

## **WATER USE EFFICIENCY**

The State of Washington Department of Health (DOH) revised water conservation planning requirements as a result of the 2003 Municipal Water Law. An outgrowth of that law is the Water Use Efficiency Rule (Rule), which was finalized in January 2007. The WUE Rules have since been updated. Per statutory requirements the PUD adopted its original Water Use Efficiency Plan in January 2008. As required by the Rule the PUD must update this plan every six (6) years during the update of its Water System Plan (WSP).

### **Water Use Efficiency Goals and Measures**

The goals of a conservation program should reflect the drivers of why a utility is pursuing conservation. Conservation drivers can include meeting regulatory requirements, minimizing impacts on water resources, decreasing operating costs, deferring capital improvements, and obtaining new supply. The conservation driver(s) applicable to any one utility depend on that utilities' specific supply situation and cost structures.

The PUD's conservation program is driven by the desire to reduce system leakage both in the PUD's distribution system and the customer's water system, to reduce operating costs, to educate and provide opportunities for customers to reduce their water consumption and to meet regulatory requirements. It should be noted that the PUD will continue to support source meters, service meters, system leak detection and repair, and the items listed in its current Comprehensive Water System Plan. The PUD's goal is to reduce water use by 0.5% per year.

#### ***Supply-Side Measures***

The PUD Supply-Side conservation program consists of the two (2) measures listed below.

##### ***Distribution System Leakage of 10% or Less of Production***

It is the goal of the PUD to perform annual leak detection surveys and to repair leaking distribution mains in a timely manner. This will ensure that the water system leakage remains below 10% of production. The 2010 distribution system leakage was 4.92% and the 10-year average was 3.12%. The rolling three year average from 2008-2010 is 4.93%. Assuming this stays relatively consistent, the PUD will continue to meet the standard of 10% or less of production goal.

##### ***Replace Customer Service Meters and Source Production Meters***

The PUD initiated an Automated Meter Reading (AMR) program in 2004 which provides for the replacement and/or retrofitting of inaccurate and out-dated meters with new electronic meters that can be read with an automated meter reading device. The AMR customer meter replacement/retrofit program will be completed by 2012. In addition, the PUD is currently replacing all propeller driven source production meters with more accurate magnetic meters. Replacing both service and source meters will ensure accurate readings and allow for better analysis of water loss. More accurate meters will result in better repair of system and customer service leaks. More accurate customer meter readings should also encourage customer conservation.

#### ***Demand-Side Measures***

The PUD conservation program for 2012-2017 will consist of the six (6) measures listed below. These measures have been selected due to a combination of factors including applicability to the PUD service area, customer acceptance, cost effectiveness, and/or savings potential. Descriptions of each measure are discussed below.

### *Billing Statements Showing Consumptive History*

The PUD will continue to show consumptive history on customer billing statements. Customer bills providing historical consumption data allow customers to understand how their use varies throughout the year and from year-to-year. This information helps customers make informed choices about how they manage their water use, including implementing conservation. PUD customer bills have included historical consumption data since the early 1990's. The bills have shown customer consumption for the same period from the previous year. Customer billing statements also include a graph showing water use for the previous 12 months.

### *Customer Education*

The PUD will continue to provide conservation information and tips on its website, in its customer handbook, customer brochures and on customer bills. The PUD will continue to provide and make available to students and teachers water and water conservation education programs. Education includes sponsoring and providing programs such as Xeriscape landscaping practices and irrigation efficiency.

### *Free Toilet Leak Detection Dye Tablets*

This measure provides free toilet leak detection dye tablets for customers to determine if their toilets leak and provides detailed information on how to fix leaks. This measure applies to single family and multifamily sectors, both existing and new customers, as well as to businesses with tank style toilets. Only tank style toilets are targeted since most leaks occur in that type of toilet, usually via flapper leaks.

### *Free Bathroom Faucet Aerators*

This measure provides free bathroom faucet aerators for residential customers to replace less efficient aerators. The aerators will be 1.0 gallons per minute (gpm), which is more efficient than the maximum 2.5 gpm allowed under the plumbing code for residential sectors. The target audience includes both existing and new customers.

### *Free Showerheads*

This measure provides free low flow showerheads to residential customers. The main flow rate on the showerheads is 2.0 gpm, which is more efficient than the maximum 2.5 gpm allowed under the plumbing code. The showerheads also have a built in "soap & shave valve", which is a button that can be pressed to reduce the flow rate to 1.0 gpm while soaping up or shaving, which do not require the full stream of water. The target audience is single family and multifamily sectors, both existing and new customers.

