Adams announced that **Olga Darlington**, CPA, has been admitted as a partner in its firm. Darlington has served municipal utilities and electric cooperatives throughout her entire career and is a well-known speaker and author on matters pertinent to municipi-

pal electric, water, and other utilities. Darlington currently serves as the chair of the Washington Society of CPAs Government Accounting and Auditing Committee and is a technical reviewer for the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate Program.

A leader in assurance, tax, consulting, risk management, transaction, and private client services, Moss Adams has a staff of over 2,200 that includes more than 260 partners. For more information, visit [www.mossadams.com](http://www.mossadams.com). **NWPPA**

## We remember

**H**erbert J. Arnett, II, the founder of H.J. Arnett Industries, recently passed away at the age of 92.

Arnett was born in Wallace, Idaho, on May 8, 1924, and was the youngest of four boys. He graduated from Wallace High School where he played trumpet and was on the football team.

In 1942, Arnett joined the U.S. Army as a radio operator and repairman for 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Ski Troops as a sergeant; he was stationed in Italy during WWII. He stayed in the Army Reserves while attending the University of Idaho and studying electrical engineering. In 1948, he completed Advanced Infantry Officers School in Ft. Benning, Ga.

In 1950, he married Iris and adopted her daughter Carol at the same time. His son Herbert III was born in May 1951. In 1951, only two months before graduating with an electrical engineering degree, Arnett was recalled into the Army as 1<sup>st</sup> lieutenant and was stationed in Korea.

Early in his utility career, Arnett worked in San Francisco

as a junior electrical engineer for Bechtel Corp. and sales engineer for L.A. Nott & Co. In 1961, he moved to Portland as the West Coast district manager for Maydwell & Hartzell. In 1971, Arnett started his own business: HJ Arnett Industries. His utility associations included NWPPA and Northwest Electric Light and Power Association (NELPA, now WEI); he was also a founding member and past president of the National Association of Independent Laboratories for Protective Equipment Testing (NAIL4PET). By 1995, he was ready to retire and sold his testing and manufacturing business. In 1999, he and Iris moved to Phoenix where he lived until his death.

Iris passed away in 2002 and Herb III passed away in 2006. In 2003, after 61 years, he reconnected with his high-school sweetheart, Linda, and they married later that year; Linda passed away in November 2009. Arnett is survived by his daughter, five grandchildren, and numerous great-grandchildren. **NWPPA**

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by Nicole Case

# Concerted utility effort yields results in use of drones by electric utilities



*In emergency situations — such as natural disasters, including earthquakes, storms, wildfires, and flooding — all electric utilities, whether rural or urban, could employ drones to inspect and aid in the repair and replacement of lines to restore service quickly, efficiently, and safely.*

If you think about it, the use of drones by electric utilities makes sense. Electric utilities should be taking advantage of new technology presented by drones, or technically referred to as unmanned aerial systems (UAS), to lower the costs of maintaining electric lines and providing reliable service.

Consider the savings presented to a rural utility with distribution lines over long stretches of steep, sometimes dangerous, terrain. Employing a drone to fly over these lines for routine or emergency inspections would save countless man hours and potentially prevent injury to line crew. In emergency situations — such as natural disasters, including earthquakes, storms, wildfires, and flooding — all electric utilities, whether rural or urban, could employ drones to inspect and aid in the repair and replacement of lines to restore service quickly, efficiently, and safely.

So why is the use of drones not prevalent in our industry? Aside from the relatively recent availability of affordable, smaller-scale drones, the predominant reason is an unfavorable regulatory environment.

Authorization to use drones must be attained from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). As directed by the U.S. Congress in the 2012 FAA Modernization Act, the FAA has, until recently, only certified use of drones in the commercial setting on a case-by-case basis. These determinations typically resulted in a Certificate of Waiver or Authorization (COA) that included a number of restrictions geared toward safe operations; for example, the FAA would restrict use of drones for safety reasons — essentially negating the cost savings or safety benefits of drone use for commercial purposes.

The FAA also previously limited operators to those with commercial pilot licenses, raising the costs of drone operation for utilities. In addition, visual line of sight requirements limit the usefulness of drones during restoration efforts when access to downed or damaged lines could be blocked. For several NWPPA member utilities, the limitations on drone operations ruled out use of drones for line maintenance or repair.

