

One Budget, All Year Long

Budget plan pairs well with fixed incomes—or anyone looking for a stable utility bill

A consistent monthly utility bill supports a stable personal budget and keeps bills predictable by avoiding seasonal fluctuations.

Utility bills are based on usage. Usage may fluctuate depending on external temperatures. Seasonal use—specifically in the winter and summer—often leads to spikes in costs. This can be extremely frustrating for customers on fixed incomes or with tight personal budgets. Klickitat PUD offers a budget plan to ease that frustration and provide consistent monthly bills.

Now is the best time to sign up for KPUD’s budget plan before extreme temperatures arrive. The monthly budget is based on your prior 12-month average use, and enrollment is easy. To enroll, customers need to have lived at the location for a year and have a zero balance.

Once enrolled in the budget plan, customers must pay the budget amount each month. Overpayments cause fluctuations in the monthly budget amount, and missing a payment may result in removal from the budget program.

The PUD will recalculate your budget payment each May, with the new budget billing beginning in June. With the recalculation, one of the following will occur:

- If you paid for more energy than you used, KPUD will recalculate your new budget amount using the credit balance, which will reduce your new budget payment.
- If you used more energy than you paid for while on the budget plan, your new budget payment will increase to recover the shortage and increase use assumptions going forward. If you would like to compare the

accuracy of your budget to your account balance, check the Information Only-Account Balance line on your bill. That line also reflects the amount that will become due if you disconnect your service or chose to get off the budget plan. The Information Only-Account Balance line is an important indicator to help gauge


whether your budget amount is in line with your use.

Call the Goldendale office at 509-773-5891 or 800-548-8357, or the White Salmon office at 509-493-2255 or 800-548-8358 if you have questions. SmartHub is available 24/7 for customer account management, which includes enrolling in the budget plan, enrolling in auto-pay and viewing details on use. ■

NEW & Existing Customer Program Offerings:

- ▶ **NEW:** AMI metering provides consistent energy reads. Customers no longer need to submit monthly reads.
- ▶ **NEW:** AMI metering provides customers flexibility to select a due date that best aligns with their budgets, which is hugely beneficial for fixed-income customers.
- ▶ Auto-pay pairs well with budgeting and ensures late fees and penalties are avoided.
- ▶ Electronic billing avoids timing delays associated with traditional delivery methods.

BILLING SUMMARY	
Total Previous Balance	\$ 180.00
Payments	\$ -180.00
Balance Forward	\$ 0.00
Information Only - Account Balance	
Budget Amount Due	\$ 180.00

MESSAGE FROM KLICKITAT PUD	
	<p>Fun Fact... the average budget amount is also listed above.</p>
<p>Your monthly budget amount has been recalculated. Starting next month your monthly budget amount will be \$170.00.</p>	

KPUD’s budget plan lets customers pay one stable price every month throughout the year—regardless of utility use.