



## PRESS RELEASE

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Greg Booth, General Manager

On November 12 at approximately 3:30 p.m., Clatskanie PUD experienced an interruption of service affecting nearly 1,600 customers served from the PUD's Clatskanie Substation. Initial response by PUD crews were to the area along Highway 30 near Humps Restaurant, where arcing and loud noises were heard. PUD employees carefully patrolled the main feeder lines but found no physical cause to the outage. Line crews then patrolled back toward the Clatskanie Substation and found two main lines twisted together, which were determined to be the result of heavy fault current flow.

After correcting that problem, line crews also found a power transformer fuse open in the Clatskanie Substation. This fuse protects the main power transformer so a battery of tests were scheduled to determine its condition. The testing service, located in Salem, responded quickly and was on site by 9 p.m. to begin testing. Meanwhile, line crews were re-routing feeds from the Clatskanie Substation to the Bradbury and Wauna Substations and power was restored to all customers by 8:30 p.m.

Testing continued through the night and by 3 a.m., the cleared Clatskanie Substation transformer was given the go ahead to re-energize. The Clatskanie Substation was successfully brought back in service with no additional required outages to the customers. Dave Quinn, CPUD Operations Manager states "we suspect the worse whenever a substation transformer fuse opens. It could either mean a blown or damaged substation transformer, which could result in an entire substation being removed from service. Should such an even occur, outages could last for several days. We feel fortunate this time since no damage to the substation equipment was found." Quinn also said he was pleased that the new circuitry between the Bradbury and Clatskanie Substations were available to carry the Clatskanie Substation loads. The District had just completed the work on the substation and associated electric feeders earlier this year. Had that not been available, the Clatskanie area would have been without power during the duration of the transformer testing.

Further inspections of the feeder lines along Highway 30 have been completed. The cause of the event is still under investigation; therefore, the problem has been classified as transient. Greg Booth, General Manager, commended the staff for their hard work during the outage. The PUD Board of Directors were scheduled to have a Board workshop in the District's conference room, which had no power. The workshop was moved to the line crew room, which had power from the back up generator. "Business carried on as usual despite the conditions" said Booth, who noted that "we were fortunate to have the Bradbury Substation and the interties to provide us with this backup."