

NORTHERN
WASCO
COUNTY
PUD

2345 River Road
The Dalles, OR 97058
(541) 296-2226 • FAX 298-3320
e-mail: thepud@nwasco.com

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 neighboring Washington state, Governor Chris Gregoire is expected to sign House Bill 2815. This measure sets targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020, with further reductions to 75 percent by 2030, and to 50 percent of 1990 levels by 2050. The Oregon legislature is expected to propose a similar measure in its 2009 session.

It has long been our opinion at Northern Wasco County PUD that good public policy-making should include an analysis of the cost of any given proposal and how those costs can be adequately managed and paid. When we inquired as to the estimated cost to the public for implementing the Washington law, we were disappointed to learn no such cost impact analysis had been performed, although one is planned. It seems to us that the analysis should have taken place prior to passage of the bill, not after.

At the PUD, we are concerned that the last five economic recessions in the United States have been preceded by rapidly rising energy prices. In the past 12 months, national energy prices have increased 22 percent. While we applaud the efforts of our neighbors to the north in reducing carbon emissions and share the desire to be good environmental stewards, we cannot forget that our primary mission is to provide adequate supplies of power at affordable prices.

Because of the Pacific Northwest's high utilization of hydro and nuclear power, our carbon emissions are among the lowest – if not the lowest – in the nation. Reducing our emissions below 1990 levels would be a very aggressive initiative. The technologies to accomplish such reductions are not available at this time and will not be for years.

This is a global issue, not one that the State of Oregon or our nation can accomplish single-handedly. China is putting a new coal-fired power plant online every week nearly negating any carbon emission reductions we accomplish nationally. As your PUD, we support environmental policies that are both achievable and affordable.

Until next time, have a great day.

Dwight Langer
General Manager

OR-3