Media Release

PUD 1's Karl Denison Receives Lifetime Achievement Award from Washington PUD Association

POTLATCH, WA- At the annual conference of the Washington Public Utility Districts Association (WPUDA) in Spokane earlier this month, former Mason County PUD No. 1 commissioner Karl Denison was presented with the Association's Lifetime Achievement Award, citing Denison's exceptional leadership and commitment to the philosophy and purpose of the Association and public utilities. General managers Doug Miller of Pacific County PUD and Bob Geddes of Lewis County PUD were also recipients of the award.

Denison thanked the PUD 1 commission and staff, sharing how honored he was to be nominated for the award by both PUD 1 and Energy Northwest, for whom Denison was a member of their Participant Review Board for several years. Denison served 12 years as a PUD 1 commissioner, representing District 1, which encompasses the Union and Alderbrook communities. Addressing the crowd of PUD commissioners, managers and executives, Denison reflected on Washington State energy policy urging the utility leaders to, "always ask questions and don't give up local control."

Also notable, another former PUD 1 commissioner, and current state senator, Tim Sheldon was honored with the Legislative Champion Award for his work to promote public utility ratepayers' interests in the state legislature. The WPUDA presenter expressed gratitude to Senator Sheldon specifically noting, "Your voice and leadership in seeking broadband access to unserved and underserved areas of the state demonstrates your commitment to the people of Washington and PUDs."

WPUDA's members include 27 not-for-profit, community owned public utility districts across Washington State, as well as one joint-operating agency, Energy Northwest.

(Pictured L-R: Commissioner Mike Sheetz, PUD Attorney Rob Johnson, Commissioner Ron Gold, Melanie & Karl Denison, General Manager Steven Taylor, Senator Tim Sheldon, Commissioner Jack Janda)

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