



PUGET SOUND ENERGY FOUNDATION

Puget Energy, the parent company of Puget Sound Energy, established the Puget Sound Energy Foundation to provide charitable contributions to qualifying nonprofit organizations in PSE's service territory and in other areas where PSE generates and purchases power. Building on PSE's stewardship legacy, the foundation is dedicated to making the region a better place to live, work and raise families by supporting charitable programs in counties where PSE provides services or has operations. Currently these counties in Washington state include: Chelan, Columbia, Douglas, Garfield, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Kittitas, Klickitat, Lewis, Pierce, Snohomish, Skagit, Thurston and Whatcom.

The mission of the foundation is to energize the communities PSE serves with support for innovative programs. PSE works to be in tune with local needs and priorities and is committed to using foundation funds to help support community programs that deliver meaningful, measurable and long-lasting results for generations to come.

The foundation, itself is a nonprofit entity operating independently of Puget Energy and PSE, in 2006 received a \$15 million endowment from Puget Energy. The endowment came from a portion of the proceeds from Puget Energy's sale of InfrastruX Group, an unregulated subsidiary. The foundation received a \$5 million infusion to the endowment in 2009 from the new owners upon completion of the merger with Puget Holdings LLC. None of the foundation's funds will ever come from PSE's utility customers.

To ensure that resources are invested wisely and achieve the greatest good, the foundation is focused on four sectors:

- Human Services
- Environmental Stewardship
- Education (Workforce Development)
- Arts and Culture

These four pillars form the basis of the foundation's grant making. From year to year, the foundation will designate priority sectors and funding initiatives to ensure that the foundation is responsive to emerging needs and trends.

The foundation began accepting grant requests in early 2007 and in its first year of operations focused on the Human Services, Education and Environmental sectors. Application deadlines are April 1 and Oct. 1. All capital requests for the year are considered at the Oct. 1 deadline. Grant awards are anticipated about two months after the corresponding deadline.

In keeping with a commitment to the environment, the foundation accepts online applications only at PSEFoundation.org. No letter of intent is required.

Frequently Asked Questions

When and why was the Puget Sound Energy Foundation created?

The Puget Sound Energy Foundation was created in 2006 by Puget Energy, the investor-owned, parent company of Puget Sound Energy, the state of Washington's largest and oldest utility. The foundation's endowment came from a portion of the proceeds from Puget Energy's sale of former, unregulated subsidiary, InfrastruX Group, Inc. None of the foundation's funding comes from utility customers.

Puget Energy created the foundation to ensure that PSE's support of community initiatives will remain strong regardless of business or economic trends and that the utility's long history of strong community involvement will continue for generations to come.

What sectors does the foundation support with charitable grants?

The foundation supports a broad range of community-based projects and programs. Priority is given to requests in the human services, environmental sectors and workforce development.

Where does the foundation make grants?

The foundation supports charitable programs in Washington state where PSE provides services or has operations. These 16 counties include: Chelan, Columbia, Douglas, Garfield, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Kittitas, Klickitat, Lewis, Pierce, Snohomish, Skagit, Thurston and Whatcom.

What are the application deadlines?

The application deadlines are April 1 and Oct. 1. All capital requests for the year are considered at the Oct. 1 deadline. Grant awards are anticipated about two months after the corresponding deadline.

Does the foundation fund general operations or sponsor events?

The foundation makes charitable grants that support programmatic and capital projects with measurable goals and outcomes. The foundation does not fund general operations or sponsor events such as galas, auctions, dinner or luncheon programs, golf tournaments, walk-a-thons, etc. Table sponsorships are considered by the company's local government and community relations managers. A list of local decision makers and their contact information is available on the foundation web site.

How do nonprofit organizations apply for a grant from the foundation?

A user-friendly, application is available online. In keeping with PSE's commitment to the environment, the foundation accepts electronic applications only. For more information or to access the grant application, go to the foundation web site.

For more information about the Puget Sound Energy Foundation, visit PSEFoundation.org.