

Northwest Public Power Association
BULLETIN

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**Demanding more: Port Angeles builds
on its legacy of demand-side management**





On the cover: An aerial view of Nippon Paper Industries, USA (NPIUSA), which partnered with the City of Port Angeles (Wash.) and the Bonneville Power Administration in 2012 in the first market demonstration project for demand response in the region. Photo provided by Nippon Paper Industries.

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The *Bulletin* is a publication of Northwest Public Power Association, a regional organization of diverse utilities. The membership is made up of utility districts, electric cooperatives, municipalities, and crown corporations in Alaska, British Columbia, California, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington. We are also a trade association for nearly 300 companies, individuals, and organizations affiliated with the electric power industry.

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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NWPPA members rounded up the future of public power in Montana



(L-R) 2013-2014 NWPPA Board President Bill Nordmark issued the President's Welcome at Tuesday's opening general session; retired Yellowstone Valley Electric Cooperative CEO Terry Holzer presented a retrospective view of the electric utility industry; BPA Administrator Elliot Mainzer talked about how BPA's business model stays relevant; and 2014-2015 NWPPA Board President Ken Weiss kicked off Wednesday night's banquet.

Over 300 members and guests attended NWPPA's 74th Annual Conference and Membership Meeting in Billings, Mont., May 18-22. The theme of this year's meeting was *Partners in Progress: Rounding up the Future of Public Power*, and it proved to be a very apt and well-received one.

"The speakers and panels were excellent," said Meera Kohler of Alaska Village Electric Cooperative (Anchorage, Alaska). "The message was clear and often repeated — we are no longer in the good ole days. We must embrace today's realities if we are to survive and continue to deliver excellence to our customers."

Many came to town early to golf at the Lake Hills Course on Sunday, while others arrived early to attend one of two pre-conference events that were held on Monday at the hotel: *Introduction to Robert's Rules of Order* and the Government Relations Committee (GRC) meeting.

"The pre-conference class *Robert's Rules of Order* was one of the best classes I've ever taken!" said Lois Nannini of Wells Rural Electric Company (Wells, Nev.). "Frankly, it was a real surprise as to how interesting it was."

The conference started with a bang with keynote speaker and futurist Simon Anderson talking about future trends in the utility industry and how the industry will have to practice unlearning. Attendees rated Anderson's presentation as one of their favorites of this year's conference.

"Simon Anderson, the futurist, really opened my mind on how to deal with the different age groups," said Jake Carter of Columbia River PUD (St. Helens, Ore.).

Continued on page 4



(Top to bottom, L-R) City of Roseville Electric Utility Director Michelle Bertolino, Grant County PUD General Manager Tony Webb, and Fall River Electric Cooperative CEO Bryan Case discussed whether or not the public power business model is changing during Tuesday's CEO panel; and NWPPA Board Trustees Scott Egbert and Steve Taylor embraced the meeting's Western theme by sporting their NWPPA bandanas at Wednesday's banquet.

The speakers throughout the rest of the conference also received high marks from attendees. This year's topics ran the gamut from how to find your next executive to the impacts of distributed generation to legislative strategies. Also, BPA Administrator Elliot Mainzer spoke about how BPA's business model stays relevant, and Terry Holzer, retired CEO of Yellowstone Valley Electric Cooperative, gave an interesting retrospective view of the electric utility industry.



Keynote speaker Simon Anderson received high praise from attendees.

"The content was all great," said Debra Smith of Central Lincoln PUD (Newport, Ore.). "Presenters were sharp and easy to understand."

On Tuesday afternoon, NWPPA announced the 2014-2015 board of trustee officers; on Wednesday afternoon, NWPPA presented a variety of industry awards and awards of appreciation. (See page 6 for more information.)

However, the week in Billings wasn't all work. On Wednesday evening, attendees enjoyed the President's Reception honoring outgoing president Bill Nordmark. A banquet dinner with live music followed the reception and allowed attendees to have fun and network in a less formal environment.

"While all of the presentations were great, I really enjoyed the opportunity to meet with colleagues offline to discuss items of mutual interest," said Phil Lusk of the City of Port Angeles (Wash.). "This was an excellent event and very thought provoking."

As always, the conference wouldn't be so successful without the generous support of its sponsors. This year, over 20 businesses sponsored various events — such as breakfasts, refreshment breaks, and entertainment — throughout the conference. Thank you to all of them!

Mark your calendars now to come celebrate NWPPA's 75th anniversary at the 2015 Annual Conference and Membership Meeting at the Hilton Anchorage Hotel and Egan Civic & Convention Center in Anchorage, Alaska, May 17-21, 2015. We hope to see you there! **NWPPA**

2014-2015 NWPPA Board officers, trustees announced

On May 20, 2014, at their 74th Annual Conference and Membership Meeting in Billings, Mont., NWPPA's Board of Trustees introduced Ken Weiss of Clearwater Power Company (Lewiston, Idaho) as the 2014-2015 NWPPA Board of Trustees president. Weiss will serve a one-year term as board president.

At the meeting, the board also announced the following officers:

- First Vice President Kevin Owens of Columbia River PUD (St. Helens, Ore.)
- Second Vice President Dick Morris of Trinity PUD (Weaverville, Calif.)
- Secretary/Treasurer Alex Love of Nelson Hydro (Nelson, B.C.)
- Immediate Past President Bill Nordmark of Golden Valley Electric Association (Fairbanks, Alaska)

Along with the officer announcements, the membership re-elected nine trustees for second three-year terms: Chris Brewton of City of Sitka (Alaska), Lois Lester of Matanuska Electric Association (Palmer, Alaska), Heber Carpenter of Raft River Rural Electric Cooperative (Malta, Idaho), Scott Egbert of Wells Rural Electric Company (Wells, Nev.), Roger Meader of Coos-Curry Electric Cooperative (Port Orford, Ore.), Ted Coates of Tacoma Power (Tacoma, Wash.), Toni Olson of Snohomish County PUD (Everett, Wash.), Steve Taylor of Mason County PUD No. 1 (Shelton, Wash.), and Stewart Cox of SPX Transformer Solutions (Cave Creek, Ariz.). Brad Janorschke of Homer Electric Association (Homer, Alaska) was elected to fulfill Jim Posey's second three-year term, and Terry Kelly of Salem Electric (Salem, Ore.) was elected to fulfill the last two years of Marc Farmer's second three-year term.

The following six individuals were elected by the membership to serve a first three-year term on the NWPPA Board of Trustees: Michelle Bertolino of Roseville Electric Utility (Calif.), Bruce Measure of Flathead Electric Cooperative (Kalispell, Mont.), Dave Kelsey of Yellowstone Valley Electric Cooperative (Huntley, Mont.), Dale Walker of Grant County PUD (Ephrata, Wash.), Dick Helgeson of EWEB (Eugene, Ore.), and Dave Anderson of Electrical Consultants Inc. (Billings, Mont.).

The NWPPA Board of Trustees consists of 40 individuals from member utilities across the Western U.S. and Canada. **NWPPA**

Q&A with NWPPA's new president, Ken Weiss

On May 20, 2014, at their 74th Annual Conference and Membership Meeting in Billings, Mont., the NWPPA Board of Trustees elected Ken Weiss to be the 2014-2015 NWPPA Board of Trustees president. Weiss will serve a one-year term as board president.



Weiss, a life-long farmer with an associate degree in heavy equipment repair from Spokane Community College, broke into the utility industry over 15 years ago when he was elected to the Clearwater Power Company Board of Directors in Lewiston, Idaho, in 1998. He currently serves as the secretary-treasurer on the Clearwater Board, chairs the Clearwater Audit Committee, and serves on both the Clearwater Grievance Committee and Power Supply/Risk Management Committee.

NWPPA: Since joining the NWPPA Board in 2006, how have you seen NWPPA grow and improve?

Weiss: Over the last 10 or so years, new and updated regulations have been bombarding the industry. As a result, there is an extended need for regulatory activity and NWPPA has stepped up to meet that challenge.

NWPPA: How has public power changed in the last 10-15 years?

Weiss: Again, the regulatory activity has been huge! Plus, there has been the big push on renewables and RPS (Renewable Portfolio Standards) in the various states, though none in Idaho as of yet.

NWPPA: What have you learned from your time on the Clearwater Board that you will use as NWPPA's board president?

Weiss: One thing we have had at the Clearwater Board is a gentlemen's/ladies' agreement that the chair rotates every three years to allow for different people to chair it and address issues through various viewpoints. Since 1998, I have heard a lot of different ideas and points of view, and I hope to put that knowledge and education to good use. Also, while on the Clearwater Board, I received my

Credentialed Cooperative Director and Board Leadership certificates, and I hope to also use those skills while chairing the NWPPA Board.

NWPPA: What do you see as the current challenges at Clearwater?

Weiss: The biggest challenge for Clearwater — as I am sure it is for many NWPPA utilities — is keeping the rates down for our members while receiving pressure from BPA. Plus, our infrastructure is over 75 years old, our service area includes a lot of rugged terrain, we face regulatory compliance issues, and we have had none-to-low load growth.

NWPPA: What do you see as the current challenges of the industry?

Weiss: Regulatory issues will never go away and that is where NWPPA helps tremendously. NWPPA helps the membership by crafting industry-wide messages regarding hot issues; and when the membership can address those issues with the same, consistent message, our voice resonates further.

NWPPA: As president, what are your goals for NWPPA for the upcoming year?

Weiss: I want to increase our membership and continue taking on regulatory issues. I plan on fighting the fights we already have as well as the ones we don't know about yet. I also want to see NWPPA maintain — possibly even increase — its high level of training being that is the Association's core mission.

NWPPA: What is your fondest NWPPA memory/moment?

Weiss: Truly, the friends that I have made in this group are awesome! I really enjoy that the Association and the board interact with everyone — directors, managers, trustees, staff — plus, there is a great cross-section of municipals, PUDs, and co-ops. And I have great respect for the NWPPA staff — they are a small office that gets a lot done!

NWPPA: Any hobbies outside of the public power world?

Weiss: The family farm/business keeps me busy — especially during this time of the year — but I just bought a second boat so I am hoping to get out and use that on the lakes quite a bit this summer. We have a cabin near Coeur d'Alene Lake and enjoy spending time there with the family whenever we can. **NWPPA**

NWPPA honors 2014 Annual Award winners



Tony Webb and Bill Nordmark



Ed Gossett and Bill Nordmark



Rick Crinklaw and Bill Nordmark



Jim Dyer and Bill Nordmark



Bob Speckman and Bill Nordmark

Last month, at its 74th Annual Conference and Membership Meeting in Billings, Mont., NWPPA honored the following organization and individuals:

Paul J. Raver Community Service Award. This award recognizes superior leadership in the betterment of cities, states, or regions. For over 75 years, the employees of Grant County PUD (Ephrata, Wash.) have demonstrated an ongoing commitment to enhancing communities in Grant County through volunteerism. This was evident throughout 2013 as the PUD marked its 75th anniversary. Rather than celebrating with a single event that focused on the PUD, employees chose to gather around their local community charities and service organizations to donate their time, talent, and resources throughout the year.

John M. George Public Service Award. With this award, NWPPA honors policymaking officers of a member system that have demonstrated remarkable service to public power. Ed Gossett served on the Kootenai Electric Cooperative (Hayden, Idaho) Board of Directors for 21 years, holding various officer positions, including 12 years as board chairman. During those years of leadership and policy making at his local electric cooperative, Gossett represented the public power community by serving for 11 years on the NWPPA Board of Trustees, including one year as president.

Distinguished Service Award. This award honors individuals who have served the interest of public power and NWPPA in an outstanding manner. This year NWPPA honored both John Di Stasio of Sacramento Municipal Utility District (Calif.) and Rick Crinklaw of Lane Electric Cooperative (Eugene, Ore.).

After six years as general manager and CEO of SMUD, Di Stasio stepped down in April. As CEO, he led SMUD, the sixth largest community-owned utility in the nation, and its 600,000 meters, 1.4 million people, 2,100 employees, and \$1.4 billion in annual revenues.

Crinklaw started working at Lane Electric in 1977 as the manager of Member Services and was promoted to general manager in 1995. Crinklaw's political knowledge and articulate communication skills have been demonstrated during visits to the Hill, and appreciated by those leading the Oregon co-op delegation; other participants; and the senators and members of Congress.

President's Award. Will Lutgen served as executive director of NWPPA from March 2002 to March 2014. When he joined the Association, he brought over 40 years of utility, association, and private sector experience with him. The Association would like to acknowledge his service to the membership, the industry, and consumers in the West.

Awards of Appreciation. NWPPA presented Awards of Appreciation to three retiring industry leaders: Richard "Doc" Hastings, Mark Crisson, and Marilyn Leland.

Hastings was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1994, and today is the senior republican from the Pacific Northwest. He became the ranking member on the Natural Resources Committee in 2009 and chair in 2011.

