



energize**EASTSIDE**

project newsletter

Now is the time to upgrade

The last major upgrade to the backbone of the Eastside’s electric grid was more than 50 years ago in the 1960s. Since then, our population has grown eight-fold. This growth will only continue. Projections by the Puget Sound Regional Council show the Eastside population will likely grow by another third and employment will grow by more than three-quarters over the next 25 years.

Studies performed to meet federal electrical reliability requirements project that demand for reliable power will exceed the Eastside electric grid's capacity as early as winter 2017-18. Without substantial electrical infrastructure upgrades and aggressive conservation efforts, the Eastside's power system will become vulnerable to overloading during peak usage, increasing the risk of outages for more than 60,000 customers.

PSE is committed to providing safe and reliable power to help sustain local population and economic growth on the Eastside. To do this, we need to upgrade our system now.

Gathering community input to help inform the project

In December 2013, PSE announced Energize Eastside and began a multi-year community outreach effort to share information and gather feedback on potential route options. We’ve also collaborated with local cities, residents, businesses and a 24-member Community Advisory Group.

To-date, our outreach has included:

- 22** Community Advisory Group meetings
- Over **330** project briefings with stakeholders, neighborhoods and cities
- Over **2,500** comments and questions about the project
- Mailed **9** project updates

Today, we’re focusing our attention on the two route options recommended by the Advisory Group in December 2014. This year we have been gathering and reviewing field data, which will help us examine route design options.

*“Is the [Energize Eastside] project needed to address the reliability of the electric grid on the Eastside? **Yes.**”*
– Utility System Efficiencies, Inc., April 28, 2015

Independent studies confirm a solution is needed

Multiple independent studies have made it clear that we need to upgrade the Eastside’s electric infrastructure now to accommodate local population and economic growth and avoid potential power outages in the very near future.

Read these studies and more at EnergizeEastsideEIS.org and energizeeastside.com/documents.

Studies confirming need

Study	Author	Year	Commissioned by
Electric Reliability Study	Exponent	2012	City of Bellevue
Eastside Needs Assessment Report	Quanta Services	2013	PSE
Supplemental Eastside Needs Assessment Report	Quanta Services	2015	PSE
Independent Technical Analysis	Utility System Efficiencies, Inc.	2015	City of Bellevue
Review of Project Need Memo	Stantec Consulting Services Inc.	2015	EIS consultant

Puget Sound Energy, P.O. Box 97034, Bellevue, WA 98009-9734

For more information

- Learn more about the Energize Eastside project by watching our latest project video. Visit energizeeastside.com/videos.
- This year, PSE collected field information to inform the environmental review process, project design and future permit applications. Learn more at energizeeastside.com/fieldwork.
- For more background information and the latest news about the Energize Eastside project, visit energizeeastside.com.

Thank you for your interest in Energize Eastside.

pse.com/energizeeastside

1-800-548-2614

energizeeastside@pse.com

The EIS provides an objective discussion of significant environmental impacts, reasonable alternatives, and mitigation measures that would avoid or minimize adverse impacts of the project. The Phase 1 Draft EIS is expected to be issued in early 2016, at which time the City of Bellevue will offer additional opportunities for public input. Learn about opportunities to provide comment and read more about the EIS process led by the City of Bellevue at EnergizeEastsideEIS.org.

Environmental Impact Statement



Currently, the Energize Eastside project is undergoing environmental review, which includes preparation of a Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The City of Bellevue is leading the EIS process in cooperation with Kirkland, Newcastle, Redmond and Renton.

Public comment opportunities to be announced in early 2016



Redmond today



Redmond circa 1956

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