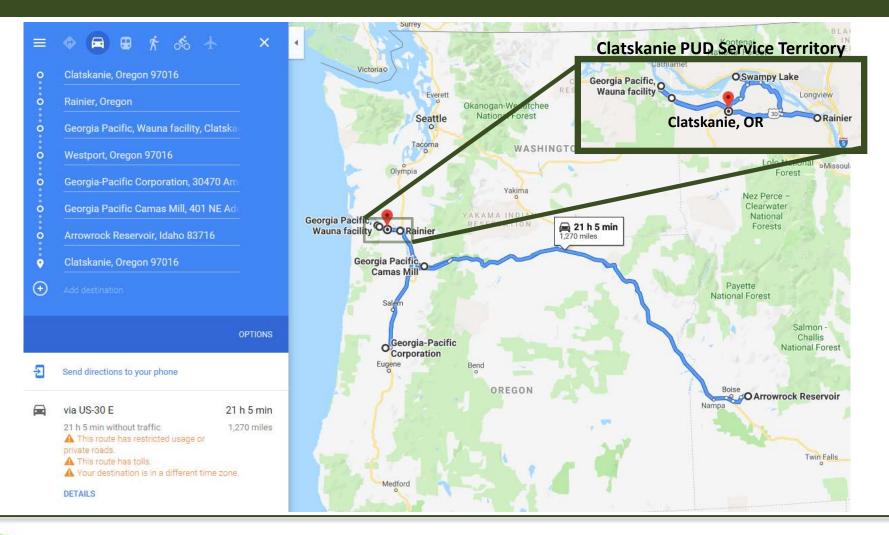


Plug Into Savings

Brian Fawcett
Economic Development Manager
August 20th, 2021

Clatskanie People's Utility District





Clatskanie People's Utility District

- 275 square miles
- 4709 electric meters
- About 200 commercial customers
- 5 industrial customers, 90% of load
- \$60M annual budget
- BPA customer, supplement with market power



Energy Efficiency

- BPA Energy Efficiency budget set based on load, \$3 million for current 2 year rate period
- Due to large load and low amount of industrial projects, large budget available for residential and commercial customers



Background

- Current BPA emphasis on residential DHPs, HPWHs, windows, and insulation
- Extra focus on income qualified major measures
 - DHP, \$3800
 - HPWH, \$1700
 - Insulation, dollar for dollar reimbursement
 - Windows, \$20 per square ft



Background

- Income qualified customer segment has been hard to reach
- Renters not in position to invest capital, landlords unwilling
- Shortage of active contractors
- Traditional income qualified program through CAP agency is understaffed resulting in low volume of jobs and long waitlists



Program Objectives

Create a program that reaches a high number of income qualified customers with major measures, providing meaningful energy savings and quality of life improvement.



Plug Into Savings

- Partnership with ESG reduced internal staffing needs
- Direct install of LEDs, showerheads, aerators, power strips, TSVs
 - Instant savings / value to customer
 - Allowed for snapshot audit to verify home eligibility
 - Generate enthusiastic customer participation
 - Identify major measure opportunities
 - Allow customer to conveniently apply for income eligibility
 - Created solid major measure leads given directly to contractors for follow up installations



Plug Into Savings (cont'd)

- Outreach through phone calls, office sign up sheets, social media, summer events, door to door
- ESG developed relationship with contractors to install major measures at set pricing
- Program hotline to address customer questions and provide assistance when needed
- Quality control inspections
 - Verify approved equipment was installed properly
 - Receive feedback from customers on impact of program



Learnings – What Went Well

- Upper management support for program and objectives
- Plenty of funding!
- Residential home data from previous direct install initiatives
- Income qualification in home with customer
- ESG experience and expertise



Learnings - Challenges

- BPA cap (\$20/sq ft) on windows
- Limited knowledge of housing stock
- Despite marketing efforts, difficult to effectively communicate program opportunity to targeted customers

COVID

- Halted in person program presentations
- Attempted "self install" with minor measures
- Very few income qualified major measures

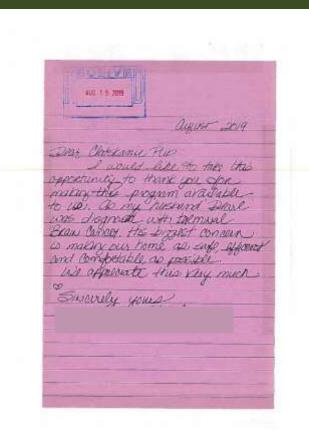


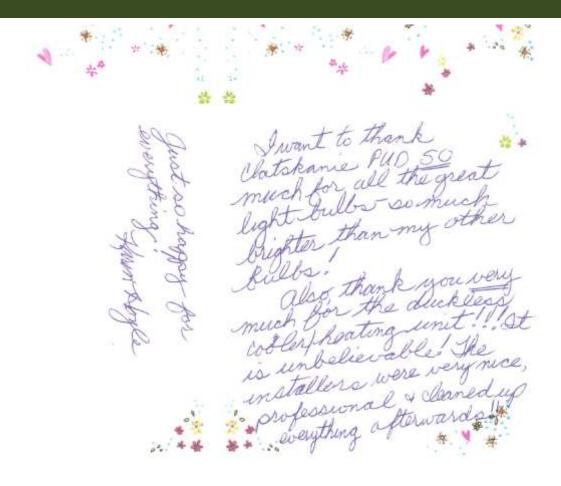
Results

- Total Customers Served 1,239
- LEDs installed/distributed 33,598
- Showerheads installed/distributed 1,044
- HPWHs installed 46
- DHPs installed 103



Customer Feedback







Customer Feedback

- "Wow it is a new world."
- "Just so happy for everything!"
- "... making our home as safe, efficient, and comfortable as possible. We appreciate this very much."
- "We really do appreciate it. It is something we have wanted, but never could afford with all the necessities required with six children. The contractors were helpful, courteous and professional."



Conclusions

- Increased comfort almost more important to customers than energy savings
- "Too good to be true" suspicion by customers
- Giving away minor measures builds credibility
- Income qualified headway requires in person communication and guidance



Conclusions (cont'd)

- Learning curve for contractors regarding service level expectations, program prioritization and procedures
- Sales pitch in the home is paramount, and a skill that takes time to develop
- Partnership with ESG has been more than just a program



Questions