However, pressure on the U.S. Congress to ease rules for the commercial use of drones increased, resulting in an issuance of draft rules for safe operation of drones.

Under direction from the U.S. Congress in the 2012 FAA Modernization and Reform Act, the FAA issued revised rules for use of drones in February 2015. Electric utilities — led by

the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), the American Public Power Association (APPA), and the Edison Electric Institute (EEI) — worked together to support changes to these draft rules. These national trade associations jointly commented on the draft rules, highlighting the need for rules that allow electric utilities to maintain and restore service to their systems using drones. (See October 2015 *Bulletin*, pp. 22-23.) Those rules became final on August 29, 2016, with significant changes that make it easier for electric utilities to realize the cost and safety savings of using drones.

The FAA's new rules — called "Part 107" rules — have less restrictions and more flexibility through waiver applications to meet the particular circumstances of the commercial user. Probably the most significant change under Part 107 is that a commercial pilot license is no longer required to operate drones; a "remote pilot in command" certification is now required. Drone operators need not have a pilot's license but must receive certification from the FAA as remote pilots in command or be under the direct supervision of a person who holds such certification.

Visual line of sight continues to be a requirement for the commercial operation of a small drone; however, the FAA points out that most of the rules requirements, including maximum altitude at 400 feet, operating near airports, and maximum groundspeed at 100 mph, can be waived "if the applicant demonstrates that his or her operation can safely be conducted under the terms of a certificate of waiver." This creates possibilities with the regulatory flexibility built into the new rules for commercial operators (such as electric utilities) to make drones work for them.

Additional key requirements of the new rule include the following:

- Drone must weigh less than 55 pounds.
- At all times the small unmanned aircraft must remain close enough to the remote pilot in command and the person manipulating the flight controls for those people to be capable of seeing the aircraft with vision unaided by any device other than corrective lenses.
- Aircraft may not operate over any persons not directly participating in the operation, not under a covered structure, and not inside a covered stationary vehicle.

- Daylight operations only, or civil twilight (30 minutes before official sunrise to 30 minutes after official sunset) with appropriate anti-collision lighting.
- Must yield to other aircraft.
- No operations from a moving aircraft.
- No operations from a moving vehicle unless the operation is over a sparsely populated area.

Concurrent with the development of new rules governing drone use, an opportunity to change the laws that direct and guide the FAA came up in the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress. With the FAA authorization set to expire in July 2016, the FAA reauthorization bill was considered a “must-pass” bill.

The national trades, bolstered by support from regional organizations like NWPPA, launched an effort to add language to the FAA Reauthorization bill to ease rules to allow electric utility use of drones for restoration of critical infrastructure.

The bill passed in mid-July with a number of provisions aimed at authorizing the use of drones by utilities — clear indication that the U.S. Congress agrees that utility use of drones makes sense. The following key provisions should make it easier for utilities to use drones in the future:

- The FAA must enter agreements with the Secretary of Energy, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and “other agencies” to expedite authorization of drones in support of electric utility restoration efforts.
- The FAA must develop a special authorization process for drone operations in emergency response efforts, including for utility restoration, with priority being given to public (i.e., governmental drone operations). The provision requires the FAA to act on such a request for authorization “as expeditiously as practicable.”
- The FAA must consider civil “exemption” requests for electric utility (and other critical infrastructure) restoration and inspection efforts, including operations beyond line of sight of the operator and at nighttime. The FAA is not required to grant such a request, but Congress has indicated the importance of drone operations by electric utility systems and other critical infrastructure operators. “Critical infrastructure” applies to all electric power generation, distribution, and transmission facilities, and natural gas pipelines.
- “Fixed site facilities” are allowed to petition the FAA to limit or prohibit the operation of drones “in close proximity” to the facility. Eligible

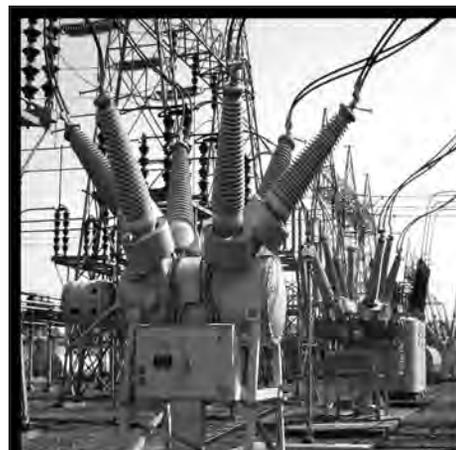
fixed-site facilities include “energy production, transmission, and distribution facilities and equipment.”

