

# PROPOSED RATE INCREASES & 2026 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

PUBLIC HEARING
NOVEMBER 12, 2025

# Benton PUD Public Hearing Topic: Proposed 2026 Budget and Rate Increases

Wednesday, November 12, 2025 • 6:00 PM Benton PUD Auditorium, Kennewick



To find out more, including a virtual option to attend, scan this QR code or go to BentonPUD.org



If approved, proposed rates are scheduled to take effect on April 1, 2026

#### Why propose a rate increase?

- Rising power supply costs: On October 1, 2025, Benton PUD's wholesale electricity provider Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) increased power rates by an average of 8.9% and transmission rates by an average of 19.9%
  - » BPA's increase is driven by rising operational costs and the need to fund critically important upgrades to hydroelectric dams, transmission systems, and the Columbia Generating Station nuclear plant
- » Benton PUD along with consumer owned utilities across the Northwest worked hard to advocate for consumers to ensure reasonable BPA rates which resulted in a lower rate increase than originally proposed
- BPA power costs represent over 50% of Benton PUD's entire budget
- » Power supply costs account for \$85.4 million of Benton PUD's 2026 annual retail revenue requirement of \$150.5 million

#### What you need to know!

- As a consumer-owned not-for-profit utility, the increase in power costs have a direct and significant impact on Benton PUD's retail rates 2% Increase in Retail Revenues
- As a result, Benton PUD is proposing to increase retail rates April 1, 2026

- Through the strategic use of cash reserves and responsible use of low-interest debt Benton PUD is able to propose smaller rate increases than would otherwise be needed
- To better align rates with cost causation principles, the proposed retail rate increases are different by rate class and would be implemented by increasing the Demand Charge for most customers; with three rate classes requiring no rate increase

#### Proposed Rate Increases

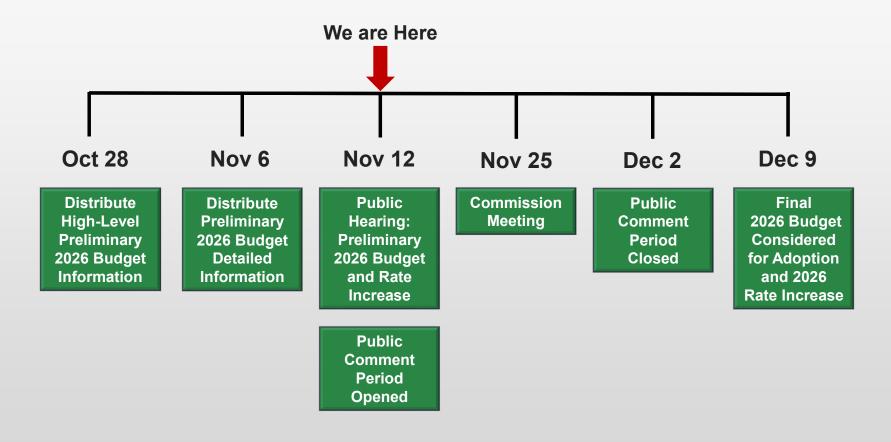
Rate Class	Services	Increase
Residential	48,880	2.5 %
Small General Service	5,632	2.1 %
Medium General Service Large General Service Large Industrial	718 91 5	0 %
All Irrigation	977	3 %
Street Lights	6,092	2 %
Security Lights Unmetered	1,803 400	10 %

Average residential monthly bill will increase from \$121 to \$124

Proposed
Residential
Increase

	Current	Proposed
Energy (kWh)	7.22¢	7.22¢ (no change)
Demand (kW)	\$1.05	\$1.54
Daily System	\$0.66	\$0.66 (no change)

# BUDGET DEVELOPMENT SCHEDULE







## AGENDA

- 1. Proposed Rate Increases Rick Dunn
- 2. Questions & Comments
- 3. Short Break
- 4. Budget Presentation Rick Dunn, Jon Meyer, Chris Johnson, Keith Mercer & Chris Folta
- 5. Questions & Comments



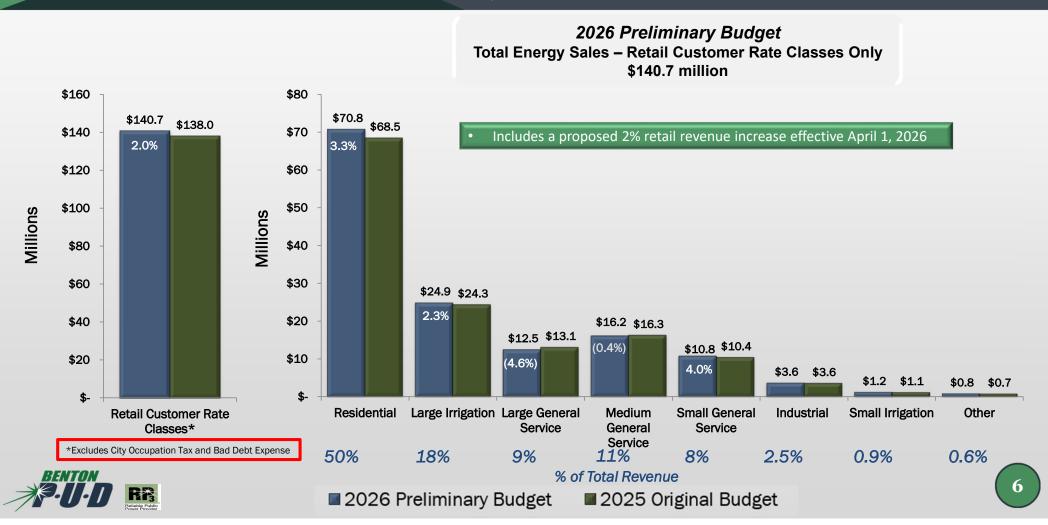




# PROPOSED RATE INCREASES (RICK DUNN)

### REVENUES

(ENERGY SALES – RETAIL CUSTOMER RATE CLASSES ONLY, EXCLUDES CITY OCCUPATION TAX & BAD DEBT EXPENSE)



# PROPOSED\* RATE INCREASES

### 2% INCREASE IN RETAIL REVENUES (\$2.8 MILLION)

Rate Class	Services	Increase**
Residential	48,880	2.5%
Small General Service	5,632	2.1%
Medium General Service Large General Service Large Industrial	718 91 5	0%
All Irrigation	977	3%
Street Lights	6,092	2%
Security Lights Unmetered	1,803 400	10%

<sup>\*\*</sup>Average overall increase for the Rate Class

### **Residential Rates**

	Current	Proposed*
Energy (kWh)	7.22¢	7.22¢
Demand (kW)	\$1.05	\$1.54
Daily System	\$0.66	\$0.66

## Average Monthly Residential Bill

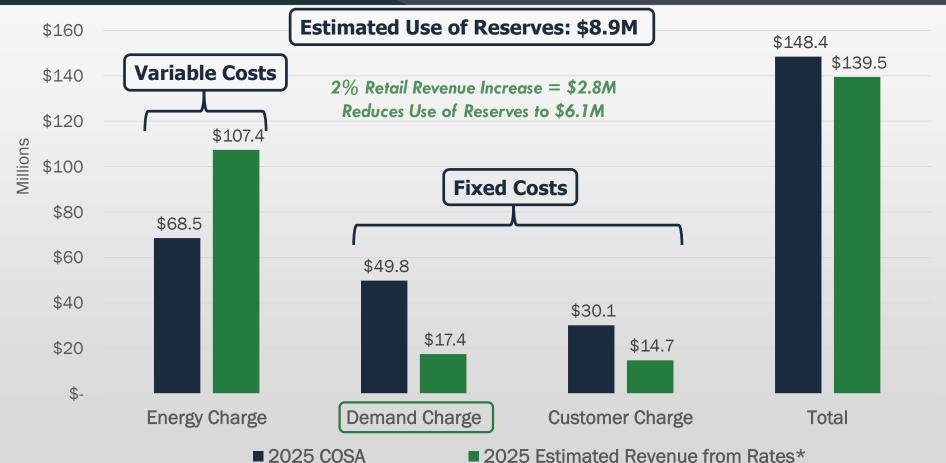
	Current	Proposed*	Difference
1,300 kWh	\$93.86	\$93.86	\$0.00
7 kW	\$7.35	\$10.78	\$3.43
30 days	\$19.80	\$19.80	\$0.00
Total	\$121.01	\$124.44	\$3.43

Individual impacts will differ according to each customer's demand profile and level of energy use





# 2025 COSA RESULTS VERSUS ESTIMATED RATES







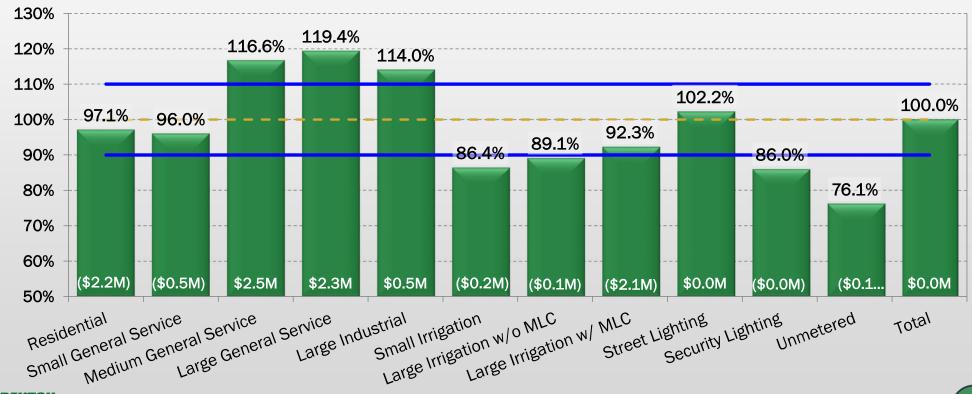
\*Using 2024 load forecast and 2025 rates. Includes \$650k reduction for low-income discount.

2026 Budget Hearing — November 12, 2025

# 2025 COSA RESULTS COMPARISON TO TARGET

(Incorporating the strategic use of \$8.9 million in reserves | \$ amounts reflect (under)/over collection including reserves







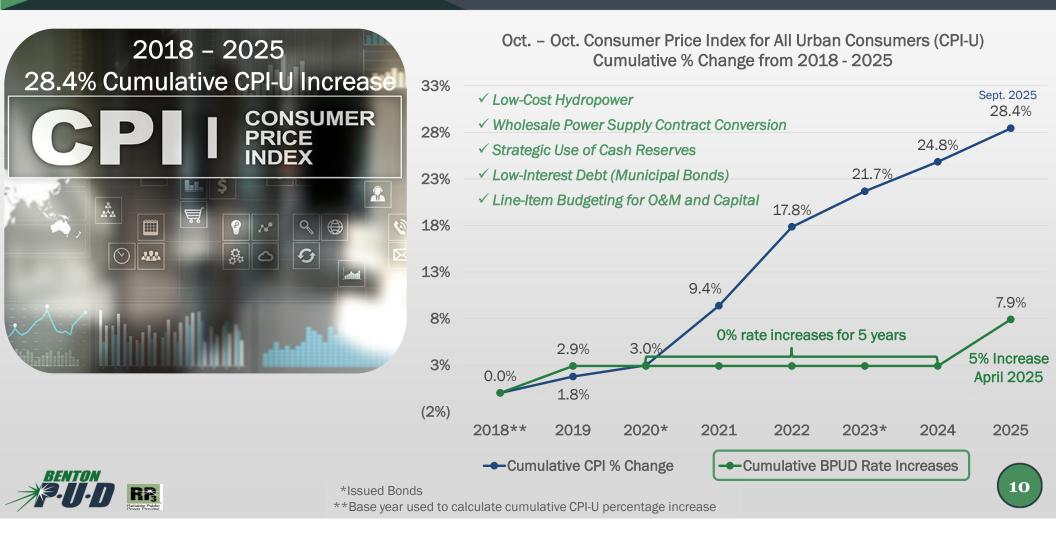






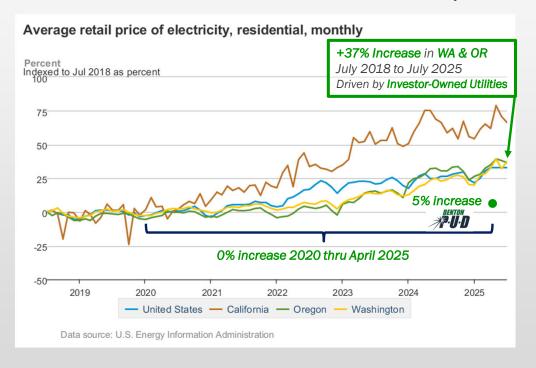


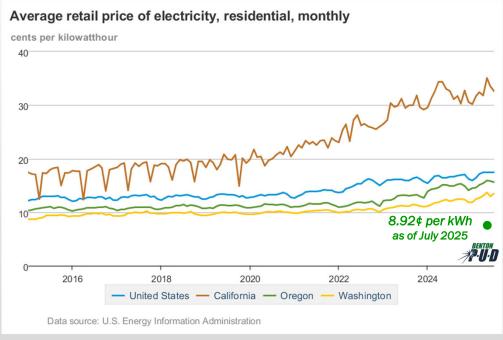
### HOLDING THE LINE ON RATES DURING HIGH INFLATION



# WA, OR, & CA RESIDENTIAL RATES INCREASING AFFORDABLE HYDRO HAS MITIGATED RATE INCREASE % AND RISING ¢ PER KWH

#### West Coast Residential Rate Increases Since July 2018



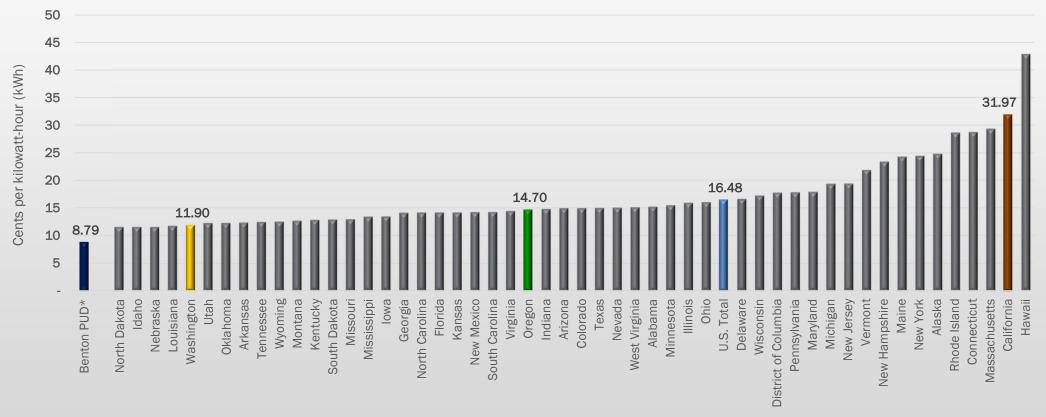




# AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL RATES BY STATE & BENTON PUD

SOURCE: U.S. ENERGY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION (EIA) 2024 DATA RELEASED OCTOBER 7, 2025

2024 Average Residential Price (cents/kWh)



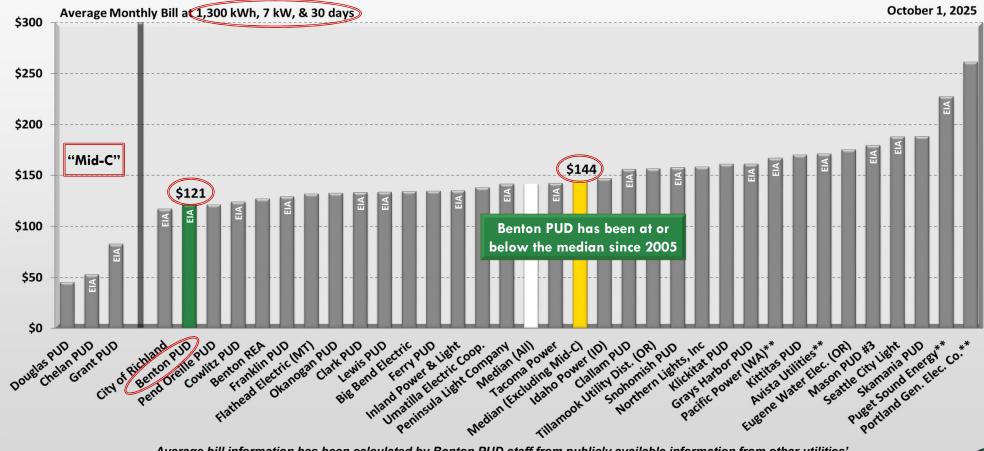




# MONTHLY BILL COMPARISON

#### Residential

Billing Determinants	Current Rate
Energy Charge	7.22¢ per kWh
Demand Charge	\$1.05 per KW
Daily System Charge	\$0.66 per day





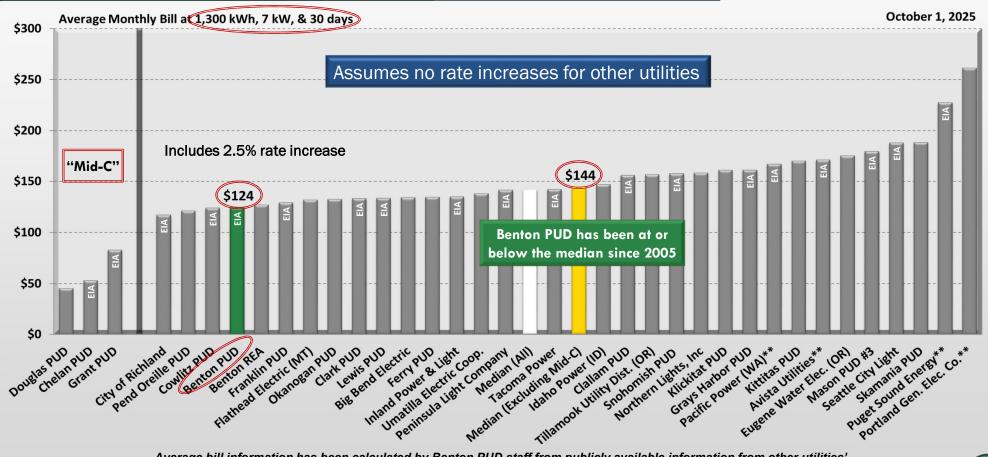


Average bill information has been calculated by Benton PUD staff from publicly available information from other utilities' websites. Calculation is Benton PUD's best effort to provide comparable information.

