

## Skamania County Ice Storm Hotwash

February 23, 2017 - 0900-1030



Name	Agency	E-mail
Dave Brown	SC Sheriff	<a href="mailto:daveb@co.skamania.wa.us">daveb@co.skamania.wa.us</a>
David Waymire	SC Sheriff's Office	<a href="mailto:davidw@co.skamania.wa.us">davidw@co.skamania.wa.us</a>
Tom Lannen	SC Commissioner	<a href="mailto:lannen@co.skamania.wa.us">lannen@co.skamania.wa.us</a>
Kari Fagerness	SC EDC	<a href="mailto:kfagerness@skamania-edc.org">kfagerness@skamania-edc.org</a>
Tim Homan	SC PW	<a href="mailto:homann@co.skamania.wa.us">homann@co.skamania.wa.us</a>
Randy Moline	SC PW	<a href="mailto:Moline@co.skamania.wa.us">Moline@co.skamania.wa.us</a>
Kirby Richards	SC Comm Health	<a href="mailto:richards@co.skamania.wa.us">richards@co.skamania.wa.us</a>
Amanda Cole	SC Comm Health	<a href="mailto:cole@co.skamania.wa.us">cole@co.skamania.wa.us</a>
Arlene Johnson	SC Seniors	<a href="mailto:ajohnson@co.skamania.wa.us">ajohnson@co.skamania.wa.us</a>
Pat Albaugh	Port of SC	<a href="mailto:pat@portofskamania.org">pat@portofskamania.org</a>
Melanie Sharp	SC PUD	<a href="mailto:msharp@skamaniapud.com">msharp@skamaniapud.com</a>
Gary Leonard	SC PUD	<a href="mailto:gleonard@skamaniapud.com">gleonard@skamaniapud.com</a>
Nick Hogan	City of Stevenson	<a href="mailto:nick@ci.stevenson.wa.us">nick@ci.stevenson.wa.us</a>
Eric Hansen	City of Stevenson	<a href="mailto:eric@ci.stevenson.wa.us">eric@ci.stevenson.wa.us</a>
Nathan Hovinghoff	WSP	<a href="mailto:Nathan.Hovinghoff@wsp.wa.gov">Nathan.Hovinghoff@wsp.wa.gov</a>
Scott Williams	PBA	<a href="mailto:smwilliams1@bpa.gov">smwilliams1@bpa.gov</a>
John Carlson	SC DEM	<a href="mailto:johnc@co.skamania.wa.us">johnc@co.skamania.wa.us</a>

### **Agency summaries:**

#### **Skamania Sheriff:**

Sheriff's Office Dispatch inundated with calls. Many calls about power outages, which should be to PUD. Concerns about fuel for generator.

Hwy 14 opened to all traffic created impossible traffic conditions and severely damaged road surface.

Landline phones down, cell service largely intact, internet & e-mail service compromised. In county communications difficult under these extreme weather events.

Warming shelters: Difficult to staff and to get the word out. Too dangerous travel conditions for Red Cross to respond. Community Health may be able to assist.

**Skamania County Community Health:**

Community Health committed to greater involvement in events such as this from the position of emergency preparedness. The Sheriff and DEM will work with community health to better position staffing assistance and community service issues related to health.

**City of Stevenson:**

City of Stevenson crews very busy keeping streets open. Assisted PUD crew access.

BNSF is responsible for plowing/clearing their crossings.

**Skamania County Public Works:**

Skamania County Public Works crews also very busy. Power outages made refueling difficult.

**Port of Skamania:**

Port of Skamania County properties sustained significant damage with down trees, etc. Port tenants had difficulties with trucks crossing the BNSF Tracks at Russell and making it up the hill.

**Washington State Patrol:**

Washington State Patrol (WSP) works closely with WADOT. Need coordination w/WSP when Hwy 14 closed to clear local deliveries. Balance between safety and commodities movement during weather events.

**Skamania County PUD:**

Public Utility District (PUD): Extremely challenging conditions. 5 crews provided by 3 other counties. Public outreach complicated by loss of landlines. 'Care and feeding' of crews complicated by conditions. Looking to address generator backup and local fuel availability.

**BPA:**

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA): BPA had crews dispatched within 20 mins of outage on BPA line, received call from property owner a few hours after BPA crews dispatched from The Dalles Oregon, crews dispatched to location of Stevenson Substation where conductor damage was found. Delay in getting electrical work clearance from BPA Dispatcher do to extreme ice loading on electrical switches and vehicle accessibility due to weather and driving conditions. Fortunate location of failure was in a accessible area, as other sites difficult/impossible to access. BPA will need to take another outage to make substantial repairs to line in the near future.

Larger picture: Condit Dam removal caused a vulnerability to the entire SW Washington Transmission System by leaving a single transmission 115Kv line feeding the entire region from North Bonneville Substation to Bald Mountain Substation. BPA has an emergency restoration plan in place if repairs of transmission line equipment take longer than 36 hours to repair. BPA is also scoping out options to increase reliability in the area.

**Century Link- Not represented.**

**Washington State Dept. of Transportation- Not represented**

The uniform take-away was the need for individuals, families and communities to be prepared to care for themselves for days-to-weeks.

Much emphasis was placed on strengthening local government and service agencies ability to communicate via social media. This is widely recognized to be an effective method to get information out prior to, during and after an event. There should be a more coordinated effort to ensure all represented agencies are working together to send out consistent and helpful information that will provide communities the best opportunity to prepare for future events.