

**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

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

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 the September Ruralite, we shared with you some shocking information about the price of electricity paid by homeowners who live in states that decided to deregulate their electric industry. In some cases, customers received monthly bills of over \$1,000.

In the August issue of the magazine, we expressed our concerns about how unnecessary costs may be included in future electric bills as a result of how the United States deals with the issue of carbon dioxide emissions. Carbon emissions legislation impacts us and is part of the overall climate change challenge being discussed and legislated at both the state and national levels.

Both deregulation and carbon taxes are legislative matters that mandate electric utilities such as Northern Wasco County PUD to take specific actions and/or to incur certain costs. These are hugely important issues with enormous price consequences.

Salmon recovery costs also impact your power rates. Since 1978, the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has spent more than \$8.7 billion to support fish and wildlife recovery in the Northwest. The customers of BPA are required to pay the full tab for all recovery efforts — not just those costs associated with the operation of the hydro system. Roughly \$39 million came from the wallets of NWCPUD customers.

Federal agencies, including BPA, the Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation are working hard to develop a comprehensive salmon recovery plan that is responsible, accountable and that takes into account the good information we have gathered from past programs.

The new plan has promise and we support sound recovery efforts based on the best scientific information available. Unfortunately, the courts and special interest groups continue to ignore—despite the scientific data to the contrary—the need for hatchery reforms and the effects of harvesting the very salmon that electric rate payers are paying handsomely to protect and recover.

Until next time, have a great day.

Dwight Langer
General Manager

OR-3