### MONTHLY BILL COMPARISON

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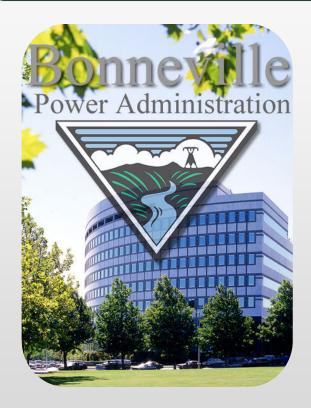




Average bill information has been calculated by Benton PUD staff from publicly available information from other utilities' websites. Calculation is Benton PUD's best effort to provide comparable information.

\*Rate increase percentages and effective dates require explicit commission approval by resolution prior to implementation

# COST DRIVER REVIEW







**Power Costs** 

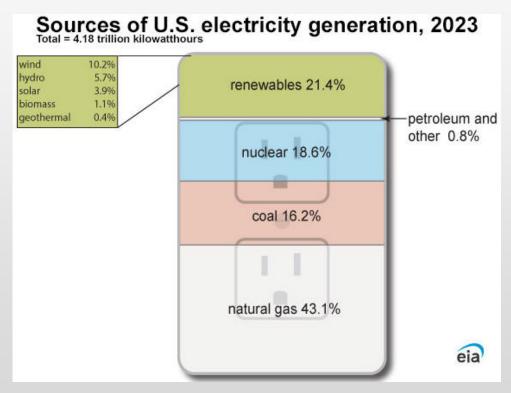
**Supply Chain** 

**Labor & Benefits** 





# U.S. ELECTRICITY GENERATION



•Fossil Fuels = 60%

- •Renewables = 21.4%
  - Wind & Solar = 14.1%
  - Hydro = 5.7%
- •Nuclear = 18.6%
- •39% Non-CO<sub>2</sub> Emitting

Source: https://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/electricity/



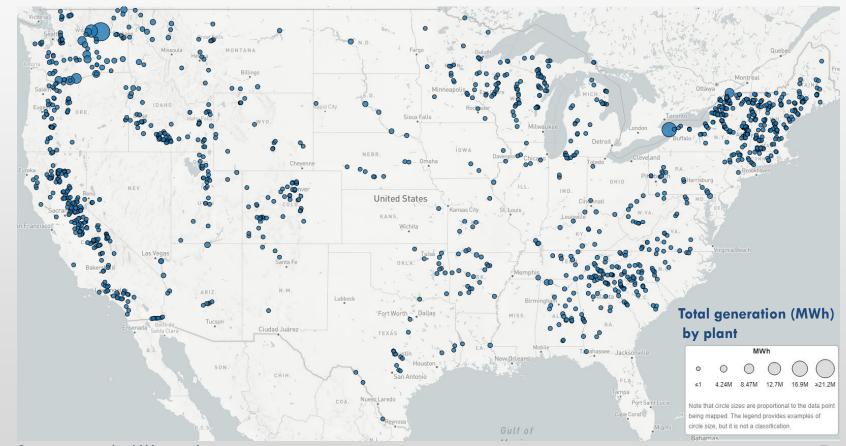


# HYDROPOWER = OF U.S. ELECTRICITY

Northwest Hydropower Like Nowhere Else:

**Electricity Provided** 

- √ 50% of PNW Region
- √ 60% of Washington



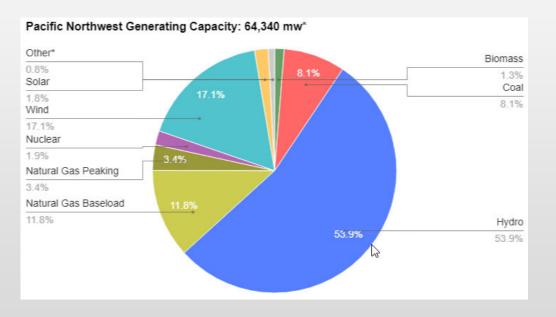




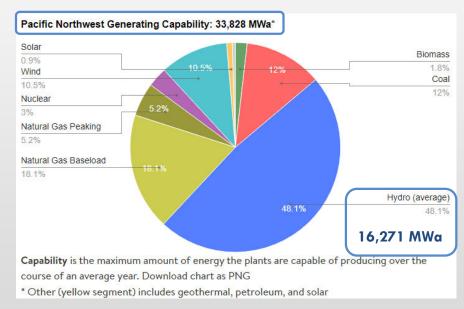
Source: epa.gov/egrid/data-explorer

# HYDROPOWER: FOUNDATION OF PACIFIC NORTHWEST ELECTRICITY SUPPLY

#### **PNW Nameplate Capacity**



#### **PNW Annual Electricity Production**



Bonneville Power Administration
≈ 50% of hydro generation in average year





# BPA Hydropower: Foundation of Public Power Supply





"Preference Customers"

✓ Lowest Cost Generation

✓ BPA Must Meet

Utility Firm Net Load when Requested

#### **Federal Power Marketer**

- 31 Federal Hydroelectric Dams
- Columbia Generating Station Nuclear Plant

#### Customers

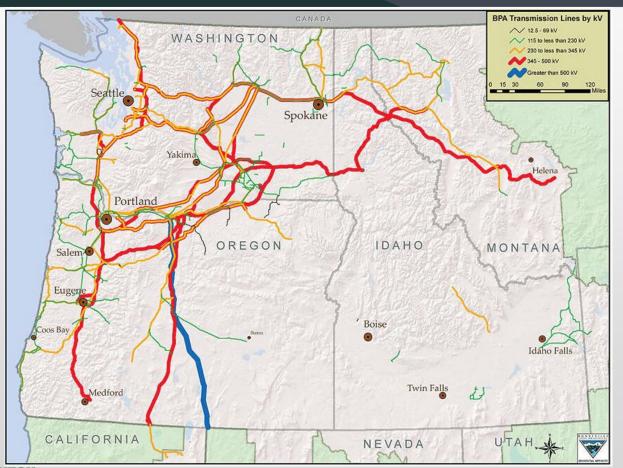
Cooperatives	54
Municipalities	42
Public utility districts	28
Federal agencies	
Investor-owned utilities	6
Direct-service industries	1
Port districts	1
Tribal utilities	3
Total	42

- ✓ Investor-Owned Utilities are not preference customers & do not receive physical firm electricity today
  - Receive financial payments on behalf of residential & farm customers (residential exchange program)





# BPA TRANSMISSION:





#### Transmission system

Operating voltage	Circuit miles
1,100 kV	1
1,000 kV	264 <sup>10</sup>
500 kV	4,860
345 kV	570
287 kV	229
230 kV	5,337
161 kV	119
138 kV	56
115 kV	3,440
below 115 kV	301
Total <sup>11</sup>	15,179

10/ BPA's portion of the PNW/PSW direct-current intertie. The total length of this line from The Dalles, Oregon, to Los Angeles, California is 846 miles. 11/ Total circuit miles as of February 2019.

- ✓ Arteries ≈ 11,261 miles (74%)
- ✓ Veins  $\approx$  3,916 miles (26%)





# POWER COSTS ARE ON THE RISE

#### ENVIRONMENT AMERICA

# Washington state commits to 100% clean energy

Washington is the latest state to go all-in on clean, carbon-free electricity.



Washington is the latest state to go all-in on clean, carbon-free electricity.

On May 7, Gov. Jay Inslee signed the 100% clean electricity bill into law,

Outside of Existing Hydropower and CGS Nuclear, there is no such thing as reliable, low-cost & CO<sub>2</sub>-free electricity





# BPA and customers settle on strategic rate increases to meet customer load growth and connect new generation

July 24, 2025

The Bonneville Power Administration continues to demonstrate its commitment to keeping power and transmission rates among the lowest in the Pacific Northwest. In collaboration with customers, BPA is strategically raising power and transmission rates to meet customer needs and support national priorities for more abundant, reliable and secure energy.

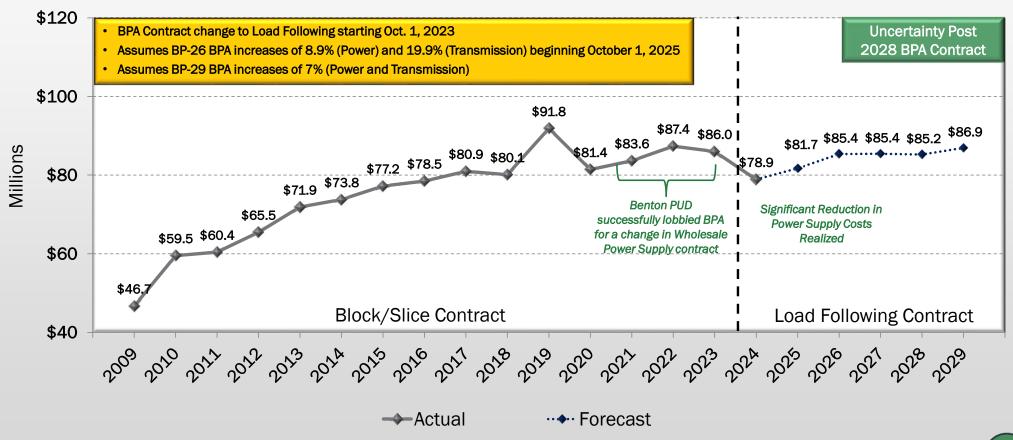
Lower than initially anticipated, the final rates for fiscal years 2026, 2027 and 2028 follow more than a decade of holding increases at or below the rate of inflation – an accomplishment that stands out among the rising rates of regional utilities during the same period.

The average effective increase for the Priority Firm Tier 1 power rate, which represents the majority of BPA's power sales, is 8.9%. The average transmission service rate increase across all products is 19.9%.

The rates were developed through a series of settlements among rate case parties and BPA staff, resulting in lower rate increases than BPA initially proposed while continuing to support investments in the federal power and transmission systems. The settlements balance the need to keep rates as low as possible while recovering projected cost increases to maintain reliable, safe operations as BPA delivers power across more than 15,000 circuit miles of high-voltage transmission in a nine-state region of more than 300,000 square miles.

- ✓ Power Costs Increasing 8.9%
- ✓ Transmission Costs Increasing 19.9%
- ✓ Tier-2 Rates Up +170% over 2019 Rate (\$68/MWh versus \$25/MWh)

## NET POWER COSTS\*

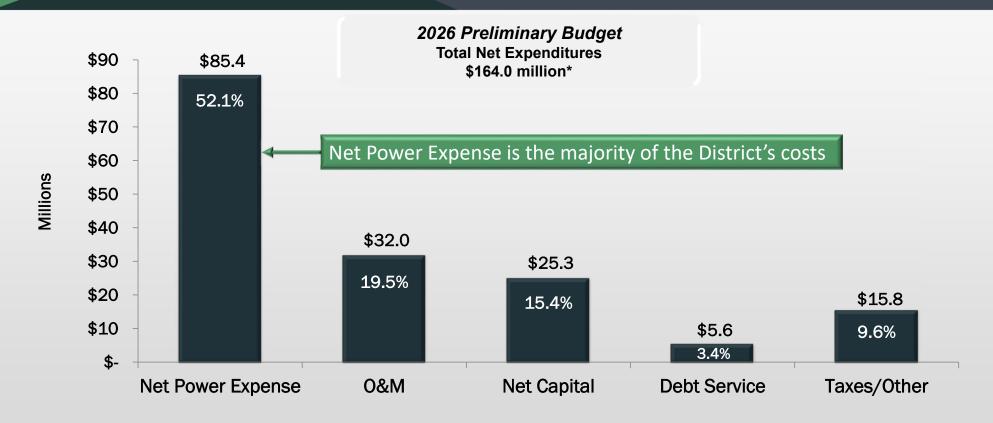






Net power costs (NPC) = gross power costs (including power and transmission) less sales for resale.

