Power outage planned for Wilkeson, Carbonado

Puget Sound Energy is notifying customers in Wilkeson and Carbonado of a scheduled power outage from 2 to 5 a.m. July 25.

Power will be turned off to allow crews to begin an $11 million, multi-year project upgrade of portions of the area's electrical transmission system. The improvements are needed to increase reliability and in anticipation of growing customer needs in the Enumclaw, Buckley, Wilkeson and Carbonado areas, according to a PSE press release.

PSE has sent letters to area customers, posted flyers, placed ads in community newspapers and will talk with attendees at the Wilkeson centennial celebration and handcar races Saturday and Sunday.

PSE will take its Wilkeson substation, 213 Church St., offline to safely complete a portion of the upgrade. PSE needs to take the substation offline so crews can bring the new transmission line into the substation. This outage is the first of two outages planned for the Wilkeson area; PSE expects the second outage to occur sometime in late August.

PSE began working July 20 to enhance the electrical transmission system in the Enumclaw-Buckley-Wilkeson-Carbonado area by starting the project to upgrade eight miles of existing transmission line from the 1000 block of Stevenson Avenue in Enumclaw to just past the Wilkeson substation.

The work includes removing the existing wire, installing new high-capacity wire and replacing more than 141 poles along the utility corridor. In addition, PSE will install a fiber-optic line for PSE communications and system protection.

Customers are encouraged to contact PSE at 1-888-225-5773 with any questions or concerns.