

Monthly highlights from your energy neighbor, PSE on Bainbridge Island.

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**PSE** on bainbridge island



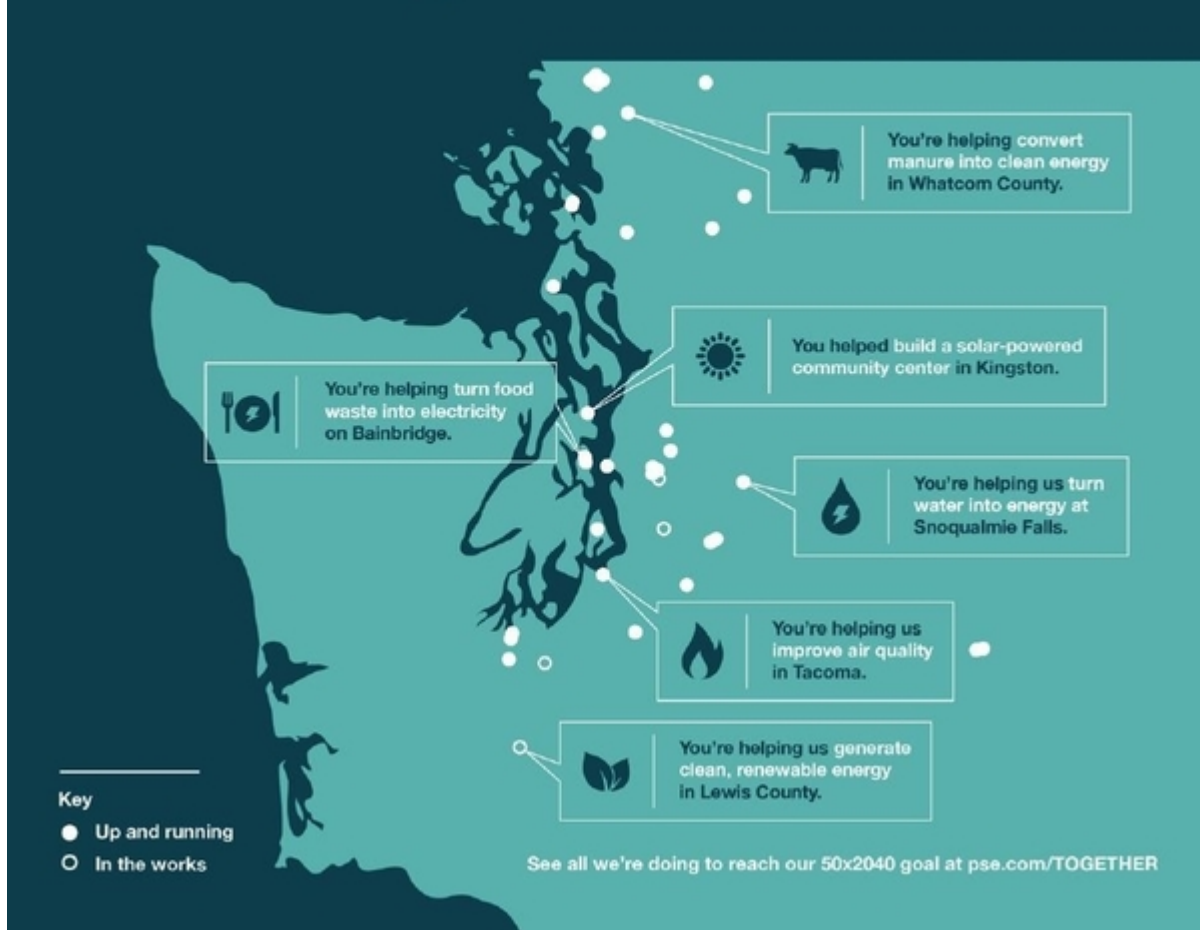
## PSE Bainbridge Update • April 2018



The sun sets over Bainbridge Island from Fort Ward Park. Photo by Keith Brofsky.

April is Earth Month, a good time to reflect on what we're doing to help the planet. This newsletter dives a bit deeper into what PSE is doing with regards to reducing our and our customers' carbon footprint.