After serving as president and CEO of the American Public Power Association (APPA) for over eight years, Crisson has retired. Prior to joining APPA, he spent almost 30 years at Tacoma Public Utilities — serving as Tacoma Power superintendent and then as CEO/director of Utilities.

Marilyn Leland was named executive director of the Alaska Power Association (APA) and executive vice president of ARECA Insurance Exchange in 2006. During her career, she has accumulated more than 30 years of trade association management and government relations experience.

Life Membership Award. NWPPA presents this award to retiring or retired policymakers and managers from member utilities for work performed on behalf of public power. This year there were four recipients: Jim Dyer of Salem Electric (Salem, Ore.), Jim Hill of Lane Electric Cooperative (Eugene, Ore.), Bob Speckman of Salem Electric (Salem, Ore.), and Ken Sugden of Flathead Electric Cooperative (Kalispell, Mont.).

Congratulations to this year's award winners. Their work on behalf of the membership and the industry is greatly appreciated! **NWPPA**

Communication entries due this month!

Calling all utility communicators! If you have not yet submitted your entries for the 21st Annual NWPPA Excellence in Communication Competition, please be aware that you only have a few weeks left to do so. All submissions must be postmarked by the end of this month, on **Friday, June 27**, to be eligible for the contest.



Winning Excellence in Communication entries will be honored at the awards banquet at the Northwest Communications & Energy Innovations Conference (NIC) on Tuesday evening, September 16, at the Renaissance Hotel in Downtown Seattle, Wash. In addition, one utility will come away with the prestigious Tom Hougan Award for Overall Excellence in Communication.

Please remember that the 2014 competition honors communication pieces created and distributed last year in 2013; communication materials from 2014 will be disqualified.

If you have not received a *Call for Entries* brochure, you can download a PDF of the brochure from our website under the Members Only Resources tab. Again, all entries and fees must be postmarked by **Friday, June 27**. **NWPPA**

Register now for NWPPA's 2014 Northwest Communications & Energy Innovations Conference!



www.nwppa.org



A look back at public power

50 years ago — 1964

At a special ceremony on June 30, Douglas PUD poured the first concrete at the Wells Dam (Wash.) ... Kootenai Rural Electrification Association, Inc. changed its name to Kootenai Electric Cooperative (Idaho) ... The 1964 NWPPA Wage Survey showed a 4-percent increase in lineman wages ... McMinnville City Light celebrated its 75th anniversary by announcing Electri-Gift Days for its customers; under the program, customers received a gift certificate in the amount of their electric bill payment to be used for purchase of any electric appliance or service in McMinnville, Ore.

25 years ago — 1989

Dave Clinton stepped up to the newly created position of assistant manager at Inland Power & Light Company (Wash.) ... After 12 years, Clark and Cowlitz County PUDs settled with PacifiCorp on the Merwin Dam dispute (Wash.) ... Idaho Governor Cecil D. Andrus signed a law permitting the state's rural electric cooperatives to use locally generated revenues to help revitalize their local economies; the action allowed co-ops to hold unclaimed retired capital credits for member-owners ... Tacoma City Light named Dean McLeod as one of two new assistant managers at its Cowlitz Hydroelectric Project (Wash.).

5 years ago — 2009

Truckee Donner PUD more than doubled its number of field crew equipped with mobile GIS technology thanks to unlimited licenses provided in ESRI's Small Utility Enterprise License Agreement program (Calif.) ... Snohomish County PUD named Christopher Heimgartner as its new assistant general manager of Distribution & Energy Services (Wash.) ... Standard & Poor's upgraded its opinion of the Sacramento Municipal Utility District's credit worthiness from an A to an A+ (Calif.) ... After six years of talks, the Okanogan County PUD and Colville Confederated Tribes signed an agreement for the Enlow Dam Project (Wash.). **NWPPA**

July, August, and September 2014

Please register 30 days in advance to receive the Early Bird discount. See www.nwppa.org for more information.

FRONT LINE LEADERSHIP #1: SITUATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Who Should Attend: Front line supervisors and managers, and those front line employees who will be transitioning to a supervisor or manager role in the near future.

Overview: Participants will be introduced to situational leadership as taught by the Ken Blanchard Companies and will evaluate their own leadership styles through a self-evaluation. They will learn a common vocabulary for leadership and understand the differences between successful and effective leadership.

JULY 9-10, 2014 — BOISE, IDAHO

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.

Overview: This two-day course provides practical help for electric utilities and is filled with utility best practices on how to gain and maintain compliance with U.S. EPA rules regarding PCB use and management. Day one will focus on foundational PCB issues for attendees who are just beginning their education on this complex subject. On day two, we will transition into more advanced PCB regulatory issues.

JULY 9-10, 2014 — VANCOUVER, WASH.

INTRODUCTION TO ROBERT'S RULES

Who Should Attend: Policy makers, general managers, and other senior positions.

Overview: Robert's Rules of Order can be baffling and intimidating. People who know how to use it sometimes seem to employ the system as a weapon, not a tool to make meetings better; but it doesn't have to be that way. In this highly interactive and entertaining day-long class, attendees will learn essential principles and practice the tools and techniques to use Robert's Rules well in order to run smooth, efficient, and fair meetings. Topics covered will include making sense of motions; the fundamental rules of discussion and debate; dealing with disorder in meetings; the role of the presider and the rights of members; voting and abstentions; and knowing how to table or postpone a topic to another day. This workshop gives ample opportunities to practice what you learn so the content stays with you.

JULY 15, 2014 — BEND, ORE. (ORECA'S SUMMER MEETING)

NEW! UNDERSTANDING THE 21ST CENTURY WORKFORCE: WHAT MAKES IT TICK?

Who Should Attend: Policymakers, general managers, CEOs, senior managers, mid-level managers, and human resources staff.

Overview: For the first time in history, four generations have presented new challenges for managers and their employees in the workplace. These differences can affect everything, including recruiting, team building, dealing with change, motivating, managing, and maintaining and increasing productivity. In this interactive one-day session, participants will gain an understanding of what makes each generational group tick. This insight will equip leaders with the skills to get the most out of employees and, perhaps more importantly, create a team that can create sustainable results.

JULY 17-18, 2014 — PORTLAND, ORE.

NEW! WORKFORCE PLANNING: THE KEY TO CREATING YOUR SUSTAINABILITY

Who Should Attend: Policymakers, general managers, CEOs, and senior and mid-level managers.

Overview: Understanding the depth of your talent pool is critical in today's business environment. Organizations are raising the bar with regards to knowing who their current and future leaders are, and the capabilities they possess. A strategic approach is needed to examine future leadership requirements, assess current capabilities, and determine the steps necessary to close identified gaps. Through a practical hands-on approach, participants will learn the critical decision points and conditions for implementing an effective workforce strategic plan.

JULY 23, 2014 — PORTLAND, ORE.

NEW! ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE LEVEL 3: ALL FOUR DAYS

Who Should Attend: Administrative assistants, executive secretaries, and employees in administrative or service-oriented professional roles.

Overview: This is a four-day series of classes that provides utility-specific information directed toward administrative assistants and executive secretaries who want to become more effective in managing their tasks and in communicating with others. By registering for all four classes, you will receive \$100 off the total registration (\$25 off each of the regular daily rates).

AUGUST 5-8, 2014 — SEATTLE, WASH.

NEW! ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE LEVEL 3: DAY 1 — ORGANIZATIONAL DYNAMICS, TEAMS, AND DIVERSITY

Who Should Attend: Administrative assistants, executive secretaries, and employees in administrative or service-oriented professional roles.

Overview: This one-day course serves as an overview of basic business organization principles, including structure and operation. This seminar is designed to assist participants in learning the skills of being an effective team builder, member, and leader.

AUGUST 5, 2014 — SEATTLE, WASH.

NEW! ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE LEVEL 3: DAY 2 — PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Who Should Attend: Administrative assistants, executive secretaries, and employees in administrative or service-oriented professional roles.

Overview: This one-day class is designed for executive and administrative assistants as well as other administrative professionals with responsibility for projects. The training session will provide valuable information on how to be successful in the areas of project scheduling, budgeting, and planning. Participants will learn how to understand a project cycle and develop one that works. In addition, the seminar will provide participants with the confidence to take on projects from conception to completion.

AUGUST 6, 2014 — SEATTLE, WASH.

NEW! ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE LEVEL 3: DAY 3 — GETTING SUPPORT FOR IDEAS/PRESENTATION SKILLS

Who Should Attend: Administrative assistants, executive secretaries, and employees in administrative or service-oriented professional roles.

Overview: This course will build specific skills that help attendees explain and gain support for ideas which may entail tough decisions and/or complicated or unpopular policies or changes. Skills covered will include how to state the purpose and main point of a message; how to present points to aid understanding while check-

ing for understanding and reactions; how to summarize main points; and how to handle reactions to what is presented.
AUGUST 7, 2014 — SEATTLE, WASH.

NEW! ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE LEVEL 3: DAY 4 — PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT/SELF APPRAISALS/GOAL SETTING

Who Should Attend: Administrative assistants, executive secretaries, and employees in administrative or service-oriented professional roles.

Overview: The ability to set and reset performance expectations swiftly and in a straight-forward manner is a critical skill for all employees. This module provides a process for handling conversations about work expectations in a way that reduces ambiguity, increases trust, and strengthens the working relationship between employees — on peer-to-peer as well as peer-to-manager levels. The purpose of this course is to provide participants with skills to discuss performance expectations with others in a way that gains their commitment and sense of ownership.

AUGUST 8, 2014 — SEATTLE, WASH.

NEW! FINANCIAL AUDITS AND INTERNAL CONTROLS

Who Should Attend: Finance and accounting employees; senior management or policy makers; or any employee seeking to increase his or her knowledge of the auditing process that takes place at electric utilities.

Overview: This one-day class is offered as part of the NWPPA Utility Accounting Certificate Program. Attendees will gain an

understanding of the financial auditing process and learn how it may impact their responsibilities to the utility and its consumers. They'll also learn how internal controls can be established to avoid devastating results from errors and fraud.

SEPTEMBER 9, 2014 — BOISE, IDAHO

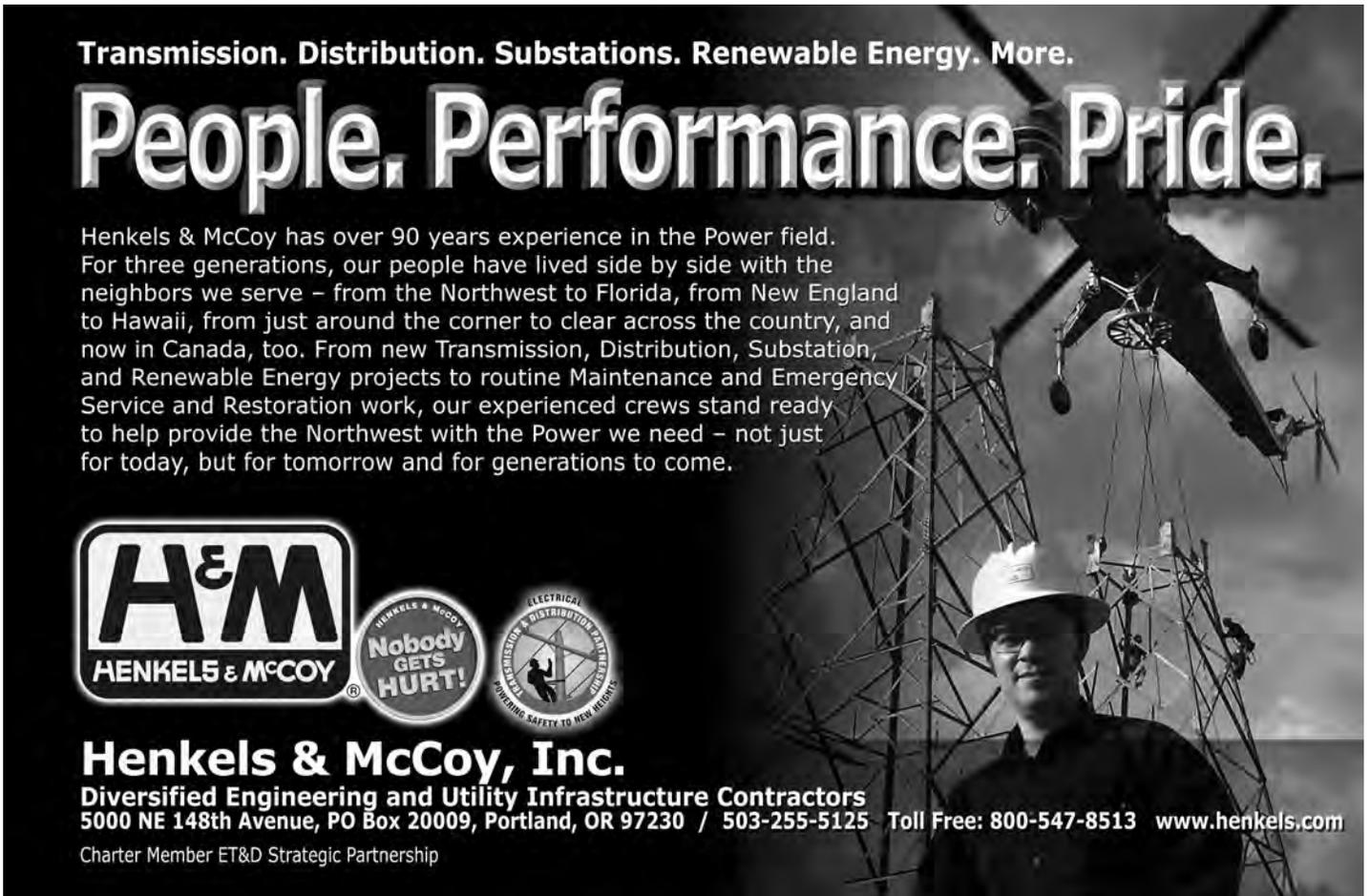
OVERCURRENT PROTECTION (DISTRIBUTION ENGINEERING SERIES CLASS #2)

Who Should Attend: Engineers and senior technical personnel involved in selecting and coordinating overcurrent protection devices.