### *Irrigation Efficiencies and Landscape Management*

The PUD will partner with local colleges and university extension offices to provide customer education regarding irrigation efficiencies and landscape management. The PUD will utilize staff at the colleges and extension offices to provide expert advice and services in developing programs that promote irrigation and water use efficiencies. The PUD will also partner with other agencies such as the Bonneville Power Administration, DOH, Ecology and the local Watershed Planning Unit to help secure funding to assist the PUD and its customers in changing irrigation equipment and practices. The PUD will purchase an irrigation audit kit for use in conducting irrigation studies and promoting changes in irrigation practices for residential, multi-family and commercial customers. The PUD will also apply irrigation efficiencies and landscape management at its own facilities to reduce water use and promote drought tolerant landscaping.

*Estimated Savings through Measure Implementation – Proposed WUE Budget*

The estimated savings and direct costs of the conservation program are shown in Table 6-3. At full program implementation, at the end of 2017, the program is estimated to save 40,000 gallons per day (gpd). The program has a total budget over the 6-year planning period of approximately \$60,000, which is an average annual cost of approximately \$10,000. The program will be funded through rates. The savings achieved by the program, and the corresponding progress towards reaching the PUD goal of saving 40,000 gpd by the end of 2017, will be estimated by tracking the number of devices and rebates distributed and multiplying them by their per unit savings. In addition, the cost of energy savings due to reduced water production will be calculated using the following formula: Water production per kilowatt hour (333 gal/kW) times the cost of electricity per kilowatt hour = energy savings.

**Table 6-3  
Savings and Direct Costs Summary**

Measure	Sectors <sup>1</sup>			Quantity of Devices <sup>2</sup>		Savings (at full implementation)		Direct Costs		
	SF	MF	C	Total	Average Annual	GPD	% of Total	Total Over Plan Period	Average Annual	% of Total
1. Bills Showing Consumptive History	X	X	X	n/a		Not Quantified		\$0	\$0	0%
2. Customer Education	X	X	X	n/a		Not Quantified		\$30,000	\$5,000	50%
3. Free Toilet Leak Detection Dye Tablets	X	X	X	17,500	3,500	9,100	23%	\$3,000	\$500	5%
4. Free Bathroom Faucet Aerators	X	X		3,500	700	10,100	25%	\$3,500	\$580	6%
5. Free Showerheads	X	X		3,500	700	8,500	21%	\$17,500	\$2,920	29%
6. Irrigation Efficiencies Landscape Management	X	X	X	n/a		12,300	31%	\$6,000	\$1,000	10%
<b>Total</b>						<b>40,000</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$60,000</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

<sup>1</sup> SF is single family. MF is multifamily. C is commercial.

<sup>2</sup> The number of devices is higher than the number of participants since each participant has more than one fixture and the program assumes participants upgrade all their fixtures.

**Impact on Demand Forecast**

The conservation program will be implemented over the 6-year planning period from 2012-2017. The PUD demand will be reduced by the expected savings from the conservation program. The cumulative annual savings, as well as their relationship to the demand forecast, are provided in Table 6-4.

**Table 6-4  
Savings Schedule and Impact on Demand**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Cumulative Annual Savings (gpd)</b>	<b>Projected Demand Without Conservation (ADD gpd)</b>	<b>Savings as % of Demand With Conservation</b>
2012	27,500	4,490,000	0.61%
2013	31,000	4,520,000	0.69%
2014	34,000	4,560,000	0.75%
2015	36,000	4,600,000	0.78%
2016	38,000	4,640,000	0.82%
2017	40,000	4,680,000	0.85%

Tables 6-5 and 6-6 represent the forecasted average day demand (ADD) for the PUD for a 20-year period and the forecasted average day demand after implementation of the PUD’s WUE program.