### 2026 BUDGETED EXPENSES

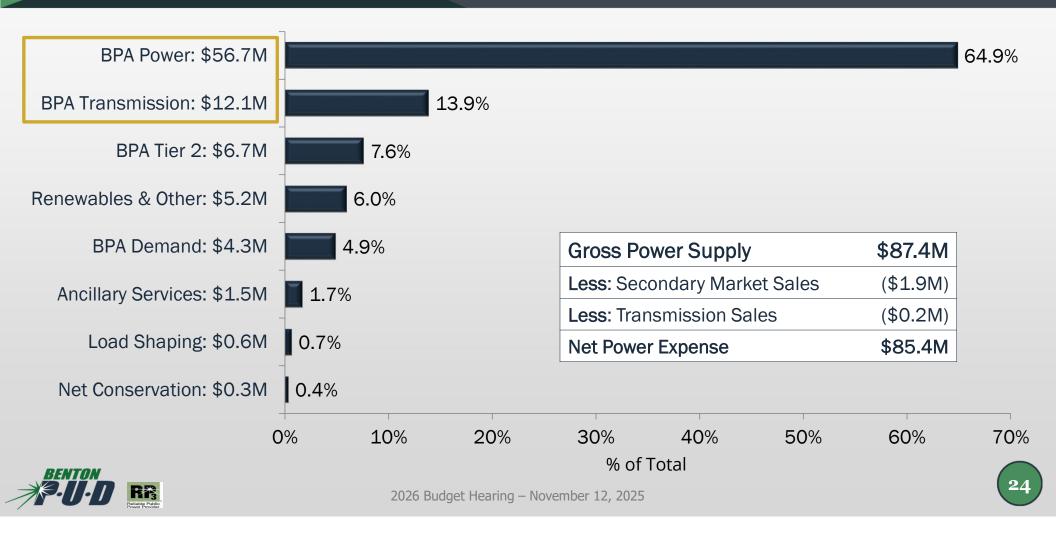


<sup>\*</sup> Net of secondary market sales of \$2.0 million, capital contributions of \$6.6 million, and Build America Bonds subsidy of \$0.3 million

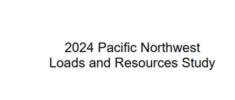




### 2026 GROSS POWER SUPPLY COST BY SOURCE



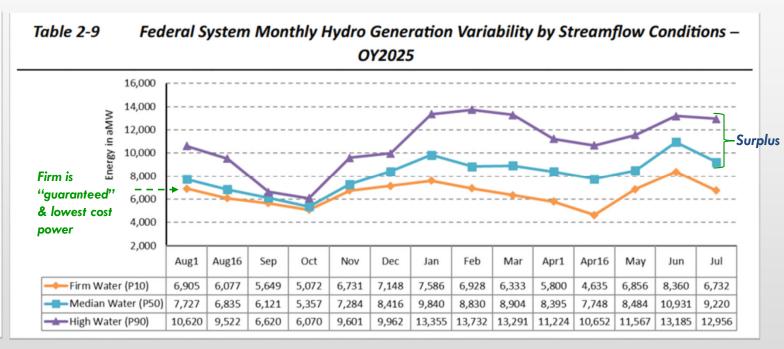
# BPA HYDROPOWER: FIRM EMERCY IS SPOKEN FOR



August 2024

EVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION



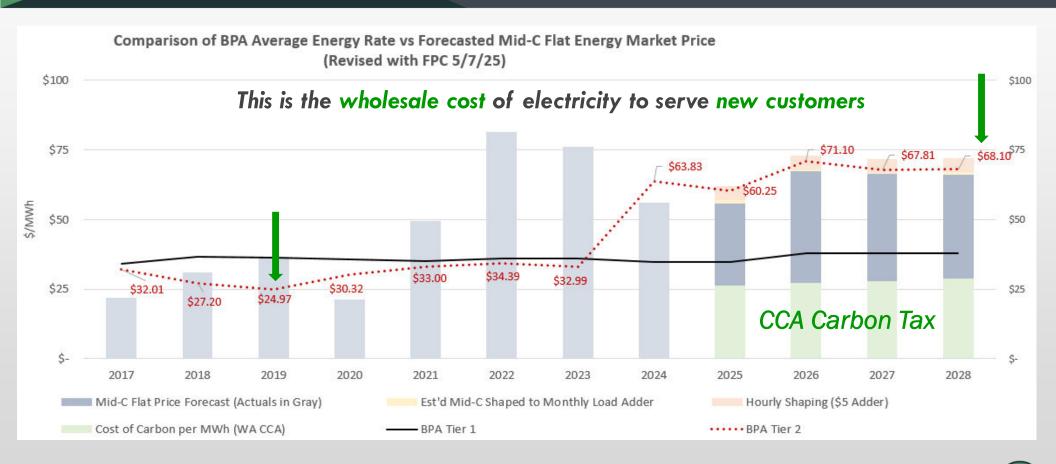


- 1. Lowest-cost firm Tier-1 Federal Hydropower is spoken for: < \$40 per MWh (45% of BPUD Residential Electric Bill)
- 2. Surplus meets firm demand above Tier-1 (new demand < 10 aMW): \$67 to \$70 per MWh (+75% higher than Tier-1)
- 3. Electricity Intensive Demand > 10 aMW (NLSL): \$92 to \$144 per MWh based on month (130% to 260% higher than Tier-1)





# BPA TIER 2 RATES: #170% INCREASE SINCE 2019







# BPA Hydro: Surplus Energy Sales Energy

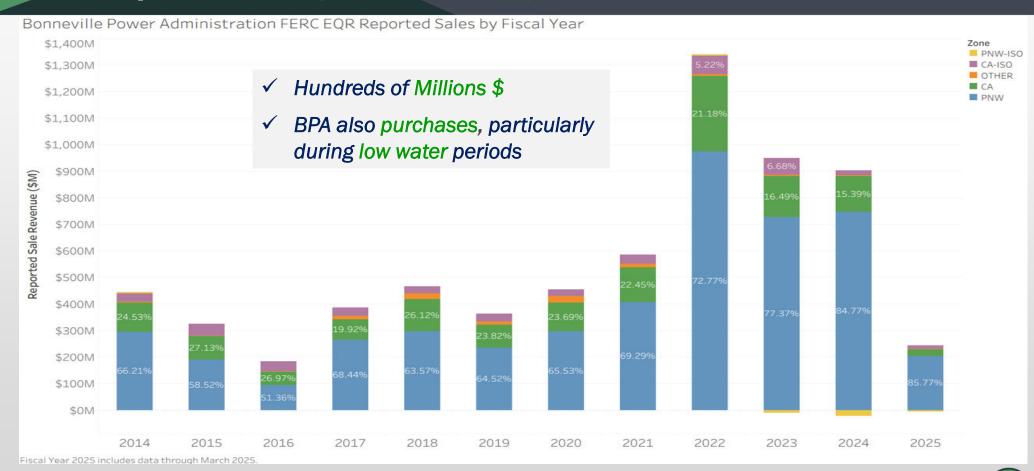


CGS Nuclear Plant Annual Energy 1,100 aMW





# BPA Hydro: Surplus Energy Sales Revenue



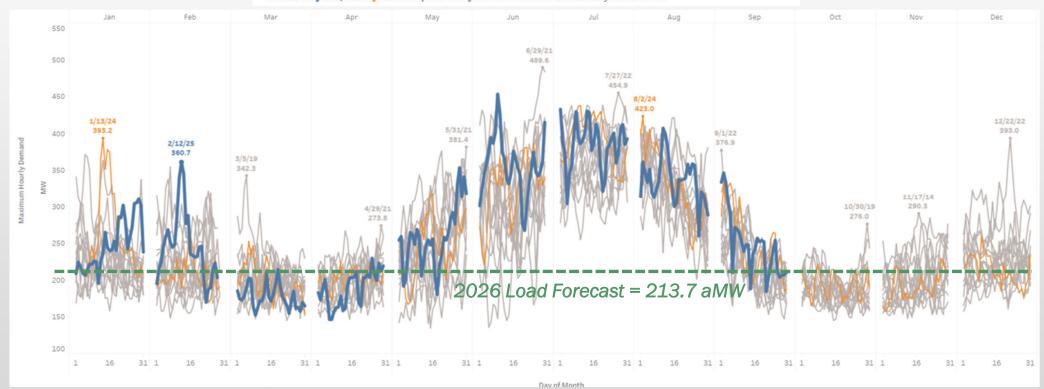


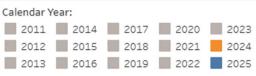


# BENTON PUD MAX. HOURLY DEMAND & AVERAGE LOAD

#### Total System - Maximum Hourly Demand by Year and Day of Month

Current year, last year and previous years with dates of monthly maximums





2026 Budget Hearing – November 12, 2025

## BPUD LOADS AND BPA PRODUCTS UNDER LOAD FOLLOWING









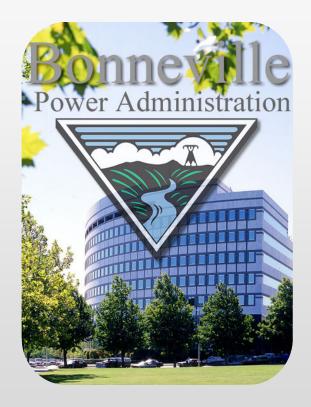
■ BPA Tier 1

■ BPA Tier 2

2026 Budget Hearing – November 12, 2025

\*Packwood is a dedicated resource at .92 aMW

# COST DRIVER REVIEW







**Power Costs** 

**Supply Chain** 

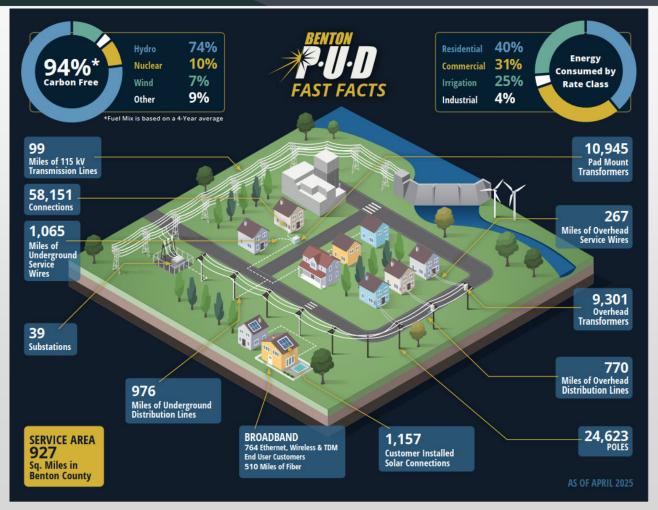
**Labor & Benefits** 





### EXTENSIVE INFRASTRUCTURE DRIVING SUPPLY CHAIN IMPACT

ESTABLISHED IN 1946







# SUPPLY CHAIN: COSTS & LEAD TIMES WAY UP

2020: \$578k 6 to 9 month lead time



25-megawatt Substation Transformer

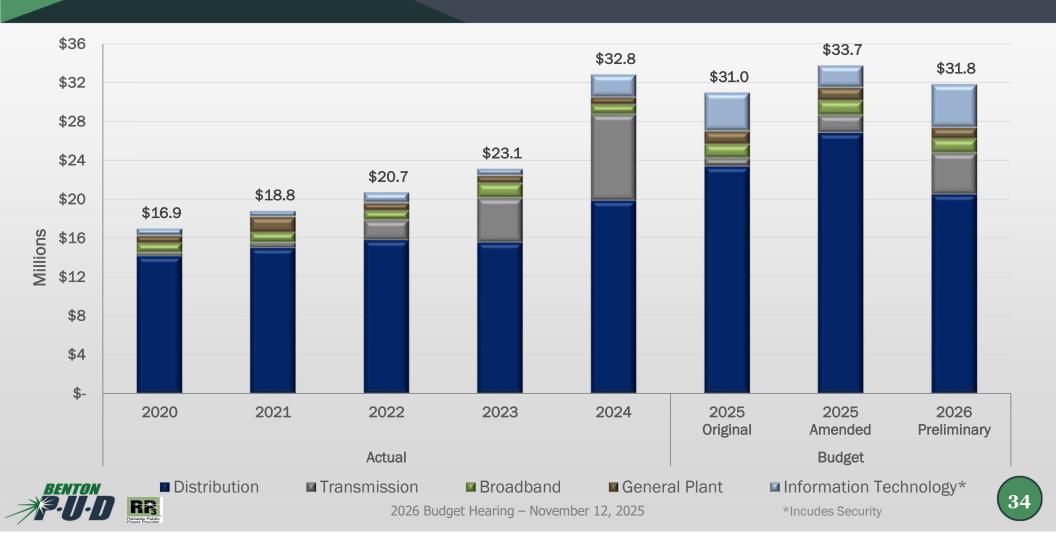
2020: \$1,355 2025: Up to \$8,732 12 to 16 weeks lead time
Up to 2-year lead time



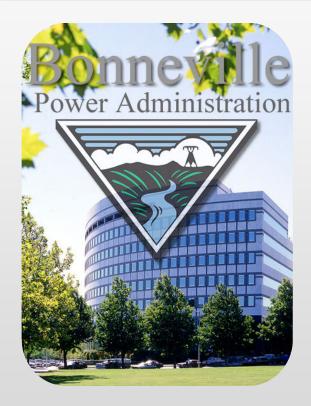
25-kilowatt Residential Transformer



## 2020 – 2026 GROSS CAPITAL EXPENDITURES BY CATEGORY



# COST DRIVER REVIEW







**Power Costs** 

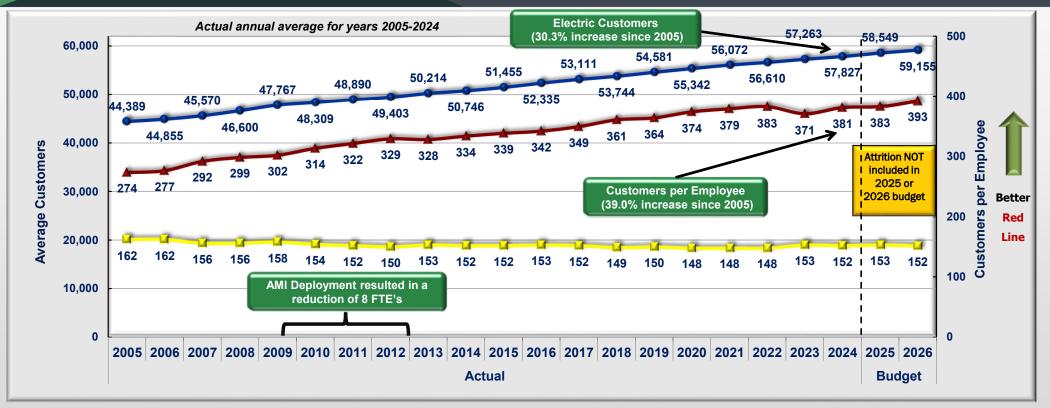
**Supply Chain** 

**Labor & Benefits** 





### CUSTOMERS PER DISTRICT EMPLOYEE



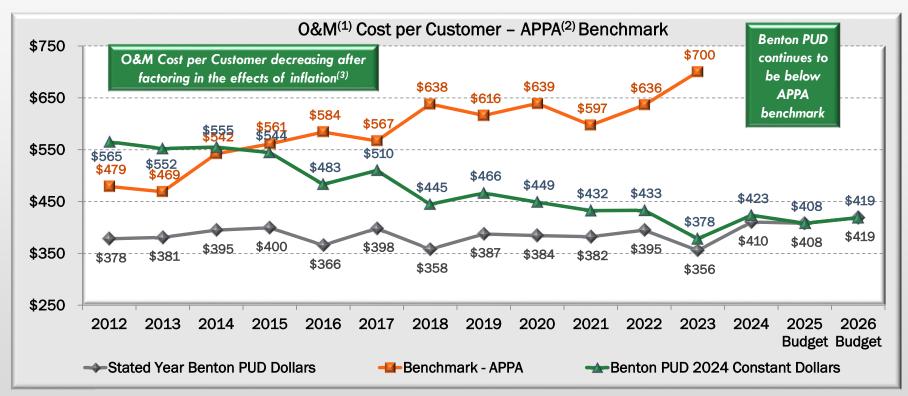
#### Definition of Customer per American Public Power Association

Note: -Average customer figures have been restated to be consistent with method used by new enterprise system.
-FTE figures have been restated and now include a reduction for the FTEs shared and paid for by other utilities.
Currently 0.5 FTEs are shared and paid for by other utilities.





#### OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE



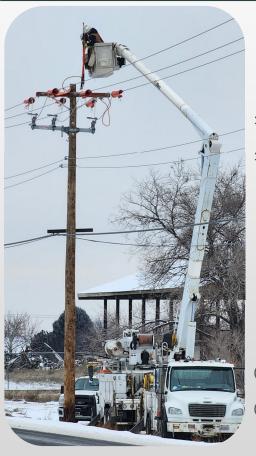
- (1) O&M = non-power operations & maintenance cost (distribution, transmission, customer accounts, and administrative and general). Excludes Broadband.
- (2) American Public Power Association 2023 median for West utilities.
- (3) Inflation rate utilized comes from a producer price index for electric utilities, which on average has been slightly under 3%





#### DISTRICT LABOR & BENEFIT CHANGES

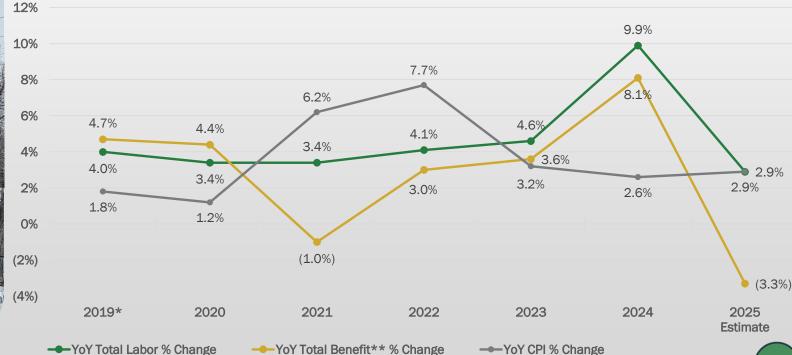
(55% BARGAINING (UNION) EMPLOYEES | 45% NON-BARGAINING EMPLOYEES)



2019 - 2024

**Total Cumulative Labor Increase 28.0%** 

**Total Cumulative Benefit Increase 19.2%** 



38





<sup>\*</sup>Base year used to calculate cumulative Labor and Benefit percentage increase

<sup>\*\*</sup>Benefits include Medical, Dental, Vision, Social Security, Medicare, State Industrial, Public Employee Retirement, Deferred Compensation, and other miscellaneous benefits

## INCREASING VALUE W/ STRATEGIC PARTNERS









## **PURMS**

Welcome to the Public Utility Risk Management Services









#### SMART GRID @ BPUD: ADVANCED METERING & APPS



- ✓ Energy Use Data on Short Time Intervals
- ✓ Remote Service Connection & Disconnection
- √ On-Demand Reads
- ✓ Service Theft and Tamper Detection
- ✓ Power Quality Monitoring
- ✓ Outage Detection and Reporting



- ✓ Enable Active Participation by Consumers
- ✓ Internet Access to Energy Use Data





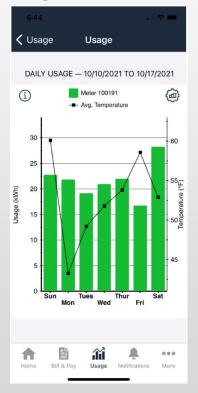
## SMART GRID @ BPUD: CUSTOMER INTERFACE

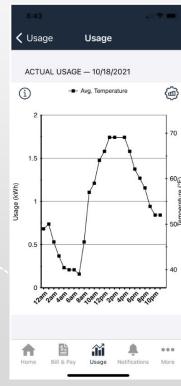
#### **Outage Status**



#### **Customer Usage Profiles and Notifications**



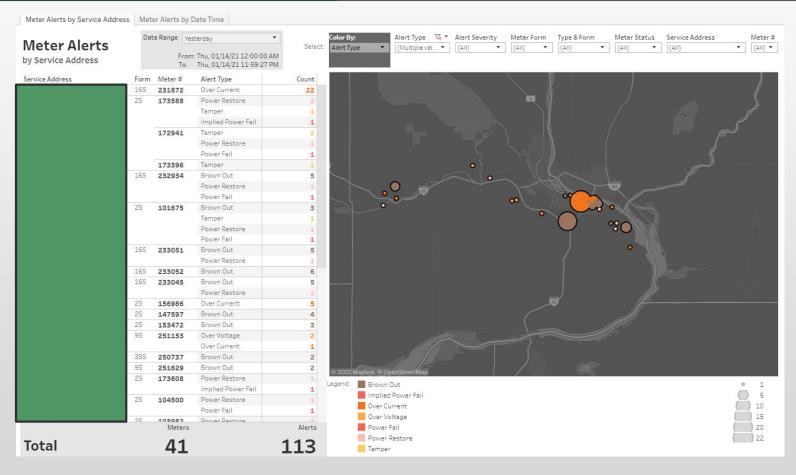








## SMART GRID @ BPUD: AMI METER ALERTS

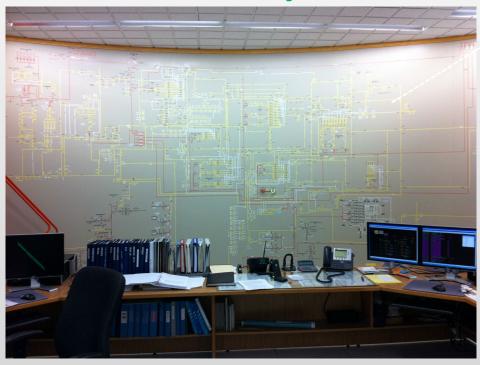


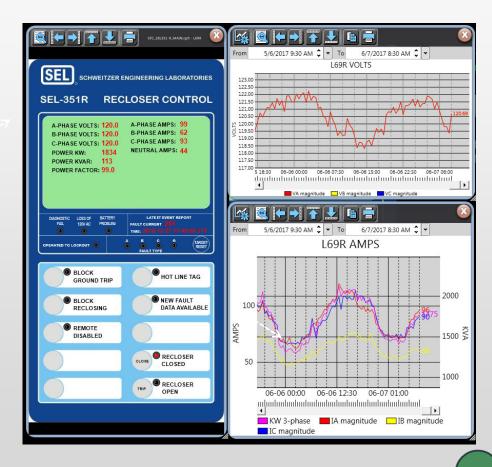




## SMART GRID @ BPUD: SCADA

## **Increased Distribution** "Visibility"









## SMART GRID @ BPUD: SCADA EXPANSION





**Reclosers (Circuit Breakers)** 



**Voltage Regulators** 





#### October 2025 Forecast Update

~\$70/MWh Tier 2 Power BP-26, 2025 Budget Amendment, & 2026 Prelim Budget

**BPA Assumptions:** 

BP-26: 9% Power & 20% Transmission

BP-29: 7% Power & Transmission

Description		2024 Actual	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Oct 2025	Projected Rate Increase	-	Apr 1 <b>5.0</b> %	Apr 1 2.0%	Apr 1 2.5%	Apr 1 2.5%	Apr 1 2.5%
	Unrestricted DCOH	153	120	116	151	140	128
	Construction Account DCOH	-	-	59	-	-	-
	Net Income	\$12.9M	\$12.9M	\$10.2M	\$7.4M	\$10.2N	\$10.9M
	Total Unrestricted Reserves	\$54.2M	\$43.1M	\$42.4M	\$56.9M	\$53.3M	\$50.0M
	Construction Account Reserves	-	-	\$22.2M	-	-	-
	Debt to Capitalization (38% Max)	28%	26%	32%	30%	28%	27%

14.5%

cumulative rate increase

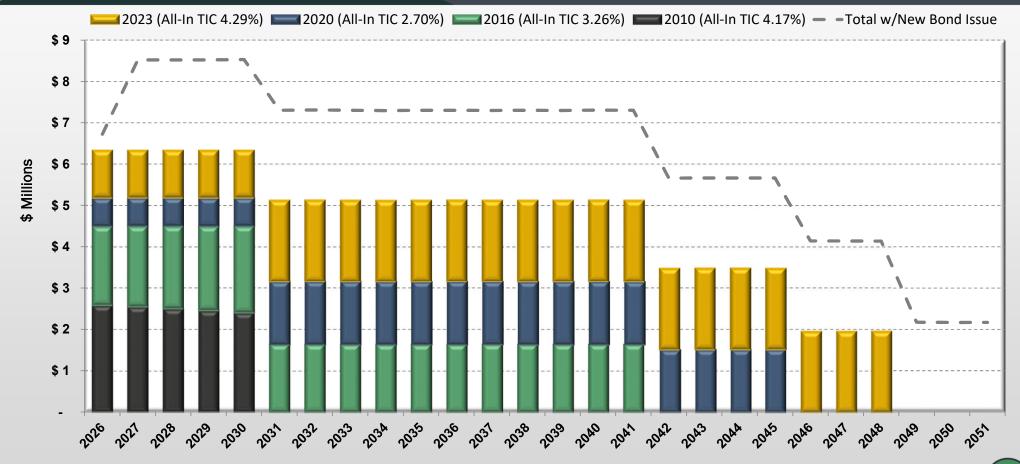
\$32M Bond issue in 2026





#### DEBT SERVICE SCHEDULE

2026 BOND ISSUE (\$32M NEW MONEY AND REFUNDING THE 2016 BONDS)







## BENTON PUD LOW INCOME PROGRAMS



#### • Low Income Discount

- ~ \$625 thousand per year
- Assisted:
  - ~1,900 customers per month (2021 2024)
- Discounts: 10%-25% of monthly bill
  - Greater of daily system charge or percentage of billed charges
- Available to:
  - · Seniors, disabled individuals, and veterans



#### Low Income Energy Efficiency

- ~ \$615 thousand in 2024
- Assisted:
  - ~70 households
- Administered by:
  - Benton PUD & Community Actions Committee (CAC)



#### Helping Hands

- ~ \$90 thousand in 2024
- Assisted:
  - ~300 households
- Funded by:
  - · Customer donations





# QUESTIONS? (SHORT BREAK)





#### BUDGET PRESENTATION AGENDA

- Budget Overview Rick Dunn
- 2. Budget Summary **Jon Meyer**
- 3. Revenues [excluding secondary (power) market sales] **Jon Meyer**
- 4. Net Power Expenses [including secondary (power) market sales] Chris Johnson
- 5. Capital Plan Rick Dunn/Chris Folta
- 6. Debt Service **Keith Mercer**
- 7. Non-Power O&M Costs Rick Dunn
- 8. Summary & Next Steps
- 9. Final Commissioner Questions/Comments
- 10. Final Public Questions/Comments



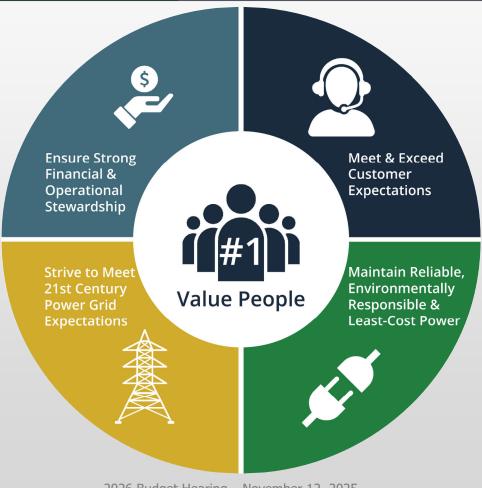
#### 2026 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

- 2026 Preliminary Budget is a Draft
  - Ongoing review of assumptions for all budget categories
  - Includes a proposed overall 2% retail rate increase effective April 1, 2026
  - Final budget recommendation on December 9th
- Final Budget will Reflect:
  - Public comment
  - Commission direction





## STRATEGIC GOALS & KEY DRIVERS OF ACTIONS (EXPENSES)









## BUDGET SUMMARY (JON MEYER)

#### 2026 Preliminary Budget vs. 2025 Original Budget

FIVE BUDGET CATEGORIES

Dollars in thousands	2026 Budget	2025 Original Budget	Increase/ (Decrease)	% Change
Revenues (excluding Secondary Market Sales)	\$153,816	\$151,031	\$2,785	1.8%
Expenses (including Secondary Market Sales)				
Purchased Power	73,496	73,123	373	0.5%
Purchased Transmission & Ancillary Services	13,623	12,523	1,100	8.8%
Net Conservation	318	294	24	8.2%
Less: Secondary Market Sales	2,073	4,728	(2,655)	(56.2%)
Net Power Expenses	\$85,364	\$81,212	\$4,152	5.1%
Transmission Operation & Maintenance	114	134	(20)	(14.9%)
Distribution Operation & Maintenance	15,888	15,968	(80)	(0.5%)
Broadband Expense	1,310	1,247	63	5.1%
Customer Accounting	4,999	5,128	(129)	(2.5%)
Administrative & General	9,713	9,595	118	1.2%
Subtotal before Taxes & Depreciation	\$32,024	\$32,072	(\$48)	(0.1%)
Taxes	15,788	15,490	298	1.9%
Depreciation/Amortization	13,138	12,653	485	3.8%
Non-Power Operating Expenses	\$60,950	\$60,215	\$735	1.2%
Gross Capital	31,814	30,953	861	2.8%
Less: Capital Contributions	6,561	4,033	2,528	62.7%
Net Capital Additions	\$25,253	\$26,920	(\$1,667)	(6.2%)
Debt Service (including BABs Subsidy)	5,574	\$6,166	(\$592)	(9.6%)







# REVENUES (JON MEYER) (EXCLUDING SECONDARY MARKET SALES)

#### Key takeaways:

- Budgeting a proposed 2% overall retail revenue increase
- Retail rates remain below the median

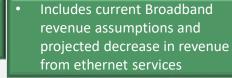
#### REVENUES

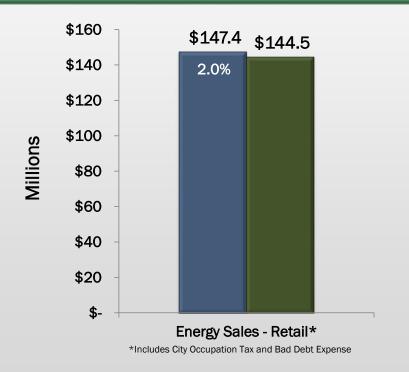
#### (EXCLUDING SECONDARY MARKET SALES)

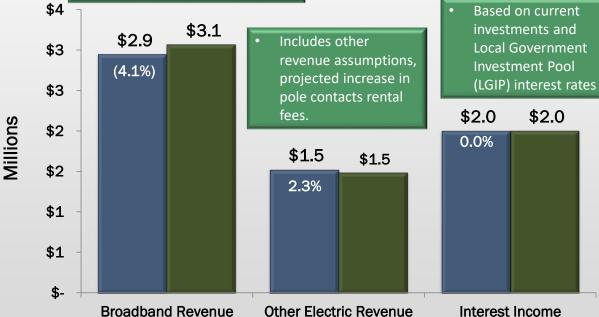
#### 2026 Preliminary Budget

Total Revenue (excluding secondary market sales) \$153.8 million

- Includes a proposed 2% retail revenue increase effective April 1, 2026
- Assumptions from the 2025-2035 Ten-Year Load and Customer Forecast





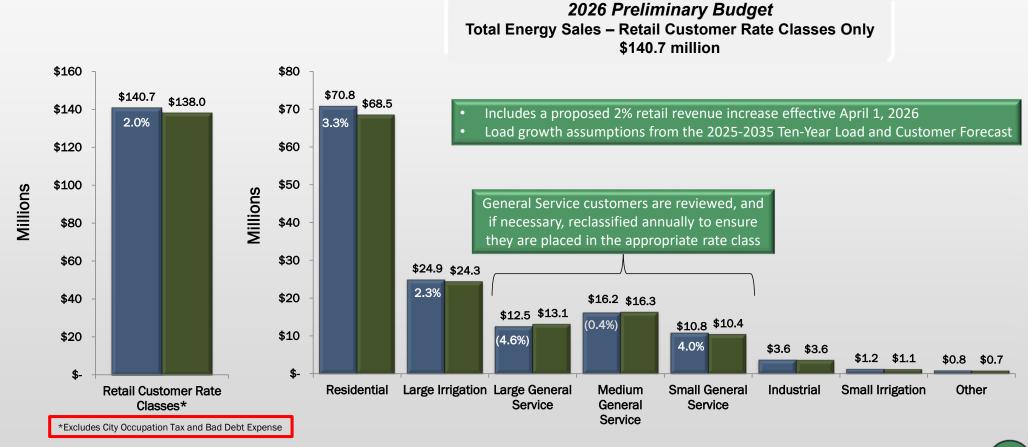






#### REVENUES

(ENERGY SALES – RETAIL CUSTOMER RATE CLASSES ONLY, EXCLUDES CITY OCCUPATION TAX & BAD DEBT EXPENSE)









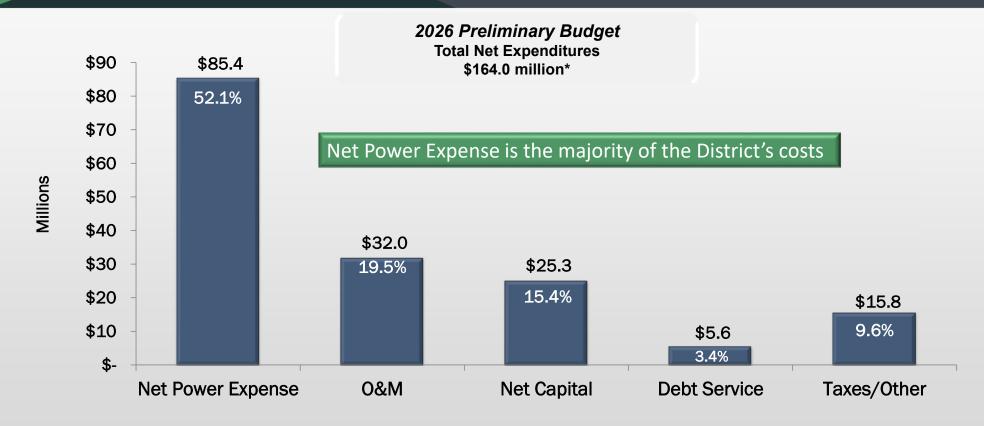
#### NET POWER EXPENSES (CHRIS JOHNSON)

