

Conservation key during turbine replacement

It will be six to eight months until a new turbine runner can be installed in the Stehekin Powerhouse, and residents are urged to conserve electricity.

On April 30, Chelan County PUD commissioners approved entering into emergency negotiations with contractors to replace the turbine runner. Replacement had been set for spring 2008, but those plans had to be scrapped when the runner developed new cracks. The 40-year-old turbine had cracked several times in the last two years and been repaired each time.

While the turbine runner is out, power is being generated for Stehekin homes and businesses by a diesel generator, costing the PUD up to \$1,000 a day.

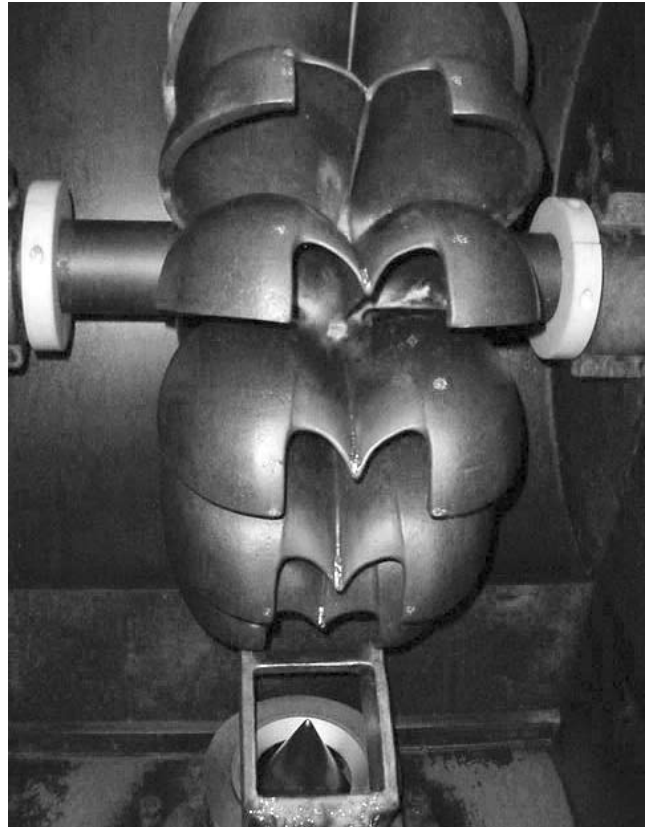
"We're consuming about 330 gallons a day of diesel," said Jim Gray, PUD operations and maintenance manager for Stehekin. "This will continue through the peak season this summer, and it's going to be a challenge." Two generators will be run to meet demand in August, he said. In addition to costs, the diesel generators are noisy and add to pollution.

Residents and visitors can reduce the impact by taking practical steps to conserve electricity. Here are some suggestions to reduce energy demand this spring and summer:

- Switch to compact fluorescent lamps (see story on flip side).
- Check your electric hot-water heater's thermostat. It should be set no higher than 120 degrees F.
- Turn the water heater off when you're away for extended periods. Turn off

lights, computers, TVs and appliances when not in use.

- Install low-flow showerheads in showers to reduce use of heated water.
- Only run fans when you're there to feel the breeze. A fan's motor adds a small amount of heat to a room, about as much as a small light bulb. The breeze cools your skin, but not the room or the furniture.
- Use a microwave oven instead of the range/oven, or grill outdoors. The microwave won't heat up the kitchen.
- Clean the dryer lint filter frequently and check the outdoor vent opening. When lint builds up and blocks airflow, drying takes longer. Or line-dry your clothes.
- Wash clothes in cold water. Almost all the cost of clothes washing is to heat water. Newer enzyme detergents



The 40-year-old Pelton wheel used to generate electricity at the Stehekin Powerhouse is being replaced. Diesel generators will be used until a new turbine runner can be installed.

perform best in cold water.

- Set your refrigerator between 37 and 40 degrees F. Clean refrigerator coils.

For more tips, go to www.chelanpud.org. Click on "Energy conservation".

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Quick savings from compact fluorescents

Installing compact fluorescent light bulbs in place of standard incandescent bulbs can offer substantial savings that stack up quickly. Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) use about two-thirds less energy than a standard incandescent bulb and last up to 10 times longer.

Jim White, senior Energy Services engineer at Chelan County PUD, said switching to nearly 100 percent use of CFLs would have a significant, immediate impact on energy demand in Stehekin.

If you don't want to replace all bulbs, consider replacements where lights are on the most, such as the family and living room, dining area and porch.

When shopping for CFLs, look for the Energy Star rating. Choose CFLs with 10,000-hour-rated life. And read the package instructions. Some bulbs are not appropriate for all fixtures. Matching the right CFL to the right kind of fixture helps ensure that it will perform properly. If the fixture is controlled by a dimming light switch, you will need to either replace

the switch with a simple on/off switch before installing compact fluorescent lamps or leave the dimmer in place and install a special compact fluorescent lamp that is specifically labeled to work with a dimmer.



A-shaped Incandescent Bulb (Watts)	Comparable CFL (Watts)
40	7-9
60	13-18
75	18
100	20-23
150	30-35

Source: www.energystar.gov

It pays to save

Chelan County PUD electric rates encourage conservation. Here are the rates for Stehekin customers:

0-400 kilowatt hours (kWh) per month	3.88¢ per kWh
401-750 kWh per month	5.38¢ per kWh
751 kWh and over per month	10.75¢ per kWh
Basic Charge	\$10.80 per month per meter

The last rate increase in Stehekin (as in the rest of the county) occurred in 2000.