



October 2024 Newsletter

Line crew work on the removal & replacement of 3 regulators at the Dana Roberts Substation in PT. Several large scale electric projects like this are planned for PUD substations in 2025.

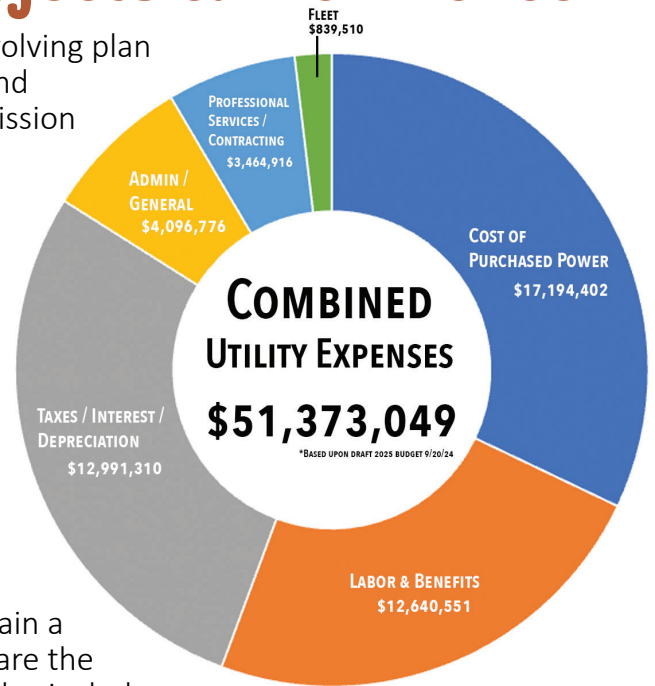
2025: Balancing Growth, Projects & Workforce

As is the case every year, the PUD’s draft annual budget is an evolving plan that undergoes many iterations. Finance Director Mike Bailey and General Manager Kevin Street first began presenting the commission components of the budget at meetings in late-July. The draft budget was reviewed in-full by the commission in August prior to its mandated posting to the PUD’s website in early-Sept. Updates and reviews were presented at additional September commission meetings prior to the PUD’s annual budget hearing Oct. 7th, where the public is invited to give testimony. The final budget must be approved by the commission on or before November 30th.

Purchased power makes up 34% of the total 2025 budgeted expenses. The 2025 electric work plan includes several large-scale, long-term projects including a new substation off Mill Rd in PT, and expansion of the Quilcene and Port Ludlow substations. The PUD has also budgeted for 18 new or vacant positions utility wide in 2025. Vegetation management will remain a top priority with \$1M in funding allocated. Trees and branches are the number one cause of outages in our county. The 2025 budget also includes more spending and emphasis on safety internally and externally. As in prior years, there is no proposed increase to the PUD’s annual property tax assessment.

2025 will see an infusion of \$11.3M in grant funds for rural broadband construction. The PUD team and contractors have turned the corner on the two largest buildout areas which are planned for completion in early-2025. Up next, the Jefferson North and Discovery Bay East grant projects which begin in early-2025.

PUD staff are part of an ongoing rate study by the FCS Group who are reviewing all aspects of the utility to determine potential rate adjustments in 2025. The FCS formal rate study will be presented to the board in late-2024. The only rate increases in the 2025 are for septic and sewer service which were set through 2026.



Capital Projects Category	Expenses
Electric Work Plan	\$12,725,000
Water Work Plan	\$3,647,551
Broadband Work Plan	\$15,172,062
Fleet	\$240,000
Facilities & Warehouse	\$142,500
Other (Info tech, Tools, etc.)	\$285,000
Total	\$32,212,113

Learn more: jeffpud.org/finances

(360)385-5800 jeffpud.org 310 Four Corners Rd. Port Townsend WA 98368

\$646K in Energy Credits Distributed

As of Sept 15th, 3,232 Jefferson County households received a \$200 clean energy credit on their monthly electric bills.

A total of \$646,400 was distributed by the PUD in just over two months. Funding for the program came from the WA State Climate Commitment Act. The goal of the program was to help income-qualified families offset the cost of their energy bills, reducing the energy burden. Households enrolled with JPUD's payment assistance programs were auto enrolled to receive energy credits.

Information about the energy credit program was provided by the State of Washington and should not be interpreted as utility support or opposition to any measure relating to the Climate Commitment Act.



Metering Project Nears Completion

Contract crews from Wenatchee-based National Metering and Technical Services are finalizing the PUD's county-wide advanced metering replacement efforts.

To date, PUD crews have replaced more than 16,000 electric meters countywide, with 4,800 additional meters planned for changeout before the end of the year. The PUD's substation metering team began the project in the fall of 2022. Openings in other departments have led to a reduction in the meter team size this past summer, as well as metering staff being used for utility locate services and outage-related flagging operations countywide.

ARE YOU SIGNED UP FOR SMARTHUB?

As a PUD customer-owner, you are preregistered for SmartHub. Are you taking advantage of all its benefits?

Your SmartHub portal allows you to view near-real time energy usages from anywhere via the mobile app. You can also view your payment history, set up auto-pay and paperless billing, and pay a utility bill anytime. SmartHub features powerful app-based outage reporting tools to help our dispatch system guide line crews to the scene, and you can sign up to receive notifications of your choosing.

Getting Started

Log on to jeffpud.org and click the SmartHub Login button on the main page. Click "Register Now" and complete the account information. Registering requires an email address, utility account number, and the name on the account. You can also visit our customer service lobby for assistance.



Celebrating Project Milestones at the Quilcene Fair

On September 21st, JPUD celebrated the halfway point on its \$20M project to build 10-Gigabit fiber internet to 1,200 rural residences between Quilcene, Gardiner, and Chimacum. PUD

commissioners and staff were joined by project contractors and state legislators, in a not-so-classic ribbon-cutting ceremony, where a length of fiber optic cable and a pair of bolt cutters were used to

mark the occasion.

The PUD has built fiber to more than 800 homes to date, with plans to reach 4,000 homes across 5 grant-funded project areas by 2028.

Eric Moore
North Sky
Comm.

Ben Humphrey
Finley Engineering

Chris Konechne
Finley Engineering

Ken Collins
Commissioner
Dist. 2

Dan Toepper
Commissioner
Dist. 3

Steve Tharinger
WA State Rep
24th Dist

Mike Chapman
WA State Rep
24th Dist



Catch all the latest budget and meeting discussion with our easy-to-use archive on jeffpud.org/files

Jeff Randall
Commissioner D1
jrandall@jeffpud.org
(360) 316-6694

Ken Collins
Commissioner D2
kcollins@jeffpud.org
(360) 316-1475

Dan Toepper
Commissioner D3
dtoepper@jeffpud.org
(360) 302-0448

Kevin Streett
General Manager
kstreett@jeffpud.org
(360) 385-8360