

## PUBLIC POWER WEEK

OCTOBER 1-7, 2017

Powering Strong Communities

### Celebrate Public Power Week with Us

**Public Power Week is Oct. 1-7.** This is an annual celebration of the safe, reliable, and affordable electric service that we provide to customers. Join us for these fun, free activities:

**Free Customer Appreciation Dinner**

When: Tuesday, Oct. 3 at 5:30 p.m.

Where: Columbia County Fairgrounds - Pavilion Building

Enjoy spaghetti made by the Deer Island Grange and pick up a free LED bulb. We will also pick winner for our GLOW quilt raffle.

*Seating is limited; tickets are required. Tickets are available at our office while supplies last. Limit 6 per customer.*

**PUD Calendar Photo Contest**

Stop by our office in October to vote for your favorite photos in the 2018 PUD Calendar Photo Contest. Or, vote at [www.crpud.net/calendar](http://www.crpud.net/calendar).

Visit [www.crpud.net/publicpower](http://www.crpud.net/publicpower) to learn more about the benefits of Public Power.

## New Rates Take Effect on October 1

**Our rates are changing on October 1.** This change is primarily in response to increased rates from Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), our wholesale power provider.

The new rates represent a system-wide rate increase of 5.1%. Residential, small general service, and irrigation classes will see a 5.5% overall increase. Large general service and industrial classes will see a 4.6% overall increase.

Under the new rates, the monthly residential customer charge will increase from \$10 to \$12.50. The energy charge will increase from 6.8¢ to 7.04¢ per kilowatt hour. The amount a customer's bill will increase depends on the customer's monthly usage.

Current Bill Amount	New Bill Amount	Increase
\$50.00	\$53.91	\$3.91
\$75.00	\$79.79	\$4.79
\$100.00	\$105.68	\$5.68
\$150.00	\$157.44	\$7.44
\$200.00	\$209.21	\$9.21

**Cost Drivers for Increase**

In July, BPA announced it would increase costs for the PUD beginning October 1, 2017. The cost of power services is increasing by 4.29%. Transmission services are increasing by 0.37%.

*"I don't like to have rate increases. I don't like to see them on my bill either. I think we came up with the best option, taking into account our seniors and our low-income customers."*

*- Board Member Debbie Reed*

Part of our rate increase will help pay for added capital construction. Capital improvement project costs are shared among all customers. Every year we complete several of these projects around our service territory. In 2018, the largest project will be a new substation in Scappoose.

**Using Reserves to Limit Increase**

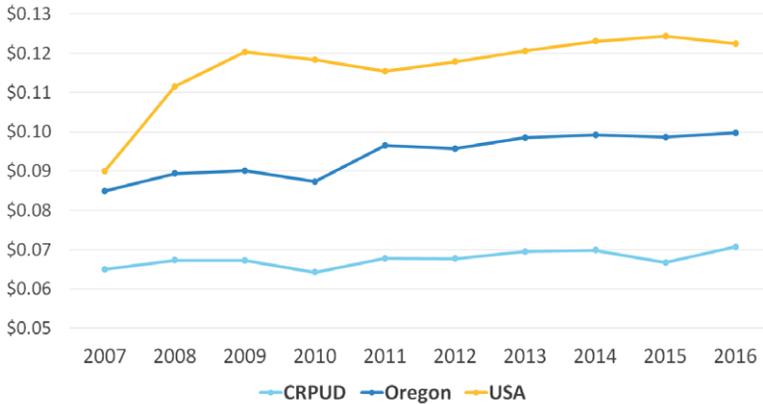
To limit the system-wide rate increase to 5.1%, we expect to use \$456,719 from cash reserves in 2017, and \$305,528 in 2018. Our 2017 cash balance is projected to stay above the target amount of \$8.1 million.

Learn more at [www.crpud.net/2017rates](http://www.crpud.net/2017rates).

## Rates Remain Affordable

**We are working hard to keep rates stable for you.** Our new residential rates are about 23% lower than the statewide average. They are about 35% lower than the national average.

Consumption-Adjusted Residential  
Price Per Kilowatt Hour - 2007-2016



## Customer Assistance Programs

**We offer discounts for customers who meet income qualifications.** After the October 1 rate change, customers on the Special Waiver program will pay a monthly customer charge of \$2.50, instead of \$12.50. Customers on the Senior Discount program will also pay a \$2.50 customer charge and receive a 10% discount on their energy charges.

## Be Prepared for Disasters: Plan Ahead

**September is National Preparedness Month.** It's the perfect time to make an emergency plan for your family and an emergency kit for your home.

Not sure what you should have in your emergency kit? Visit [www.crpud.net/kit](http://www.crpud.net/kit) to get started.



## Enter to Win a Quilt and Support GLOW

**We are raffling a queen-sized quilt to benefit our GLOW Fund.** Tickets are on sale in our office. They are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

A winner will be picked at our Customer Appreciation Dinner on October 3. You do not need to be present to win.

Thank you to the Columbia River Piecemakers Quilt Guild for donating this beautiful quilt.



**American Red Cross**

## Donate Blood During Public Power Week

**We are holding an American Red Cross blood drive on Friday, October 6, from 1-6 p.m.**

Schedule your appointment online at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) using sponsor code SaintHelens. You can also schedule an appointment by calling **1-800-RED-CROSS.**

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Digital: [www.crpud.net](http://www.crpud.net) • [facebook.com/crpud](https://facebook.com/crpud) • [twitter.com/crpudUtility](https://twitter.com/crpudUtility)

**COLUMBIA RIVER**  
**PUD**  
A COMMUNITY-OWNED UTILITY