The resulting regulatory and legal landscape shows a clear indication that the U.S. Congress agrees that electric utilities should have the authorization to use drones, particularly for maintenance and restoration of critical infrastructure.

While the new “Part 107” rules may have loosened restrictions on use of drones for commercial operations to make it easier to obtain a COA, the 2016 FAA Reauthorization bill provides clear direction to the agency that drone use, particularly for maintenance and restoration of critical electric utility facilities, is a priority for the federal government. The FAA must now implement the directives in the 2016 FAA Reauthorization bill that are applicable to electric utilities. It will be interesting to see how the FAA carries out these new legislative directives.

NWPPA will continue to work with the utility coalition, in particular NRECA and APPA, to monitor future regulatory changes resulting from the 2016 FAA Reauthorization bill. More work needs to be done to ensure the new regulations carry out congressional intent, balancing use of drones for maintenance and restoration of critical utility infrastructure and safety. We will also support, when appropriate, efforts to pass legislation favorable to the use of drones by electric utilities. **NWPPA**

*Nicole Case is NWPPA’s legislative consultant and can be contacted at [nicole@nwppa.org](mailto:nicole@nwppa.org).*



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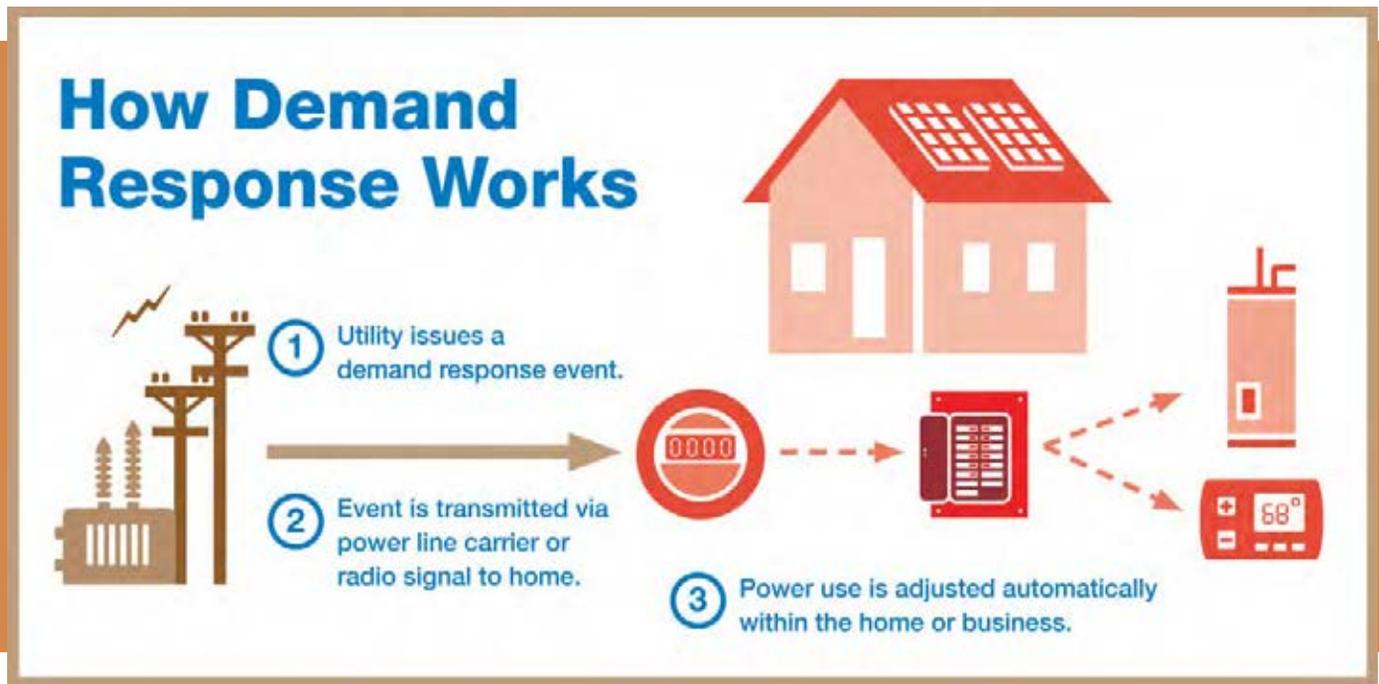
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# Smart grid demo project brings enhanced reliability to Idaho Falls Power



