



# Pend Oreille County Public Utility District

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## **Pend Oreille PUD to Host Community Forums on Power Supply and Wildfire Preparedness**

**PEND OREILLE COUNTY, Wash.** - Public Utility District No. 1 of Pend Oreille County (PUD) will host two community information forums in May and June to give customers and community members a clear, straightforward look at key issues affecting the utility and the region.

The first event will take place Thursday, May 14 at Newport High School, beginning at 5:30 p.m. A second event will be held Thursday, June 4 at 5:30 p.m. at the Cutter Theatre in Metaline Falls.

Both events will focus on power supply and wildfire preparedness, two important topics that continue to shape the PUD's planning, operations, and long-term costs. Attendees will hear directly from PUD staff about where the utility gets its power, what's driving changes in the energy landscape, what's on the horizon, and how those factors may impact reliability and rates.

The presentations will also cover wildfire mitigation efforts, including the PUD's Fire-Safe Mode, vegetation management, system upgrades, and ongoing work to reduce risk and improve safety across the county.

"This is a chance for us to connect directly with our customers," said Joe Hathaway, Public Information Officer for the PUD. "We want people to understand what's happening, ask questions, and hear firsthand what we're doing and why it matters."

Community members will have the opportunity to ask questions and speak with staff following the presentations.

Both events are free and open to the public. For more information, call 509-447-3137 or email [information@popud.org](mailto:information@popud.org).

### **About Pend Oreille County Public Utility District**

Pend Oreille PUD was established in 1936 and began operations in 1948. The PUD is governed by three locally elected Commissioners. A General Manager and staff operate the utility within policies set by the Board of Commissioners. The PUD has four operating systems: The electric system distributes electricity to the county, the production system produces power from the Box Canyon Hydroelectric Project, the water system consists of nine individual water distribution subdivisions, and the community network system provides wholesale broadband communication services. For more information visit: <http://popud.org>.