# TOGETHER, we're creating a better energy future.



## TOGETHER, we'll reduce carbon emissions by 50 percent by 2040

How do we create a better energy future together? It takes being active in the community, pushing to constantly innovate and committing to doing what's right every time. Throughout Washington, in communities like Bainbridge Island, Kingston and Anacortes, customers like you are supporting countless projects that help us do exactly that.

### The transition from coal

With the retirements of Colstrip Units 1 and 2 no later than July 2022 and the shutdown of the Centralia Power Plant in 2025, PSE will be nearly coal-free and on the path to 100 percent coal-free by the early 2030s.

### New product resource and development

Our customers count on us for reliable and safe energy. We provide one-third of all of the electric and gas energy in our state—powering more than 1.5 million homes and

businesses.

For years, we've been leading the way to cleaner, more affordable energy, from hydro power to the three large wind farms we built in Washington state. We're the third largest utility owner of wind generation in the U.S. and we have one of the largest energy efficiency programs in the nation.

Now, we're making strategic investments that will bring more wind to commercial and governmental customers through our Green Direct program.

### **Cleaner transportation**

If we are going to have a better energy future in our state, we have to address transportation. In Washington, 43 percent of our carbon emissions come from transportation. Our state currently has a goal of 50,000 electric vehicles on our roadways by 2020. PSE has been supporting the market growth of electric vehicles and stands ready to do more. At the same time, we have to think of the whole picture and consider commercial and industrial transportation uses.

We have the opportunity to significantly reduce emissions with cleaner alternatives to diesel and other fuels. Liquefied natural gas (LNG) is one such fuel, reducing harmful pollutants in the air and water by more than 90 percent over diesel. The maritime and land-based transportation industries are continuing to convert their fleets to burn LNG instead of diesel and our LNG facility in Tacoma will help with that transition.

### **It will take all of us**

As you know, our customers and communities care as deeply about climate change and the environment as we do. Your continued care, support and enthusiasm are absolutely essential for success. We also have simple and concrete actions for you to make a difference in your daily lives—from energy efficient lighting and appliances to solar, carbon reduction and other renewable power programs.

### **Sign up now!**

**Green Power:** Through a small additional payment you choose to have added to your monthly energy bill, we buy clean energy on your behalf from independent producers in the Northwest. This commitment makes it possible for local energy innovators in wind, solar, landfill gas and agricultural and food waste to secure funding to bring new renewable generation to the market – funding that would otherwise not be available to these local innovators. Visit [pse.com/greenpower](https://pse.com/greenpower) to learn more and sign up.

**Solar Choice:** Through a month-to-month solar subscription you buy solar renewable energy credits from new, independent solar producers located in the Northwest. For as little as \$5, you can match a portion of your power usage with renewable energy from solar producers in Washington or Idaho. Visit [pse.com/solarchoice](https://pse.com/solarchoice) to learn more and

sign up.



