

**NORTHERN
WASCO
COUNTY
PUD**

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Board of Directors

Bill Ward, President
Howard Gonser, Vice President
Barbara Nagle, Secretary
Clay Smith, Treasurer
Milt Skov, Director

Manager

Dwight D. Langer

Board Meetings

Usually the fourth Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at the PUD offices, 2345 River Road. The public is always welcome.

Our Mission

To provide reliable, competitively-priced energy and related services that benefit our customers, in the tradition of public power.

Our Core Values and Beliefs

Local citizens championed and fought to create our People's Utility District. They believed—and we believe—in the public's right to own and control its electric utility.

Today, our values are a legacy from our public power heritage, as well as guideposts for a changing future. We believe in:

- *Public ownership and local control.*
- *Integrity.*
- *Keeping power rates as low as possible.*
- *Providing quality essential services.*
- *Quality customer service.*
- *Community involvement.*

Manager's Report



Dear Customers – Our Friends and Our Neighbors,
In mid-July, customers of natural gas companies and Portland General Electric were troubled by the announcement of rate increases. Gas companies warned of 30 percent to 45 percent rate hikes, while PGE announced a 14 percent increase.

We, at NWCPUD, certainly understand the disappointment and concern on the part of their customers. At the same time, we feel such announcements are inevitable.

While we do not wish to be the messenger of bad news, we feel this is only the beginning of a prolonged march to higher rate increases for customers of natural gas and electricity everywhere. The momentum for these increases was put in motion years ago by Oregon's RPS (renewable portfolio standard) legislation and tax subsidies. At the time – and even today – RPS is being heralded as a panacea for an energy-rich future and a way to liberate us from dependence on foreign oil.

If only our energy future was that simple. No generation resource – renewable or non-renewable – is free or will ever be free. The gas companies and PGE are the victims of regulatory requirements that are costing them unprecedented dollars to secure resources that are very expensive and unreliable. Customers of these companies are required to pay for these increasingly expensive resources and fuel. In the case of PGE, the utility is required to buy more and more renewable resources to comply with the RPS laws.

In addition to the high cost of power, some electric utilities do not have the resources to generate power when their customers need it. These utilities fill the demand with other higher-cost resources and then pass the cost on to their customers.

On the global front, nations like China and India are building projects faster and larger than the world has ever seen. This rapid and accelerating worldwide building increases the cost of building materials from steel and copper to concrete.

We are competing globally for everything we buy – including energy. Laws will not change the hard facts about energy and our energy future. At NWCPUD, we are doing everything we can to secure energy for you that is both reliable and as affordable as possible. We welcome your questions or concerns.

Until next time, have a great day.

Dwight Langer
General Manager

OR-3