(INCLUDING SECONDARY MARKET SALES)

#### Key takeaways:

• BPA rate increase estimates (8.9% Power & 19.9% Transmission)

#### EXPENSES AND EXPENDITURES

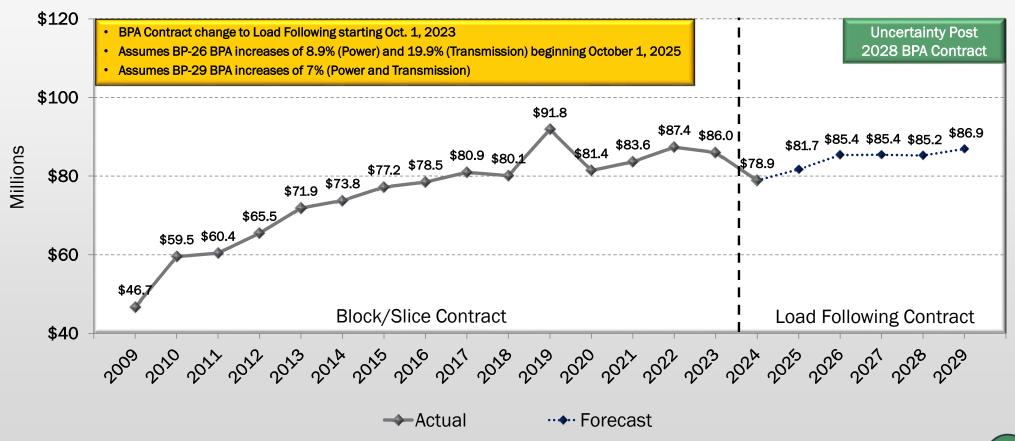


<sup>\*</sup> Net of secondary market sales of \$2.0 million, capital contributions of \$6.6 million, and Build America Bonds subsidy of \$0.3 million





#### NET POWER COSTS\*



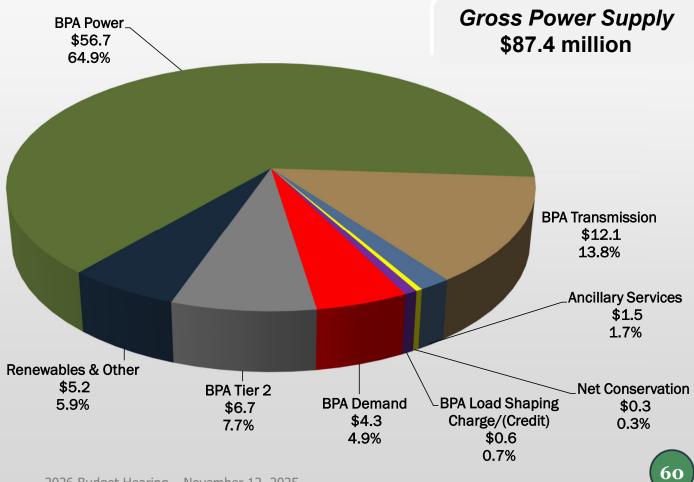




Net power costs (NPC) = gross power costs (including power and transmission) less sales for resale.

#### 2026 GROSS POWER SUPPLY COST BY SOURCE

Description	Amount  Dollars in millions
BPA Power	\$56.7
BPA Tier 2	6.7
BPA Demand	4.3
BPA Load Shaping Charge/(Credit)	0.6
BPA Reserve Distribution Clause	0.0
BPA Transmission	12.1
Renewables & Other	5.2
Ancillary	1.5
Net Conservation	0.3
Gross Power Supply	\$87.4
Less: Secondary Market Sales	(1.9)
Less: Transmission Sales	(0.2)
Net Power Expense	\$85.4







2026 Budget Hearing – November 12, 2025

## BPA POTENTIAL ADJUSTMENTS/SURCHARGES

#### NO ADJUSTMENTS OR SURCHARGES ARE CURRENTLY ASSUMED FOR 2026

#### BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION

**BP-26 Rate Proceeding** 

2026 Power Rate Schedules and General Rate Schedule Provisions (FY 2026-2028)

#### Q. Power Financial Reserves Policy Surcharge (Power FRP Surcharge)

The Power FRP Surcharge is an upward adjustment to certain rates that apply to the following products under the PF-26 Rate Schedule: Load Following, Block, and the Block portion of Slice/Block. The Power FRP Surcharge also applies to power purchased at the PF Melded Rate (PF-26), Industrial Firm Power Rate (IP-26), and New Resource Firm Power Rate (NR-26).

#### 1. Power CRAC Amount

At the beginning of each fiscal year of the Rate Period (that is, each "applicable year"), BPA will calculate financial reserves available for risk that are attributed to Power Services (Power RFR) as of the end of the fiscal year preceding the applicable year. Based on the calculations below, a Power CRAC may trigger, resulting in a rate increase that will go into effect for the period of December 1 through September 30 of the applicable year.

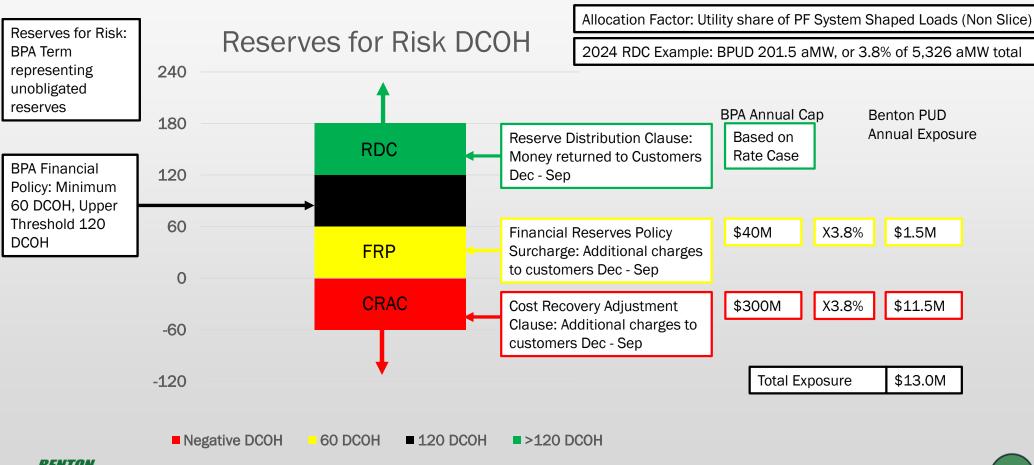
#### 1. Power RDC Amount

At the beginning of each fiscal year of the Rate Period (that is, each "applicable year"), BPA will calculate financial reserves available for risk that are attributed to Power Services (Power RFR) and financial reserves available for risk that are attributed to BPA (BPA RFR) as of the fiscal year preceding the applicable year. If Power RFR is greater than the Power RDC Threshold for that applicable year by at least \$5 million, and BPA RFR is greater than the BPA RDC Threshold for that applicable year by at least \$5 million, the Administrator will determine a Power RDC Amount. If the Administrator determines that all or part of the Power RDC Amount will be applied to a Power DD, the resulting rate decrease will go into effect beginning the month following the issuance of the Power RDC decision through September 30 of the applicable year.





## BPA SURCHARGES TO PROTECT RESERVES

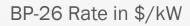






## BPA DEMAND RATES

VARY BY MONTH AND RATE PERIOD





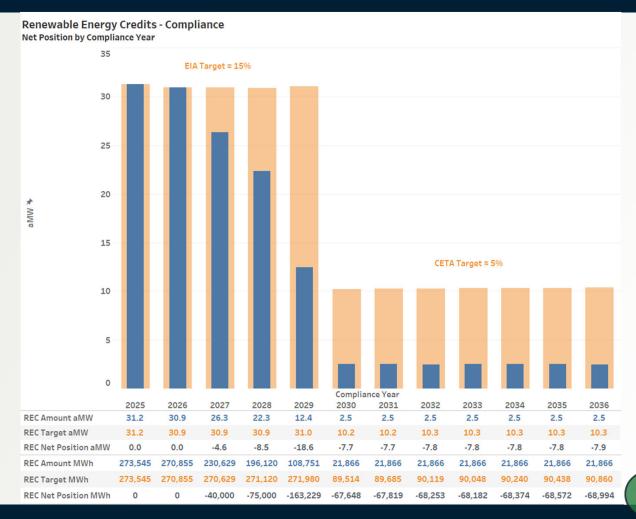




#### **GHG Neutral Standard**

#### **Primary + Alternative = 100%**

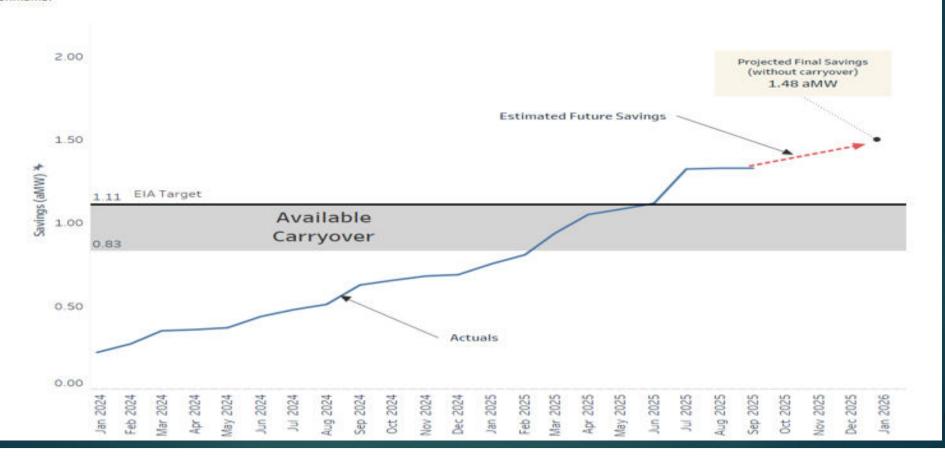
- Primary Compliance
- At least 80% clean by 2030
- Alternative Compliance
  - From 2030-2044, may satisfy up to 20% with alternative compliance
  - CEIP must identify <u>planned use</u> of these <u>alternatives</u>:
    - 1. Pay the Penalty Amount
    - 2. Energy Transformation Projects
    - 3. Municipal Solid Waste
- 4. Renewable Energy Credits (REC)
  - <u>Already</u> procuring for Energy Independence Act (EIA) compliance
  - CETA reduces EIA from 15% to 5%
- CEIP Actions? <u>No incremental</u> resource actions are planned



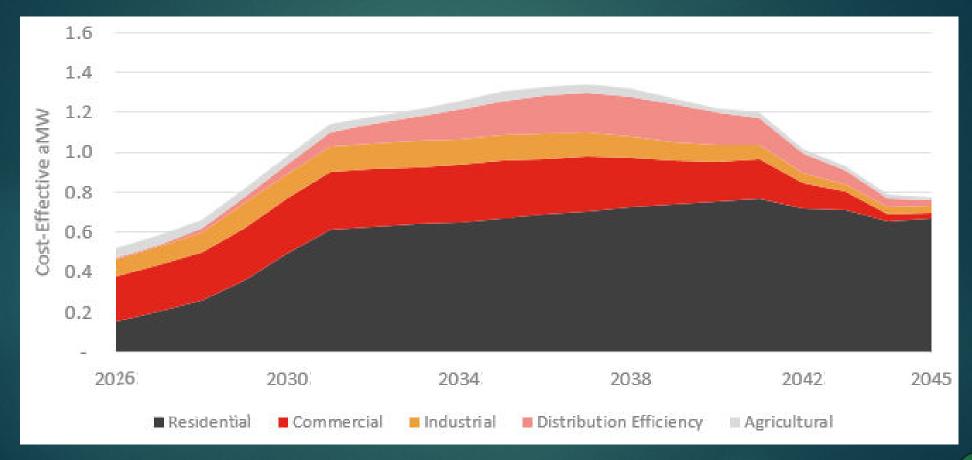
#### 2024-2025 Total Conservation Achieved

#### Quarterly Performance Summary

Industrial projects accounted for about 90% of the savings in Q3 as three large agriculture storage shed projects were completed in July. The District has now exceeded its 2024-25 EIA target. Residential programs will continue as normal but are expected to generate only small savings in the final quarter. Based on the current final savings estimate of 1.48 aMW the District would have about 0.37 aMW of excess savings to be used in either of the next two bienniums.



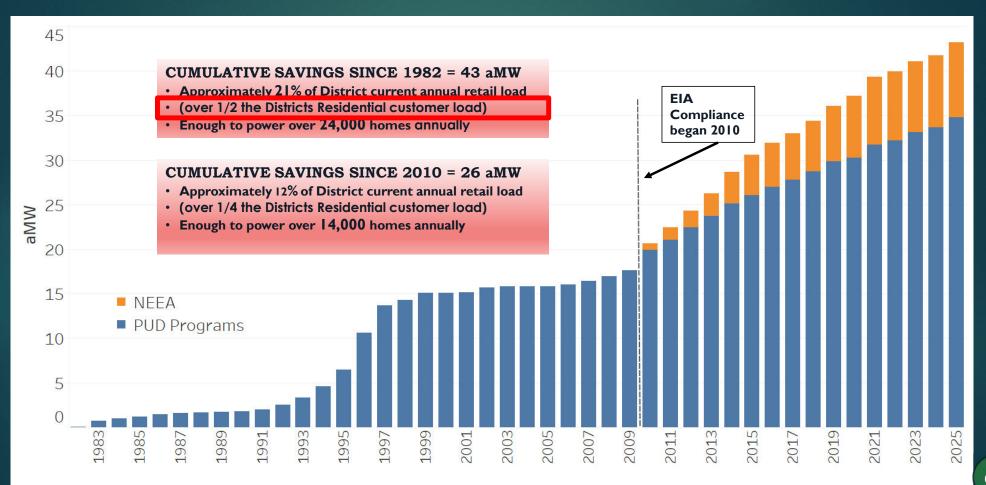
#### 2026-2045 CPA Total Results by Sector







#### District 1982-2025 Conservation Energy Savings





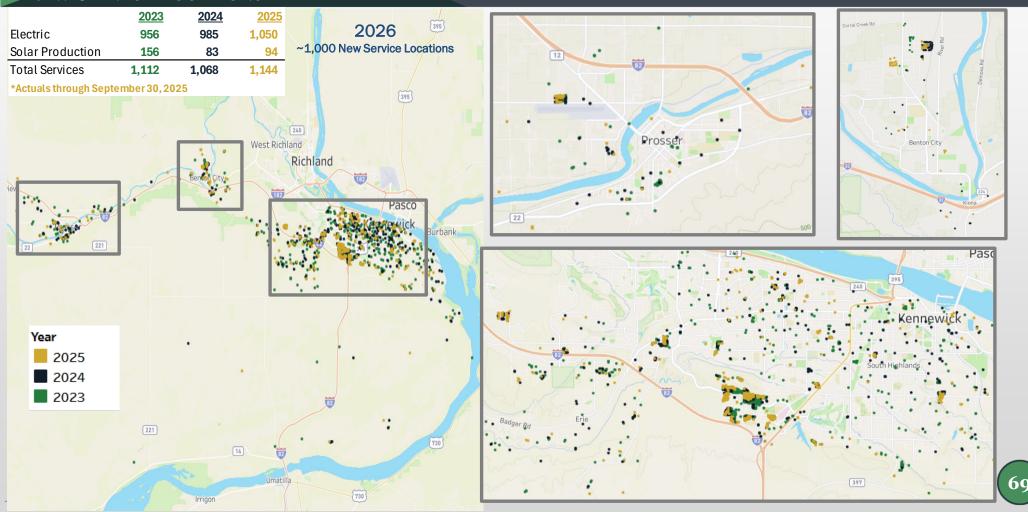
#### CAPITAL PLAN (RICK DUNN)

#### Key takeaways:

- Maintaining the District's system and accommodating growth
- Developing the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Power Grid
  - Capacity and reliability