Overview: This course focuses on the application of protective devices on a distribution system. In this two-day class, you will cover the best practices for protecting transformers and equipment while maintaining the highest reliability possible. To begin, the protection of substation transformers, as well as coordination with distribution feeders and downline devices, will be presented. You will work through the application considerations of circuit breakers, relays, reclosers, sectionalizers, and fuses; and the methodologies to verify source impedances for system models, the effect of transformer connections on fault current calculations, and the concept of assumed fault impedance. To keep the class practical, the class will work through problems that reinforce the concepts and topics covered.

SEPTEMBER 9, 2014 — PORTLAND, ORE.

Continued on page 10



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TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

NEW! OUTLOOK AND ONENOTE: DYNAMIC DUO

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

Overview: Take back the time you currently waste on managing electronic communication by learning how to use simple templates, tools for data retrieval, and automated Outlook functions. Discover OneNote, the go-to tool to quickly store and retrieve data that usually resides on sticky notes and countless pieces of paper stacked on your desk! Learn how pairing Outlook with OneNote can increase your efficiency. This class is loaded with simple tactics that will save you countless hours spent on daily tasks; it combines instructor demonstration and hands-on practice with Outlook and OneNote 2010 and 2013. Laptops pre-loaded with exercises will be provided by the instructor.

SEPTEMBER 9, 2014 — PORTLAND, ORE.

NEW! EXCEL WITH EXCEL

Who Should Attend: Excel users who already know the basics but want to take their Excel skills to a new level.

Overview: Increase your effectiveness and take back your time by learning short cuts, new techniques, and streamlined ways to maximize the capabilities of this software. You will learn how to incorporate features such as sorting, filtering, pivot tables, conditional formatting, and spark lines as well as how to integrate Excel with Word and PowerPoint. These solutions will save you and your organization time and money each and every day. The course combines instructor demonstration and hands-on practice with Excel 2010 and 2013. Laptops pre-loaded with exercises will be provided by the instructor.

SEPTEMBER 10, 2014 — PORTLAND, ORE.

NEW! MONITORING BUDGETS AND FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

Who Should Attend: Finance and accounting employees; senior management or policy makers; or any employee seeking to increase his or her knowledge of the budgeting process that takes place at electric utilities.

Overview: This one-day class is offered as part of the NWPPA Accounting and Finance Certificate Program. It covers the effective techniques of monitoring budgets and review and oversight of the budgeting process throughout the year. This class will also focus on understanding financial reporting and preparing financial analysis to ensure accurate reporting.

SEPTEMBER 10, 2014 — BOISE, IDAHO

NORTHWEST COMMUNICATIONS & ENERGY INNOVATIONS CONFERENCE (NIC)

Who Should Attend: Managers, communications staff, energy services staff, and renewable energy employees, as well as any employee and board member with an interest in these areas.

Overview: The theme of this year's Northwest Communications & Energy Innovations Conference (NIC) is Rendezvous at the Renaissance. The NIC Planning Committee has designed this conference with communicators and energy efficiency professionals in mind. We have keynote speakers who will inspire you and challenge your thinking about how we should communicate and innovate in this challenging world of the electric utility industry. Scheduled to be on the agenda are: David Rabiner, keynote speaker; Lance Robertson, EWEB; Jim Brands, Efficiency Services Group; Brian Hedman, Cadmus Group; Doug Zenn, International Association of Public Participation; Alex Cousins, HRD Engineering; David Moody, BPA; Roger Ebbage, NEEI; and Steve Klein, Snohomish County PUD. Check back in the summer for

detailed information about the general sessions, communication breakout sessions, energy efficiency breakout sessions, Tuesday evening's awards banquet, and Wednesday's optional post-conference class.

SEPTEMBER 14-17, 2014 — SEATTLE, WASH.

HAZWOPER 8-HOUR FIRST RESPONDER AWARENESS/RE-CERTIFICATION TRAINING FOR UTILITY PERSONNEL

Who Should Attend: This is required training for first responders who are likely to witness or discover a hazardous substance release and need to initiate an emergency response sequence by notifying the proper people; also, individuals who respond to releases of hazardous substances as part of the initial response for the purpose of protecting nearby persons, property, or the environment from the effects of the release.

Overview: Part of NWPPA's Environmental Series and designed for the needs of electric utilities, this course will refresh your knowledge and understanding of the requirements for hazardous waste operations and emergency response (HAZWOPER), as required by 29 CFR 1910.120. This course also helps to satisfy the annual HAZWOPER training required for re-certification. This course trains operations-level responders to take defensive actions to a hazardous materials spill. It focuses on activities not intending to stop the release, such as hazard assessment; selecting and using protective equipment; implementing the facility emergency response plan; and setting up decontamination. Highlights include applicable regulations; hazard assessment and general hazards; physical properties of hazardous chemicals used in utilities; toxicology; PPE selection and use; facility emergency response plans; site control and entry; construction safety and confined space; decontamination; and hands-on training.

SEPTEMBER 16, 2014 — SACRAMENTO, CALIF.

NEW! ENTERPRISE RISK MANAGEMENT FOR UTILITIES — PART 1

Who Should Attend: Chief financial officers, senior-level accounting staff, auditors, general managers/CEOs, policymakers, and legal counsel.

Overview: Enterprise risk management (ERM) is the discipline of examining the impact of potential financial, operational, regulatory, environmental, legal, safety, and reputation risks on an organization. Implementing ERM helps utilities achieve their objectives by improving their operation and organizational effectiveness. A strong ERM program will integrate risk management with strategy, tactics, and operational processes. In Part 1 of this program, the instructor will help participants plan how to implement ERM at their organizations or increase the effectiveness of existing ERM programs within their organizations. The session will include recommended steps for launching and maintaining an ERM program internally within the organization.

SEPTEMBER 17-18, 2014 — PORTLAND, ORE.

NUTS AND BOLTS OF WORK ORDERS

Who Should Attend: Employees involved in any aspect of preparing and/or processing work orders for their electric utility, or employees outside the accounting area who want a better understanding of the work order process.

Overview: This workshop covers everything you ever wanted to know about work orders and provides current information about specific documentation demands and forms necessary to meet accounting requirements. You will not only analyze the why of work order systems, but you will also review the how to of the process. Attendees will learn about: sources of capital planning; cost elements of a work order system; the ins and outs of staking a

line; continuing property records; and budgetary control and advance of funds.

SEPTEMBER 23-24, 2014 — ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

BILLS, BUCKS, AND BUSINESS

Who Should Attend: Accounting staff and any employee who wants to understand their personal impact on their utility’s financial success.

Overview: This one-and-a-half-day workshop is based on the premise that “every employee and every task performed at the utility has an impact on the ultimate bill sent to a consumer/member.” The impact of your job will be measured and evaluated; practical examples will be provided for improving favorable outcomes and minimizing those that are not as favorable. Employees will learn skills that help your system achieve financial security and long-term benefits for consumers/members. Also, your system’s financial cornerstones will be revealed in terms that all employees can understand. The workshop concludes with a discussion of employees’ participation in the financial health of the utility. Budgeting, cash flow, and the importance of tracking expenses are highlighted. At the completion of the workshop, participants will have a more complete understanding of their personal impact on your system’s financial success.

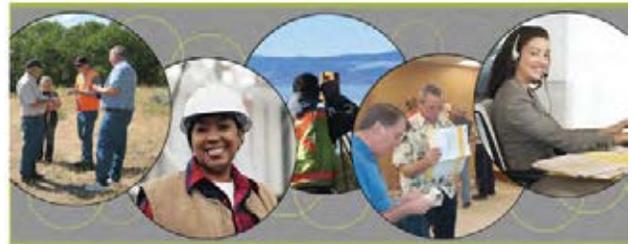
SEPTEMBER 24-25, 2014 — ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

SITUATIONAL SPANISH FOR UTILITY PERSONNEL

Who Should Attend: All utility employees who interact with Spanish-speaking customers.

Overview: This two-day specialized class is designed for utility employees who wish to develop communication skills when dealing with Spanish-speaking customers. Comprehension will be tested throughout the class by role-playing and verbal exams. No prior knowledge of Spanish is required.

SEPTEMBER 29-30, 2014 — BEND, ORE. NWPPA



For more information on these and other courses, go to www.nwppa.org.

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by Anita J. Decker



So what are my impressions in these first 75 days? Aside from a blur of activity — or perhaps within the blur of activity — I am impressed with the engagement and dedication of the board of trustees, and thankful for and impressed by the competence and get-it-done capability of the NWPPA staff.

Anita Decker weighs in on her inaugural months with NWPPA

It has been nothing short of a whirlwind when I look back on the last 10 weeks. It started on day one with my first board meeting in March only to find myself at the Engineering & Operations Conference in April in Reno, Nev., two weeks later; then at the NWPPA/NCPA and NRECA Legislative Rallies in Washington, D.C., two weeks later; and then finally at the Annual Meeting in Billings, Mont., two weeks after that.

So what are my impressions in these first 75 days? Aside from a blur of activity — or perhaps within the blur of activity — I am impressed with the engagement and dedication of the board of trustees, and thankful for and impressed by the competence and get-it-done capability of the NWPPA staff.

I was not very familiar with the Engineering & Operations Conference before coming to NWPPA; however, it would be hard not to come away inspired after spending time with the many engineers and operations personnel from over 90 member utilities and some 200 companies who showed products and services in vendor booths. The incredible exchange of ideas and the atmosphere of enthusiasm and energy were evident at every session I attended. A shout out to a couple of my favorites: the pre-conference lineman roundtable and Tuesday's vendor showcase where our sponsors and other vendors showed up to show off — and did they ever!

May's NWPPA/NCPA Legislative Rally was one of the most amazing events! To see our trustees and other representatives from 15 of our member utilities speak about the issues to Congressional members and their staff was truly a wonderful way for me to see first-hand the interaction and respect public power has in this forum. I am incredibly indebted to Nicole Case, who did a lot of heavy lifting along with Deborah Sliz and the NCPA staff; they made sure this event was top notch in every way.

And last but certainly not least, last month's Annual Meeting. If you were there, you'll know what I'm talking about when I say it was exceptionally well done. From the Government Relations Committee meeting that met before the Annual Meeting started to the invitation to attend next year's 75th anniversary meeting in Anchorage, Alaska, at the end, it was a quick pace of great speakers.

Our opening keynote speaker, futurist Simon Anderson, set the stage for thinking about the changes and transformations ahead, a theme we heard throughout the three days from a number of speakers. We honored the outgoing president, Bill Nordmark, and welcomed Ken Weiss to his new term as president; and we recognized several other worthy and dedicated individuals for their service to NWPPA and public power.

So, while it's certainly been a whirlwind, it has been great fun! There is much to learn about the board, the staff, and the important role NWPPA plays with public power not only in the Northwest, but well beyond the traditional Northwest boundaries. In July, the NWPPA Board of Trustees will embark on a strategic planning session that will set the tone for the coming years. I realize the bar has been set high, but I also realize we aspire to do more and I look forward to being a part of how the next years unfold.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Anita J. Decker".

Anita J. Decker
NWPPA Executive Director



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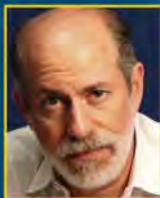
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:



Jon Wellinghoff
Immediate Past
Chairman
FERC



Judge Jeanine Pirro
Host "Justice with
Judge Jeanine"
Fox News



Frank J. Gaffney, Jr.
Founder & President
**Center for Security
Policy**



Terry Boston
President &
CEO
PJM Interconnection



Angie Gibson
Director Emergency
Preparedness and
Response
PG&E



Dr. Peter Vincent Pry
Executive Director
**Task Force on
National and
Homeland Security**

OTHER NOTABLE SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

Ted Borer, PE, CEM, LEED, AP, Energy Plant Manager, **Princeton University**

Richard Wernsing, Manager of Asset Strategy, Electric, **Public Service and Electric Gas**

Jim Nowak, Manager, **Emergency Restoration Planning American Electric Power**

Robert E. Martinez, Manager, Risk Control & Business Continuity, **Center Point Energy**

Rhonda Dunfee, Control Systems Security Analyst, **U.S. Department of Energy**

John Bussman P.E., Manager Reliability Compliance, **AECI**

Power Grid Resilience summit will bring together the "who's who" on the subject of preventing, responding to, and recovering from physical damage to the power grid infrastructure.

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Flathead Electric diversifies its renewable energy portfolio with biomass energy



On October 24, 2013, nearly 200 people, including the governor and a lineup of state and community leaders, attended the formal dedication ceremony of the new woody biomass co-generation facility at Stoltze Lumber. All photos provided by Flathead Electric Cooperative.

As demonstrated by the methane gas-to-energy facility that Flathead Electric Cooperative (FEC) developed at the county landfill in 2009, utilizing biomass has clearly been on their radar screen for quite some time. Now FEC has expanded its sights beyond household garbage to generate electricity — it is making use of waste wood products to generate electricity as well.

Biomass energy is considered renewable and unlike wind, solar, and other variable sources, it has the capacity to produce a steady, reliable output. According to General Manager Mark Johnson, what is also appealing to Flathead Electric is that projects are being built right here in the area FEC serves.

“The co-op considers renewable energy projects, especially in our service area, because our board has committed to meeting the intent of the Renewable Portfolio Standard adopted by the Montana Legislature in 2005,” said Johnson.

Currently, FEC is working with F.H. Stoltze Land & Lumber Company in the Flathead Valley. Implementation of a power purchase agreement (PPA) between FEC and Stoltze Lumber Co. began on October 1, 2013. The official term of the agreement, signed in February 2012, is for 20 years. Entering into the long-term agreement assisted Stoltze in securing the necessary finances to replace an antiquated boiler and construct a biomass-fueled electric generation

The boilers primarily burn bark but also consume sawdust, wood chips, planer shavings, and hog fuel (ground-up wood waste from forests and the log yard). The steam produced is then used to heat kilns for drying finished lumber.



facility at their plant near Columbia Falls. Flathead Electric will purchase an annual average of up to 2.5 megawatts of power at a wholesale rate and will also receive renewable energy credits in the transaction.

Chuck Roady, vice president of Stoltze, said the company is very pleased to partner with Flathead Electric. “Not only is this project great for the community, but it will provide a renewable energy source and also help manage the forests,” he said.

The boilers primarily burn bark but also consume sawdust, wood chips, planer shavings, and hog fuel (ground-up wood waste from forests and the log yard). The steam produced is then used to heat kilns for drying finished lumber. Johnson said that he, too, believes the arrangement will be mutually beneficial, adding that both parties had been negotiating in good faith for years.

“Stoltze will be able to maintain and strengthen local job opportunities and Flathead Electric will be able to efficiently distribute electricity in our service territory,” said Johnson. “Although a small component, this purchase agreement also adds to the co-op’s renewable energy portfolio, without financially overburdening our members.”

The co-op’s board set a criteria that the impact from purchasing Stoltze’s power at nine cents per kilowatt-hour could not raise members’ retail rates by more than one percent. The 2.5-megawatt purchase amounts to about one percent of the co-op’s total load, so there is not a significant impact to costs.

Plum Creek Timber Co. officials in the Flathead Valley have also discussed the potential of biomass with FEC. Tom Ray, Northern Resources & Manufacturing vice president, says he sees tremendous opportunity for growth in usage of forest biomass for heat, electric energy, and eventually for biofuel liquids.

“The growth of biomass conversion technologies and facilities will eventually add significant value to forest lands and to timber operations. But this sector is not without challenges of logistics and continuity of government incen-

tives to build the industry,” said Ray. “In Montana, Plum Creek is participating with others who seek to install biomass conversion facilities by providing data on our projected forest residuals availability and the costs to accumulate these for delivery to proposed installations. Nationwide, as the largest timberland owner in the U.S.A., Plum Creek is aggressively pursuing opportunities to provide feedstock/fuel to existing and proposed new biomass facilities, but also carefully watching federal and state legislation on this issue.”

Johnson agrees that there are financial hurdles due to biomass being a more expensive process compared to the relatively cheap hydroelectric power we have been fortunate to receive in the Pacific Northwest.

“The reality is that biomass energy, like all new (and renewable) sources of energy, is more expensive than our regional hydro system. However, the power demand on the co-op is increasing and we will need to utilize new resources because the amount of power we purchase from the federal-based hydro system is capped and we are responsible for meeting all of our load growth. We can anticipate even more stringent legislation and regulation of this industry, mandating renewable energy standards on utilities, so we will be relieved to have these types of facilities already in service,” said Johnson. “Our hope is that in the near future, Congress will officially (legally) identify hydro as a renewable resource, because it is clean, it doesn’t burn any fossil fuels, and, remarkably, keeps our regional carbon footprint about half that of other parts of the country. Either way though, we will continue to take under consideration other potential sources of renewable energy that make sense — financially and otherwise — for Flathead Electric and our community.” **NWPPA**

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

by Erik Kysar, P.E. and Richard Vermeers, P.E.

The psychology of customer threats and suggestions for dealing with personnel safety

Threats are scary and potentially dangerous. But are they real? Or is it just someone venting? This article provides a few actual implementations by various utilities to address the safety of their personnel through understanding the psychology of the customer.

Root cause of threats

Often, a threat stems from the perception by the customer himself feeling threatened, along with a perceived lack of control. For example, the situation could involve someone experiencing frustration with a job loss just when the power company announces a rate increase. Or a shy person with a private personality could be worried about big-brother activities as the power company adds meters that can monitor all electrical activity, and perhaps many other things. However, does this make a threat from a customer any easier to accept? Of course not. We never quite know if the threatening person is all bark or all bite.

The psychology

As the old saying goes, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, though it is impossible to win everyone over to agree with the power company. However, trying to remove the feeling of being threatened, the scariness of not knowing what is going to happen next, and the lack of control for the customer will often defuse the situation.

For example, good communications well before rate increases can work well to remove the element of surprise for customers. Several notices prior to disconnecting power, both by letter and calling, help the customer understand that it's not personal and he or she is not being attacked. Also, lots of communication about an AMR rollout — what it does, where, why, and a demonstration of a live pilot system — educate people about what it can and cannot actually do, defusing many myths and worries.

Utilization of multiple communication mediums has worked best for most utilities because some people prefer to read notices in letter form; others won't read anything and only a phone call will work; others prefer text messages or e-mail; and open forums work well for some. Everyone is different and that can be challenging.

So will the above tips prevent threats? Not based on our experience. However, it will help to reduce them.

As the old saying goes, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, though it is impossible to win everyone over to agree with the power company. However, trying to remove the feeling of being threatened, the scariness of not knowing what is going to happen next, and the lack of control for the customer will often defuse the situation.

In the field

Linemen and metermen performing disconnect duties are often threatened, perhaps moreso than other employees. As was already mentioned, experience has shown that the most lasting, positive method to eliminate threats directed at your employees is to remove the customer's perception of being threatened and give him or her the feeling of being in control. To do just this, many utilities have had very good experience with pre-pay meters; the key is to introduce them properly.

Many industries require payment of a product or service prior to using it. An example is that the fuel for a car must be paid before driving away from the gas station to actually use it. However, electrical energy has traditionally been paid after the fact. By utilizing pre-pay meters, customers can easily pre-pay by any method (cash, credit card, etc.) whenever it works best for them and at whatever quantity they prefer. Before the purchased energy runs out, a warning is received that they need to purchase more, just like the gas gauge in a car. Since the concept of paying for a product prior to its use is much more common than paying for it after the fact, most customers seem to have a positive psychological reaction to a pre-pay meter. It also alleviates a customer's feeling of entitlement, the fear of the unknown, and lack of control; and places the control directly in the customer's hands. For those utilities without an installed AMR system, there are stand-alone pre-paid meter systems where a third-party takes care of all payment transactions with minimal work needed by the utility.

From a field personnel standpoint, the safest philosophy is to not send employees out at all. Pre-pay meters reduce the need for personnel in the field, but if the meters are not for you, many utilities have added disconnect collars to all meters with a history of nonpayment. Cell phone disconnect modules are available for those without an AMR system. After the first disconnect cycle, one utility's experience is that the customers really like the disconnect collar rather

than having a person manually disconnect it. The reasoning is that a reconnect can happen as soon as the bill is paid, without the customer's personal space being violated by a stranger.

Some utilities mark all known trouble locations on a GIS map and make it available for utility personnel to see so that they can be prepared for possible issues prior to going out in the field. But keep in mind that a person who threatens utility staff can cause trouble even if he or she sees utility personnel next door or across the street at the neighbors, so it may be a good idea to view these trouble spots more as wider trouble areas. If there is no GIS, it is easy to track these spots on Google Earth with pushpins; the locations can then be exported as a .kmz file and distributed to all utility personnel who need to know.

In the office

An obvious deterrent is to install cameras. Some have found simply having a camera in obvious view is adequate whether the camera is connected or not. In fact, a few companies sell realistic-looking camera bodies with nothing in them. Others have found that a screen in full view of the lobby showing what is being seen by the camera is a deterrent. However, the concern with this can be the big-brother feel. One other aspect to keep in mind is that some offices are subject to a vehicle ramming the front door with a car, whether accidental or on purpose. A large concrete planter with flowers rather than jersey barriers spruces things up a bit while disguising the fact that it is actually a physical barrier.

Follow up

Lack of control, fear of the unknown, surprise, or worry are all possible causes of threats. With this in mind, many utilities have found it very important that utility per-

sonnel call each and every person making a threat to discuss any and all concerns with the customer. The issue may simply be that the meterman left the gate open once too often. Or the customer just needed to vent about life's issues and feel like someone cares enough to listen. Others back down quickly once they realize their threats are taken seriously.

Law enforcement

Once all of the above tactics has been followed, do the threats go away? A good portion of them do, but not all because there are some customers who are dealing with psychological or other issues. Although these people are few and far between, they can cause serious ramifications and can be dangerous to the utility and the employees. Even when staff has worked hard with troublesome customers, some utilities have had to bring law enforcement in to the picture as a last resort. Always remember that this is an option whenever you feel that you have done everything you can to diffuse the situation and you need outside assistance.

Closing

When customers feel lack of control, they lash out. If they feel violated or threatened, they lash out. However, many utilities have found working with the psychology of the customer has shown to provide excellent, long-term mutual benefits to all constituents and their own personnel. Be aware and be safe! **NWPPA**

Erik Kysar, P.E. and Richard Vermeers, P.E. are with Brown & Kysar, Inc. in Battle Ground, Wash. The above scenarios and ideas are based on actual experiences of various utilities. If any are intriguing and you'd like to find out more, please feel free to contact them at bki@bki.cc and they can put you in touch with the proper personnel at these utilities.

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Members announce board elections

Attendance records were broken at the 2014 Copper Valley Electric Association (CVEA) Annual Meeting held in Valdez, Alaska, on April 15 and Glennallen, Alaska, on April 17. Registered members were recorded at 216 in Glennallen and 180 in Valdez, and over 600 people showed up in both districts combined. Also, a record number of CVEA employees were recognized for their years of service to the cooperative: **Alex Gearhart, Mike Rego, Mike Haley, and Anthony Martin** celebrated five years; **Ryan Cook and Todd Stahley** celebrated 10 years; **Andy Hess, Mike Rodgers, and Darrell Banner** celebrated 15 years; **Pinky Becker** celebrated 20 years; and **Mike Leeper** celebrated 25 years of service. In board of director elections, **Mary Odden** was elected in the Copper Basin District, and **Jeff Saxe** was re-elected in the Valdez District. Congratulations were given to the new and returning directors, and a special thank you was given to outgoing Director **Jim Manning** who served on the board for 12 years.

Columbia REA held its 76th annual meeting at the Walla Walla (Wash.) County Fairgrounds April 17. The annual event was attended by approximately 260 members, families, and special guests. Board President **Dennis Munden** began the meeting with a special presentation to **Don Meiners**, who was retiring after serving on the Columbia REA Board of Directors for 37 years. Afterwards, election results were announced: **Greg Knowles** was elected to the board as the new director for District 1 and **Vic Parks** was re-elected as the board director for District 2. All directors serve three-year terms. Following the meeting, the board held a reorganization meeting to choose new officers. Munden will continue to serve as president, Parks as vice president, and **Katie Wooldridge** as secretary treasurer.