**Table 6-5  
Forecasted Water Demand**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Customers</b>	<b>ADD (mgd)</b>
2012	6,976	4.49
2013	7,032	4.52
2014	7,088	4.56
2015	7,145	4.60
2016	7,202	4.64
2017	7,259	4.68
2018	7,318	4.72
2019	7,376	4.76
2020	7,435	4.80
2021	7,495	4.84
2022	7,555	4.88
2023	7,615	4.92
2024	7,676	4.97
2025	7,738	5.01
2026	7,799	5.05
2027	7,862	5.09
2028	7,925	5.14
2029	7,988	5.18
2030	8,052	5.23
2031	8,116	5.28

**Table 6-6  
Forecasted Water Demand with WUE**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Customers</b>	<b>ADD (mgd)</b>
2012	6,976	4.46
2013	7,032	4.49
2014	7,088	4.53
2015	7,145	4.56
2016	7,202	4.60
2017	7,259	4.64
2018	7,318	4.68
2019	7,376	4.72
2020	7,435	4.76
2021	7,495	4.80
2022	7,555	4.84
2023	7,615	4.88
2024	7,676	4.93
2025	7,738	4.97
2026	7,799	5.01
2027	7,862	5.05
2028	7,925	5.10
2029	7,988	5.14
2030	8,052	5.19
2031	8,116	5.24

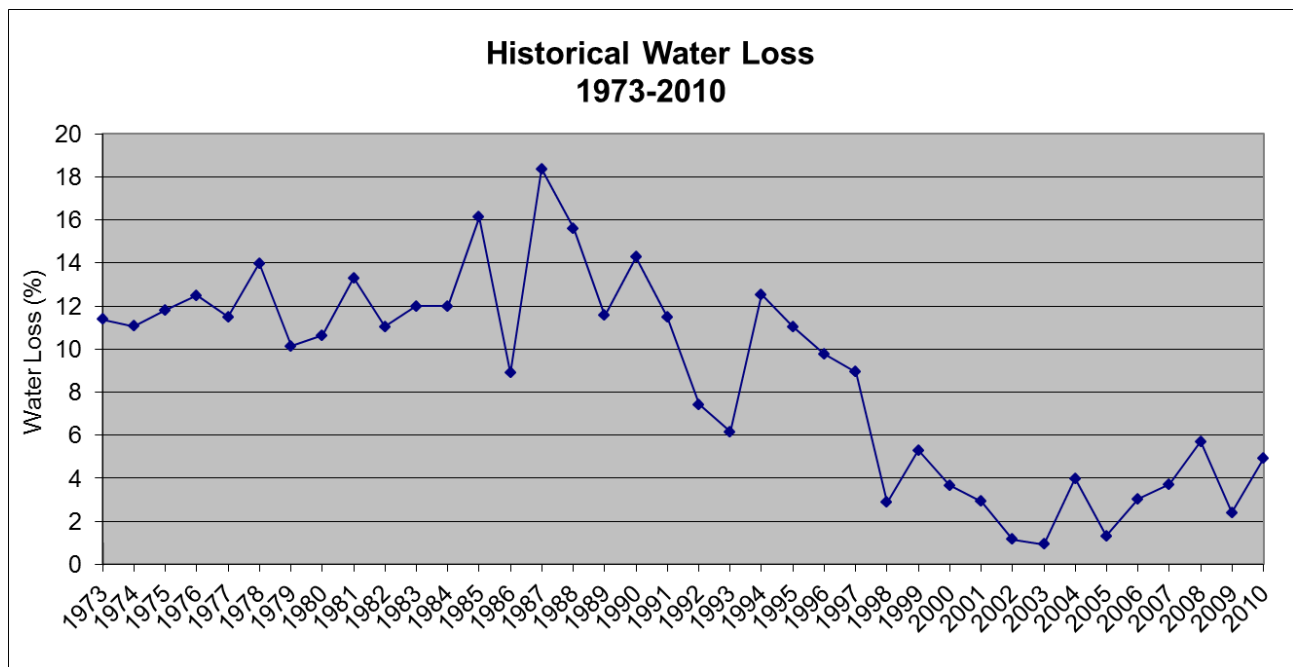
## Water Use Efficiency Program Effectiveness

To address the effectiveness of its Water Use Efficiency Program, the PUD will continue to compare production versus consumption to determine water loss, and will look at annual production and compare it against customer usage per year, per month and per day. Funds will be spent on those goals and measures that represent the highest return or most water savings for each dollar spent.