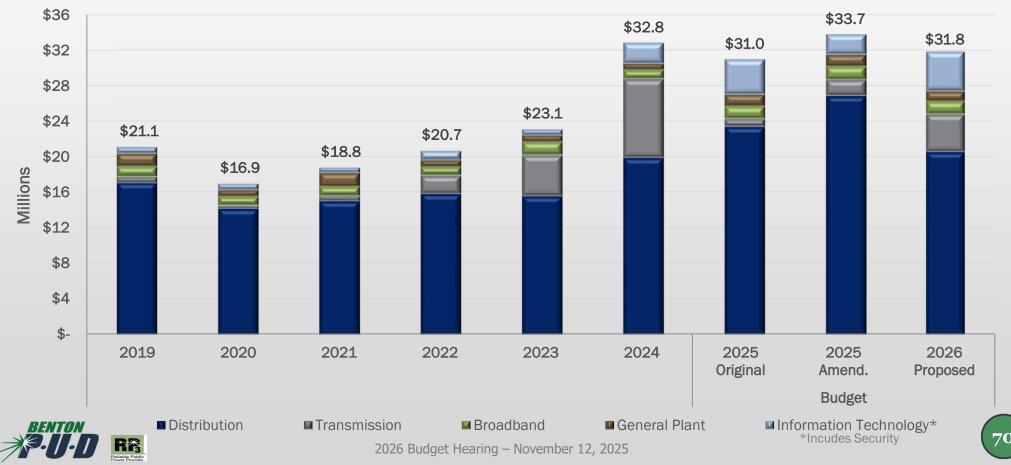
#### 2023-2025 CUSTOMER GROWTH

#### NEW SERVICE LOCATIONS BY YEAR



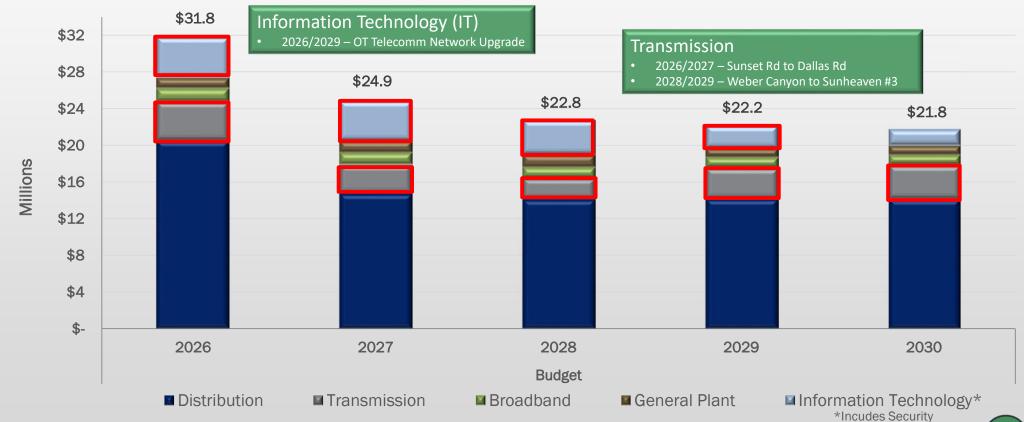
### 2019 – 2025 GROSS CAPITAL





#### 2026 - 2030 GROSS CAPITAL









## 2026 CAPITAL PROJECTS

2026 Capital Projects (Amounts in Thousands)			
Transmission Subtotal (13.4%)	\$4,254		
Sunset Rd to Dallas Rd	2,059		
Sun Heaven #3 Transmission Line (Segments 1-A, 1-B, & 2)	1,420		
Switch Upgrade/Additions (Prior #2 Sectionalizing, etc.)	400		
Poles & Fixtures Repairs/Replacements	143		
115kV Re-Route Witcomb/Sandpiper	124		
Angus-Franklin River Crossing Tower Evaluation	108		
Distribution Subtotal (64.5%)	\$20,513		
Customer Growth	9,430		
Capacity & Reliability - Substations	2,156		
Other - Repair & Replace (Includes JU NESC Compliance program)	2,038		
Cable - Repair & Replacement (Multiple Year Project)	1,855		
District 5-Year Plan	1,465		
Distribution other (GPS Equipment & Project Management Labor)	1,180		
Distribution System Improvements	855		
Meters	733		
Capacity & Reliability - SCADA	540		
Distribution Regulators	261		

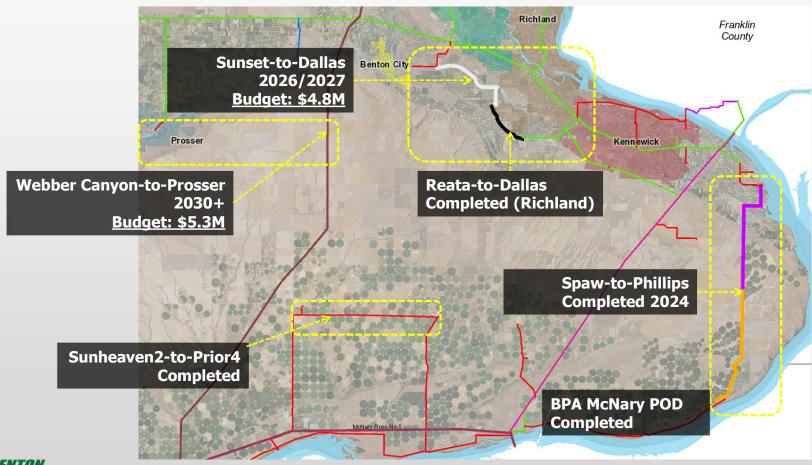
2026 Capital Projects		
(Amounts in Thousands)		
Information Technology Subtotal (14.1%)	\$4,472	
OT Telecomm Network Upgrade	2,042	
Network Infrastructure	1,115	
Kennewick Lobby Remodel	850	
Enterprise Security System (Substations, Cameras & Data Center)	400	
SQL Server Licenses	55	
Enterprise Applications	10	
General Plant Subtotal (3.5%)	\$1,129	
Transportation - Light Duty Vehicles (Pickups & Cars)	330	
Facilities Improvements and Other	323	
Transportation - Heavy Duty Vehicles (Aerial Lifts)	280	
Line Department	77	
XFMR Shop	58	
Meter Shop	47	
Auto Shop and Other	14	
Broadband Subtotal (4.5%)	\$1,445	
Customer Connections (Multi-tenant, line extensions)	723	
Backbone and Laterals	597	
Electronics and Other	125	
Gross Capital	\$31,813	





## TRANSMISSION RELIABILITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

#### 115-KV Transmission Lines for Redundancy







#### SUBSTATIONS & DISTRIBUTION: ~\$20.5M







Capacity & Reliability: \$5.3M
~\$0.54 Scada Improvement for Substations
~\$0.83M Substation Controls, & Batteries
~\$1.58M Sun Heaven #3 Substation
~\$0.85M Distribution System Improvement
~\$1.46M Plan of Service Projects



Repair & Replace: \$3.7M
~\$1.8M Cable Replacements
~\$1.4M Maintenance (Trouble Orders)







## GENERAL PLANT (RICK DUNN)

#### Key takeaways:

Tool and Equipment replacement for Operations

## Transportation: ~\$610K

Project	Project Name	Bu Number	2025 Original Budget	2025 Amended Budget	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Vehicles (Pickups	Transformer Shop - Foreman Truck (Replacing #146, Arrived Q1 2025)	468	\$48,000	\$48,000					
	Foreman Truck - Prosser (Replacing #168)	517			\$95,000				
& Cars)	Foreman Truck - Kennewick (Replacing #175)	516			\$95,000				
	Maintenance Truck (Replacing #158)	523			\$90,000				
	Engineering Vehicle 1/2 ton crew cab	514			\$50,000				
	Foreman Truck (Replacing #188)	Null				\$95,000			
	Meter Shop 2,500 Pickup (Replacing #120)	Null				\$95,000			
	Locate Truck (Replacing #190)	Null				\$50,000			
	Meter Shop 2,500 Pickup (Replacing #121)	Null						\$95,000	
	Total		\$48,000	\$48,000	\$330,000	\$240,000		\$95,000	
HDVH -	Kennewick Bucket Truck (Replacing #166) (Under Contract, Arriving Q4 2025)	342	\$342,000	\$342,000					
Heavy-Duty	Bucket Truck - Prosser (Replacing #73) (Under Contract Arriving Q4 2025)	347	\$340,000	\$340,000					
Vehicles (Aerial Lifts)	Service Truck - Kennewick (Replacing #184) (Under Contract Arriving Q4 2025)	398	\$235,000	\$235,000					
Liits)	Service Truck - Kennewick (Replacing #198)	515			\$280,000				
	Service Truck - Prosser (Replacing #189)	Null				\$300,000			
	Bucket Truck - Kennewick (Replacing #149)	Null				\$300,000			
	80' High Reach Bucket - Kennewick (Replacing #90)	Null					\$360,000		
	Dump Truck (Replacing #99)	Null					\$300,000		
	Line Truck/Pole Setter (Replacing #170)	Null						\$300,000	
	Yard Dump Truck (Replacing #100)	Null						\$180,000	
	Line Truck (Replacing #TBD)	Null							\$300,000
	Projected Capital - Transportation	Null							\$300,000
	Total		\$917,000	\$917,000	\$280,000	\$600,000	\$660,000	\$480,000	\$600,000
EQUI - Equipment	Warehouse Forklift (Replacing #108)	Null					\$300,000		
/Trailers	Total		1001		121		\$300,000	200	
Grand Total			\$965,000	\$965,000	\$610,000	\$840,000	\$960,000	\$575,000	\$600,000





## EVALUATION WHEN TO RETIRE A VEHICLE

ESTIMATED REPLACEMENT VALUE ENTIRE FLEET~\$12M - \$13M







#### Vehicle Age

• 15 - 20 Years

#### Vehicle Miles/Hours

- Gas Engine 200,000 miles/hours
- Diesel Engine 300,000 miles/hours

(BPUD Standard: 1 hour = 20 miles)

#### Service Record

- Days Out of Service
- · Cost of Repairs

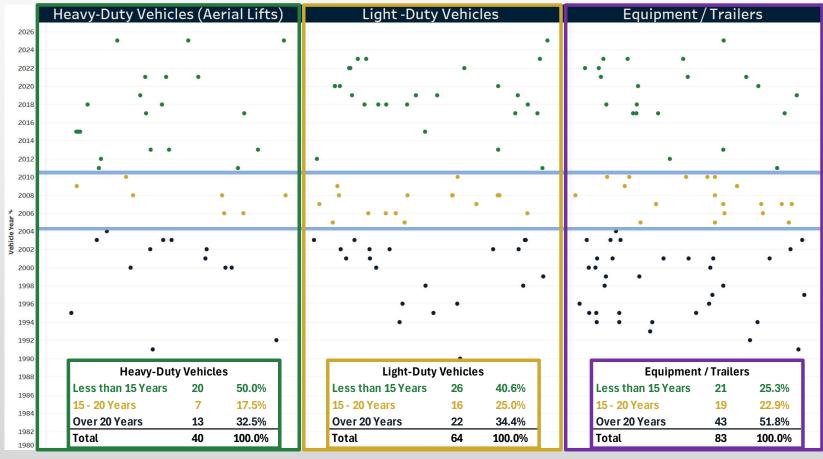
**Historical Replacement Process** 





New Data-Driven Approach

## AGE OF THE VEHICLE FLEET (187 TOTAL)









### BROADBAND (CHRIS FOLTA)

#### Key takeaways:

- Community partnership for fiber extension
- System Improvements for network capacity and growth
- Strategic hardware replacements to maintain capabilities

## 2026 BROADBAND REVENUE, CAPITAL, AND NET CASH FLOW

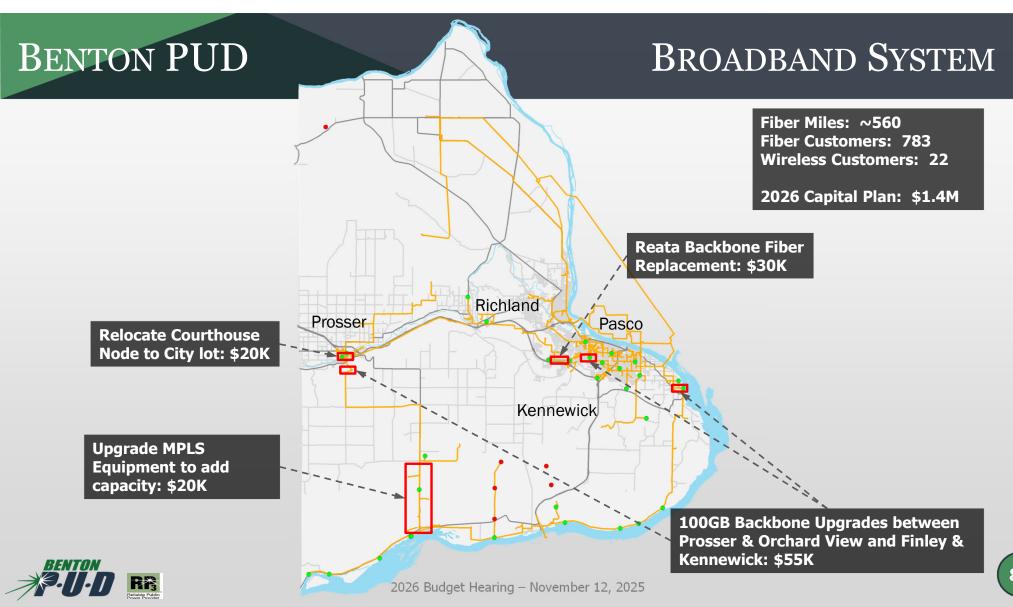
Dollars in thousands	2026 Budget	2025 Original Budget	Increase/ (Decrease)	% Change
Revenue	\$2,943	\$3,063	(\$120)	(3.9%)
Operating Expenses	(1,310)	(1,247)	(63)	(5.1%)
Net Income <sup>1</sup>	1,633	1,816	(183)	(10.1%)
Base Capital	1,445	1,417	28	2.0%
Small Cell	-	-	-	N/A
Capital Contributions	(75)	(75)	-	0.0%
Net Capital	1,370	1,342	28	2.1%
Total Broadband Cash Inflow/(Outflow)	\$263	\$474	(\$211)	(44.5%)

	Future	Previous	
15 Consecutive Years Net Cash Positive!	5 Years	5 Years	
	(2025-2029)	(2020-2024)	
Five Year Rolling Net Cash Test	\$3.7M	\$3.6M	

1) Summary does not include depreciation







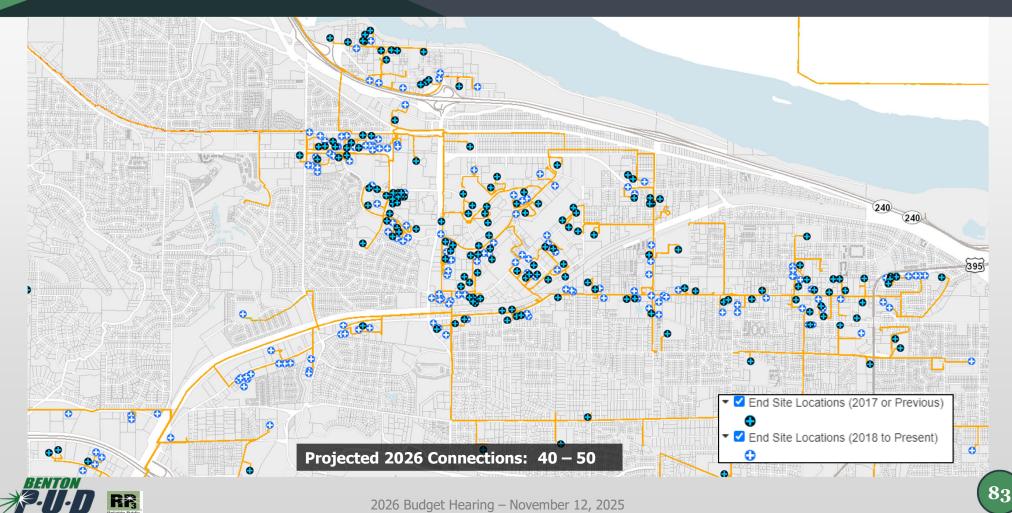
### CITY OF KENNEWICK TRAFFIC SIGNAL PROJECT: ~\$250K







