



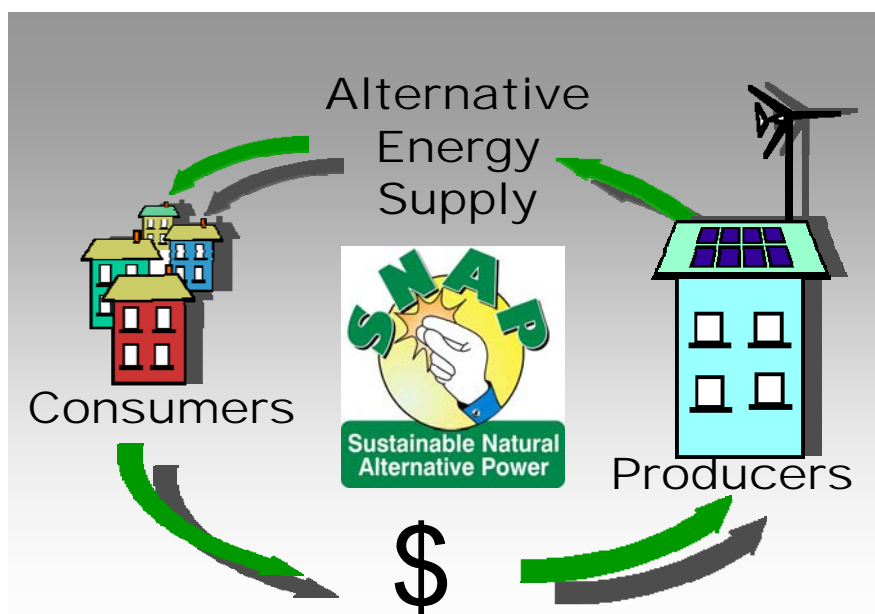
# Okanogan County PUD SNAP with Net Metering Overview

SNAP is a way to make grid-connected renewable energy production cost-effective today.

SNAP creates a local market for locally produced green power.

SNAP uses free market principles to maximize the number of renewable energy systems that get installed and continue to operate.

SNAP is a low-cost, customer-driven local green power program.



Customers' contributions are used to pay a premium price for local green power.

These production incentive payments help the Producers recover equipment costs.

*SNAP (Sustainable Natural Alternative Power) and logo are a registered trademark of*

## **Program Overview**

- This local green power program allows District customers to voluntarily support the generation of electricity from renewable energy sources.
- The green power is generated within the District's service territory from solar, wind, or other qualified renewable energy sources.
- The renewable energy generation systems in this SNAP program are limited to 25 KW or less, and are approved net metered systems under the District's Interconnection Standards for Electric Generators with Generating Capacity no Larger than 100 kW.
- District customers who purchase and install SNAP generation systems are called Producers, and are eligible for SNAP production payments.
- District customers who choose to make onetime or regular contributions to this SNAP program are called Purchasers.
- The contributions from Purchasers are held by the District and annually distributed to the Producers based on their share of the total kilowatts produced from all SNAP generation systems. The maximum payment per kilowatt-hour produced is \$1.00.
- This SNAP program may also include Partners who are entities or individuals who choose to make donations to assist with the purchase of renewable energy generation equipment to be used in SNAP generation systems. These donations may be designated for specific systems, and are not used to pay Producer production incentives.

## **DEFINITIONS**

**KILOWATT-HOUR PAYMENT CAP:** A cap or maximum amount individual Producers can be paid per kilowatt-hour of SNAP generation. The District sets this cap.

**LOCAL GREEN POWER PROGRAM:** General description of programs offered by the District that focuses on the use and promotion of renewable energy sources as the primary component of the program. The SNAP program fits this category whereby District customers who generate electricity from renewable energy sources receive production incentive payments from funds collected from District customers. The renewable energy is generated and used locally, within the District's territory.

**SNAP:** Trademark name of the Sustainable Natural Alternative Power program developed by Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County in Washington State. The SNAP logo and trademark may be used at no charge by entities that sign the SNAP Permission Agreement and follow the terms and conditions of the agreement.

**SNAP FUND:** An account maintained by the District for the receipt and distribution of SNAP Purchaser contributions. The District passes 100% of the SNAP Purchaser contributions on to SNAP Producers according to the SNAP Payment Formula.

