



Lakeview Light & Power

“Looking to the Future Since 1922”



A letter from the General Manager



Greetings Members:

Our weather continues to be a season of extremes. The 2017 Farmers' Almanac had forecasted a hot and wet summer for the Pacific Northwest. At least they got part of that right. This has been one of the driest and warmest summers I can recall as a lifelong Pierce County resident. Consequently, the snow levels from our cold, wet winter meant that our region had an oversupply of water to contend with into July. Unfortunately, this excess creates extra costs for the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), which are passed along to all their customers.

We received notification from BPA that our power charges, for the next two-year rate period (Oct 2017-Sep 2019), will increase by 5.06% for power and 0.27% for transmission. In addition, the Judge Simon decision is forcing other external pressure on hydroelectric costs. The federal court ruling requires that upgrades be made to dams located on both the Snake and Columbia River systems, to preserve salmon

and steelhead runs. The resulting overspill surcharges which will be allocated to all BPA customers within the same rate period. These costs are in addition to the increases listed above. We are still analyzing what impact these increased costs will have upon future LLP rates.

On a brighter note, you may have noticed that the City of Lakewood's Economic Development plan is in full swing. There are many new businesses coming into our region. Despite the heat and new construction, our talented crew has consistently managed the health of our power grid. In July, our crews performed planned maintenance on our Tye substation. Much of the work included upgrading and testing of the electrical components, oil circuit breaker analysis, and painting. We also implemented earthquake redesign to make the substation less susceptible to earthquake damage. This is an example of how we ensure good stewardship of our member-owned resources and the reliable supply of power to our members.

Sincerely,

John DeVore, General Manager

Tax exempt doesn't necessarily mean no taxes

Even though Lakeview Light & Power is a not-for-profit cooperative and does not pay Federal Income taxes, LLP does pay a variety of state and local taxes. For example, in 2016 LLP paid public utility taxes of \$950,000, City of Lakewood utility tax of \$1,100,000, and property taxes of \$155,000, as well as sales tax on everything we purchase including large ticket items such as transformers and substation components.

LLP financial audit is a success

Annually, Lakeview Light & Power is required to have its financial records audited by an independent CPA firm. LLP hired DP&C, formerly Dwyer, Pemberton and Coulson in Tacoma. The 2016 audit resulted in an "unqualified" opinion, meaning that the financial records are fairly and appropriately presented and in accordance with the general accounting principles of the United States (GAAP). We strive to be responsible stewards of our member's resources. By doing so, we serve customers effectively while upholding our mission of **providing reliable, cost-based power.**

Our office hours have changed

As part of our on-going effort to optimize our customer service to you, we have adjusted our hours of operation. Effective Monday, October 2nd **our office hours have changed. The closing team is available to customers until 5:30 PM** (rather than 6:00 PM). Our opening time remains at 7:00 AM, with our office being open Monday through Thursday.

Our analysis has shown that we have substantially more calls and commerce during the first half hour, as opposed to the last half hour of the day. Being fully staffed at 7:00 AM will enable us to serve you more efficiently and provide more availability for those who like to contact us before the work day begins. This will result in expedited service to people paying their bills in person, as well as allowing us to respond to more calls.

"Go Paperless" contest has a winner

Edward Zhao of Lakewood won the drawing for signing up to "GO Paperless." Edward will receive a \$100 credit on his account. It's never too late to benefit from going paperless. Sign up to receive your online utility bill by calling our office, 253.584.6060. Congratulations, Edward!

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Ben Reygers celebrates 32 years of service



Earlier last month, Foreman Ben Reygers marked 32 years of service with LLP. After graduating from Lincoln High School in 1977, Ben quickly jumped into the trade

by learning how to operate heavy equipment from his father. Working in various areas of the industry, Ben earned his journey lineman status in 1983. Advances in technology have been the biggest changes to his profession. "We used to do a lot more hand-digging and pole climbing than we do today, but the biggest advantage of technology is safety; the only thing that hasn't changed about this job is the danger in working with high voltage," Ben said.

During his time off, Ben and his wife Tammy enjoy spending time with their two grandchildren and vacationing in Hawaii. Ben fills many roles at LLP, whether supervising a line crew, doing locates, or system mapping. So, if you see Ben driving around our service area in the LLP 'soccer mom' service van, say aloha. Just don't ask Ben to shuttle the kids to and from sports practice.

Dalton Thomas joins the LLP line crew

Welcome Dalton Thomas who comes to LLP from Portland General Electric.

A few years earlier, Dalton joined the industry at the urging of a close friend who works as a lineman in the Puget Sound area. He attended Northwest Lineman College, and began his career with Pacific Utilities as a groundman, setting poles and dragging wire. After 18 months with Portland General Electric, Dalton got the call in July to join the big leagues here at Lakeview. Dalton will be entering the apprentice program this month. Upon three years of schooling and training he will become a journey lineman.



Dalton is a Puyallup High School graduate and former member of the Vikings soccer team. The Sumner resident is an avid outdoorsman. He spends his free time skiing, wakeboarding, fishing, and trying to bag the occasional pheasant. Welcome to the team Dalton!



Lakeview Light & Power
11509 Bridgeport Way S.W.
Lakewood, WA 98499-3041

HOURS:

Monday – Thursday: 7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

CONTACT US:

Phone: 253.584.6060

Fax: 253.588.9682

E-mail: llp@lakeviewlight.com

Website: www.lakeviewlight.com



It's tree trimming season

As autumn is fast approaching, Lakeview line crews will soon begin their annual tree-trimming campaign. Beginning in October, LLP will focus primarily on residences served by the Tye Substation, as this is the most densely tree-populated neighborhood in our service area. This job usually takes three months to complete. If you notice tree limbs growing into or leaning on electrical lines, please contact us at (253) 584-6060 or llp@lakeviewlight.com. With your help, we can maintain the reliability that you depend on.

2017 Holiday Closures

For the remainder of the year, Lakeview Light & Power office will be closed on these dates:

MONDAY - OCTOBER 9
Columbus Day

THURSDAY - NOVEMBER 23
Thanksgiving

MONDAY - DECEMBER 25
Christmas

MONDAY - JANUARY 1, 2018
New Year's Day

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