## CUSTOMER CONNECT LINE EXTENSIONS: ~\$425K



## STRATEGIC EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENTS: ~\$175K





High Density port equipment, Node Hardware, Premise, and Spare Telecom Equipment: \$175K







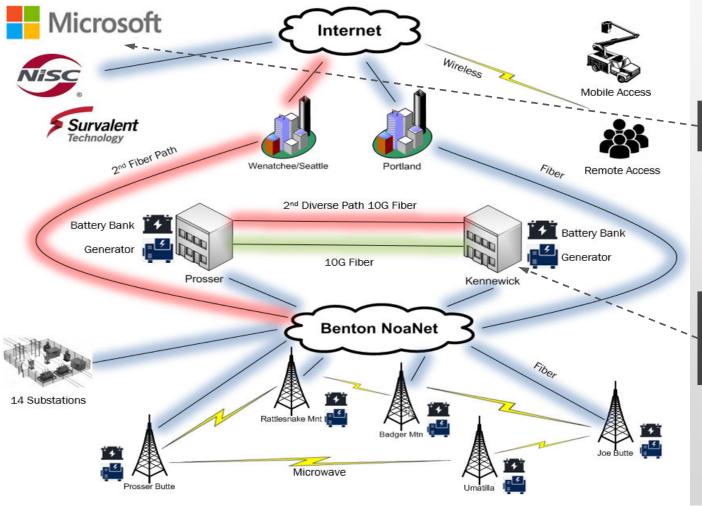
### Information Technology (Chris Folta)

#### Key takeaways:

- Strategic hardware replacements to maintain capabilities
- External Data Center (co-location) Contribution

# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: ~\$1.25M IN 2026

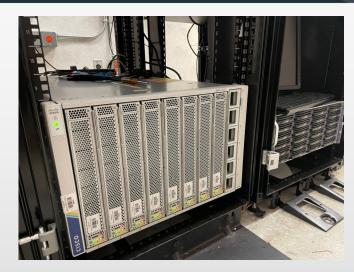


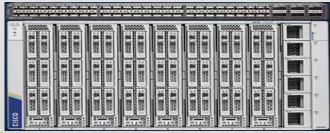


Database Software: \$55K Server Software: \$25K

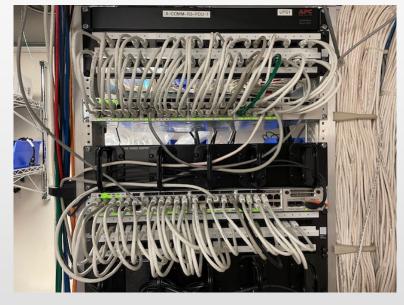
Server, Switch Equipment: \$475K Storage & Backup System: \$600K External Data Center: \$100K Multi-Function Printer: \$15K

#### VIRTUAL SERVER & NETWORK SWITCH REPLACEMENTS: ~\$475K





**UCS Servers: \$400K** 





**Network Switches: \$75K** 



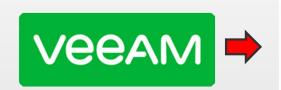


#### STORAGE AREA NETWORK & BACKUP SYST. REPLACEMENTS: ~\$600K





Storage Network (expand capacity): \$150K







**Backup Data System Replacement: \$450K** 





#### IT CAPITAL EQUIPMENT AND DATA CENTER CONTRIBUTION ~\$115K



**Multi-Function Printer: \$15K** 



**External Data Center Co-location: \$100K\*** 

\*District contribution to reserve space/capacity for future use if project is funded by third-party





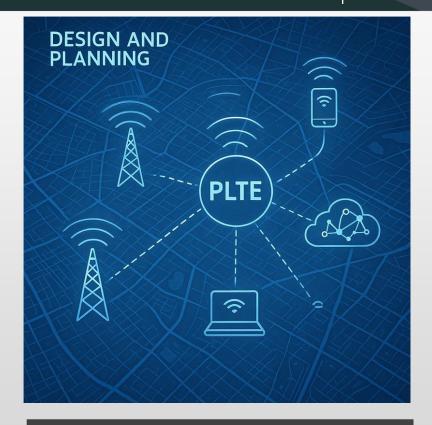


### OPERATIONAL TECHNOLOGY (CHRIS FOLTA)

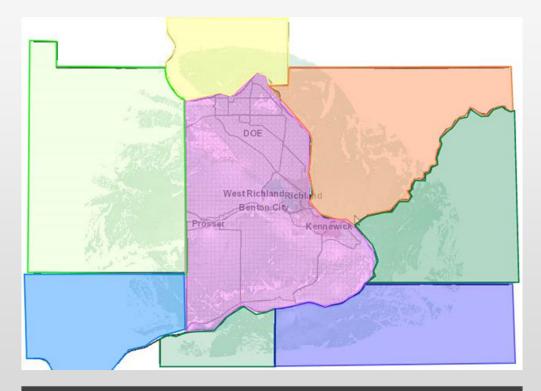
#### Key takeaways:

- OT Telecommunications Network Upgrade
- Substation Equipment Replacements
- Cold Creek Substation Fiber Extension

#### OPERATIONAL TECHNOLOGY: ~\$2.05M IN 2026 OT TELECOM UPGRADE: ~\$1.8M



OT Network System Design, Planning, Equipment Procurement-initial: \$1.3M



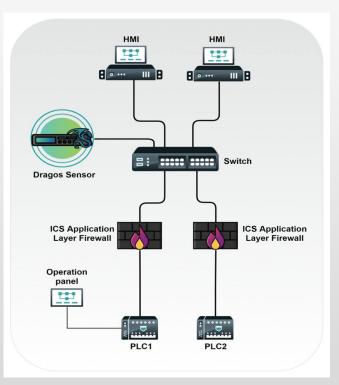
**Radio Frequency Spectrum Acquisition: \$500K** 





#### SUBSTATION ROUTER REPLACEMENTS: ~\$100K



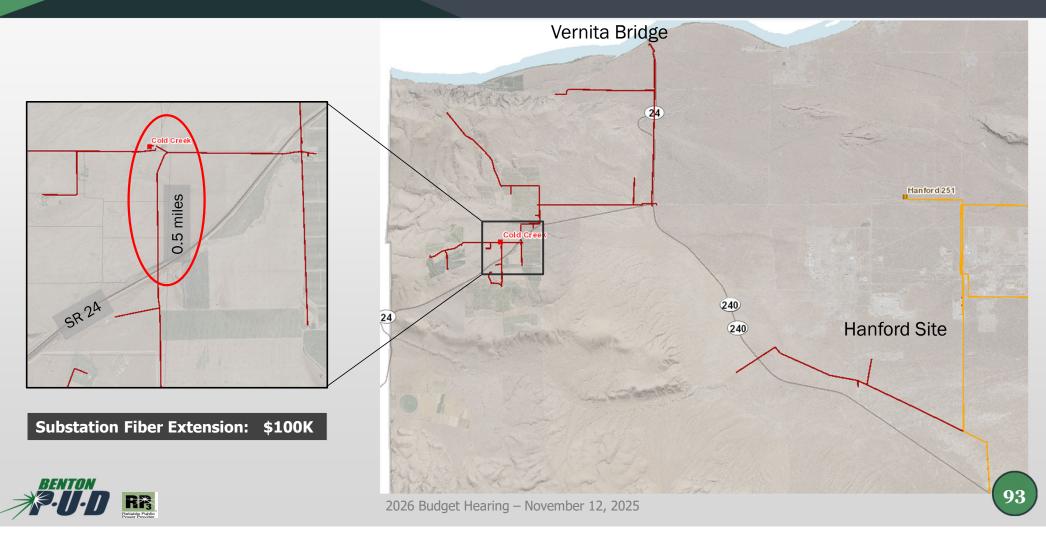


**Substation Router Replacements: \$100K** 





## COLD CREEK FIBER EXTENSION: ~\$100K





### SECURITY (CHRIS FOLTA)

#### Key takeaways:

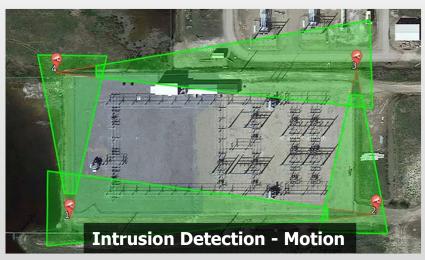
- 2026-2030 Strategic Plan Action Item
- Electric Substation physical security focus
- Mitigate risks to critical infrastructure
- Safety of employees and public through facility improvements

### SECURITY: ~\$1.3M IN 2026

#### SUBSTATION SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS ~\$270K











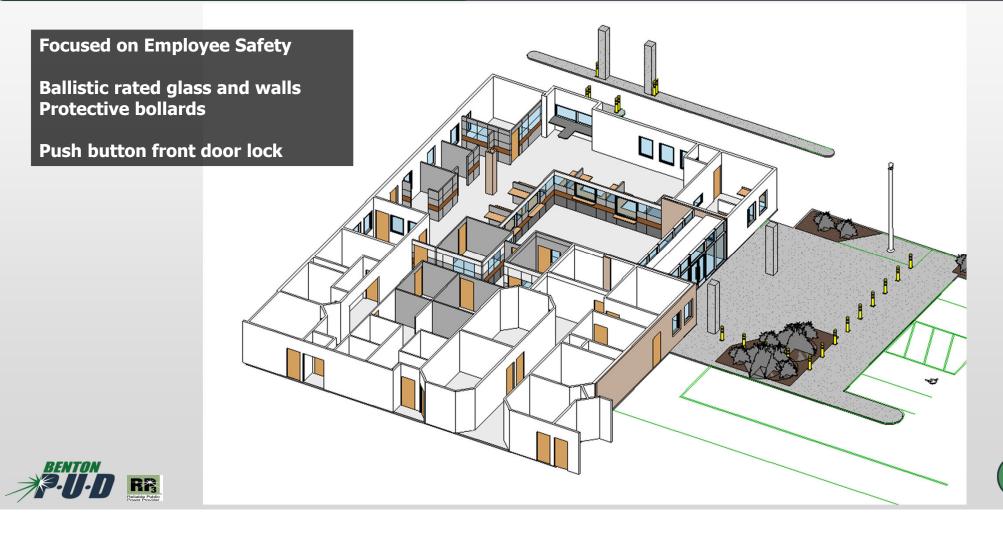
Substation Security Improvements (cameras, access control, intrusion detection): \$270K





#### KENNEWICK LOBBY REMODEL ~\$0.85M

BUDGETED ORIGINALLY IN 2024, PROJECT DEFERRED TO 2026





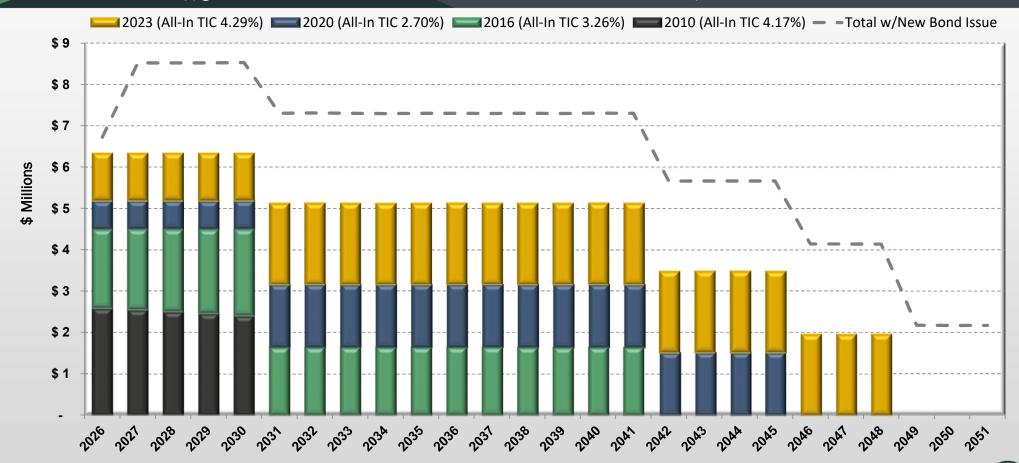
### DEBT SERVICE (KEITH MERCER)

#### Key takeaways:

- Good fiscal stewardship through sound financial planning
- Planning for a 2026 bond issuance

#### DEBT SERVICE SCHEDULE

2026 BOND ISSUE (\$32M NEW MONEY AND REFUNDING THE 2016 BONDS)







## 2026 DEBT SERVICE, TAXES, AND OTHER

Dollars in thousands	2026 Budget	2025 Original Budget	Increase/ (Decrease)		
Other Expenditures:					
Taxes	\$15,788	\$15,490	\$298		
Interest Expense *	3,149	3,272	(123)		
Debt Service Principal	2,930	3,415	(485)		
Debt Premium & Expense Amortization	(505)	(521)	16		
Total Other Expenditures	\$21,362	\$21,656	(\$294)		
Non-Cash Expenses					
Depreciation/Amortization	13,138	12,653	485		
Total Non-Cash Expenses	\$13,138	\$12,653	\$485		
*Interest expense is net of the Build America Bonds federal subsidy of \$0.3 million					





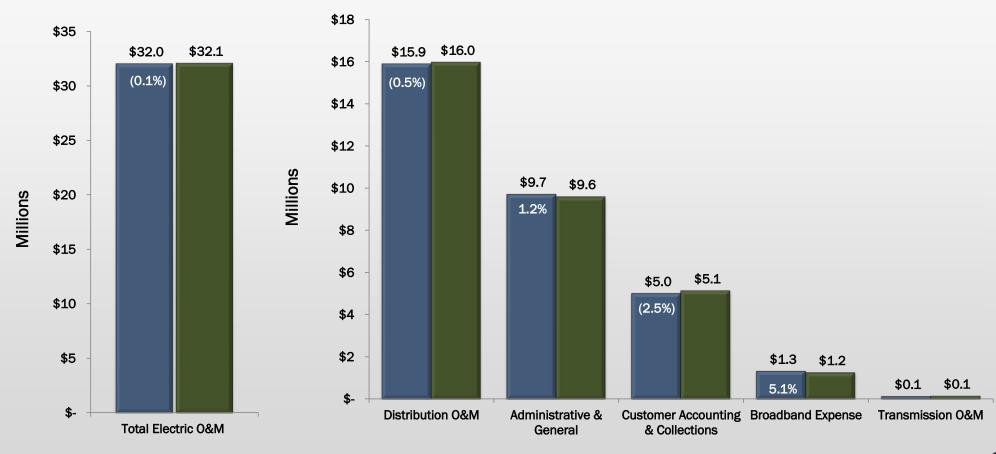


## NON-POWER O&M COSTS (RICK DUNN)

#### Key takeaways:

- Incorporates key strategic initiatives, while
- Maintaining fiscal stewardship

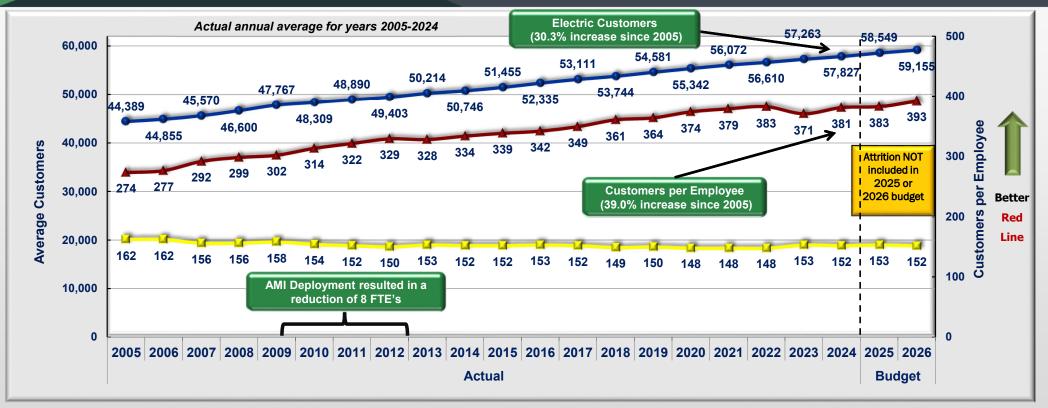
#### OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE







#### CUSTOMERS PER DISTRICT EMPLOYEE



#### Definition of Customer per American Public Power Association

Note: -Average customer figures have been restated to be consistent with method used by new enterprise system.
-FTE figures have been restated and now include a reduction for the FTEs shared and paid for by other utilities.
Currently 0.5 FTEs are shared and paid for by other utilities.





