

KPUD Has New Manager

By unanimous decision at its December 22, 2009, meeting, the Klickitat PUD Board of Commissioners appointed interim manager Jim Smith as the new permanent general manager of Klickitat PUD.



Jim Smith

Jim has 21 years of experience in the electric utility industry, nine of it in Canada at BC Hydro, before moving to Washington to work at KPUD.

BC Hydro is the electric utility that serves all of British Columbia, Canada, employing more than 5,000 people. In his time there, Jim worked as an engineer, project manager, customer service and design manager and did rotations through all of the departments during a management training program.

Jim was hired November 3, 1997, as the system engineer for KPUD. He

has been instrumental in the design of KPUD's transmission and distribution systems, as well as substations.

Jim is a registered professional engineer. He has been the KPUD engineering manager since 2001. He was a key participant in the design phase of the White Creek Wind Project, and oversaw the HW Hill Landfill to Gas Energy Plant expansion, which is now in the final stages.

Jim's extensive knowledge of KPUD's operations and systems has made the transition to general manager easier. In his few months as the interim manager, Jim led KPUD through the completion of a bond sale, the 2010 budgeting process and the 2008 audit.

Jim and his family are heavily involved in the community, including the Goldendale swimming pool, the Klickitat County Fair, and youth soccer and basketball.

In his spare time, Jim trains for sprint triathlons, relays and the Columbia River cross-channel swim. ■

Engineering Manager Named

Klickitat PUD named Ron Schultz as engineering manager, effective January 1, 2010.



Ron Schultz

Ron was hired by KPUD as the metering and substation engineer in 2002.

During his tenure at Klickitat PUD he also served as the White Salmon branch manager and system engineer.

Previous employment includes 25 years at SDS Lumber/Gorge Energy Corp., with his last 18 years as the

electrical supervisor/engineer.

As KPUD engineering manager, Ron will be responsible for the engineering and technical oversight of the PUD's electrical, water/wastewater projects and engineering resources.

In his spare time, Ron enjoys family, camping and flying. He received his private pilot's license in 1972, and his commercial license with seaplane rating in 1981.

Ron and his wife, Joyce, have enjoyed 33 years together. They have two grown children and two grandchildren.

Please join KPUD in congratulating Ron on his new endeavor. ■

Work Safe When Using Electricity on the Farm

Farmworkers can be electrocuted when large machinery makes contact with overhead power lines. Avoid tragedy being attentive to the special electricity risks faced by farmers.

- **Wiring agricultural facilities:**

A special problem with electricity on the farm is the dusty, moist and corrosive environments of most livestock houses. Waterproof, dustproof and even explosion-proof electrical boxes, outlets and motors are available for use in livestock facilities.

Type NMC or UF cable is recommended for most situations.

Check with a qualified electrician before purchasing cable to connect a branch circuit.

- **Protecting electric cable:**

Encasing electric cable inside conduit provides extra protection from livestock and gnawing rodents.

There are two basic types of conduit: metal and PVC (plastic). PVC is preferred inside agricultural structures because it is not corroded by moisture and is generally less expensive than metal conduit.

All electric cable in an agricultural structure, whether encased in conduit or not, should be placed in open areas for frequent inspection and maintenance.

- **Extension cords:** For agricultural use, purchase extension cords with a strong outer coating.

Type "S" hard service cords have the strongest outer covering. Don't be confused with other "S" ratings, such as Type SJ—the "J" stands for junior hard service cord—which should not be used outdoors.

Extension cords are sold in various cable sizes. Smaller numbers indicate larger wire size. No. 10 wire is larger than No. 14.