On April 23, the Energy Northwest Board of Directors re-elected Mason County PUD 1's **Jack Janda**, Benton County PUD's **Lori Sanders**, Clallam County PUD 1's **Will Purser**, and Snohomish

County PUD's **Kathy Vaughn** to serve four-year terms on the public power agency's 11-member executive board; the board also elected Mason County PUD 3's **Linda Gott** to serve her first four-year term on the executive board. The executive board sets the policies that govern the operations of the organization. All new terms will begin on June 17.



Kathy Vaughn



Linda Gott

Three members were elected to serve the Peninsula Light Co. (Gig Harbor, Wash.) Board of Directors as the cooperative utility held its annual meeting



Marc Jorgenson



Roger Spadoni



Scott Junge

at company headquarters on May 5. **Marc Jorgenson, Roger Spadoni, and Scott Junge** were elected to serve three-year terms as the top three vote-getters. Company bylaws require a 15 percent quorum of its members in order to validate the election, and that was surpassed as 5,345 valid ballots were returned out of 29,129 eligible members (18.35 percent participation). PenLight has nine directors who serve staggered three-year terms. Three seats are up for election each year. Jorgenson, Junge, and Spadoni were incumbents. The board officers for the 2014-15 term were also named: **Nick Markovich** will serve as president, **Signo Uddenberg** as vice president, Jorgenson as treasurer, and **Jeff Bucholz** as secretary.

OPALCO (Eastsound, Wash.) members made a good showing for the election with a total of 2,524 ballots received — representing 23 percent of the membership. The successful candidates were incumbents **Vince Dauciunas** and **Glenna Hall** for District 1. In other elections, the two member-initiated bylaw amendments were both unsuccessful. At the meeting, OPALCO staff wore special shirts to honor General Manager **Randy J. Cornelius**, who is retiring after more than 12 years of service to the co-op. Members gave Cornelius a standing ovation for his service. Cornelius announced that **Foster Hildreth** will take over as general manager in September. Lastly, Cornelius presented the OPALCO Safety Award to Journeyman Lineman **Tim Savage** of Lopez Island for his life-saving efforts in the line of duty



(L-R) Columbia REA Board President Dennis Munden presents a plaque of appreciation to Don Meiners.



Greg Knowles



Jack Janda



Lori Sanders



Will Purser



Foster Hildreth



(L-R) Tim Savage and Randy Cornelius.

when fellow lineman **Kevin Zoerb** came into contact with a high-voltage line last September. Savage called for help and began CPR, saving Zoerb's life.

Washington PUD commissioners from four public utility districts assumed top leadership positions for 2014-2015 when the Washington Public Utility Districts Association (WPUDA) announced the election of its new officers. Pacific County PUD Commissioner **Diana Thompson** was elected



(L-R) Newly elected WPUDA officers: Past President Curt Knapp, President Diana Thompson, Treasurer Ben Kostick, and Secretary Dennis Reid.

to serve as president, Chelan County PUD Commissioner **Dennis Bolz** will serve as vice president, Wahkiakum County PUD Commissioner **Dennis Reid** will serve as secretary, and Lewis County PUD Commissioner **Ben Kostick** will continue to serve as treasurer.

At the Salem Electric (Ore.) Annual Membership Meeting on May 13, 2014, **Carl Beach** and **Alicia Bonesteel** were re-elected to three-year terms to the board of directors; **Dave Bauer** was elected to his first term on the board, filling the position vacated by **Jim Dyer**, who retired from the board. Dyer was appointed to the board in 1994; during his 20-year tenure, he served one term as vice president and three terms as president. At the Salem Electric Board of Directors' Organizational Meeting, the following officers were elected to serve for 2014-2015: **Jerry Berger**, president; **Joe Van Meter**, vice president; Bonesteel, secretary-treasurer. The board also includes **Jeff Anderson** and **Paul Ennor**. **NWPPA**



Jerry Berger

MyPowerPay unveiled at Cowlitz

Cowlitz PUD (Longview, Wash.) announced a new service option that allows residential utility customers to prepay for their electricity — a plan that empowers customers and helps them save money through more conscious energy use. The service is likened to buying gas at the pump: you buy what you need, when you need it.

"This has the potential to really change the way we do business — at least for the customers who find MyPowerPay convenient," said **Dave Andrew**, director of Customer Services at Cowlitz PUD. "Customers want choices. They want to be able to choose programs that meet their lifestyle needs, and this is another big step in that direction."

The pay-as-you-go option presents an alternative to customers who would otherwise be charged a security deposit.

By having customers pay ahead, MyPowerPay eliminates the need for deposits.

MyPowerPay customers have the option to receive an email daily that details the prior day's electric usage and cost. In addition, customers will have access to a website that will provide complete information regarding their daily usage. Customers utilizing this service are much more aware of their usage, which tends to lead to reduced usage and lower bills as a result.

Cowlitz PUD can offer this new service because of its automated metering infrastructure (AMI) consisting of smart meters installed throughout Cowlitz County. **NWPPA**

Tacoma wins award for Cushman Dam

When Tacoma Power (Wash.) combined power generation with transportation, it benefited people and fish — and netted a national award. The utility has won its third-straight Outstanding Stewards of America's Waters Award from the National Hydropower Association. The award, honoring the North Fork Skokomish Powerhouse, is for Operational Excellence.

Working in partnership with the Skokomish Indian Tribe and natural resource agencies, Tacoma Power designed the unique system to use water discharged from turbines to attract migrating adult fish into a collector. The new fish collection and transportation facility re-opens fish passage on the North Fork Skokomish River in Mason County, which has been blocked since the two Cushman dams were built in the late 1920s.

The North Fork Skokomish Powerhouse and Fish Facility provides clean, renewable energy for 1,700 Northwest homes; and supports upstream and downstream fish passage for Coho, spring Chinook, steelhead, and sock-eye salmon.

"Tacoma Power remains at the forefront of innovation," said National Hydropower Association Executive Director **Linda Church Ciocci**. "Their efforts to re-establish the endangered salmon and steelhead populations upstream of their projects while increasing clean, reliable hydropower generation are the definition of good water stewardship."

NWPPA

Tree award again goes to Benton

Benton PUD (Kennewick, Wash.) received the Tree Line USA Award for the 15th consecutive year. "Benton PUD's tree program is one of the many proactive actions we do to prevent outages which in return results in long-term operational savings for Benton PUD," said Assistant General Manager and Director of Operations **Steve Hunter**.

Benton PUD achieved the Tree Line USA award by

Continued on page 20

meeting five program standards: quality tree care; provide annual worker training in best tree-care practices; sponsor a tree-planting and public education program; maintain a tree-based energy conservation program; and participate in an Arbor Day celebration.

The tree program was developed to ensure Benton PUD provides quality tree care practices and helps customers plant the appropriate trees near utility lines. The benefits of the program have been healthier trees, less outages, and long-term savings to Benton PUD. Trees can also help conserve energy and help clean the air. **NWPPA**

Spain earns loss control certification

Columbia REA (Dayton, Wash.) Safety Trainer **John Spain** has completed an intensive program in electric utility safety and loss control. The Loss Control Internship is a series of workshops offered by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association in conjunction with the National Utility Training and Safety Education Association. The program is designed to instruct participants in many areas related to electric utility industry safety.



Spain is one of only a few electric utility professionals in the country that will receive this certification this year. The program requires participants to complete a rigorous series of seminars and tests, a 30-hour Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) course, and a detailed final course project.

Loss Control participants go through four six-day sessions that are designed to challenge and educate participants in new, innovative safety techniques. Participants must also maintain their certification by attending courses every year in order to stay on top of changes in the industry.

Spain has been with Columbia REA for 28 years. He started his career in the utility field at Columbia REA as an apprentice lineman and worked his way up to a journey lineman, serviceman, and line foreman. Spain has been a safety instructor for six years. **NWPPA**

AVEC adds Bethel as new member

Alaska Village Electric Cooperative (Anchorage) is pleased to announce that the Yukon-Kuskokwim hub community of Bethel (population 6,278) has become the 56th community served by the cooperative.

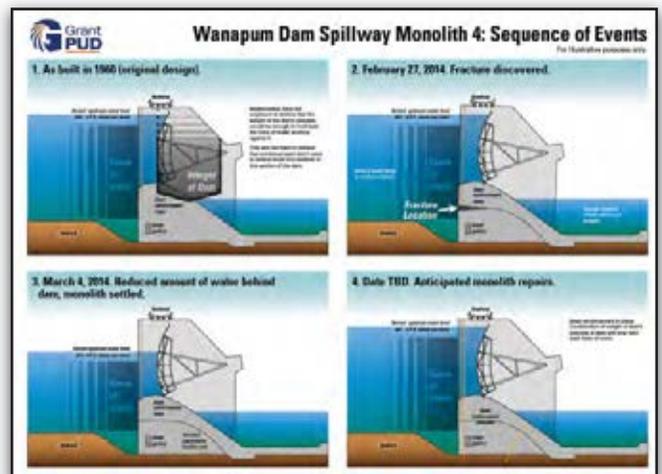
AVEC was established in 1967 to bring electricity to village Alaska, very few of which had electric service in the 1960s. Bethel, being a hub community, had enjoyed the modern benefits brought by electricity for decades before AVEC was established. Bethel Utilities Corporation (BUC)

has owned and operated the electric utility since 1972 and the community was served by Northern Commercial Company before that.

The president and owner of BUC, **Ed Tilbury**, and the president and CEO of AVEC, **Meera Kohler**, executed documents on May 6 that transferred ownership of the utility assets and operational responsibility from BUC to AVEC. The transfer was effective at 12:01 a.m., May 7, 2014.

Bethel customers will see a rate decrease of about 8 percent immediately and additional reductions once the community's winter fuel stock is depleted. All of AVEC's members will see benefits well into the future from the economies of scale that AVEC will gain with the addition of the largest community in western Alaska. **NWPPA**

Error deemed likely cause of Wanapum fracture



The above is a simplified diagram of the sequence of events surrounding the Wanapum Dam fracture.

Preliminary results of an extensive 11-week investigation by Grant PUD (Ephrata, Wash.) and its consultants has determined that the primary contributing factor to a fracture developing within the dam's spillway was a mathematical error during the pre-construction design of Wanapum Dam. The fracture forming on spillway monolith No. 4 may have been exacerbated by a weak construction joint. These results will be submitted to Grant PUD's Board of Consultants for final review.

A team of engineers discovered the mathematical error while examining the original design calculations of the Wanapum Dam spillway. When engineers recalculated the original design formulas they found that additional concrete and/or reinforced steel should have been included in the construction of the monolith. Had Grant PUD engineers known of the design miscalculation earlier, the spillway could have been reinforced prior to a fracture forming.

Last month, Gov. **Jay Inslee** visited Wanapum Dam. The tour of the hydroelectric plant provided an opportunity

for the governor to see fish passage modifications as well as ongoing work to repair the spillway.

To repair spillway pier No. 4, additional steel reinforcement installed through the concrete structure into bedrock is anticipated. The remaining 12 spillway pier monoliths have a design similar to monolith No. 4 and additional steel reinforcement will likely be necessary to secure all of the spillway pier monoliths into bedrock. The independent board of consultants will review and FERC must approve any repairs prior to implementation by Grant PUD. **NWPPA**

Asotin receives excellence award

T Tyler Technologies, Inc. has announced that the Asotin County Public Utility District (Clarkston, Wash.) received the 2014 Tyler Public Sector Excellence Award for its Eden Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) solution and its work with Tyler on their Operating System and Database Administration (OSDBA). The Public Sector Excellence Award is given annually to customers who have exhibited leadership, innovation, and excellence by developing, deploying, or maintaining Tyler Technologies products in new and successful ways.

Tyler provides the customer information and billing software that the PUD has utilized since 2006. PUD Treasurer **Bob Sischo**, who was instrumental in the configuration and implementation of Tyler's Eden OSDBA program, accepted the award on behalf of the PUD at the Tyler Technology Eden Systems Users Conference in San Antonio, Texas, on April 14, 2014. **NWPPA**

Rodeo finale expanded to two days

A decade of celebrating safety and building a scholarship fund for high school seniors active in preventing drug and alcohol abuse culminates with the final Andrew York Lineman Rodeo on June 20 and 21 in Wenatchee, Wash.

Power lineman and apprentices from across the Northwest will gather to test their skills in a series of events that take them 50 to 60 feet in the air at the rodeo grounds in Wenatchee's Walla Walla Point Park. The competition is a showcase for those who come to vie for bragging rights and for coveted belt buckles in team and apprentice events. Safety is as important as speed in determining the winners.

The rodeo honors Chelan County PUD journeyman lineman Andrew York who died in 2000 from injuries suffered on the job when he was hit by a drunken driver.

The finale has been expanded to offer a twilight event in the park on Friday night, June 20, and plans for a community "thank you" on Saturday night are in the works.

