

c nnected

A Message from The General Manager

Dear Cowlitz PUD Customers,

We hope you're enjoying the summer season. As a winter-peaking utility, Cowlitz PUD typically sees higher electricity usage during the colder months, so many customers may notice lower electric bills during the summer. Of course, those who use air conditioning to stay cool may not see as significant a decrease. Like many households, mine has seen rising costs in areas like fuel, groceries, and general expenses, so any seasonal relief in energy bills can be welcome.

As a publicly owned utility, Cowlitz PUD is committed to keeping rates as low as possible while representing your interests at the state, regional, and federal levels. Every four years, Washington state requires electric

utilities to develop a Clean Energy Implementation Plan (CEIP), outlining how we will work toward providing electricity that is free of greenhouse gas emissions by 2045. Thanks to the region's mighty river systems, Cowlitz PUD has long relied on clean, renewable hydropower to serve our customers.

This month's newsletter will provide more information about the CEIP and what it means for you. We also invite you to participate in a brief survey on what clean energy means to you. Whether clean energy is something you think about often or not at all, your feedback is valuable and will help shape how we plan for the future of energy in Cowlitz County. The QR code in this newsletter will direct you to the survey, or it can be found at cowlitzpud.org.

We also welcome you to join us at our Customer Appreciation BBQ on August 4th from 11am until 3pm, where we'll be serving complimentary all-beef hot dog lunches at our main office, located at 961 12th Avenue in Longview. It's a great opportunity to enjoy lunch, meet our team, and share your thoughts on how we can best serve you.

Thank you for being a valued part of the Cowlitz PUD community.

Take Care.



CUSTOMER SERVICE

ACCOUNT CHECK UP

Have you changed your name, has anyone moved out or in, do you have a new phone number or mailing address? If so, now is a good time to update your account information.

Having current information will help to ensure you receive important information such as outage notifications, payment reminders, new programs and incentives, fraud alerts and much more.

Contact Customer Service at 360.423.2210

JOIN US FOR A CUSTOMER APPRECIATION BBQ!

DATE: August 4th

TIME: 11am until 3pm

WHAT: Complimentary
All-Beef Hot Dog Lunches

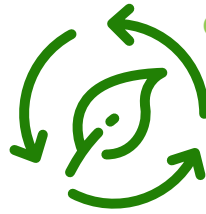
WHERE: 961 12th Avenue, Longview, WA





CYBER SECURITY TIPS

- Traveling creates situations where cybercriminals seek to exploit our vulnerabilities and urgency while we are traveling. Take a breath, slow down, and think about texts, emails, and internet services before taking action while we are in a hurry. Here are a few quick reminders before you hit the road:
- Enable MFA (multi-factor authentication) on all your accounts. This applies a vital layer of security to your accounts.
- Avoid using public computers, and when using public Wi-Fi, enable a VPN on your phone and laptop.
- Don't post on social media about your current vacations and trips. Thieves monitor accounts to see when your residence is empty.
- Avoid using public USB charging ports; always use your own chargers and cables. Public USB ports and strange cables can hide malware.
- Never leave your devices unattended or locked in vehicles.



CLEAN ENERGY. LOVE IT, HATE IT? WE WANT TO KNOW.

Every four years, Cowlitz PUD is required by Washington State's Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) to create a roadmap for how we will provide our customers with an electric supply free from greenhouse gas emissions by 2045. In 2022, we developed our first roadmap—the Clean Energy Implementation Plan (CEIP).

This plan proposed the steps Cowlitz PUD needs to take to be greenhouse gas neutral by 2030 and have clean energy by 2045. The steps in the plan included energy efficiency, demand response, renewable energy goals, and the actions we needed to take to make sure all Cowlitz PUD customers benefit from the transition to clean energy.

Cowlitz PUD's next four-year roadmap is due January 1, 2026, and we want to hear from you!

All are encouraged to participate in a variety of ways:

- Read more about the CEIP, our public process, and the 2022 four-year roadmap by visiting our CETA Webpage <https://www.commerce.wa.gov/energy-policy/electricity-policy/ceta/>
- Share your thoughts and ideas on the clean energy transition in our Community Survey (use the QR code below)
- Participate in our workshop and focus groups



COMMUNITY SURVEY

The Community Survey is available through the QR code, electronically on a tablet located in the lobby of our Main office (961 12th Ave, Longview), or on paper by request. Your answers will be anonymous and only used to help us develop our 2026 four-year roadmap. The survey should take about five minutes to complete.



Connected is published by Cowlitz PUD

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Board of Commissioners meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 2pm.

To attend contact mpetterson@cowlitzpud.org