## AUTHORIZED STAFFING

Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTEs)

Directorate	2026 Staffing Plan	2025 Staffing Plan	Increase/ (Decrease)
Executive / Finance & Business Services	22.25	22.25	-
Customer Service & Treasury Operations	18.50	18.50	-
Engineering	18.75	18.25	0.50
Power Management	7.00	8.00	(1.00)
Operations	67.00	67.25	(0.25)
Information Technology	18.00	18.75	(0.75)
Authorized Positions	151.50	153.00	(1.50)
Less: FTEs utilized by other local utilities	(0.50)	(0.50)	-
Authorized Positions	151.00	152.50	(1.50)





## PAYROLL TAXES & BENEFITS

Effective July 1, 2025,
PERS employer contribution
rate decreased from
9.11% to 5.58%.

	2025				
	2026	Original	Increase/	%	
Dollars in thousands	Budget	Budget	(Decrease)	Change	
Labor					
Overtime Wages	\$1,041	\$1,004	\$37	3.7%	
Regular Labor - Salaries and Wages	18,796	18,322	474	2.6%	
Total Labor	\$19,837	\$19,326	\$511	2.6%	
Payroll Taxes					
Social Security	\$1,209	\$1,177	\$32	2.7%	
Medicare	288	280	8	2.9%	
Total Payroll Taxes	1,497	1,457	\$40	2.7%	
Employee Benefits					
State Industrial/Unemployment	263	227	\$36	15.9%	
Public Employee Retirement System	1,078	1,727	(649)	(37.6%)	
Deferred Compensation Match	776	765	11	1.4%	
VEBA Contributions	358	362	(4)	(1.1%)	
Medical/Dental/Vision Insurance	3,360	3,055	305	10.0%	
Other Benefits	316	316	-	0.0%	
Total Employee Benefits	\$6,151	\$6,452	(\$301)	(4.7%)	
Total Payroll Taxes and Benefits	\$7,648	\$7,909	(\$261)	(3.3%)	
Grand Total Labor, Payroll Taxes and Benefits	\$27,485	\$27,235	\$250	0.9%	

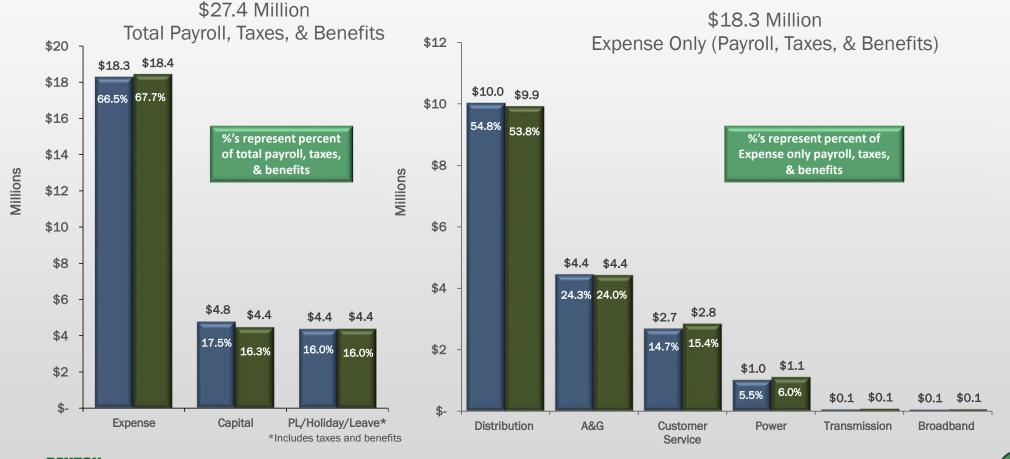
Increase in medical premiums is due to a 12.3% increase to medical rates and a reduction in FTE's





#### PAYROLL, TAXES, & BENEFITS

(BY CATEGORY)









### SUMMARY & NEXT STEPS

#### SUMMARY — KEY TAKE AWAYS

- 1. 2% overall increase in retail energy sales revenues (\$147.4 M)
  - Load growth assumptions from the <u>2025-2035 Ten-Year Load and Customer Forecast</u>
  - Proposed <u>2% overall rate increase</u> effective April 1, 2026
  - Implemented through rate increases of <u>varying percentages</u> depending on the customer class
- 2. Net wholesale power costs stabilized with BPA Load Following (\$85.4 M)
  - BPA BP-26 rate case increase (effective October 1, 2025)
- 3. 2026 gross capital (\$31.8 M)
  - Continue to implement <u>21st Century Power Grid</u> projects
  - Persistent supply chain constraints and <u>price inflation</u>
  - Substantial investments in <u>Capacity & Reliability</u> projects
- 4. Operations & maintenance expenses (\$32.0M)
  - Tracking with wage and benefits inflation
  - Remains well below APPA median benchmark





#### NEXT STEPS









# COMMISSIONER QUESTIONS & COMMENTS



## CUSTOMER QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

# END OF PRESENTATION







#### **APPENDIX**



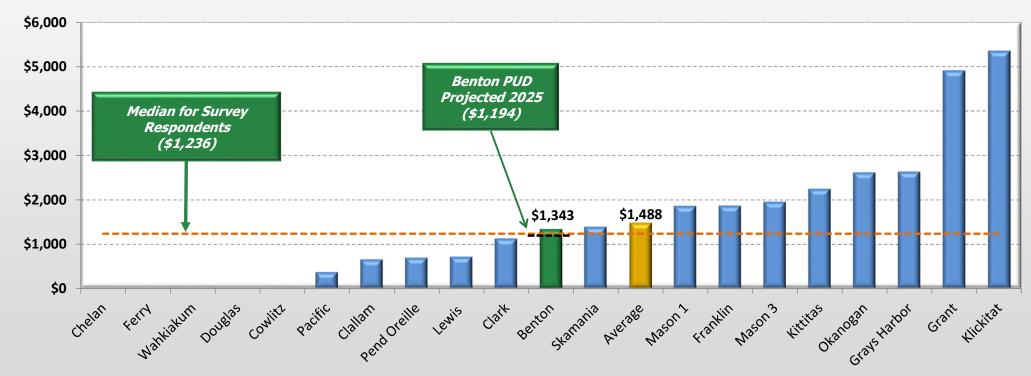
#### FINANCIAL METRICS

#### DEBT PER CUSTOMER

WPUDA¹ SURVEY – AUGUST 2024 (DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS ONLY)

#### <sup>1</sup>Washington PUD Association

Source: WPUDA Source Book (Aug 2024)



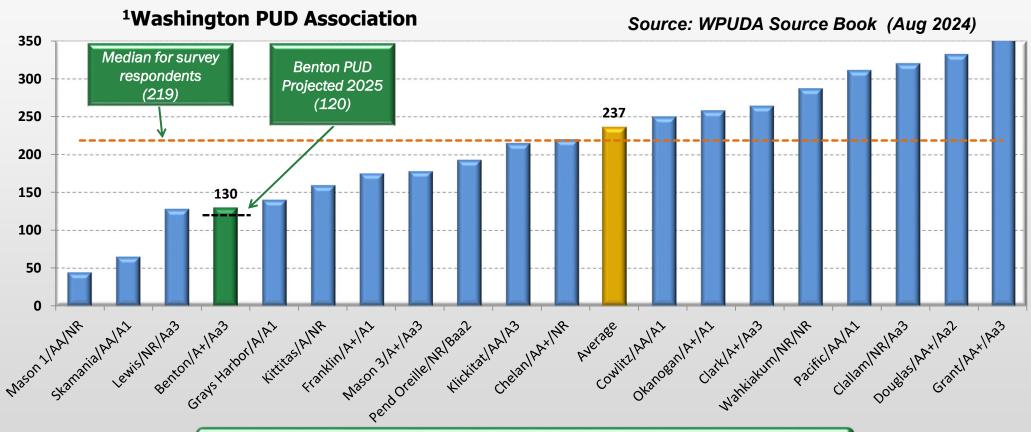




District below the average and just above the median of Washington PUDs

#### DAYS CASH ON HAND (RESERVES)

WPUDA<sup>1</sup> Survey – August 2024 (Distribution Systems Only)



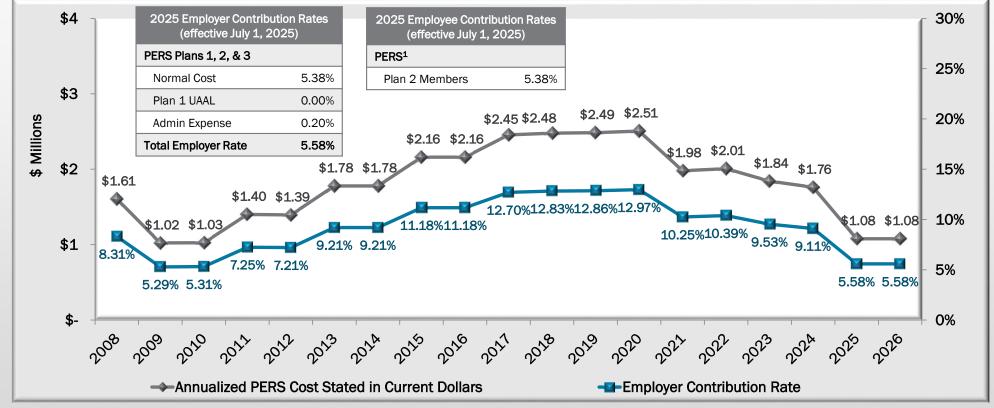




Measures the number of days utility can cover its operating expenses using unrestricted reserves and assuming no additional revenue

#### 2026 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

#### Public Employee Retirement System – Employer Contribution

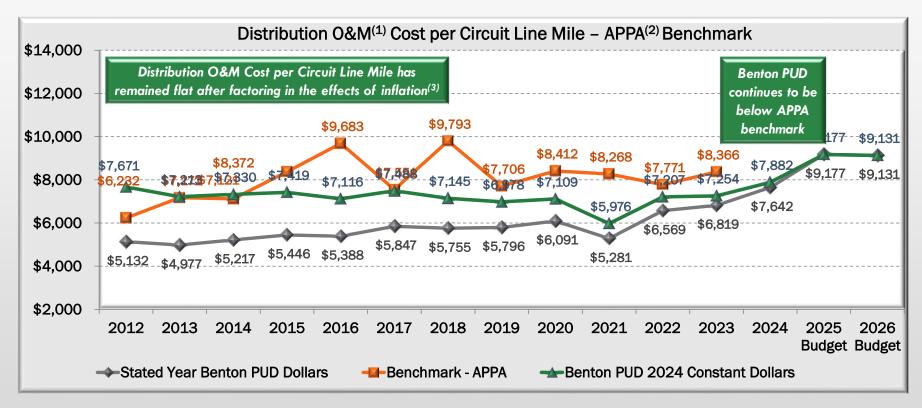


- -Annualized PERS cost included in chart is based on current labor multiplied by the annual employer rate
- -Rate changes, when implemented, are generally effective July 1 and September 1
- 1. Plan 1 members' contribution rate is statutorily set at 6.0%. Members in Plan 3 make contributions to a defined contribution plan.





#### DISTRIBUTION O&M



- (1) Distribution O&M only. Excludes Broadband.
- (2) American Public Power Association 2023 median for West utilities.
- (3) Inflation rate utilized comes from a producer price index for electric utilities, which on average has been slightly under 3%





#### AVERAGE RETAIL RATES<sup>1</sup>

#### 2023 REPORT ON AVERAGE REVENUE (CENTS PER KWH)<sup>2</sup>

	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Total
Benton PUD	8.7	6.9	5.6	7.3
WA Publicly Owned	9.9	8.6	5.5	8.3
WA Investor Owned	12.6	12.1	9.2	12.1
WA Cooperatives	9.5	8.3	6.9	8.8
National Average	16.1	12.3	8.3	12.8
California	27.1	22.8	17.4	23.3





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Revenues - includes all charges to customer

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> American Public Power Association

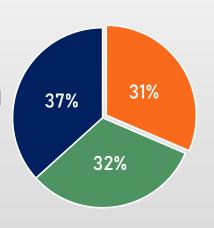
### 2025 Residential COSA Results

#### **COSA Costs**

#### Residential Revenues

#### **COSA Results**

- Energy (Variable) = \$28.0M
- Demand (Fixed) = \$24.0M
- Customer (Fixed) = \$24.3M
- Total = \$76.3M

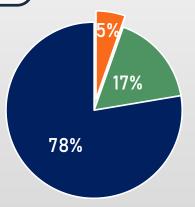


#### **Revenue Deficiency: \$6.7M**

or

9.6% increase needed

- Energy (Variable) = \$54.1M
- Demand (Fixed) = \$3.7M
- Customer (Fixed) = \$11.8M
- Total = \$69.6M







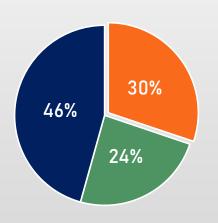
## 2025 Small General Service COSA Results

#### **COSA Costs**

#### Small General Revenues

#### **COSA Results**

- Energy (Variable) = \$5.3M
- Demand (Fixed) = \$3.5M
- Customer (Fixed) = \$2.8M
- Total = \$11.6M

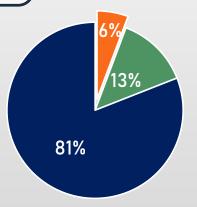


#### **Revenue Deficiency: \$1.1M**

or

10.8% increase needed

- Energy (Variable) = \$8.5M
- Demand (Fixed) = \$0.6M
- Customer (Fixed) = \$1.4M
- Total = \$10.5M







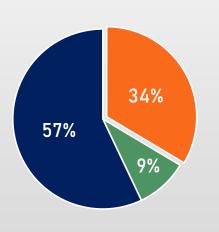
## 2025 Medium General Service COSA Results

#### **COSA Costs**

#### Medium General Revenues

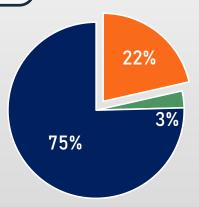
#### **COSA Results**

- Energy (Variable) = \$8.5M
- Demand (Fixed) = \$5.0M
- Customer (Fixed) = \$1.4M
- Total = \$14.9M



Revenue Surplus: \$1.4M or 8.8% decrease needed

- Energy (Variable) = \$12.3M
- Demand (Fixed) = \$3.5M
- Customer (Fixed) = \$0.5M
- Total = \$16.3M







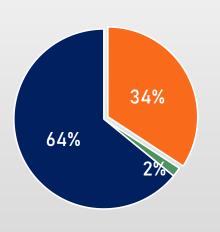
## 2025 Large General Service COSA Results

#### **COSA Costs**

#### Large General Revenues

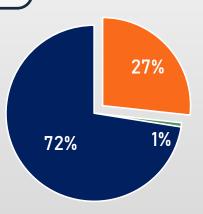


- Energy (Variable) = \$7.5M
- Demand (Fixed) = \$4.0M
- Customer (Fixed) = \$0.2M
- Total = \$11.7M



Revenue Surplus: \$1.4M or 10.8% decrease needed

- Energy (Variable) = \$9.5M
- Demand (Fixed) = \$3.5M
- Customer (Fixed) = \$0.1M
- Total = \$13.1M







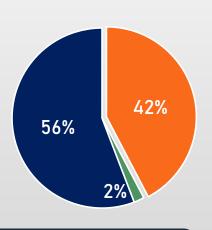
## 2025 Large Irrigation w/MLC COSA Results

#### COSA Costs\*

#### Large Irr. w/MLC Revenues

#### **COSA Results**

- Energy (Variable) = \$14.9M
- Demand (Fixed) = \$11.3M
- Customer (Fixed) = \$0.5M
- Total = \$26.7M



\*Includes Irrigation Rate Discount revenue received from BPA ~ \$3.5M

**Revenue Deficiency: \$3.4M** 

or

14.7% increase needed

- Energy (Variable) = \$17.7M
- Demand (Fixed) = \$4.7M
- Customer (Fixed MLC) = \$0.9M
- Total = \$23.3M

