

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

IN THE MATTER OF:

NOTICE OF HEARING FOR THE RENEWAL OF A
FRANCHISE TO PUD NO. 1 OF COWLITZ COUNTY
TO INSTALL, CONSTRUCT, OPERATE AND
MAINTAIN ELECTRICAL UTILITY FACILITIES IN
LEWIS COUNTY RIGHTS OF WAY

RESOLUTION NO. 26-037

WHEREAS, Lewis County Code 12.20 and RCW 36.55 require that all utility installations in county rights of way be authorized by a franchise from Lewis County; and

WHEREAS, an application for a renewal of a franchise has been received by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) from PUD No. 1 of Cowlitz County to install, construct, operate and maintain electrical utility facilities in Lewis County rights of way; and

WHEREAS, said application and all related materials have been reviewed by the BOCC and found appropriate for further proceedings; and

WHEREAS, written comment may be submitted in person at the BOCC, 351 NW North Street, Room 210, Chehalis, WA 98532 or via email at bocc@lewiscountywa.gov beginning at 10 a.m. February 4, 2026. Written comment must be clearly marked "Written comment for March 3, 2026 hearing" and must be received by 10 a.m. March 2, 2026.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the BOCC will hold a public hearing on the proposed acceptance of the franchise on at or after 10 a.m., March 3, 2026. The hearing will take place at the Lewis County Courthouse, Commissioners' Hearing Room, 351 NW North Street, Chehalis, Wash., as set forth in the Notice of Public Hearing attached hereto. Interested parties are encouraged to check the Commissioners' hearing schedule online at <https://lewiscountywa.gov/offices/commissioners/agendas-calendar/> for updated details as the hearing date approaches. The Clerk of the BOCC is hereby instructed to proceed with all appropriate and necessary notifications, posting and publication as required by RCW 36.55.040.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION this 3rd day of February, 2026.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Jonathan Meyer, Prosecuting Attorney

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

David Bailey
By: David Bailey,
Chief Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

Absent
Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM, Chair

ATTEST:



Scott J. Brummer
Scott J. Brummer, Vice Chair

Rieva Lester, CMC
Rieva Lester, CMC,
Clerk of the Lewis County Board of
County Commissioners

Sean D. Swope
Sean D. Swope, Commissioner

NOTICE OF HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of County Commissioners, Lewis County, Washington (BOCC), has received an application for the renewal of a non-exclusive franchise from PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF COWLITZ COUNTY, to install, construct, operate, and maintain electrical utility facilities located within Lewis County right of way in the following description:

Roads within Sections 28, 29, 23, and 33 in Township 11 North, Range 1 East, W.M., and also roads within Section 35, Township 11 North, Range 3 West, W.M.

The franchise being considered is for a period of five years.

The application and all related materials have been reviewed by the BOCC and found appropriate for further proceedings.

A hearing on the non-exclusive franchise will be held on March 3, 2026, at or after the hour of 10:00 a.m., in the Commissioners' Hearing Room on the 2nd floor of the Historic Courthouse in Chehalis, Washington, when and where all persons may appear and be heard upon the granting of the franchise. Please look at the Commissioners' hearing schedule at <https://lewiscountywa.gov/offices/commissioners/agendas-calendar/> as March 3, 2026, approaches for updated details.

RCW 36.55.040 requires that notice of hearing be posted in three public places in the county seat of the county at least 15 days before the day fixed for hearing and also published two times in the official newspaper of the county, the last publication to be not less than 5 days before the day fixed for hearing.

Written comment may be submitted in person at the BOCC, 351 NW North Street, Room 210, Chehalis, WA 98532 or via email at bocc@lewiscountywa.gov beginning 10 a.m. February 4, 2026. Written comment must be clearly marked "Written comment for Proposed Approval of a Franchise to Utility District No.1 of Cowlitz County, to install, construct, operate, and maintain electrical utility facilities in Lewis County Road Rights of Way, March 3, 2026 Hearing" and must be received by 10 a.m. March 2, 2026.

It is the policy of Lewis County that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, or national origin, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise discriminated against under any of its Federally funded programs and activities. Any person who believes his/her Title VI protections have been violated may file a complaint with WSDOT's Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO). For additional information regarding Title VI complaint procedures and/or information regarding our nondiscrimination obligations, please contact Lewis County's Title VI Coordinator at 360-740-2612.

Dated: Feb. 3, 2026



Rieva Lester
Clerk of the Lewis County Board
of County Commissioners



Publish: The Chronicle Feb. 12 and 19, 2026

BOCC AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Resolution: 26-037

BOCC Meeting Date: Feb. 3, 2026

Suggested Wording for Agenda Item:

Agenda Type: Legal Notice

Notice of hearing for the renewal of a franchise to PUD No. 1 of Cowlitz County to install, construct, operate and maintain electrical utility facilities in Lewis County rights of way

Contact: Kimberly Edminster

Phone: 360-740-2666

Department: PW - Public Works

Description:

Lewis County Code 12.20 and RCW 36.55 require that all utility installations in county rights of way be authorized by a franchise from Lewis County. An application for renewal of a franchise has been received by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) from PUD No. 1 of Cowlitz County, to install, construct, operate, and maintain electrical utility facilities in Lewis County rights of way.

This resolution sets a hearing at or after 10 a.m. March 3, 2026. The hearing will take place in the Commissioners hearing room on the 2nd floor of the Historic Courthouse in Chehalis, Washington, as the time and place for the hearing on the franchise request and further instructs the Clerk of the BOCC to proceed with all appropriate and necessary notifications, posting and publication as required by RCW 36.55.040. Interested parties are encouraged to check the Commissioners' hearing schedule online at <https://lewiscountywa.gov/offices/commissioners/agendas-calendar/> as the hearing date approaches for updated details.

Approvals:

Publication Requirements:

User

Status

Publications:

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Cover Letter To: