



## **FAQ – Rate Credit ends May 31, 2009**

May 19, 2009

Benton PUD received a refund from the Bonneville Power Administration which was passed on to our customers through a credit on their monthly bill. This refund has been fully disbursed to our customers so the credit will end May 31.

**Why was there a rate credit?** Benton PUD received approximately \$8 million from BPA due to the agreement associated with the Residential Exchange. Benton PUD received approximately \$6.4 million in April and the balance in October which was disbursed back to customers by the rate credit.

**How did this impact residential rate class?** The residential rate remained at \$0.0578 per kWh. The \$0.0055 credit per kWh appeared as a separate line item on the bill. With the credit, residential customers' energy charge was decreased by over 7 percent. The base charge remained the same at \$8.80 per month for single-phase service.

**What did the average residential customer save?** The average residential customer saved approximately \$85 over the course of the credit.

**How long was the credit in effect?** It started in June 2008, increased in October of 2008 when the additional funds were disbursed by the BPA and ends May 31.

**Why is the credit for one year, rather than one lump sum?** Because electric usage fluctuates each month, it was felt that this was the most equitable way to return the money to our customers.

### **What did the other rate classes receive?**

The Large Irrigation customer class received a line item credit of \$.0020 per kWh during June through August due to the seasonal energy usage with a final payment paid in November.

As of November 1, other rates credits were:

Small General Service - \$0.0056.

Medium General Service - \$0.0055.

Large General Service - \$0.0066.

Large Industrial - \$0.0040

Small Irrigation - \$0.0066

Street Lights, Security, Flats received a one-time credit at the end of September.