

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2014

Out Valley Operations & Maintenance Maintaining Kirkwood's New Asset

It has been nearly a month since the District energized the Out Valley electrical line and turned off our diesel generators. As you can imagine, it is eerily quiet at the Powerhouse except when we test the generators to insure they are ready if needed.

We are switching over from construction mode to maintenance mode for the Out Valley system. There is a lot to maintaining two substations, 25.7 miles of underground transmission line with 37 sectionalizing cabinets and 18 vaults, 1.8 miles of 34.5 kV overhead and 1.3 miles of 115 kV overhead.

The District is completing our first overall maintenance inspection of the entire system and finalizing our checklist forms.

The largest risk for the Underground portion of the project is where an excavator damages the District's line. To combat this risk the District has updated the location of the line in the Underground Service Alert's USA Dig website <http://usanorth811.org/> so that we are notified of projects along our route. We are also increasing the number of underground utility location signs along the route.

The District recently met with Caltrans to determine areas of potential conflict between their snow removal efforts and our vaults and sectionalizing cabinets. As a result of this meeting, the District will be installing many more snow stakes along Highway 88.

For the Overhead portion the largest risk is trees falling on the line. The District plans on regular inspections of the line to identify potential hazardous trees with an annual review by an area forester who specializes in this service. Other items we will be concentrating on are the condition of the insulators, switches and ladders located on the poles and to insure the grounding cables are in place.

With all of the electrical components in the Substations, equipment failure is a concern. The District, working in concert with our Electrical Engineer, will be inspecting the Substation on a monthly basis, checking on oil levels, temperatures, etc. Additionally, a qualified contractor will be inspecting and completing routine maintenance as needed at both Substations on an annual basis.

The goal is to maintain the line in excellent condition and find problems before they become issues.



Training in progress on the Out Valley line

Snow Removal – Getting Ready

The snow season is hopefully upon us and the District wants to make sure we are ready!

As of the end of November nearly all snow stakes have been installed. This amounts to over 1,500 stakes placed throughout the valley to protect and identify roads, parking spaces and District utility infrastructure.

The District's snow removal equipment has been thoroughly serviced and maintained and the fleet is ready to go.

Our current equipment inventory is:

- 950F CAT Loader
- 924G CAT Loader
- 5 Trackless Snow Blowers
- RPM Tech Blower
- 416 CAT Backhoe
- Northern Kodiak Blower

The District has also hired several new employees to work primarily in the Snow Removal Department. Please welcome Kyle McDougal, David Poste and Mason Jackson who will assist our existing personnel in removing snow in Kirkwood.

To streamline communications, the District has a Snow Removal Phone Line. (209) 256-9121. This Snow Removal emergency line will put you in touch with an operator who will carry this phone during snow events and be able to respond to your needs directly. Please use this line or email us at info@kmpud.com to let us know when you will be up or are in need of service. With this information, we will be able to provide better, more expedited service to our customers.

Fire Department is Expanding!

Over the last year the District has been analyzing our infrastructure to determine what improvements would be needed to accommodate future growth.

A Services Capacity Analysis was completed in May 2014 which identified Electricity, Water and Fire Department as areas needing the most attention.

With the Out Valley project complete in November, the valley now has sufficient electric capacity through build out.

As has been reported, the District is pursuing water rights to Caples Lake to potentially augment our groundwater wells in the future.

The next steps for the Fire Department is to expand the services provided and their presence in the valley. To this end the District will be staffing a part time fire fighter during the busy winter ski season to help reduce emergency response times during the historically peak emergency call periods.

This new fire fighter position will work Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm.

Work activities will include:

- Immediately respond to all emergency fire and medical calls
- Maintain a fire department presence in the Kirkwood Valley
- Continually check Kirkwood roads, driveways and parking lots for proper clearance or width for emergency vehicle travel
- Remove snow and maintain a 30 foot clearance from around all fire hydrants
- Perform fire safety inspections on all facilities that are open to the public on a regular basis
- Assist Chief and Assistant Chief on fire department administration work
- Check, clean and maintain all fire department equipment to ensure all equipment is ready for service
- Clean and maintain fire station offices, conference rooms, etc. at the Community Services Building
- Perform hand snow removal around fire station and District buildings
- Be able to respond to other District emergencies as needed

Our fire fighters will be very visible during the season so make sure to say hello and let them know of any questions/concerns during your visits.



New Winter Office Hours

The District is pleased to announce new expanded operating hours for this winter season.

Currently the District Customer Service/Administrative Office is open 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday.

Due to resort operations and the second home nature of our community, the District will be expanding our Customer Service office hours to include weekends during this winter. We will remain closed on Thanksgiving, Memorial Day and Labor Day holidays.

The District's office located at 33540 Loop Road will be open from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm seven days a week beginning later in December.

Services you can expect include:

- Checking on the status of your account
- Assistance with any questions regarding your services
- Relaying messages regarding any services to include Snow Removal, Electric, Propane, Water, etc.
- Guidance with signing up for on-line options.

Stop by and see us this winter, seven days a week!



Amy Pfeiffer & Kathy Beyer, KMPUD Customer Service Reps

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