



Apprentice Lineman Jesse Hutchins and Journeyman Lineman Kurt Nasshahn build a switch at the Betsy Johnson Substation.

## What Does a Substation Do?

A transformer inside our substation takes high-voltage electricity from transmission lines (115,000 volts), reduces it to a lower voltage (12,500 volts), and then sends it onto the distribution lines that run through our service area.

In our service area, adjoining substations are linked together. If one substation is affected by an outage or is taken out of service for maintenance, its customers can be served by another substation with little or no interruption in service.

A single substation can serve thousands of homes and businesses.



The Betsy Johnson Substation will be energized this spring.

## Ninth Substation to be Energized this Spring

**Construction is nearing completion on our ninth substation.** We expect the Betsy Johnson Substation, located adjacent to the Scappoose Industrial Airpark, to begin serving customers this spring.

The new substation will accommodate load growth in the Scappoose area and ensure that we are able to continue providing reliable service to Scappoose area customers. It will serve industrial customers near the airport and residential customers in North Scappoose and South Warren.

In addition to providing power in these areas, it will back up other substations for reliability purposes. This will allow uninterrupted service to customers in the event that the Scappoose Substation or Tarbell Substation goes offline because of an outage or for maintenance.

We have been able to keep costs down on the \$1.85 million project by constructing the substation primarily with PUD crews and by paying cash rather than taking on any long-term debt. We reduced design costs by modeling the Betsy Johnson Substation off of our Fairgrounds Substation design. This also allows for similar operation for our crews.

To energize the substation, we have coordinated efforts with Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and Portland General Electric (PGE). We purchase all of our power from BPA; however, the line feeding our new substation belongs to PGE, creating a need for agreements with both entities.

The Fairgrounds Substation is our most recent substation, energized in 2015.



## New Rebate Available for Electric Vehicle Chargers

**Do you have an electric vehicle?** You may be eligible for a \$50 PUD rebate.

We are introducing a new rebate for customers who have a Level 2 electric vehicle charger. The charger must be 240V or higher, and must be installed at the address of a current Columbia River PUD customer.

To learn more about the rebate, contact Energy Services Supervisor Tim Lammers at [flammers@crpud.org](mailto:flammers@crpud.org) or (503) 397-8155.



## Simplify Your Billing Options

Would you like to trim your to-do list or reduce the amount of mail coming to your home? We can help.

### Enroll in Auto Pay

Avoid taking the time to pay your bill each month by enrolling in our Auto Pay program. Every month, your payment will be automatically deducted from your checking or savings account.

Find out how to enroll by visiting [crpud.net/autopay](http://crpud.net/autopay).

### Go With Paperless Billing

Instead of receiving a paper copy of your bill every month, you can receive an email when your statement is available.

See how you can switch to Paperless Billing by visiting [crpud.net/paperless](http://crpud.net/paperless).

You can learn more about these two programs by contacting our Customer Accounts Department at (503) 397-0590 or [info@crpud.org](mailto:info@crpud.org).

## See Us at The Home and Garden Show

Visit our booth at the 2019 Chronicle Home & Garden Show at the Columbia County Fairgrounds. Our Chevy Bolt electric vehicle (EV) will be on display, and we'll have information available for your EV questions.



The Home & Garden Show goes from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on April 6, and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on April 7. Tickets to the show are available for free at The Chronicle office in St. Helens, Don's Rental, and at all InRoads Credit Union locations. They're also available at the door for \$3 apiece.

## Budget Pay Amounts Adjusted this Month

**If you are enrolled in our Budget Pay plan, you may see a change in your bill this month.** Every 12 months, we review your usage over the past year to set your average monthly bill for the upcoming year. We do this in March.

If you would like to pay the same amount for your electric bill every month, consider enrolling in Budget Pay. Learn more at [crpud.net/budgetpay](http://crpud.net/budgetpay).

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**Hours:** Monday-Thursday, 7:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. • Friday, closed