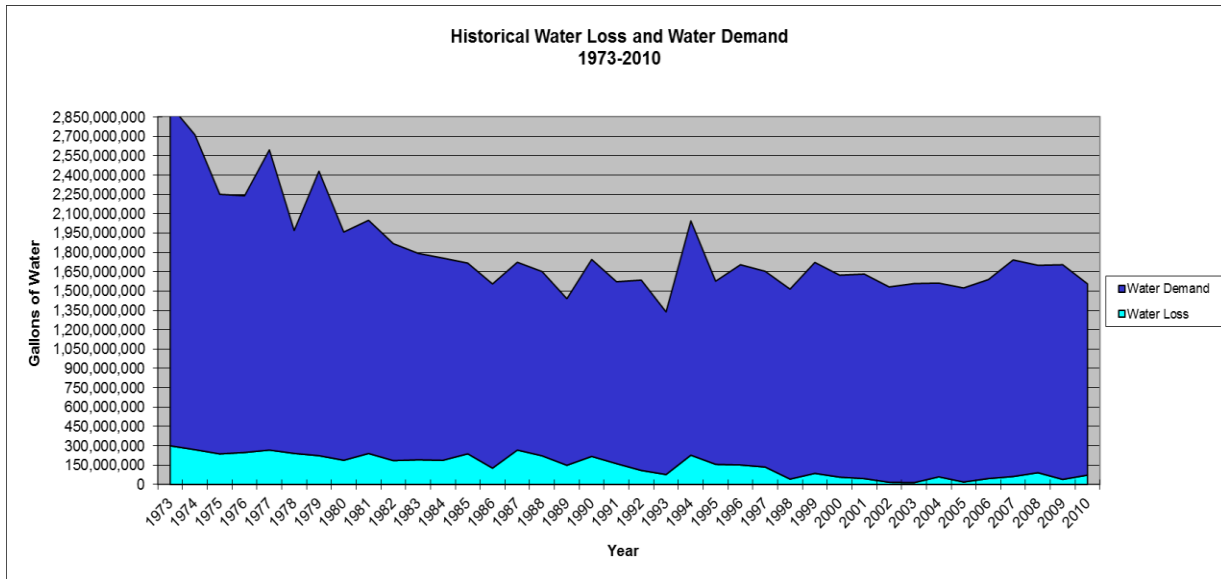
### Current and Past Conservation Activities

The PUD has demonstrated a very low non-revenue demand of 3.12% over the past 10 years. This is an indication of the excellent overall integrity of the water distribution system. Since adopting its initial Water Use Efficiency Plan in January 2008 the PUD has been actively pursuing its supply-side and demand-side goals. The efforts made have resulted in an estimated 6,000 gallons per day of water savings for the year ended December 2010. Figures 6-1 and 6-2 show historical water loss and historical water loss compared with water demand or production.

**Figure 6-1**  
**Historical Water Loss (1973-2010)**



**Figure 6-2**  
**Historical Water Loss and Water Demand (1973 - 2010)**



The PUD uses other methods to promote water conservation such as school outreach, billing showing consumption history, leak detection and meter installation. The PUD historical and ongoing conservation activities are summarized by category in Table 6-7.

**Table 6-7  
Water Conservation Measures Implemented to Date**

<b>Measure</b>	<b>DOH Required or Recommended</b>	<b>Description of Activities</b>	<b>Year Implemented</b>
<b>Public Education</b>			
School Outreach	N/A	Provide videos, pamphlets and teaching materials to local schools	2003
Program Promotion	Required	Distribution of brochures, customer newsletter	1988
<b>Technical Assistance</b>			
Bill Showing Consumption History	Recommended	Customer's water consumption record provided on water bill	1988
<b>System Measures</b>			
Source Meters	Required	Installation of source meters on all water supply wells	Various
Service Meters	Recommended	Installation of service meters (all accounts are currently metered)	Ongoing
Non-Revenue Water/Leak Detection	Recommended	Repairing broken meters, identifying and repairing leaks	Ongoing
<b>Incentives/Other Measures</b>			
Conservation Pricing	Recommended	Replace declining block rate structure with uniform rate structure	1994

### **Conservation Pricing**

Rates can be used to encourage conservation by customers. Rates typically consist of a fixed charge and a variable charge. There are four basic rate structures for the variable charge: uniform, declining block, increasing block and seasonal. Both increasing blocks and seasonal rates are considered conservation pricing. Increasing blocks charge more per unit of consumption with additional consumption. Seasonal rates charge more per unit of consumption during the peak season.

The PUD has a uniform rate (same charge per unit of water used). In 1994, the PUD moved from a declining block rate (the more you use the less you pay) to a uniform rate. The change resulted in a decrease in water use by 5% of our customers – those who use the most water. Since 1994 the PUD Board of Commissioners has raised the monthly minimum charge (fixed charge) and the uniform consumptive rate several times. The primary driver behind the rate increases was to meet increased costs and capital improvement needs.