Smart grid is an umbrella term for a host of technologies in a wide range of products from household appliances that are familiar to everyone to more specialized equipment such as sensors on transmission lines and upgrades in substations. Their common feature is integration, which increases communication and information flow, so smart grid technologies can monitor the power system in real time; exchange data about energy supply and demand; and modify power use during advantageous times such as periods of high electrical demand. In short, smart grid can reduce the pressure on the Northwest's hydroelectric system capacity through more efficient system management.

A more integrated power system is a more reliable power system, and smart grid can improve reliability in many ways. Smart grid technologies give operators an enhanced view and more control of the system so they can find and fix faults. It enhances efficiencies by reducing the incidental loss of electricity along power lines in transmission and distribution networks, providing more efficient voltage control and lowering energy consumption in individual buildings.

Smart grid can also give consumers choices on when and how they want to use electricity, and what price they pay. And smart grid can help integrate variable renewable resources, such as wind and solar, by increasing or decreasing

electrical use in real time, serving both the needs of the system and the needs of consumers, a feat that until recently could only be accomplished by building extremely robust infrastructure and demanding major flexibility from generators.

So what has changed? A vast improvement in communications technologies, inexpensive sensors, leaps in computing power, and reimagining the grid as a decentralized system — realizing that not everything can or must be centrally controlled. And what do consumers get out of this? They get more resilient, reliable, and less expensive service — which includes the utility knowing when a customer's power is out without the customer having to call and tell them.

BPA was one of the first agencies to conceptualize smart grid technology, under the name Energy Web, a decade before the smart grid moniker became commonplace — but BPA can't, and wouldn't want to, go it alone. Regional partnerships are one of the strengths of the Northwest, and smart grid is no exception.

BPA's largest smart grid partnership to date has been its participation in the Pacific Northwest Smart Grid Demonstration Project. To complete this work, BPA joined 11 utilities, a major university, and five technical firms across five states (Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and

Wyoming) for the nation's largest smart grid demonstration. The project involved \$89 million in participant funds with matching funds from the Department of Energy. Directed by the Battelle Memorial Institute's Pacific North-west Division in Richland, Wash., the on-the-ground aspects of the project ran between 2010 and 2015, and involved more than 60,000 metered customers.

The demonstration project tested many elements of a future smart grid, with a goal of making national progress toward a more efficient and effective power grid. Specifically, the five-year project involved 112 megawatts of coordinated resources featuring both load (electricity use) and generation (electricity production), which were set up to respond to a signal from system operators. The loads and generators used for this project included everything from home energy systems to small-scale generation distributed throughout the region and numerous other resources on the targeted list of smart grid assets.

While BPA's role in this Battelle-led project was important, it wouldn't have had nearly the value it did without the other participants through the region — particularly those with thousands of residential customers behind their meters. While numerous regional utilities participated, Idaho Falls Power serves as a good example to examine in greater detail.

Idaho Falls Power is a municipal electric utility serving Idaho Falls, Idaho. The city has operated the utility since it was established in 1900.

Idaho Falls Power serves a relatively small physical area (23 square miles within the city) with over 20,000 well-educated, tech-savvy residential customers (and several thousand more commercial customers), many of whom work at the nearby Idaho National Laboratory. So when the utility introduced new technologies through the smart grid project, customers didn't bat an eye.

Idaho Falls Power's participation in the Pacific Northwest Smart Grid Demonstration Project explored and evaluated several concepts and technologies, chief among them demand side management and conservation voltage reduction. The goal of the project was to test technologies intended to boost efficiency at the utility, as well as help customers better manage their energy use.

The demand side management portion of the project used customer volunteers interested in testing a number of technologies including demand side management equipment on heating and cooling systems and appliances in their homes. Idaho Falls also provided advanced meters to the volunteers as well as an in-home display that allowed them to see their energy use in real-time.

Ultimately, Idaho Falls found that in-home displays worked as expected with over 40 percent of customers who used the devices reporting reduced energy use. The utility has since migrated to a customer self-service Web portal that allows customers to better manage their account and monitor their energy usage.