The rodeo is sponsored by the Chelan, Douglas, Ferry, Grant, and Okanogan PUDs, and IBEW Local 77. Registration information and a schedule of events, including the Ducky Drop, are at www.ayrodeo.com. **NWPPA**

Homer launches new generation



Homer Electric Association dedicated its new generation plant in Nikiski, Alaska, on May 1, 2014.

Under clear blue skies and sunshine, Homer Electric Association (HEA) dedicated its new generation plant in Nikiski, Alaska, on May 1.

Local elected officials, business leaders, and community members were on hand for the historic event as HEA Board President **Dick Waisanen**, Board Vice President **Bill Fry**, and HEA General Manager **Brad Janorschke** did the honors and cut the big blue ribbon.

At the ceremony, Janorschke said the successful completion of the Nikiski Combined Cycle Plant is the result of a team effort that included HEA staff, the HEA Board of Directors, and local contractors and businesses.

Waisanen told the crowd that after nearly six years of study, planning, designing, and construction, HEA began generating its own power on January 1, 2014. The move to self-generation signals an end to a decades-old contract under which HEA purchased wholesale power from Chugach Electric Association in Anchorage.

Today, HEA has the combined cycle plant in Nikiski which features a new steam turbine and generator that uses steam to produce approximately 18 megawatts of power without using any additional natural gas. With the addition of the steam turbine to the existing natural gas combustion turbine, the Nikiski plant now has the capability of producing 80 megawatts of power. **NWPPA**

Trent named as new ML&P GM

Anchorage Mayor **Dan Sullivan** has appointed **James A. Trent** as the new general manager of Municipal Light & Power, replacing former manager **James M. Posey** who retired in December. MOA Chief of Staff **Dan Kendall** has been the acting interim general manager. Trent began work on April 7, 2014.

Continued on page 22

“Mr. Trent has 30 years of leadership expertise in power system planning, design, and operations experience managing gas and electric utilities,” said Mayor Sullivan.

Trent most recently was a senior consultant for Rockwell Automation in Colorado, where he helped to expand the company’s global capabilities to include design and construction of energy/utilities/power generation programs. He also was the senior consulting strategist for Rockwell Automation’s 86 megawatts of trash-to-energy power generation programs in Puerto Rico, Idaho, and Texas. From 2005-2008, he served as the general manager for Southern Missouri Natural Gas in Mountain Grove where he grew the customer base 10 percent each year.

Trent was the principal advisor to the Palau Public Utilities Corp. Board of Directors from 2004-2005 where he provided strategic planning and operational expansion priorities for the Palau and Peleliu islands’ fossil-fuel power-generation plants. He served six years as the director of Yankee Gas Services Co. in Connecticut and was the president and CEO of Pacific Utilities Management Inc. in El Cajon, Calif., from 1983-1997. **NWPPA**

Oregon PUD honored for outstanding safety

Columbia River People’s Utility District (St. Helens, Ore.) has earned the American Public Power Association’s (APPA) Safety Award of Excellence for safe operating practices in 2013. The utility earned first place in the category for utilities with 60,000–109,999 worker-hours of annual worker exposure. **Marlin Bales**, chair of the APPA Safety Committee, presented the award on April 7 during the association’s annual Engineering & Operations Technical Conference, held in Oklahoma City, Okla.

“In our line of work, safety is the top priority,” said Bales. “Without safety, we can’t serve our customers to the best of our abilities. This award recognizes utilities that have their priorities straight.”

More than 285 utilities entered the annual Safety Awards, which is the highest number of entrants in the history of the program. Entrants were placed in categories according to their number of worker hours and ranked based on the most incident-free records during 2013. The incidence rate, used to judge entries, is based on the number of work-related reportable injuries or illnesses and the number of worker-hours during 2013, as defined by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

“We are proud of the service we provide to our customers,” said **Kevin Owens**, general manager of Columbia River PUD. “But above all else, we are proud of our safety record — proud that we do everything we can to send our people home to their families each and every night.” **NWPPA**

George M. Sullivan Plant project breaks ground



(L-R) Municipal Manager George Vakalis, ML&P Commission Chair Judith Brady, Anchorage Mayor Dan Sullivan, Lieutenant Governor Mead Treadwell, Quanta Services Executive Vice President of Operations Randall Wisenbaker, and Anchorage Assembly Vice Chair Dick Traini broke ground on ML&P’s George M. Sullivan Plant 2A expansion project on April 23, 2014.

On April 23, municipal and electric utility officials broke ground alongside contractors to celebrate construction of what will be one of the world’s most energy-efficient, thermal generation power plants.

The expansion of the 1970’s-vintage George M. Sullivan Plant 2 in east Anchorage, Alaska, will use GE LM6000 combustion turbine technology. The new plant will produce 120 megawatts in a 2x1 combined-cycle configuration.

The \$275 million plant is expected to be complete in the summer of 2016.

“ML&P’s diligent maintenance program has allowed it to get more than the 30-year design life out of its gas turbine fleet,” said Municipal Light & Power General Manager **Jim Trent**. “But the time has come when generation replacement is more cost effective. Even with our additional 54 megawatts from the new Southcentral Power Project, we need to replace aging-generation equipment to safely and reliably meet demand.”

ML&P expects to save more than \$13 million annually in natural gas fuel costs at a bulk rate of \$5 per million

cubic feet. New technology also means 97 percent less nitrogen oxides and 80 percent less carbon monoxide emissions compared to legacy plants.

Engineering and procurement activities began in December 2013 following contract approval. **NWPPA**

Gov. Inslee appoints Ward to state board

Grays Harbor Public Utility District (Aberdeen, Wash.) General Manager **Dave Ward** has been appointed by Governor **Jay Inslee** to serve on the Washington State Electrical Board for a two-year term.

The Electrical Board is a 16-member board overseeing electrical inspections and the laws pertaining to the electrical industry in Washington state. Ward will serve the two years remaining on the Electrical Utility Representative seat vacated by the resignation of **Richard Damiano**.

"It is an honor to receive this appointment and I thank the governor for his confidence," said Ward. "In accepting this appointment, I hope to provide a voice for the customers of Grays Harbor and the utility industry, while ensuring that the residents of Washington's rural counties are taken into consideration in all matters that the Electrical Board discusses."

"My goals are to grow Washington's economy, strengthen our schools, and bring a new culture of performance and efficiency to state government. I know you can help me achieve these goals," said Gov. Inslee in a letter congratulating Ward on his appointment. "I ask that you take personal responsibility for making sure the Electrical Board operates in a way that is transparent, responsive, and focused on implementing lean management tools to achieve this." **NWPPA**

Energy Northwest, employees honored with awards

The Association of Washington Business (AWB) recognized Energy Northwest and seven other Washington employers in a ceremony for their important and enduring service to others. Energy Northwest employees were honored with the AWB 2014 Community Service Award for their more than 30-year commitment to the Benton-Franklin Head Start program. CEO **Mark Reddemann** attended the meeting and accepted the award on behalf of the employees.

Reddemann praised employees for their participation in the program: "To sustain a voluntary program for more than 30 years speaks to the caliber of people we have at Energy Northwest. Thank you for making this program a success and for what you do to help children in our community."

The awards were presented at The Davenport Hotel in Spokane during AWB's annual Spring Meeting. A short video shown at the awards ceremony featured **Dale Atkinson**, vice president, Energy Services and Development, talking about what the program has meant to employees and the more than 10,000 children who have been served.

In addition to the AWB award, Energy Northwest and Protiviti SharePoint Business Consulting Group were recognized with an Outstanding Achievement Award by the non-profit Interactive Media Council, Inc. (IMC) for the agency's recently redesigned website at www.energy-northwest.com. The agency's media recognition by IMC comes shortly after the launch of a new landing page (www.ColumbiaValue.com) to highlight the regional value of Columbia Generating Station, the agency's flagship energy resource.

The Interactive Media Awards (IMA) recognize the highest standards of excellence in website design and development, using criteria based on design, content, feature functionality, usability, and standards compliance. Protiviti was acknowledged in the Utilities category for design of a website for its client Energy Northwest. **NWPPA**

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BKI welcomes new transmission expert

Recently, **Allan Bias**, who has an impressive background in transmission design, joined Brown & Kysar, Inc. Over his lengthy career, Bias has designed everything from 500-kilovolt transmission down to 69 kilovolts, including upgrades from one voltage to the next.

Bias uses both AutoCAD and PLS-CADD and has taught several classes. Having lots of family in Oregon and being “burned out” on Arizona summers, he has made the Pacific Northwest his new home.

Brown & Kysar’s goal is to be the best power engineering and consulting group in the Pacific Northwest for small to mid-sized public utilities. For more information, visit www.bki.cc. **NWPPA**



Guide analyzes NEC® changes

Thomas & Betts (T&B) has published *Analysis of NEC® Code Changes 2014*, a free reference guide to changes in the 2014 National Electrical Code® (NEC®) that pertain to T&B’s products. This edition also covers code changes affecting ABB Low-Voltage Products (LP) and ABB Power Products. The 152-page guide is available as a print publication or it may be downloaded as a PDF.



The analysis guides readers in selecting the appropriate T&B products to comply with 2014 changes to the NEC®. T&B’s *Analysis of the NEC® Code Changes 2014* is one of the most extensive code change books available from an electrical products manufacturer. Its scope has been significantly expanded as the result of ABB’s acquisition of T&B in 2012. The book is organized by NEC® article numbers with a table of contents, and includes illustrations of products and applications that pertain to code changes.

“This is the sixth edition of the T&B *Code Changes* book and includes, for the first time, changes affecting products offered by ABB Low-Voltage and ABB Power Products,” said **David Kendall**, director, industry affairs, for Thomas & Betts.

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. **NWPPA**

New aerial cable line by Kerite

Kerite, a leading manufacturer of high-quality insulated medium-voltage utility and industrial power cable, has announced a full line of preassembled aerial cable. This line is ideal for use between substation get-away riser cable and the circuit’s open-wire distribution portion; for express feeder circuits with site limitations; and for installation along space-constrained alleys and backyard boundaries and areas subject to tree-related storm damage.



Manufactured to the highest reliability and durability standards by the most trusted cable makers in the world, Kerite’s twisted preassembled aerial cable has stood the test of time, with multiple examples of cable connecting a substation to exiting overhead lines lasting well above 50 years without any failures.

Kerite’s preassembled aerial cable is composed of three shielded conductor cables banded together plus a messenger wire. The conductor (either aluminum or copper) is insulated with Kerite’s time-proven Permashield semiconducting layer and Kerite discharge-resistant EPR system, which is used by Kerite on cable designs up to 138kV.

One of several medium-voltage cable designs in the Kerite product family, preassembled aerial cables are an excellent choice where many feeders come from a distribution substation and underground construction is not a feasible option.

For more than 150 years, Kerite has manufactured the highest quality insulated utility transmission and distribution power cable, as well as underwater power cable. For more information, visit www.kerite.com. **NWPPA**

S&C Board welcomes new members

Last month, S&C’s ESOP trustee, GreatBanc Trust, approved the election of three new members to the S&C Board of Directors. S&C Executive Chairman **John Estey** said, “We are truly delighted to welcome **Chris**

Curtis, Jane Irwin, and Jim Kelly. Each brings unique and valuable talents. We set out to add a few more members because we recognized a need for more directors with knowledge in some key areas. Chris brings us global experience in the electrical industry and manufacturing; Jane has excellent ESOP and compensation experience; and Jim has terrific knowledge of electric utilities and developing technologies.”

Curtis is the former president and CEO of Schneider Electric NA. During his tenure, he oversaw all its operations in the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

Irwin comes to the board with over 10 years of global company experience with Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan, Inc. (PotashCorp), and 17 years with Hewitt Associates (now AONHewitt).

Kelly retired from Edison International in July 2011 after almost 38 years of service; he was the senior VP of transmission & distribution for Southern California Edison.

S&C Electric Company, headquartered in Chicago, Ill., is applying its heritage of innovation to address challenges facing the world’s power grids and thus shaping the future of reliable electricity delivery. Additional information about S&C is available at www.sandc.com/nr. **NWPPA**

NISC selected by Inland Power

Inland Power and Light Company (Spokane, Wash.) has selected National Information Solutions Cooperative (NISC) as its primary provider of software services to support its operational and member service efforts.

Inland Power will take advantage of NISC’s suite of applications to support its accounting, billing, mailing, engineering, operations, and member service needs. NISC’s enterprise-wide iVUE® software platform offers Inland Power members the benefits of a fully integrated software package designed for and used by distribution cooperatives and mid-size utility systems in 48 states.

“Inland Power is pleased to partner with NISC on this enterprise-wide software platform. We feel that this platform will streamline processes, build efficiencies, and bring operational cost savings within the cooperative,” said Chris Cable, chief information officer for Inland Power.

Inland Power selected NISC as a strategic business partner to help leverage technology for its membership; Inland will be able to improve business processes and better manage day-to-day tasks through a single, integrated platform.

