



PRESS RELEASE

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Greg Booth, General Manager

Clatskanie PUD Wins Awards



Standing left to right: Gail Rakitnich, Customer Relations Manager; Directors Steve Petersen and Janet Willey, Director; Becky Rakoz, Communications & Administrative Specialist; Directors Don Hooper, Bob Wiggins and Merle Gillespie. General Manager Greg Booth is pictured in front.

Clatskanie PUD brought home the hardware last month from the Northwest Public Power Association (NWPPA) Excellence in Communication awards at their annual Northwest Innovations Conference in Spokane, Washington. The Excellence in Communication contest recognizes the top communication efforts from member utilities from all around NWPPA's service territory, which includes eight western states and two Canadian provinces.

This year NWPPA received 163 entries from 35 member utilities. Categories are broken up into four groups: Group A utilities having the smallest number of customers and Group D having the largest. Clatskanie PUD submitted entries into each of the six categories which included Annual Report; Newsletter; Media/Ad Campaign; Pamphlet or Brochure; Photography and Wild Card. The result - Clatskanie PUD placed in every one of the six categories, winning first place in four of them.

In addition to the Excellence in Communication awards, NWPPA presented the 2010 Tom Hougan Award for the best overall communication effort of the year. The judges selected Clatskanie PUD to receive this year's award. Becky Rakoz, Clatskanie's communication and administrative specialist, accepted the award for Clatskanie.

To further celebrate the success, Debbie Kuraspiediani, Communication Director from NWPPA, was invited to the October 20 Board Workshop to officially present the awards to the Board of Directors. Kuraspiediani spoke of the award and how it was particularly special for her to make the presentation because the award is named in memory of her father. The Board accepted the award on behalf of the entire PUD, who have put great efforts into increasing customer communications over the past couple of years.