*Idaho Falls Power's participation in the Pacific Northwest Smart Grid Demonstration Project explored and evaluated several concepts and technologies, chief among them demand side management and conservation voltage reduction. The goal of the project was to test technologies intended to boost efficiency at the utility, as well as help customers better manage their energy use.*

Idaho Falls also installed approximately 220 load control switches on water heaters in volunteers' homes, allowing the utility to cycle off electric water heaters remotely, while the messaging feature of the in-home displays was used to give customers advance notice of load control test events, all of which lasted 60 minutes. The purpose of this test, beyond verifying that the technology functioned properly, was to evaluate the utility's ability to reduce electricity use city-wide by cycling off unnecessary equipment during periods of peak demand for power or emergencies. This type of utility-directed load management, if effective, would be preferable to rolling brownouts or even blackouts, which can have public safety and health consequences.

The duration and structure of test events limited Idaho Falls' ability to evaluate the full load reduction capacity of the load control switches and created significant data variability. These limitations made it impossible to verify load reduction during the test periods; however, the utility is

*Continued on page 28*

likely to offer a demand response program similar to this one to all customers in the future. This is an indicator that the testing protocol may have masked the benefits of the project, rather than the technology itself underperforming. Idaho Falls Power also evaluated a different approach to energy management called conservation voltage reduction, or CVR. A more technical smart grid application that happens on the utility side of the meter and is transparent to customers, CVR can help save energy by reducing the voltage on a power line. National standards require the voltage to be within the range of 114 volts to 126 volts; this prevents damage to customers' electronic equipment. Idaho Falls Power's distribution lines typically run at the higher end of that range, between 120 volts and 126 volts. CVR would instead run the distribution feeders in the lower end of range, between 114 and 120 volts.

Idaho Falls Power found that conservation voltage reduction shaved peak demand within the range of 1.4 percent to 3.8 percent with a system-wide reduction of 2,777 kilowatts per hour at peak load. If this method were used to reduce energy use system-wide on a constant basis, the annual savings would be \$670,892.87. Idaho Falls Power officials also believe they could use CVR to help reduce peak load on lines that are close to their capacity.

Overall, Idaho Falls' efforts were successful. Through customer surveys, the utility learned that three-fourths of the volunteers in the demand response aspects of the program said they'd be very likely to enroll in a demand response program if the utility expanded it to all customers, while only 15 percent said they'd be unlikely to enroll. Overall, customers were satisfied with the equipment, with 42 percent giving the most positive rating, 32 percent the

### Avista another to reap benefits of smart grid project

**A**nother regional utility and NWPPA member that participated in the Northwest Smart Grid Demonstration Project is Avista. Headquartered in Spokane, Wash., Avista is older than the state it calls home, and has been an innovator in the utility industry for over 127 years.

With an investment of \$19 million in Avista funds and another \$19 million in federal matching funds, Avista tested a "system-of-systems" architecture model to fulfill its role in the Pacific Northwest Smart Grid Demonstration Project. For this project, which was the largest of its kind in the nation, Avista concentrated on a broad set of objectives, with a deliberate focus on interoperability and the ability to share information across multiple systems. This is in contrast to the more traditional approach of looking only at one particular system.

Avista's systems approach had five primary components: smart circuits, smart transformers, voltage optimization, smart thermostats, and a Web portal called Energy Analyzer, which allowed customers to have greater visibility and control of their energy use.

To enable interactive communication between customers and the utility, Avista installed approximately 13,000 advanced meters at the customers' locations. The digital meters operated via a secure wireless network, allowing two-way, near-real-time communication between the customer's meter and Avista.

The smart thermostat pilot was one of Avista's customer-experience components of the project. Customers who volunteered to participate in the two-year pilot received a free smart thermostat and \$100 per year in exchange for allowing the utility to remotely adjust the thermostat by 2 degrees Fahrenheit for a period ranging

between 10 minutes and 24 hours; customers always had the option to override the utility's setting at any time. Customers with smart thermostats also had advanced meters that provided usage data. At the end of the pilot, data indicated that smart thermostat participants reduced their energy consumption between 4.5 and 9 percent.

