

City of McCleary

STAFF REPORT



To:	Mayor Miller and Council
From:	Paul Nott
Date:	12/5/2022
Department:	Light and Power

Hello All,

This past month has been busy for the power crew. We've had 4 outages this last month, assisted Mason County PUD 1 with mutual aid for a storm, prepared the town for the Christmas holiday and handled many customers service jobs.

Outages.

On 11/4 the county experienced a large wind event. This led to numerous outages in our distribution system and took out the transmission feeder that feeds our substations. When we lose the transmission line it results in our substations losing power and our entire distribution system goes dark.

On 11/10 we had a dump truck pull over some poles on sand creek.

On 11/29 a tree limb took out the transmission between Elma and McCleary again. And on 12/5 we had a large alder tree come down at the end of N 7th street in proximity of our substation resulting in an outage that took out all 3 circuits at the 7th and Simpson substation. Once we cleared the lines and made the repairs, we had customers in lights within 2 hours.

One thing that needs to be mentioned is that we are in storm season now and everyone should be prepared at home for the possibility of losing power. Stay away from down power lines and report outages as soon as possible. We do our best to keep the lines clear and to get people back in lights as quickly as possible, but mother nature is out of our control and all we can do is react to whatever she deals us. Another issue we have is cold load pick up. That happens when we have large sections of town out of power and when we try to reenergize the lines the fusing won't hold because of the large load. It would really help if when you lose power you turn off your breakers to your large load appliances and most of your lights. It's ok to have a few on so that you know when power is restored, but when we are trying to pick up everyone's complete houses all at the same time it extends the outage for everyone. What we end up having to do is pick up the system in smaller sections, "let it cook" for a while allowing the load to lessen and balance out and then add another section until everyone is back in power.

The crew would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Holiday season...

If anyone has any questions or concerns, feel free to contact us...

Paul