“We are thrilled to have Inland Power joining the NISC family,” said Vern Dosch, NISC president and CEO. “Our software has been shaped by the collaboration we share with our membership. Today, our collaboration is helping to drive the development of new solutions that meet our members’ current needs and incorporates their vision. We welcome Inland Power as one of our newest members.”

National Information Solutions Cooperative (NISC) is an information technology organization that develops, implements, and supports software and hardware solutions for its members/customers. Additional information can be found at www.nisc.coop. **NWPPA**

POWER’s Hand to chair ACEC committee

During the 2014 American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) Annual Convention in Washington, D.C., April 27-30, Jack Hand, president and CEO of POWER Engineers, Inc., was appointed to the position of chair of the ACEC Environment & Energy Committee. His term began immediately.



As chair, Hand will support the development of industry-wide consensus positions and national leadership on a wide range of issues important to environmental engineering firms and the energy industry. In addition, he will work with subcommittees to establish and/or maintain communications and partnering agreements as appropriate with federal agencies regarding procurement, contracting, and best practices. Previously, Hand was chair of the Energy/Power Subcommittee.

Hand joined POWER in 1992 as a project engineer and rose through the ranks to become POWER’s leader in 1997. As president and CEO, he has been instrumental in guiding the company’s growth from a small, regional engineering company to a large multidiscipline engineering firm with offices across the U.S. and around the world.

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. **NWPPA**



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www.nwppa.org

by Nicole Case

Make lemonade out of lemons: U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell provides sound advice for working with the U.S. Congress



“Make lemonade out of lemons.” This advice, given to a delegation of NWPPA members by U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.), was one of several important lessons learned last month during NWPPA’s 8th Annual Federal Policy Conference and Legislative Rally with the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA) in

Washington, D.C. The topic of discussion was the security of our electric grid, one of several important issues that the NWPPA delegation brought to policymakers April 27-May 1.

After a full day of noteworthy policy discussion and speeches by key Congressional staff, Deputy Secretary of Energy Dan Poneman, and FERC Commissioner Phil Moeller, NWPPA’s 15-member delegation called on nearly 40 Congressional, administrative, and regulatory policymakers. NWPPA members and staff trudged through record-setting rain to deliver messages on issues of importance at Capitol Hill, the Department of Energy, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

The annual Federal Policy Conference and Legislative Rally is the centerpiece of NWPPA’s government relations program and it is easy to see why. Each year, sharing real-world experiences and expertise strengthens existing relationships with policymakers, and builds new ones with elected and appointed officials still learning about NWPPA members’ role in the electric industry and the region.

The Rally can also serve as a civics lesson for NWPPA members. “This was my first NWPPA Federal Legislative Rally and I enjoyed the entire process,” said Central Lincoln PUD General Manager Debra Smith. “Working with my team to deliver a coordinated message on Capitol Hill opened my eyes to the value of this trip for NWPPA and the impact we can have on the policy process.”

This year, the coordinated message included some traditional public power priorities, as well as some new timely issues emerging on the horizon:

- **Preserving the tax-exempt status of municipal bonds.** Municipal bonds are the primary means for publicly owned, not-for-profit electric utilities to finance capital-intensive infrastructure. Since President Obama’s Bowles-Simpson Fiscal Commission proposed taxing interest on newly issued municipal bonds, administrative and legislative proposals have included various changes to the tax treatment of municipal

bonds. NWPPA opposes these reforms and while in Washington, D.C., we urged members of Congress to preserve the tax-exempt financing status of those bonds.

- **Taking a cautious approach to development of market tools like energy imbalance markets (EIM).** With the development of variable resources, comes the task of integrating these intermittent resources into the interconnected grid. One approach for managing this challenge is the development of an EIM. The development of a new energy market raises red flags for utilities and policymakers that remember the California energy crisis in 2000 and 2001. NWPPA’s goal was to update policymakers on the work of the Northwest Power Pool to address this challenge through the power pool’s Market Assessment and Coordination Initiative. We also wanted to reiterate our position: any new market initiative must provide net benefits to end-use consumers. As a result, NWPPA members are proceeding cautiously on this issue and will look carefully at any proposal to ensure its litmus test of net benefits to end-use consumers is met.
- **Appreciation for the continued oversight and support of NWPPA members on power marketing administration (PMA) issues.** Our message on Capitol Hill was simple: NWPPA members served by the Bonneville Power Administration and the Western Area Power Administration thanked members of Congress for supporting and continuing oversight of these agencies to preserve the value of the PMAs for end-use consumers.

While all those issues are extremely important, the security of the nation’s electric system dominated the discussion in congressional visits. Since the *Wall Street Journal* published a series of articles earlier this year detailing damage done to the Pacific Gas & Electric’s Metcalf substation near San Jose, Calif., pressure has been mounting on electric utilities; regulatory entities like the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) and FERC; and the U.S. Congress to take action to secure the nation’s electrical grid.

NWPPA’s mission last month was to remind policymakers that security of its members’ systems is the bread and butter of their business. Utility systems must remain secure in order to fulfill their mission of reliably meeting the electric needs of end-use customers. NWPPA sought to impress

upon members of Congress the need to rely on the current industry regulatory process to address concerns, rather than new federal legislation.

The issue of security has become the top priority for Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D–Nev.); this may seem unlikely given the hundreds of issues facing the American people — the economy, health care, and immigration to name a few. However, Sen. Cantwell, one of the leading voices on electricity issues in Congress and a strong supporter of public power, advised NWPPA to view Congressional action on the issue of grid security seriously. The senator was particularly candid about the momentum behind cyber security legislation, noting that Majority Leader Reid has tasked each of his chairmen with addressing cyber security in their committees. Believing that grid security legislation is inevitable, she challenged NWPPA to work with Congress and find a solution that works for public power, encouraging us to “make lemonade out of lemons.”

“Our conversation with Sen. Cantwell was truly authentic and memorable,” said Brad Hawkins, compliance officer at Douglas County PUD in East Wenatchee, Wash. “Here we sat in a room that felt like the senator’s living room and had an in-depth conversation on grid security and the Senate’s priority setting process.”

NWPPA’s meeting with Sen. Cantwell was revealing in a number of ways and a testament to the importance of public power in the Northwest. Public power has long enjoyed close relationships with their congressional delegations; it is not unusual for NWPPA members to be on a first-name basis with their elected representatives. The annual Rally is integral to fostering these relationships.

NWPPA members did an outstanding job delivering the message on grid security. They used on-the-ground experiences to support the claim that security is their number-one priority and that the current FERC-NERC process is best positioned to keep the nation’s electric grid secure. It is the first-hand accounts that make the difference in meetings providing policymakers and their staff with information needed to understand an issue and make a difference for public power in Washington, D.C.

NWPPA’s success in carrying its message was the direct result of the expertise and leadership of NWPPA participants. “I was impressed at the ease with which NWPPA members tackled our issues and the skill in which they delivered our message in Washington, D.C.,” said NWPPA Executive Director Anita J. Decker. “We owe our success to them.”

In addition to Smith and Hawkins, NWPPA members representing the Association in Washington, D.C., included:

- Ken Weiss, NWPPA’s board president, Clearwater Power Company (Lewiston, Idaho)
- Meera Kohler, chair of NWPPA’s Government Relations Committee, Alaska Village Electric Cooperative (Anchorage, Alaska)

- Scott Egbert, vice chair of NWPPA’s Government Relations Committee, Wells Rural Electric Company (Wells, Nev.)
- Michelle Bertolino, Roseville Electric Utility (Roseville, Calif.)
- Doug Hardy, Central Montana Electric Power Cooperative (Great Falls, Mont.)
- Paul Hauser, Trinity County Public Utility District (Weatherville, Calif.)
- Harry Hewitt, Tillamook Public Utility District (Tillamook, Ore.)
- Larry Luong, Sacramento Municipal Utility District (Sacramento, Calif.)
- Bob Mack, Tacoma Power (Tacoma, Wash.)
- Brent Ridge, Energy Northwest (Richland, Wash.)
- John Simpson, Eugene Water & Electric Board (Eugene, Ore.)
- Barry Tippin, Redding Electric Utility (Redding, Calif.)

These NWPPA members brought their knowledge of the industry, confidence in the policy process, and genuine belief in the value of public power for their communities to Washington, D.C. This sense of purpose, conviction, and teamwork made this year’s Rally a success. “Together we came up with ways to be more effective, parked our egos, and brought each one of us to a higher level,” said Hardy. “Accomplishing so much more as a team than we can as individuals is something that frankly sets us apart from the bigger organizations.”

While the trip was a success, NWPPA needs to be vigilant in its work because it is abundantly clear that the issues of grid security, integration of variable resources, tax treatment of municipal bonds, and PMA programs are front and center in federal energy policymakers’ minds. Public power has decades of experience in addressing technical and political challenges that required the industry to work together to define its future before it is defined by others. In the 1980s, public power witnessed attempts to undermine the PMAs through a sale or through so-called market rates. In the 1990s, the industry was challenged by market reforms like retail wheeling and electricity restructuring. More recently, the Chu memo galvanized public power to work collectively with Congress to protect the value of federal hydroelectric power program for end-use consumers.

Undoubtedly, NWPPA members will again rise to the challenge on grid security and the myriad of issues they face now and in the future. Summer is here and it will soon be scorching hot in parts of the Northwest and Washington, D.C. NWPPA and its public power colleagues need to meet the challenge posed by Senator Maria Cantwell: it’s time to get down to business and “make some lemonade.” **NWPPA**

Nicole Case is NWPPA’s legislative consultant. She can be contacted at nkcaseconsulting@gmail.com.

by Bob Kajfasz, CEM, DSM

Demanding more: Port Angeles builds on its legacy of demand-side management

While it's not quite the same as a TV game show, participating in a demand response market and providing a load reduction is similar. It comes down to this value proposition: if "the price is right." Coming out ahead depends on having the best knowledge of the cost of what's behind Door Number One (a capacity payment for a 15-megawatt load reduction) and Door Number Two (90 minutes of industrial production at the current electric rate).

In 2012, the City of Port Angeles partnered with Nippon Paper Industries, USA (NPIUSA) and the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) in the first market demonstration project for demand response (DR) in the region. Now in its second year, the project is helping determine the value proposition for fast DR — a load reduction within a 10-minute period. BPA calls upon NPIUSA to reduce load (cut back its energy use) in exchange for monthly capacity payments from BPA.

The current market demonstration project is the latest of a sequence of DR pilot projects that Port Angeles, NPIUSA, and BPA have explored. The goal is to determine if the resource can commercially meet BPA's needs for supplying within-hour imbalance capacity — where both availability and reliability will be key measures of success. Included in this effort are determining a market value for a DR asset and developing a contracting mechanism to be used for any potential future transactions between the parties.

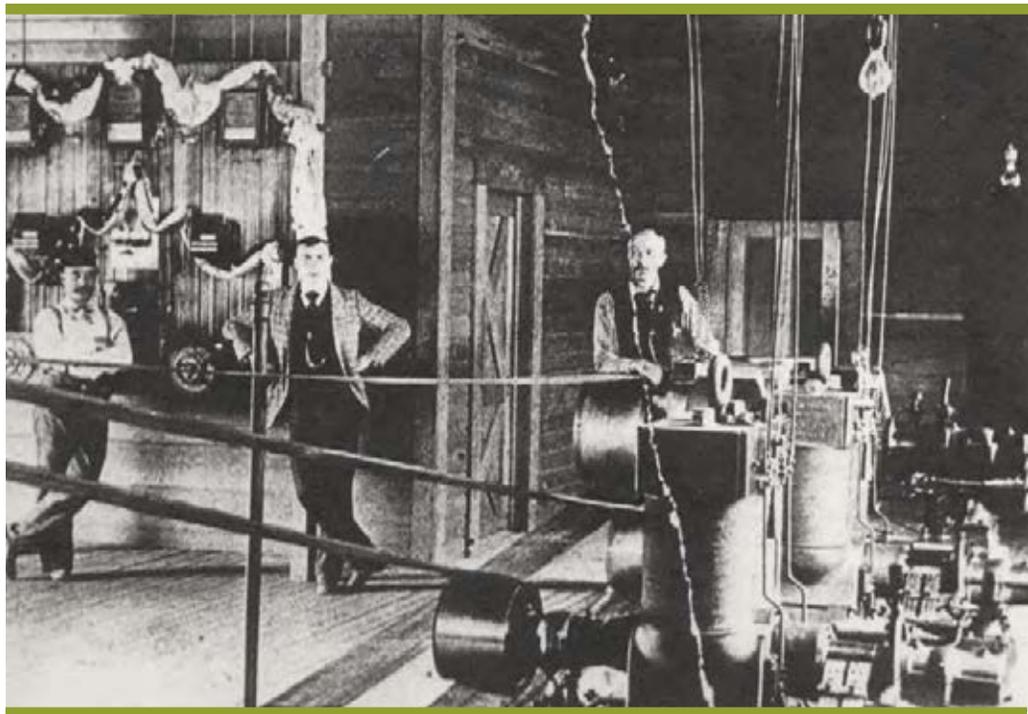
Port Angeles, a municipal utility located in western Washington state on the Olympic Peninsula, is examining DR to keep costs low and to help ensure distribution system reliability. Since its founding in 1893 with a 20-kilowatt biomass generator, the utility has enjoyed a mixed power supply which includes two hydro projects on the Elwha River, a small hydro project on nearby Morse Creek, and power purchases from wholesale power suppliers.