Avista gave customers the opportunity to "see behind the meter" as it were, offering them information about their energy use through a Web portal. While some customers looked at the portal frequently, most only visited once or twice. And at the end of the study, access to the portal did not result in a measureable change in consumption.

Avista suspected that customers' energy use didn't change with Web portal use because no marketing efforts were made to encourage or remind customers to visit the portal. Simply having access to usage information is one thing; if a customer wants a lower bill, it might be more helpful to provide suggestions based on the data provided. For example, if customers had time-of-use rates, paying more for power during times of high demand, they could directly affect their usage patterns using the Web portal to save money.

The future of Northwest energy is an evolving vision. The region's grid will be a system that's flexible, scalable, and understandable by the people building it. Avista has a road map that includes a grid modernization program budgeted for the next 25 to 30 years — and smart grid technologies will only become more sophisticated, capable, and less expensive, bringing value and reliability to participants in the Pacific Northwest Smart Grid Demonstration Project and across the region. **NWPPA**

second-highest rating, and only 6 percent giving the project the lowest rating. For Idaho Falls Power, the combination of reduced stress on the power system, real savings, and customer satisfaction was a winning combination that it will explore further.

“Our lessons learned from the Pacific Northwest Smart Grid Demonstration Project are influencing our priorities related to capital investment planning and future customer service offerings,” said Jackie Flowers, manager of Idaho Falls Power. “Additionally, we have turned our attention to grid-modernization efforts building off those lessons learned to deploy technology that will lead to more resilience of our grid.”

Along with the successes reported among the participants, it’s illuminating to read about aspects of the project that didn’t turn out as planned — essentially the lessons learned that, along with successes, will be important in informing the industry for future smart grid technology

*The future of Northwest energy is an evolving vision. The region’s grid will be a system that’s flexible, scalable, and understandable by the people building it.*



deployment. You can learn more about Idaho Falls Power and other Pacific Northwest Smart Grid Demonstration Project participants’ stories at [www.pnwsmartgrid.org](http://www.pnwsmartgrid.org).

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*Nic Lane is a policy writer at the Bonneville Power Administration. He can be contacted at [dplane@bpa.gov](mailto:dplane@bpa.gov).*

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- Complete the online Job Opportunities ad placement form at [www.nwppa.org](http://www.nwppa.org).
- NWPPA reserves the right to edit all listings in order to fit size requirements in the publication.

**POSITION: High Voltage Line Worker**

COMPANY: City of Redding (Redding, Calif.)

SALARY: \$49.17 per hour.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: October 21, 2016.

TO APPLY: View detailed job announcement and apply online at [www.cityofredding.org/jobs](http://www.cityofredding.org/jobs).

**POSITION: Senior Application Configuration Analyst**

COMPANY: Puget Sound Energy (Bellevue, Wash.)

SALARY: DOE.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: October 21, 2016.

TO APPLY: Apply online at [www.pse.com/careers](http://www.pse.com/careers).

**POSITION: Project Manager, Renewable Energy**

COMPANY: Bonneville Environmental Foundation (Portland, Ore.)

SALARY: DOE.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: October 28, 2016.

TO APPLY: Email the following materials to [jobs@b-e-f.org](mailto:jobs@b-e-f.org). Email subject line must include the position title. A complete application will include a cover letter with salary requirements, resumé, and a list of three references (include name, title, relationship, phone number, and email address). Send the three documents as separate attachments in MS Word or PDF format. Documents in other formats may not be considered.

**POSITION: Journeyman Station Wireman - Local 125**

COMPANY: PacifiCorp (Portland, Ore.)

SALARY: \$43.01 per hour.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: October 28, 2016.

TO APPLY: Apply online at [www.pacificorp.com/car/op/sp.html](http://www.pacificorp.com/car/op/sp.html) and search by job number 161098.

**POSITION: Journeyman Lineman**

COMPANY: City of Monmouth Power & Light (Monmouth, Ore.)

SALARY: \$41.90 per hour.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: October 31, 2016.

TO APPLY: Submit your application and letter of interest to Chuck Thurman at [mpl@ci.monmouth.or.us](mailto:mpl@ci.monmouth.or.us) or to Monmouth Power and Light, 401 Hogan Rd, Monmouth, OR 97361.

**POSITION: Engineering Supervisor, Distribution**

COMPANY: Tillamook People's Utility District (Tillamook, Ore.)

