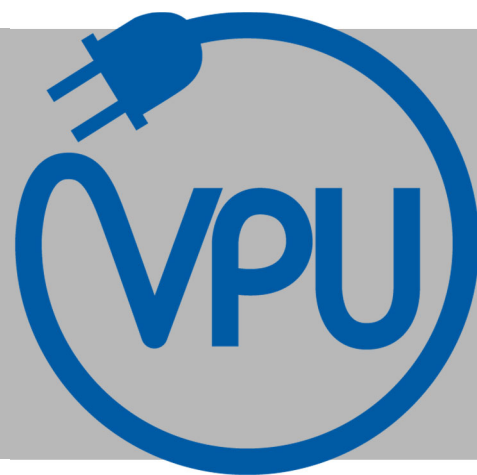


# The VPU Quarterly

April 2026



## Get To Know Our Commission

Last fall, our Commission saw a lot of change in a short amount of time. Two of our long-standing Commissioners passed, leaving vacancies and large shoes to fill. We miss both of them and their jovial spirits immensely. Being that we don't often have much change to our Commission, it seems like a good time to introduce our members.

Jeff Marwick is our President. He comes to the Utility with a strong background in utilities, as he is a former power plant employee of VPU. Because he understands the history of VPU, as well as its operations, Mr. Marwick brings a wealth of knowledge.

Our Vice President is James Makowsky. In contrast, Mr. Makowsky is experienced in the private sector. His wisdom and insight helps create a well-balanced Commission perspective.

Secretary Garrison Hale also has a tremendous amount of experience in the municipal world, with over 30 years of service in different communities throughout the state.

Member Bob Henderson is the newest addition. He brings experience and knowledge to the Commission, as he is a former Council member and has served on various other Commissions.

We would like to extend our sincerest thanks to all of our Commission members for their dedication to VPU!

## Quick Notes:

### **The office will be closed on the following dates:**

May 25  
June 19  
July 3

### **Know the smell of natural gas!**

If there is a faint smell, call the VPU at (218) 748-7540.

If in doubt, exit the building & call 911!

### **Sign up for Direct Pay and eliminate the need to write a check each month!**

Forms are available in the VPU office or on our website at [www.vpuc.com](http://www.vpuc.com).

## Core Conversion Update

The deadline to convert off steam heat and onto another heating source is

**October 31, 2026**

**On this date, VPU will be shutting down all steam production. This deadline will not be extended.**

If your property is heated with steam, please reach out to VPU at (218) 748-7545 to request the necessary paperwork to begin the process. If you are unsure what you need to do, or if you would like some guidance to help navigate your conversion, do not hesitate to reach out to Noah at AEOA at (218) 780-8061. Noah is available to assist all commercial and residential customers through their conversion process and to help access any grant funding for which you may be eligible.

If you do not start the process now, there is no guarantee that a contractor will be able to complete your conversion before the deadline. We do not want to see anyone left out in the cold!

## EV Fast Charger

VPU recently had our old, defunct EV fast charger removed from the charging station near Vets Park and replaced with an updated Kempower fast charger, also referred to as a DC charger. Kempower is a European company that originated in the Nordic region of the continent, making their equipment a good fit to stand up against the cold climate that our winters produce. They have experienced tremendous growth, so much so that they recently opened their first American factory last year.

This project was done at minimal cost to VPU thanks to grant funding.