Today the utility now receives all of its power from BPA, which is delivered by a radial feed transmission line originating in Olympia, Wash. Phil Lusk, deputy director of Power and Telecommunications Systems, points out that while "now completely dependent on that line, Port Angeles has a vested interest in using demand-side management to keep wholesale power

purchase costs low and help maintain the health of the radial feed."

But DSM isn't anything new for Port Angeles. The municipal utility has a long history of DSM which dates back to a robust energy conservation program beginning in the late 70s. Over the years that followed, the utility has successfully kept customers engaged in energy conservation through education, rate adjustments, and rebates for energy efficiency measures. During the past decade, Port Angeles has been on the forefront for demand response in the Northwest, conducting DR pilots in all three customer sectors: residential, commercial, and industrial.

Working closely with a handful of customers, Port Angeles has implemented load reductions ranging from residential thermostat set-backs to turning off large process loads in industrial facilities. "We have confidence that a button can be pushed or a lever thrown and that a load reduction can occur when we need it," said Lusk. "However, we don't know what will motivate our customers to participate and continue in a DR program. So to continue our success in demand-side management, we want to determine an appropriate market value for demand response assets."



A look inside the first Port Angeles power house (circa 1893). Photo provided by the City of Port Angeles.



Steve Johnson, vice president and power manager at the NPIUSA pulp and paper mill, has been a champion of demand response, providing mill resources and his time to develop it as an additional asset. Photo by Keith Thorpe of the Peninsula Daily News.

Finding a market value for a DR asset will help the utility determine whether to integrate DR into the rate structure or use incentives to encourage customer participation in DR programs.

Lusk proposed this project to BPA under the Technology Innovation Program with the intent to leverage and aggregate existing DR assets from the prior pilots. While those other assets offered a mix of load size and operate on either an hour- or day-ahead notice, for this project BPA was seeking fast DR assets with loads of 10 megawatts or larger. So the city turned to one of its largest customers, NPIUSA, which had load that fit both requirements. “It is ideal for this project because NPIUSA has a variety of load centers that can be directly compared as a fungible resource to a conventional natural gas-fired peaking generator in terms of dispatchability,” said Lusk.

The NPIUSA pulp and paper mill, located on the Olympic Peninsula, is the largest electric load for Port Angeles. The mill has been in continuous operation for over 90 years. Mill management has a sophisticated understanding of plant operations, electric rate structures, and how to minimize its electric bill. NPIUSA is also improving viability with a new \$70 million biomass fuel boiler with 20-megawatt cogen-

eration capacity. As a result of the co-gen project, NPIUSA has gained increased knowledge of regional energy issues of constricted transmission and load shaping, and views DR as a potential new revenue stream for the mill.

Previously, the group tested the concept of using NPIUSA’s large thermal mechanical pulping process for balancing load at BPA. This process consists of two major pulp lines and several ancillary lines, totaling 45 megawatts of available power. Large pulp storage tanks located between the pulp plant and the paper machines allow for some variability in line operations.

The tests demonstrated NPIUSA’s ability to both shed load and increase load with a 10-minute notice from BPA. Although not actually used by BPA to balance load during the pilots, the plant demonstrated they could add or shed megawatts within the required time frame. While the mill incurred the cost of deferred pulp production and hours of staff time, participating in the project provided a better understanding of mill costs during a DR event.

Steve Johnson, vice president and power manager at the mill, has been a champion of DR, providing mill resources and his time to develop it as an additional asset. Johnson noted that NPIUSA is pleased to be working with the City of

Continued on page 30



The City of Port Angeles is located on the Strait of Juan de Fuca in western Washington state on the Olympic Peninsula. Photo provided by the City of Port Angeles.

Port Angeles and BPA to explore the subject of demand response.

“We believe it has the potential of reducing costs for both the mill and the City of Port Angeles, better balancing electrical load in the BPA service area as well as the Olympic Peninsula and allowing additional integration of renewable electricity such as wind and solar power,” said Johnson. “Plus, the project provides an understanding of both how the mill operates and how true is the flexibility of their particular DR asset.”

In the current project, BPA is only requesting load reductions from the mill. While this simplifies the decision process for NPIUSA and Port Angeles, the rate structure for it is somewhat complex. For example, depending on what time of day a DR event is called, pulp production could be shifted from a light-load-hours period to a high-load-hours period, resulting in a higher electric rate for pulp production that normally would have occurred in a period with a lower operational cost. If there are multiple events during a cold weather month, Port Angeles and NPIUSA could incur increased demand charges if the deferred pulp production coincides with the utility’s peak energy use period. As a result, Port Angeles staff learned to be diligent to assure that other city customers incur no adverse effects from this project or future DR market transactions.

For BPA this project is a complement to a larger demand response initiative, providing an option of integrating existing assets to balance the regional load.

“This project is an example of how partnerships with our customers can be very productive,” said BPA Smart Grid and Demand Response Manager Lee Hall. “In this pilot, industrial demand response has shown strong promise in meeting BPA and regional needs, including the potential for balancing variable generation.”

Tom Brim manages the project for BPA and has drawn on expertise and resources in the agency’s Energy Efficiency,

All the project partners have committed enormous amounts of time and effort to this project which continues through the end of August 2014.

Power, and Transmission groups to address key issues such as potential effects on billing and power purchasing contracts. BPA’s cross-agency team developed a dispatch group matrix and an operating agreement — two key components of the project that define the attributes of a DR asset such as load reduction; size; duration; days and hours of availability; and recharge period. The parameters also include ramp time — the maximum number of minutes allowed before the target reduction is achieved. During any event, if the load reduction does not occur within the ramp rate or the target reduction is not maintained for the duration of the event, the event is considered unsuccessful. If a load is unavailable, provisions in the agreement allow for the temporary removal of a DR asset from the dispatch group due to maintenance or repair.

The payment for the DR asset is in the form of a monthly capacity price based on DR load size and the hours it is available during the month. The operating agreement states that the monthly capacity payment may be reduced by a predetermined amount for any unsuccessful event and any days that an asset is declared as unavailable load.

John Wellschlager and Ryan Redmond from BPA’s Bulk-hub group drew upon their experience with BPA operations and commercial capacity acquisitions to assign a dollar value to the DR assets in this project when they developed the contract. They were able to reduce the information from the dispatch matrix to a dollar/megawatt value by comparing the resource to a 24/7 generation source. The dollar/megawatt value is applied throughout the matrix to derive the monthly capacity payment and any reduction due to actual performance of the asset during the month. At this time, BPA is not actually using the load reductions in this project to help balance regional power loads. Instead, the BPA team prepares a weekly schedule of DR events in advance. The schedule is not shared with Port Angeles or NPIUSA until the week after the event. Reliability permitting, the team’s goal is to transition into actually using the resource to help manage within hour load/resource issues before the pilot ends.

All the project partners have committed enormous amounts of time and effort to this project which continues through the end of August 2014. Several check-ins are scheduled during the remaining months to review progress and explore options for refining asset definitions and performance, and communications protocol. But, for the time being we are getting closer to an understanding of what is behind Door Number One. **NWPPA**

Bob Kajfasz, CEM, DSM is the commercial energy analyst for the City of Port Angeles in Washington state. He can be contacted at either (360) 417-4718 or rkajfasz@cityofpa.us.

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COMPANY: Puget Sound Energy (Bellevue, Wash.)
SALARY: DOE.
DEADLINE TO APPLY: June 19, 2014.
TO APPLY: Apply online at www.pse.com/careers.

POSITION: **Oracle Database Administrator**
COMPANY: Eugene Water & Electric Board (Eugene, Ore.)
SALARY: \$77,200-\$96,500 annually.
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TO APPLY: For more information and to apply, please visit our website at: <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/eweb/default.cfm>.

POSITION: **Environmental Manager**
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POSITION: **System Operator Trainee - Dispatch #78941**
COMPANY: Puget Sound Energy (Bellevue, Wash.)
SALARY: \$36.84 per hour.
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TO APPLY: Please apply online at <http://www.PSE.com/careers>.

POSITION: **Distribution Designer**
COMPANY: Peninsula Light Company (Gig Harbor, Wash.)
SALARY: DOE.
DEADLINE TO APPLY: June 27, 2014.
TO APPLY: Apply online at www.penlight.org/jobs/.

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COMPANY: Puget Sound Energy (Bellevue, Wash.)
SALARY: DOE.
DEADLINE TO APPLY: June 28, 2014.
TO APPLY: Apply online at www.pse.com/careers.

POSITION: **Journeyman Meterman (U13-115)**
COMPANY: Portland General Electric (Portland, Ore.)
SALARY: \$40.89 per hour.
DEADLINE TO APPLY: July 2, 2014.
TO APPLY: Apply online at https://PGN.igreentree.com/CSS_External/CSSPage_Referred.ASP?Req=U13-115.

POSITION: **Manager of Financial Planning and Regulatory Affairs — Regular**
COMPANY: Matanuska Electric Association (Palmer, Alaska)
SALARY: \$82,514-\$103,142 annually, DOE.
DEADLINE TO APPLY: July 7, 2014.
TO APPLY: Complete and submit an MEA application online at www.mea.coop.

POSITION: **Distribution Engineer II — Regular**
COMPANY: Matanuska Electric Association (Palmer, Alaska)
SALARY: DOE.
DEADLINE TO APPLY: July 7, 2014.
TO APPLY: Complete and submit an MEA application online at www.mea.coop.

POSITION: **CEO/General Manager**
COMPANY: Tongue River Electric Cooperative (Ashland, Mont.)
SALARY: Commensurate with qualifications.
DEADLINE TO APPLY: July 31, 2014.
TO APPLY: Send comprehensive resumé, cover letter, and a minimum of three professional references or letters of recommendation to treco@rangeweb.net or to TRECO, Box 138, Ashland, MT 59003.

POSITION: **Senior Engineer**
COMPANY: Golden Valley Electric Association (Fairbanks, Alaska)
SALARY: DOE.
DEADLINE TO APPLY: Open until filled.
TO APPLY: Application and full job description can be found online at www.gvea.com. GVEA application must be submitted; resumé alone will not be considered.

POSITION: **Head Accountant**
COMPANY: Orcas Power & Light Cooperative (Eastsound, Wash.)
SALARY: Competitive.
DEADLINE TO APPLY: Open until filled.
TO APPLY: Submit an OPALCO employment application, professional resumé, cover letter, and references to Nancy Loomis, 183 Mt. Baker Rd., Eastsound, WA 98245, or nloomis@opalco.com.

POSITION: **Working Foreman**
COMPANY: Tanner Electric Cooperative (North Bend, Wash.)
SALARY: \$45.89 per hour.
DEADLINE TO APPLY: Open until filled.
TO APPLY: Job description and qualifications can be found at www.tanner-electric.coop. Send resumé to lisa@tannerelectric.coop.

POSITION: **Facilities Administrator**
COMPANY: Umatilla Electric Cooperative (Hermiston, Ore.)
SALARY: DOE.
DEADLINE TO APPLY: Open until filled.
TO APPLY: Apply online at www.umatillaelectric.com, by emailing hr@umatillaelectric.com, calling (541) 289-0380, or in person at 750 W. Elm, Hermiston, Ore.

POSITION: **Line Working Foreman**
COMPANY: Wells Rural Electric Company (Wells, Nev.)
SALARY: Competitive.
DEADLINE TO APPLY: Open until filled.
TO APPLY: Send resumé along with completed WREC application to hr@wrec.coop, mail to Wells Rural Electric Company, Attn: Human Resources Dept., P.O. Box 365, Wells, NV 89835, fax (775) 752-3407. Contact Zane Peters at (775) 752-3328 with any questions.

POSITION: **Utility Analyst I-II/Resource Planning**
COMPANY: Turlock Irrigation District (Turlock, Calif.)
SALARY: \$6,154-\$10,096 monthly.
DEADLINE TO APPLY: Open until filled.
TO APPLY: Submit application to Human Resources Dept. at www.tid.org.

POSITION: **Information Services Manager**
COMPANY: Midstate Electric Cooperative (La Pine, Ore.)
SALARY: DOE.
DEADLINE TO APPLY: Open until filled.
TO APPLY: Submit resumé and cover letter to Human Resources, Midstate Electric Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 127, La Pine, OR 97739, fax (541) 536-1423, or email to smiesen@midstateelectric.coop. No phone calls please.

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