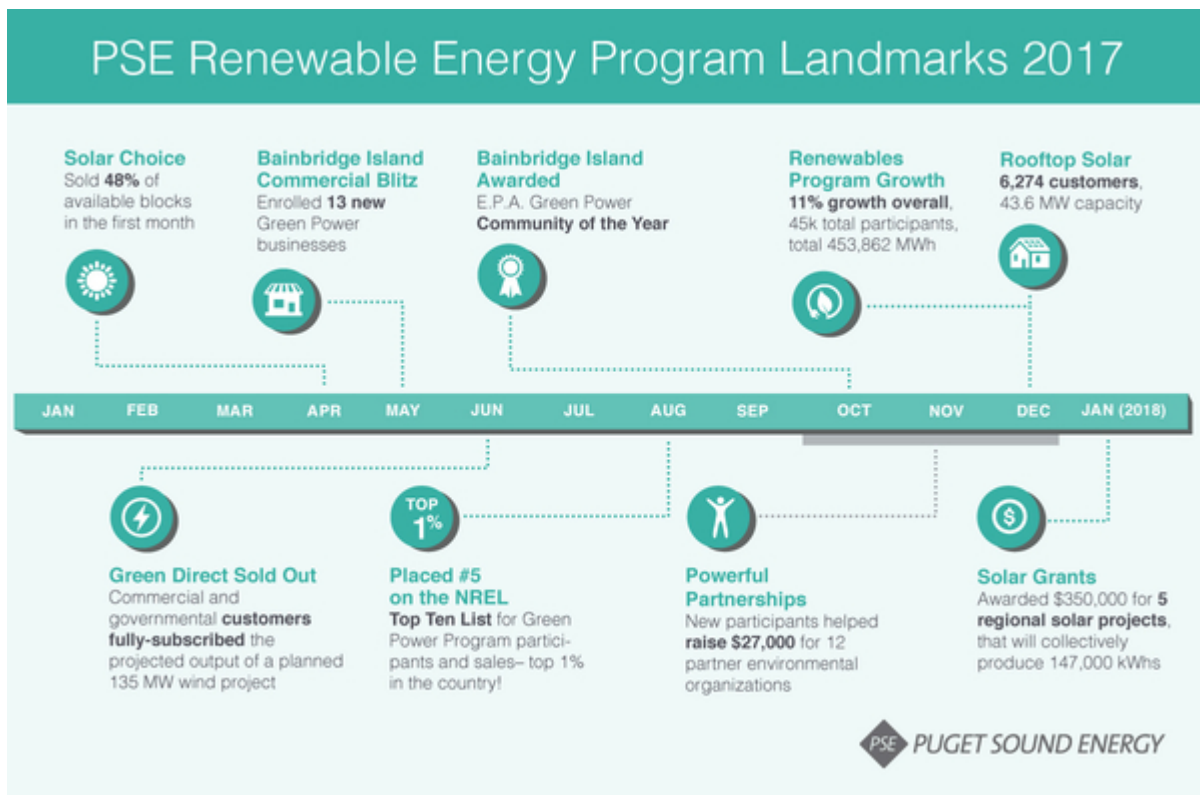
Wind and solar production at our facility in Kittitas County.

## **2018 Bainbridge renewables plan - working with you to lower the carbon footprint**

Puget Sound Energy is committed to helping the island lower its carbon footprint. In 2018, we continue to work with the community on a number of efforts:

- PSE is continuing to fund the second of two years of a pilot project with the HORSE digester, which is now being hosted by Pleasant Beach Village. The goal of this pilot is to demonstrate the viability of using food waste to make electricity and fertilizer that support the local economy and encourage the continued dialogue about a community-based project that is larger and permanent.
- PSE is continuing to lead the community digester discussion with the City of Bainbridge and other interested community stakeholders. PSE has now funded two technical memos to explore the use of anaerobic digestion to convert residential, commercial, and agricultural pre- and post- consumer organic waste on the island into locally-generated renewable energy and soil amendment products with zero waste. PSE facilitates the conversation, brings stakeholders together, contributes expertise and provides some funding. However, we will need a local entity to own, operate and move the idea forward.
- PSE representatives will be canvassing Bainbridge Island neighborhoods during the month of May to educate residents about our Renewables programs – Green Power and Solar Choice. This is a great opportunity for homeowners and renters to meet face to face with knowledgeable staff to learn about program options, have their questions answered and begin participating in the program of their choice.

- PSE representatives will be canvassing Bainbridge Island businesses during the month of October to educate businesses about our Renewables programs – Green Power and Solar Choice.
- PSE representatives will table at numerous events on the island throughout the year to share information on our energy efficiency programs as well as our renewables programs.
- PSE approached the City of Bainbridge Island with the concept of partnering on an Earth Day event to educate islanders about climate change, renewable energy and sustainability. The Climate Change Advisory Committee moved forward to host the event.
- PSE is offering to make presentations on our renewable energy programs to the Climate Change Advisory Committee, the Bainbridge Island Climate, Energy and Sustainability Forum as well as other organizations.
- As the details of our Green Direct Program (Phase 2) become available, we will share them with the City of Bainbridge and other appropriately sized customers.



## 2017: Our renewables year in review

2017 was an exciting year for both residential and commercial renewable energy programs.

In April, we launched a brand new program, Solar Choice, which proved to be very popular. Within the first month of launch, 48 percent of available blocks were purchased - helping underscore the message that our customers want more renewable energy options

that meet their unique needs and values.

