

30-Year Wait Rewarded

Steelhead Light Obtained Through Mission "Feeder"

Dec 16/48

No Interconnection With Neighboring Stave Falls Plant

The 6,900-12,000 volt primary distribution system being built in the Fraser Valley in the B.C. Electric's conversion program from 2,300 volts is the source of electrical service to the Steelhead area where lines were energized last week.

Although the extension is not far from the Stave Falls plant, it has no interconnection with this plant and is supplied instead through the company's feeder lines at Mission.

When the Steelhead extension was negotiated in April, 1947, the original intention had been to make it an extension to the 2,300 volt distribution system. But when the turn for this line came up on the company's priority list, load growth was such that engineers decided it was desirable it be tied into the 6,900 volt primary supply.

The work on the line and poles required in the extension went ahead according to the priority. Transformer changes and other circuit work to tie it into the system, however, were additional obs required before the extension could be put into use.

B.C. Electric Power Line From Falls Finally Reaches District Community

Electrical power became available in Steelhead Wednesday night, December 8.

The small community, located about three miles from Stave Falls power plant, celebrated the event that fulfilled an ambition of over 30 years standing. For that length of time its residents have envied their more fortunate neighbors at Cedar Valley and Stave Falls.

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Replies to their requests for power always met the same answer, that the community was not large enough to justify the cost of installing a power line.

Credit for action that resulted installation of the power line is given by Steelhead residents' Tony Visnoski, who circulated a petition recently. He was solidly backed by residents, and obtained 100 per cent of the property owners' signatures.

Home owners celebrated when the power was turned on in the homes.

"We had a cup of tea made on a hot-plate and it was wonderful," Wilfred Western, Steelhead store clerk said Thursday. "The idea of cooking without having to worry about a fuel supply makes us all very happy, and now we can have other modern appliances."

The women are overjoyed. It means a chance to obtain such labor saving devices as electric irons, washing machines and vacuum cleaners, and even an electric blanket on cold nights.

The school house and a number of homes were recently wired in anticipation of electricity, and can take immediate advantage of the new service.

Contracts were signed by 18 householders recently for power and 10 were included in the first hook up. The others expect electricity in their homes in 10 days or two weeks.

Electrical Christmas presents are in order this year in Steelhead.

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