**SNAP GENERATION:** Electric power generated by solar, wind, or other qualified renewable energy resources the District may elect to include in the SNAP program.

**SNAP METER:** A utility approved metering device capable of measuring the AC kilowatt-hour (kWh) production of a SNAP Generation system.

**SNAP PARTNER:** A District customer, or other person or entity, who makes donations to support the installation of equipment for qualified SNAP Generation projects. Such donations may be designated for specific systems, and are not used to pay Producer production incentives. The District will facilitate the matching up of Partners with Producers but will not be involved in any financial transactions between the two entities. Such arrangements will be left up to the parties involved in the partnership.

**SNAP PAYMENT FORMULA:** The annual payment to an individual SNAP Producer equals the total balance in the SNAP Fund (annual SNAP contributions plus any carryover from previous years) times the SNAP Producer's annual metered SNAP Generation (kWh) divided by the annual total SNAP Generation for all participating SNAP Producers, not to exceed the District's per kilowatt-hour cap amount.

*Producer \$ = (SNAP Fund X Producer's kWh)/(Total SNAP kWh), limited by kWh Cap*

**SNAP PRODUCER:** A District customer with a Net Metered renewable energy generation system, a SNAP Producer Agreement, and SNAP meter(s) in place. Also referred to as "Producer."

**SNAP PURCHASER:** A District customer who makes voluntary contributions to the SNAP Fund to support electric power produced from qualified sources of renewable energy by other District customers. Also referred to as "Purchaser."

## **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

**SNAP with net metering** is a local green power program offered by the District to encourage customers to support renewable energy, or "green" kilowatt-hour generation within the District's service territory. Customers support the program through voluntary contributions. In the SNAP program these customers are referred to as Purchasers. For the sake of clarity in this program description, Purchasers may also be referred to as customers.

Purchasers do not physically receive "green" kilowatts. The SNAP program guarantees Purchasers that 100 % of their contributions are used to make kilowatt-hour incentive payments to District customers who produce metered kilowatts generated by solar or wind energy systems.

Through this program, customers can support SNAP Generation by contributing money over and above their regular utility bill. This additional money is kept in a SNAP Fund,

which is then passed on to SNAP Producers once a year according to the SNAP Payment Formula.

Customers can make one-time SNAP Generation purchases, commit to regular purchases, or make both types of contributions. The amount of the regular purchase contribution will appear on customers' bills as a reminder of the commitment. Non-payment of the voluntary purchase will not subject customers to late fees or disconnection. Customers can terminate SNAP generation purchase commitments at any time.

If a customer has indicated that a SNAP purchase is included in their payment, all other charges shall be deducted prior to crediting the customer's voluntary purchase to the SNAP Fund. Customers with credit balances that have committed to a monthly SNAP purchase will have the SNAP purchase deducted from their credit balance.

Customers on automatic payment plans that have made a written commitment to a regular SNAP purchase will have the purchase added to their automatic payment.

SNAP purchases cannot be applied to the regular bill once they have been transferred to the SNAP fund.

Customers can sign up to make regular SNAP Generation purchases at any time. The full amount of the regular commitment will appear on the customer's bill.

SNAP purchases from District customers will be added to a SNAP Fund. The SNAP Fund will be closed on June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year. The total of the SNAP purchases in the SNAP Fund as of this date will be the amount of SNAP funding available for the current annual distribution to Producers.

SNAP fund payments for the metered AC electricity produced shall not exceed the Kilowatt-Hour Payment Cap set by the District. Any SNAP funds in excess of payments made will be held over to the following year and added to the SNAP fund for the next fiscal year. If there is no money in the SNAP fund for a given fiscal year, Producers will receive no payments from this fund and the District shall not be required to make this payment from any other fund.

**District and SNAP Producer obligations and requirements are detailed in the District's SNAP Producer Agreement and the Customer Information Packet on Net Metering.**

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Grant support from DOE, BPA, and EPA, enables the WSU Extension Energy Program to provide SNAP program adaptation and assistance electric utility companies in developing local green power programs. Documents included in this packet are adapted with permission from Chelan County PUD's SNAP program materials. This version of SNAP is designed to operate in conjunction with net metering. For more information about developing a local green power program contact: Ellen Lamiman, Rural Utility Specialist, WSU Energy Program, at 509-996-2763 or [ELamiman@methow.com](mailto:ELamiman@methow.com)