



## Choice Energy

There is growing support in the business community for renewable energy such as wind and solar generated electricity. Companies as diverse as FedEx, Johnson and Johnson and Whole Food Markets are buying part or all of the electricity from these renewable resources.

It's even happening here in our community. St. Helens Federal Credit Union is the latest business to sign up for Choice Energy. The Credit Union is buying wind energy to supply 100% of its electric use at its drive-through ATMs in St. Helens and Scappoose.

"Buying wind power through the PUD's Choice Energy program is great for business and for the environment," said Casey Wheeler, CEO of St. Helens Federal Credit Union.



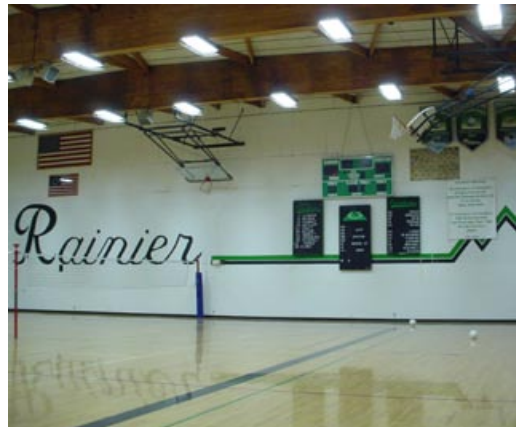
## Project Profile: Rainier School District Lighting Improvements

If you use metal halide lights in warehouses, shops or manufacturing facilities, you should take a queue from Rainier School District and consider replacing them with T5HO (high output) or T8 fluorescent fixtures.

The school district replaced metal halide fixtures with T5HO fluorescent fixtures at the Hudson Park Elementary Gym, Rainier High School Gym and Briarcliff Pool. The upgrade increased lighting levels, improved the quality of light, deferred maintenance costs, and reduced annual energy costs by \$2,238.

PUD Commercial Services Advisor Tim Lammers suggested the change to the district. Tim conducted a free lighting evaluation that included an inventory of existing lighting and an explanation of different lighting alternatives and their financial benefits.

"Tim helped us understand our opportunity to improve our lighting and save money at the same time," said Michael Carter, Rainier District Superintendent.



Tim can help you use energy more efficiently at your business. Call him at (503) 397-8155 to request a free consultation.

### Project Summary

Project Cost	\$24,160
State Tax Credit	\$ (7,369)
Rebate	\$(14,867)
Total Cost	\$ 1,924
Annual Energy Savings	\$ 2,238
Simple Payback	.9 years

The district earned rebates for improved energy efficiency from the PUD and qualified for a Business Energy Tax Credit pass-through from the state of Oregon. These incentives covered nearly 90% of the project cost.



~ Efficiency Tips ~

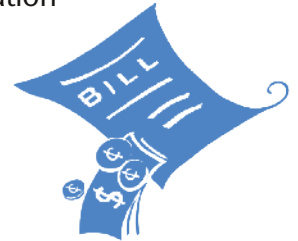
## Heating & Cooling Systems

- Install time clocks or setback-programmable thermostats to maximize energy efficiency.
- Install locking covers on your thermostats to prevent employees from changing temperature settings.
- For optimal energy savings, set thermostats at 78° for summer cooling and 68° for winter. In winter, set the thermostat as low as 55° when the building is unoccupied.
- Consider replacing old HVAC systems with new energy-efficient systems.
- Request a free energy analysis by contacting Tim Lammers at (503) 397-8155 or [tlammers@crpud.org](mailto:tlammers@crpud.org).

## New Rates in October 2006

We are preparing to set new rates for all customer classes in October 2006. There are two reasons for the new rates: First, the rates the PUD pays to buy power from Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) will change in October 2006. This cost represents about 65% of our customers' rates.

Secondly, our existing rates were last set in October 2001. The PUD's base rates have not changed for five years. Over time, costs change and shift between customer groups.



To set the new rates, we will first conduct a Cost of Service study to determine the cost to serve different our customers groups, including residential, commercial and industrial customer classes. Next, rate designs will be created for each group. The goal of rate design is to collect the costs from each customer group in a way that is equitable, stable and understandable.

### You can participate in the rate design process

We will conduct a series of public meetings from May to July to evaluate the impacts of new rates from BPA, the differences in costs between customer groups and how best to design new rates. As a customer of the PUD, we hope you will be able to participate in these meetings.

If you have any questions about our rate setting process please contact Tim Lammers at (503) 397-8155 or [tlammers@crpud.org](mailto:tlammers@crpud.org), or Thad Roth at (503) 366-3254 or [troth@crpud.org](mailto:troth@crpud.org).

## Automated Metering System Nearly Complete

The PUD has nearly completed the installation of an automated meter reading system. The Two Way Automated Communication System (TWACS) allows the PUD to read all customer meters from its office in Deer Island using the PUD's power lines. This system provides many enhanced services for customers including more billing options, detailed energy use on an hourly basis and improved outage response.

### Your electric meter will be upgraded

Installation of this new system requires a new electronic meter with a communications module that is used for billing purposes. There will be a brief outage while we install your new meter. In most cases the outage will last less than two minutes. We will contact you before your meter is changed and will work with you to minimize the impact of the outage on your business.



We understand that experiencing a short outage is more than an inconvenience for businesses, and we appreciate your cooperation.