Through setting Water Use Efficiency – Conservation Goals the PUD evaluated the feasibility of adopting and implementing a conservation rate structure. The PUD evaluated implementing a seasonal conservation rate (the charge per unit increases during peak usage season; generally

targeting outdoor summer use). Peak season for the PUD is a 5-month period from June 1st through October 31st of each year.

For each class of customer, residential, multi-family and commercial, those customers using over 500 cubic feet or 3,740 gpd would be subject to the increased seasonal rate charge. Based upon water use in 2007, the seasonal conservation rate would affect 341 residential customers, 29 multi-family customers and 51 commercial customers. A total of 420 customers out of the nearly 7,000 customers would be subject to the conservation rate.

The PUD Board of Commissioners have chosen at this time to not introduce a conservation rate until further study has been completed and greater customer communication on the issue of water conservation is achieved.

### **Water Reclamation Opportunities Evaluation**

The Asotin PUD completed a preliminary evaluation of water reclamation opportunities as follows:

#### **1. Inventory of Large Water Users**

- a. Clarkston School District
- b. Army Corp of Engineers
- c. City of Clarkston
- d. Asotin County Housing Authority
- e. Vineland Cemetery
- f. Various rental apartments and trailer parks

#### **2. Potential Reclaimed Water Use and Users**

- a. School Yards, Clarkston School District
- b. Parks and Playgrounds, City of Clarkston and Army Corp of Engineers
- c. Street Sweeping, City of Clarkston
- d. Cemeteries, Vineland Cemetery

#### **3. Estimated Water Savings from Use of Reclaimed Water**

- a. School Yards                      29,000,000 gallons
- b. Parks and Playgrounds      24,000,000 gallons
- c. Street Sweeping                4,000,000 gallons
- d. Cemeteries                        6,900,000 gallons

**Total** 63,900,000 gallons



The feasibility of developing reclamation opportunities is limited by several factors. Once water produced by the PUD reaches and is processed by the City of Clarkston Wastewater Treatment Plant it becomes the property of the City. The PUD and the City have not met to discuss reclamation opportunities. The location of the Treatment Plant in relation to the entities and potential uses is a limiting factor.

In order to get reclaimed water to the potential users, many miles of piping and appurtenances would need to be constructed. A project of this size would be cost prohibitive and would increase the price beyond the current PUD water rates. The only use that would be cost effective is for street sweeping. The water being discharged from the Treatment Plant augments flows in the Snake River. Discontinuance of this discharge may have negative environmental impacts.

### **Conservation Requirements and Compliance Summary**

The conservation planning requirements that must be addressed in water system plans are contained in the following DOH documents and State law:

- Water Use Efficiency Rule (January 2007)
- Municipal Water Law: Interim Planning Guidance For Water System Plan/Small
- System Management Program Approvals (March 2004)
- Water System Planning Handbook (April 1997)

The DOH recently revised water conservation planning requirements as a result of the 2003 Municipal Water Law. An outgrowth of that law is the Water Use Efficiency Rule (Rule), which was finalized in January 2007. The Rule has several requirements and corresponding compliance dates. Some of the requirements are associated with water system plans, while other requirements are independent of the 6-year water system planning cycle. The 2006 Comprehensive Water System Plan was not technically subject to the new requirements, since it was submitted prior to the compliance dates for planning documents to adhere to the new requirements, however the current plan and future updates will implement the requirements.

Table 6-8 lists the requirements of the Rule and shows that Asotin PUD is either currently in compliance, or likely will be in compliance for activities where compliance will be determined at a future date. There are seven main categories of requirements:

1. Meters
2. Data Collection
3. Distribution System Leakage
4. Goals
5. Efficiency Program
6. Demand Forecast
7. Performance Reports

