



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Suquamish Provide Emergency Power For Highway 305 Traffic Signal

New generator ensures continued traffic flows during outages

SUQUAMISH, July 2008- Drivers on Highway 305 will have one less thing to worry about during power outages in North Kitsap this winter. The Suquamish Tribe, in conjunction with Port Madison Enterprises and the Washington State Department of Transportation, has installed a generator for the traffic signal at the major arterial roadway intersection between Highway 305 and Suquamish Way in North Kitsap.

"We wanted to help alleviate the potential for traffic back ups on the Agate Pass Bridge and Highway 305 during frequent winter outages," said PME Facilities Director Mark Crowell.

The project totaled \$68,000 and was provided by a mixture of compact funds from the Suquamish and an additional \$18,000 donation by PME, an enterprise owned and operated by the tribe.

"The backup generator allows normal signal operation during a power outage, eliminating the need for four-way stopping and potential backups at this busy intersection," said Steve Kim, WSDOT Traffic Engineer.

The Suquamish and PME have also committed to maintain the generator for the signal, ensuring it's availability for use in the years to come. The move is just one of the ways PME and the Suquamish Tribe are planning to provide services during outages in the future. PME businesses, including Suquamish Clearwater Casino Resort, Kiana Lodge and 2 retail outlets located on 305 have also been equipped with back-up generators.

"We're happy to provide backup services for the traffic signal near our properties. We could not have done it without collaboration between the WSDOT, local area governments and the Suquamish Tribe," said PME CEO Russell Steele.

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