SALARY: DOQ.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: November 7, 2016.

TO APPLY: The required fillable application is located at [www.tpud.org](http://www.tpud.org). Contact Tillamook PUD at 1115 Pacific Avenue, P.O. Box 433, Tillamook, OR 97141 or email [jobs@tpud.org](mailto:jobs@tpud.org). One letter of recommendation is required. Resumés are encouraged, but do not replace the required PUD job application.

**POSITION: Dispatcher I/Dispatcher II**

COMPANY: Matanuska Electric Association (Palmer, Alaska)

SALARY: DOE.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: December 20, 2016.

TO APPLY: Apply online at [www.mea.coop](http://www.mea.coop).

**POSITION: EVP of Administration & Finance**

COMPANY: Valley Electric Association (Pahrump, Nev.)

SALARY: DOE.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: December 31, 2016.

TO APPLY: To apply for this position, to review the complete job description, and for more information about employment opportunities at VEA, go to [www.vea.coop](http://www.vea.coop).

**POSITION: Journeyman Lineman (U16-101)**

COMPANY: Portland General Electric (Portland, Ore.)

SALARY: \$42.74 per hour.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: Open until filled.

TO APPLY: Apply online at [https://PGN.igreentree.com/CSS\\_External/CSSPage\\_Referred.ASP?Req=U16-101](https://PGN.igreentree.com/CSS_External/CSSPage_Referred.ASP?Req=U16-101).

**POSITION: Operations Manager**

COMPANY: Canby Utility Board (Canby, Ore.)

SALARY: DOE.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: Open until filled.

TO APPLY: To apply, visit our website at [www.canbyutility.org/dept/jobs/](http://www.canbyutility.org/dept/jobs/) and download our employment application. Submit completed application, along with a current resumé and cover letter, to Canby Utility, Attn: General Manager, P.O. Box 1070, Canby, OR 97013. For questions, please contact Barb Benson at (503) 263-4312 or [bbenson@canbyutility.org](mailto:bbenson@canbyutility.org).

**POSITION: Director - Natural Resources**

COMPANY: Chelan PUD (Wenatchee, Wash.)

SALARY: \$111,870-\$159,800, DOE.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: Open until filled.

TO APPLY: Go to [www.chelanpud.org](http://www.chelanpud.org) under Careers for the full job description and online application procedure. Interested parties are also invited to contact Ruth Erwert, recruiting manager, at [joblist@](mailto:joblist@)

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**POSITION: Journeyman Meter Technician**

**COMPANY:** Orcas Power & Light (Eastsound, Wash.)

**SALARY:** \$42.98 per hour.

**DEADLINE TO APPLY:** Open until filled.

**TO APPLY:** Submit cover letter, professional resumé, employment application, and references to Bev Madan at bmadan@opalco.com. Download a detailed job description and OPALCO employment application at www.opalco.com.

**POSITION: Engineering Technician II**

**COMPANY:** Homer Electric Association Inc. (Kenai, Alaska)

**SALARY:** Per contract.

**DEADLINE TO APPLY:** Open until filled.

**TO APPLY:** Apply online at http://homerelectric.applicantpro.com/jobs.

**POSITION: General Manager**

**COMPANY:** Lewis PUD (Chehalis, Wash.)

**SALARY:** DOE.

**DEADLINE TO APPLY:** Open until filled.

**TO APPLY:** Detailed information and how to apply can be found at www.lcpud.org.

**POSITION: Distribution Engineering Manager**

**COMPANY:** Chelan PUD (Wenatchee, Wash.)

**SALARY:** Up to \$133,900.

**DEADLINE TO APPLY:** Open until filled.

**TO APPLY:** Applicants are required to submit a cover letter and resumé detailing interest in the community, position, and related experience. To

expedite the process, combine your cover letter and resumé into one PDF or Word document and upload electronically when requested in the online application process. Incomplete materials will not be considered.

**POSITION: Assistant General Manager of Distribution and Engineering Services**

**COMPANY:** Snohomish County PUD (Everett, Wash.)

**SALARY:** DOE.

**DEADLINE TO APPLY:** Open until filled.

**TO APPLY:** Submit a cover letter and resumé preferably by October 25, 2016, to Joyce Gallo at Mycoff, Fry & Prouse at jgallo@mfpplc.us. **NWPPA**

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