

Rebekah Leach Wins 'Power of Youth' Award

Rebekah Leach of Goldendale was presented with the 2004 Klickitat PUD "Power of Youth" award at the 4-H awards banquet October 3.

KPUD sponsors the annual award. The recipient is selected for his or her community involvement, volunteerism and leadership activities in the Klickitat County Washington State University 4-H Program.

Rebekah received her high school diploma in the spring through homeschooling. She served as president of the "Over The Mane Gang" 4-H club this year, and is active in the 4-H horse program. She has participated in numerous performance horse competitions in Oregon and Washington.

Rebekah won a place on the state 4-H performance horse team three



Rebekah Leach, left, receives the 2004 "Power of Youth" award from KPUD Customer Service Manager Nadine Huxley.

years in a row at the Klickitat County Fair, taking her to the state

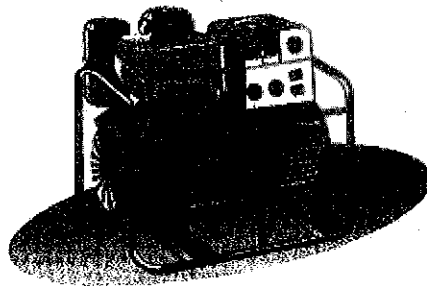
fair competition in Puyallup, where she won numerous awards. ■

Don't Cut Corners on Generator Safety

Some customers prepare for the possibility of power outages by buying an electric generator as a standby system to keep lights and appliances running until service is restored.

But a generator can pose serious safety hazards to you, your family, your property and utility line workers who may be working on power lines some distance from your home.

The National Electric Safety Code prohibits you from connecting a portable generator to your household wiring or any other source leading to KPUD's power lines, as it will not be isolated from the electrical supply. If this isolation does not exist, the generator's electrical energy could backfeed through your panel, meter and ser-



vice wire to the transformer and generate up to 7,200 volts in the power lines.

This could result in deadly consequences for line crews.

Permanently installed generators that switch on as soon as the power goes off require a control panel and transfer switch that automatically isolates the generator from KPUD's power supply and turns the generator off when power is restored.

This ensures there is no connection to the KPUD electrical system.

Always check and follow state, local and national fire and electric codes. The most important thing to remember is it is safest to have a licensed electrician install your generator switching system.

When installation is complete, call Klickitat PUD's engineering department at (509) 773-7612 to let them know.

You are responsible for any injuries or damages to your property, your neighbors' property, or PUD equipment/personnel from an improperly installed or operated generator.

Remember: Don't run a generator indoors, as it emits poisonous fumes. ■