Also in April, PSE launched Green Direct. This program provides large commercial customers, municipalities and government institutions the ability to purchase 100 percent of their energy from a dedicated, local, renewable energy resource, while providing them with a stable, cost efficient solution. The Phase 1 resource offering – a 135 Megawatt (MW) wind project – was sold out by the end of June 2017.

Twenty-one customers enrolled. Participants include Target, Starbucks, and REI; as well as numerous local governments including King County, Anacortes, Bellevue, Snoqualmie and Mercer Island. We will open up a new offering for the Green Direct program later this spring.

In May 2017, we held an on-the-ground commercial blitz to reach smaller businesses on Bainbridge Island. During that period, PSE's renewables team visited businesses and discussed the Green Power program face-to-face with owners and managers. In just two days, 13 Bainbridge Island businesses signed up for the Green Power program, bringing the total number of participating businesses on Bainbridge Island to 35.

New programs and options were not the only highlights of 2017. It was also an award filled year. PSE's Green Power program maintained its position as one of the top-5 programs in the nation as ranked by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory's (NREL) top-10 list for renewable energy participation and sales.

Bainbridge Island was awarded the E.P.A. Green Power Community of the year in 2017. This annual award recognizes communities that demonstrate leadership in advancing the nation's voluntary green power markets. Bainbridge Island government, residents and businesses are currently using more than 16 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) of renewable energy annually, which is enough to meet eight percent of the community's purchased electricity use.

To round out an exciting year of renewable energy momentum, we kicked off our Powerful Partnerships campaign. This campaign provided an opportunity for new Green Power and Solar Choice enrollees to have an even greater impact in their communities. For every new enrollment initiated between October-December, 2017, customers selected one of 12 Washington environmental non-profits for PSE to donate to on the customer's behalf. New Green Power and Solar Choice participants helped raise \$27,000 for those Powerful Partners.

The big take-away from 2017 is that our renewable power programs continued to grow and receive national recognition, thanks to our customers. Participation in Green Power grew by 6 percent, to 44,000; while Solar Choice ended its first year with 2,100 participants. (Bainbridge participation stands at almost 1,200 customers or 11 percent.) That participation supported the generation of 457,213 MWh of renewable energy

generation. The Customer Connected Solar program, which allows customers to receive bill credit for excess solar generated onsite and sent back to the grid, reached 6,274 participants (239 on Bainbridge) for a total capacity of 45.3 MWs.

2018 is already off to a great start. PSE kicked off the year with a \$350,000 solar grant award for five solar projects in the region, which will collectively produce 147,000 kWhs, annually.



PSE Community Projects Manager Renee Zimmerman and event attendees enjoying the Bainbridge Island Climate Change Education Event.

## Bainbridge Island takes on climate change

It was a gorgeous day for the Bainbridge Island Climate Change Education Event. The goal was to educate the attendees about climate change and the City's role in meeting the challenges of greenhouse gas reduction and preparing for change. The event combined tabling from a number of organizations, followed by several short presentations.

Approximately 50 people turned out for the speakers which included State Senator Christine Rolfes, Mayor Kol Medina, Deputy City Manager Morgan Smith, Senior Planner Christy Carr and Climate Change Advisory Committee member Derik Broekhoff.

Puget Sound Energy had two tables at the event. One to highlight our renewables programs and the other to introduce our effort to reduce our carbon footprint 50 percent by 2040. "It was a great opportunity to highlight to the community how PSE is assisting the island in reducing its carbon footprint," noted Karen Brubeck, PSE Outreach Manager.

## Follow us on Facebook

PSE has a [Facebook page](#) for our work on Bainbridge Island. Be sure to like and follow us to keep informed about PSE on Bainbridge Island!

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with us on  
**Facebook**



## Let us know what you think

Whether you have questions about our work on Bainbridge Island, the programs we offer or other questions about PSE's services, we want to hear from you. Please contact us at [info@psebainbridge.com](mailto:info@psebainbridge.com) or call us toll-free at **1-888-878-8632**.

Thank you,

Your PSE Bainbridge Team

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