**Table 6-8  
Compliance with Water Use Efficiency Rule Requirements**

Category	WAC Section	Compliance Date	New Requirement	PUD in Compliance?
1. Meters	246-290-496	Fully metered by January 22, 2017. Submit metering plan by July 1, 2008.	1. Meter all <b>sources</b> .	Yes, all seven wells are metered.
			2. Meter all <b>service connections</b> .	Yes, all service connections are metered.
			3. For systems <b>not fully metered</b> : Create meter installation plan, perform activities to minimize leakage until fully metered, and report annually on installation and leak minimization actions.	N/A, since PUD is fully metered.
2. Data Collection	246-290-100	WSPs submitted after January 22, 2008.	1. Provide monthly and annual <b>production/purchase</b> numbers for each source.	Yes, tracked monthly and accounted for in 2012 Water System Plan.
			2. Provide annual <b>consumption</b> by customer class.	Yes, tracked monthly and accounted for in 2012 Water System Plan.
			3. Provide " <b>seasonal variations</b> " consumption by customer class.	Yes, tracked monthly and accounted for in 2012 Water System Plan.
			4. Provide annual quantity <b>supplied to other public water systems</b> .	Yes, water supplied to other public waters systems is quantified.
			5. Evaluate <b>reclaimed water</b> opportunities.	Yes, evaluated in 2012 Water System Plan.
			6. Consider water use efficiency <b>rate structure</b> .	Yes, conservation rates have been evaluated. Rates were changed from a declining block to a uniform rate.
3. Distribution System Leakage	246-290-820	First report completed by July 1, 2008. First compliance determination made by July 1, 2010.	1. <b>Calculate</b> annual volume and percent using formula defined in the Rule.	Yes, 2010 distribution system leakage was 4.92%, 3-year average was 4.93% and the 10 - year average was 3.12%. Assuming this stays relatively constant, the PUD will meet the 10% or less threshold. The leakage information is reported along with the annual Customer Confidence Report (CCR), which is distributed to all customers.
			2. <b>Report</b> annually: annual leakage volume, annual leakage percent, and, for systems not fully metered, meter installation progress and leak minimization activities.	
			3. Develop water loss control <b>action plan</b> (if leakage is over 10% for 3 year average).	
4. Goals	246-290-830	Goals established by January 22, 2008.	1. <b>Establish</b> measurable (in terms of water production or usage) conservation goals and re-establish every 6 yrs. Provide schedule for achieving goals.	Yes, Initial WUE adopted before January 22, 2008.
			2. Use a <b>public process</b> to establish the goals.	
			3. <b>Report</b> annually on progress.	Yes, the goals information will be reported with the annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), which is distributed to all customers.

Category	WAC Section	Compliance Date	New Requirement	PUD in Compliance?
5. Efficiency Program	246-290-810	WSPs submitted after January 22, 2008.	1. <b>Describe existing</b> conservation program.	<b>Yes</b> , current conservation program described in 2012 Water System Plan and summarized in this report.
			2. <b>Estimate water saved</b> over last 6 years due to conservation program.	<b>Yes</b> , PUD has tracked estimated conservation savings. The PUD has tracked the decrease in water loss due to distribution line repairs.
			3. Describe conservation <b>goals</b> .	<b>Yes</b> , see section titled "...Proposed Water Conservation Goals..."
			4. Evaluate and implement <b>1-12 measures</b> , depending on size. (6 measures for PUD)	<b>Yes</b> , PUD is required to evaluate and implement 6 measures. The PUD has proposed to evaluate and implement 8 measures.
			5. Describe conservation <b>programs for next 6 years</b> including schedule, budget, and funding mechanism.	<b>Yes</b> , see section titled "...Proposed Water Conservation Goals and Measures"
			6. Describe how customers will be <b>educated</b> on efficiency practices.	
			7. Estimate <b>projected water savings</b> from selected measures.	
			8. Describe how efficiency program will be <b>evaluated</b> for effectiveness.	
			9. Estimated <b>leakage from transmission lines</b> (if not included in distribution system leakage).	<b>Yes</b> , PUD has emergency interties with the Port of Wilma in Whitman County and with the City of Asotin. No water has been used through the City of Asotin line and very little has been used through the Port of Wilma line.
6. Demand Forecast	246-290-100	WSPs submitted after January 22, 2008.	1. Provide demand forecast reflecting <b>no additional conservation</b> .	<b>Yes</b> , provided in 2012 Water System Plan and detailed in this report.
			2. Provide demand forecast reflecting <b>savings from efficiency program</b> .	
			3. Provide demand forecast reflecting <b>all "cost effective" evaluated measures</b> .	N/A, since PUD is implementing more than the required minimum number of measures (6), this forecast is not required.
7. Performance Reports	246-290-840	First report completed by July 1, 2008.	1. <b>Develop</b> annual report including: goals and progress towards meeting them, total annual production, annual leakage volume and percent, and, for systems not fully metered, status of meter installation and actions taken to minimize leakage.	<b>Yes</b> , the goals information is reported with the annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), which is distributed to all customers.
			2. <b>Submit annually</b> by July 1 to the DOH and customers, and make available to the public.	