

Settlement, Grant Funding To Benefit Klickitat PUD

The Washington State Attorney General's office has been battling in court for several years to recover the excessive charges paid by utilities due to market manipulation by electric marketers during the energy crisis of 2000-2001.

The result has placed retail providers such as Klickitat PUD in a position where we had no choice but to pass the high charge onto our customers by raising rates.

We are pleased to announce the state's efforts on behalf of electric consumers in Washington were successful. A settlement has been reached with Williams Energy and El Paso Energy, who have agreed to pay Washington consumers \$13 million during the next three years.

Klickitat PUD agreed to support the efforts of the Klickitat-Skamania Development Council (KSDC), in coordination with other councils in Washington state, to apply for these grant funds.

KSDC was successful in securing \$31,420 in the

first year of the settlement, for use in helping Klickitat PUD customers.

Speaking of grants: U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) grant funding has been earmarked for the development of a 300-kilowatt community wind project at Luna Point near Goldendale, the first of its kind in the state.

The funding is a part of USDA's \$22.8 million grant program from the farm bill. There were 167 grant recipients from 26 states in the competition to develop renewable energy systems and promote energy-efficiency improvements.

Klickitat County's project was the only renewable energy system applicant selected in the state of Washington.

The Luna Point Community Wind Project is a partnership between Klickitat PUD, Northwest Sustainable Energy for Economic Development, Last Mile Electric Co-op (LMEC), A World Institute for Sustainable Humanity (AWISH), KSDC and LMEC's Wind Co-op.

The net profits from the value of the power generated at the Luna Point site and the revenue from the Green Tags—renewable energy attributes—will benefit KPUD's "Operation Warm Heart" low-income energy assistance program. ■

Ryan Loveland Chosen as Scholarship Nominee



Ryan Loveland is KPUD's local nominee for the the \$1,000 Walkley Educational Scholarship, which is awarded annually to a high school senior who is a child of a Washington Public Utility District employee.

The scholarship was established by Glenn and Elvira Walkley. Glenn was a Franklin County PUD commissioner from 1945 to 1980.

In December, the Washington PUD Association will draw a winner from a pool of names submitted by the board of commissioners of each operating PUD in Washington.

On October 12, Klickitat PUD

employees presented the board with names of seven young people eligible for the 2005 scholarship. They included Stephen Smith, Sarah Thiel, Chad Purdy, Desirae Lexa, Ryan Loveland, David Byers and Sarah Beth Sinor.

Ryan's name was drawn out of the hat by the commissioners.

Ryan plans to attend Walla Walla Community College for two years and then transfer to the University of Southern California. He has several careers in mind, including a movie director, actor or pilot.

Ryan has been involved for many years in the county 4-H art and horse programs. ■