

PSE on bainbridge island



PSE Bainbridge Update • October 2017



Autumn leaves at the Wild Horse Wind & Solar Facility.

This fall has been busy for PSE on Bainbridge Island as we have held two community town halls, continued preparing for storm season and completed a reliability project on Blakely Ave NE. Read on to learn more!

Thank you, Bainbridge!

To support our continuing discussion with Island residents, we held two town halls in October, one by telephone and one in person. To those who participated, thank you.

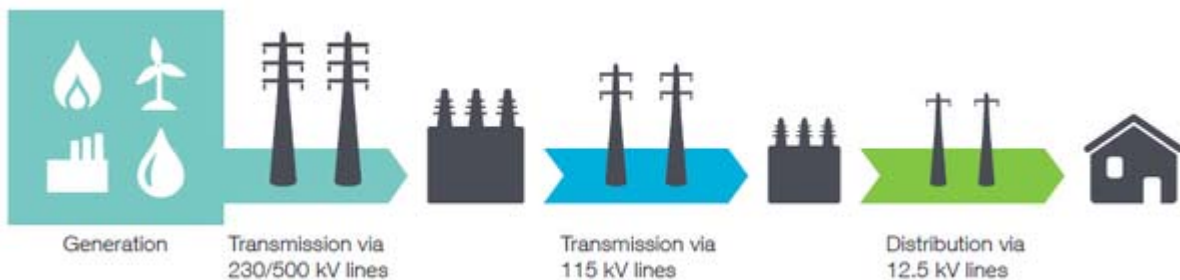
Our main topics of discussion focused on system reliability and our path to cleaner energy. Andy Wappler, vice president of Corporate Affairs, answered questions on the telephone town hall and joined Jens Nedrud, manager of Systems Planning, at the town hall on the Island.

After a brief [presentation](#) at the town hall on the Island, Andy and Jens opened it up for questions. Many questions focused on our future in clean energy, particularly related to the Colstrip generating facility. In this regard, we have good news. Our general rate case

settlement, which is currently being reviewed by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, establishes a workable mechanism to fund the decommissioning and environmental remediation at Colstrip. Colstrip Units 1 and 2 are scheduled for closure by July 2022. For the newer Colstrip Units 3 and 4, shut-down dates have not been established, but the schedule for depreciating those investments has been accelerated from a period ending in 2045 to one ending in 2027.

System reliability on Bainbridge Island was also a topic of several questions. Jens spoke about the variety of options we will study in the coming months (both non-wire and wired) and committed to come back to the community for feedback several times as the plans are developing.

If you or your group would like to meet with us to discuss power issues within your community, please contact us at info@psebainbridge.com or **1-888-878-8632** to schedule a meeting.



Electricity generation, transmission and distribution is a multi-step process.

How power gets to you

As we've continued our conversation on Bainbridge Island about improving electric reliability, increasing energy efficiency and keeping rates affordable across the Island, we commonly receive questions about the Bainbridge electric system. Bainbridge Island's power goes through four steps before it reaches you:

1. Electricity is generated off-Island at one of our many generating stations or received through the Bonneville Power Administration (federal).
2. High-voltage (230-500 kV) transmission lines send electricity across large distances towards Bainbridge Island. A substation on the Kitsap Peninsula "steps down" the voltage to 115 kV.
3. Two 115 kV transmission lines carry electricity across Agate Pass to reach the Island's three substations. One of the substations is "looped," meaning it is fed by two transmission lines to provide a redundant source of electricity, which increases reliability. The other two substations are not looped.
4. The substation nearest you steps down the high-voltage 115 kV electricity to medium-voltage (12.5 kV) electricity, which is [distributed](#) to you through a series of

distribution lines. Over half of the island's distribution lines are located underground.

PSE is working alongside customers to ensure a reliable and responsible energy future at every step. We regularly complete projects to improve reliability, such as the recent installation of [new underground distribution lines](#) along Blakely Ave NE or [seasonal tree trimming](#). To reduce the carbon footprint of our energy portfolio, we are working to close Colstrip plants 1 and 2 by 2022 and increase your access to renewable energy through our [Green Power](#) and [Solar Choice](#) programs. For more information on the Island's electric system, check our [website](#), including the frequently asked questions about [reliability](#) and [green energy](#).

Bainbridge prepares for storm season

This winter is expected to be a cold and rainy one due to a La Niña weather pattern, so now is a great time of year for Bainbridge Islanders to make sure they are prepared for storms and other emergencies.



PSE staff distribute preparedness materials at Bainbridge Prepares.

Third year of Three Days of Preparedness a success!

PSE was a proud partner of the 3rd annual Three Days of Preparedness. The PSE-sponsored film showings of *The Geological Formation of Bainbridge Island* on September 27 included a question and answer session with geologist and film narrator, Gregory Geehan. Once again, there was tremendous community interest in the film and we sold out both theaters, filling both a 250- and a 188-person capacity theater.

Day two featured the Preparedness Expo at City Hall on September 30, where we distributed over 500 free emergency preparedness kits. Still need one for this year? Check

out our [emergency kit checklist](#) to learn how to build your own.

The final day of preparedness on October 1 introduced the concept of “HUBs” – central gathering places among neighborhoods to be used in the event of an emergency. The City of Bainbridge Island’s goal is to have 10 HUBs established, and this informational event helped get the word out.



Completed underground vaults along Blakely Ave NE.

PSE has prepared for stormy weather

We have been hard at work during the nice weather this spring, summer and fall to improve reliability during this storm season. On Bainbridge, the combination of high winds, winter storms and tall trees result in trees being the #1 cause of outages. That's why we perform tree trimming every year – to reduce the likelihood of tree-related outages.

Construction projects also help reduce the likelihood of tree-related outages. Just at the end of this month, we completed the [Blakely Ave NE](#) project, which installed two miles of new underground distribution feeder cable sheltered from falling tree limbs. Soon we will begin the [NE Bergman Road](#) tree wire project to replace approximately 4,000 feet of existing overhead wire with specialized coated tree wire. Tree wire is strong enough to withstand falling tree limbs and can reduce the likelihood of tree-related outages.



A feathered friend at the West Sound Wildlife Shelter, PSE's new Powerful Partner.

New Powerful Partnership on Bainbridge Island

We are pleased to announce the West Sound Wildlife Shelter is one of 12 organizations across PSE's service area to be selected as a [Powerful Partner](#) this year. Powerful Partnerships is a new PSE program to support essential work happening in our Puget Sound communities.

Through this Powerful Partnership, PSE will donate to West Sound Wildlife Shelter when you [enroll](#) in PSE's renewable energy programs: Green Power and Solar Choice. Your donation will help support the important work of the Shelter while also supporting the development of new renewable energy in the region.

It is easy to do: by December 31, go to pse.com/enroll, use the code **WSWS**, and PSE will donate \$20 to the shelter, or \$30 if you enroll in both programs!

Sign up for Green Power and Solar Choice today, and we'll donate to West Sound Wildlife Shelter on your behalf!

This partnership provides you with the ability to join the combined efforts of reducing our carbon footprint while helping wildlife in our community – a powerful partnership indeed! Visit the West Sound Wildlife Shelter [website](#) to learn more about their work.

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!

Connect
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 or call us toll-free at **1-888-878-8632**.

Thank you,

Your PSE Bainbridge Team

October 2017 • psebainbridge.com



[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)