



Okanogan County Electric Co-op Newsletter

January 2018

Office Info:

Winter Office Hours:
Mon - Fri.
8 am - 4:30 pm

Our customer service
call center is available
24/7/365 to handle most
electric & propane
concerns.

(509) 996-2228

OCEC Board:

Chuck Armstrong
(carmstrong@oceec.coop)

Sara Carlberg
(scarlberg@oceec.coop)

Curtis Edwards
(cedwards@oceec.coop)

John Kirner
(jkirner@oceec.coop)

Ray Peterson
(rpeterson@oceec.coop)

Dale Sekijima
(dsekijima@oceec.coop)

Alan Watson
(awatson@oceec.coop)

Contacts:

General Manager
David Gottula
(dgottula@oceec.coop)

Information
(info@oceec.coop)

Pateros-Twisp Transmission Line Update

What is the status of the new Twisp-Pateros Transmission Line?

Construction on the project began in April of 2016 when the PUD awarded the contract to Michels Power of Tumwater. The Pateros-Twisp line was completed and energized in October 2017. The project consists of approximately 27 miles of new transmission line from Watson Draw in Pateros to the Twisp Substation. The new line creates a second transmission line to the Methow Valley area and increases reliability of electric service.

Who owns and operates the transmission lines?

Okanogan County Public Utility District owns and operates both the Okanogan-Twisp (Loup) transmission line and the Pateros-Twisp transmission line serving the Methow Valley. Bonneville Power Administration owns a transmission line from the lower end of the Loup transmission line to the Winthrop Substation. All Okanogan County Electric Co-op members are fed from either the Winthrop or Twisp Substations.

Specifically, how does the new Pateros-Twisp Transmission Line benefit OCEC members and PUD customers in the Twisp area and OCEC members in the Winthrop/Mazama area?

Twisp area PUD customers and Twisp area OCEC members are now being served by the new Pateros-Twisp transmission line. Until the connection point for Winthrop/Mazama transmission line is moved from its current location on the Okanogan-Twisp (Loup) transmission line to its own dedicated breaker at the Twisp Substation, Winthrop/Mazama OCEC members are still being served by the Okanogan-Twisp (Loup) transmission line.

When can we expect the "connection point" to be moved from its current location on the Okanogan-Twisp (Loup) line to the new dedicated breaker at the Twisp Substation?

Bonneville Power Administration and Okanogan County PUD are currently working on a plan to move the connection point in 2018. When this work is finished, Winthrop/Mazama members will join Twisp area residents in realizing the full benefit that the new Pateros-Twisp line provides, i.e., redundancy in the event of an outage on either of the transmission lines.

What will happen if there is a serious outage between now and when the connection point is moved to its permanent location at the Twisp Substation?

If there were to be a serious extended outage, technicians have the ability to reroute the power from the Twisp substation to supply Winthrop and Mazama members as a temporary solution.



OCEC Board Changes By-Laws

The OCEC By-laws can be changed by either a vote by the membership or an unanimous vote by the Board of Directors. Major changes to the By-laws are typically approved by the membership while the Board will approve minor, clarification type changes.

At the November Board meeting, the Board unanimously made a minor, clarification type change to the by-laws concerning the qualifications needed to be a Director.

Article III Directors, Section 2.1 Qualifications: Beginning with paragraph 3 revised wording:

'No person may become or remain a Director, or hold any position of trust in the Cooperative who is: (This part is unchanged):

2. a spouse, parent, child, sibling, step-relation, registered domestic partner or cohabitation partner of an employee, officer or serving Director of the Cooperative. (This part was changed to clarify step-relationships)

Dale Sekijima moved to accept the proposed changes to the OCEC By-Laws as presented. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors.

Break-in Results In Theft for OCEC and OCEI

Between the hours of 11 p.m. Friday, November 24 and the early morning hours of Saturday, November 25th there was a break-in to the locked yard at 93 West Chewuch Rd. which resulted in theft of specialty tools and wire with an estimated value of \$6,000.

Video footage from security cameras on the premises indicate that the suspect(s) entered and exited the from the Rendezvous Road side of the property. The vehicle subsequently left the scene going up Rendezvous Road. Additional security and lighting has been added since the break-in.

Anyone who may have seen vehicles or suspicious activity on or near the premises late on Friday, November 24 or early Saturday, November 25 is urged to contact Operations Manager, Glenn Huber at 996-2228.

Volunteer for the OCEC Nomination Committee

It's the New Year and the annual OCEC Board elections are coming soon. Per our by-laws, a Nomination Committee is appointed to make sure OCEC has quality Board members willing to serve your cooperative for a three-year term.

This committee is made up of at least three members who are not Board members nor are employees of the Cooperative.

The committee will only meet a couple times at most and is responsible for nominating members for the two Board positions open this year. If you would like to be on the Nomination Committee (or run for a Board position), please contact GM David Gottula at 996-2228 or dgottula@ocec.coop.

