
Appendix J

*Legal Provisions Conveying Right to Engage in Business of
Developing, Transmitting, and Distributing Power*



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[54.04.010](#) << [54.04.020](#) >> [54.04.030](#)

RCW 54.04.020 **Districts authorized.**

Municipal corporations, to be known as public utility districts, are hereby authorized for the purposes of chapter 1, Laws of 1931 and may be established within the limits of the state of Washington, as provided herein.

[1931 c 1 § 2; RRS § 11606]

Notes:

Purpose -- 1931 c 1: "The purpose of this act is to authorize the establishment of public utility districts to conserve the water and power resources of the State of Washington for the benefit of the people thereof, and to supply public utility service, including water and electricity for all uses." [1931 c 1 § 1.]

Severability -- Construction -- 1931 c 1: "Adjudication of invalidity of any section, clause or part of a section of this act shall not impair or otherwise affect the validity of the act as a whole or any other part thereof.

The rule of strict construction shall have no application to this act, but the same shall be liberally construed, in order to carry out the purposes and objects for which this act is intended.

When this act comes in conflict with any provision, limitation or restriction in any other law, this act shall govern and control." [1931 c 1 § 11.]





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[54.16.035](#) << [54.16.040](#) >> [54.16.050](#)

RCW 54.16.040 **Electric energy.**

A district may purchase, within or without its limits, electric current for sale and distribution within or without its limits, and construct, condemn and purchase, purchase, acquire, add to, maintain, conduct, and operate works, plants, transmission and distribution lines and facilities for generating electric current, operated either by water power, steam, or other methods, within or without its limits, for the purpose of furnishing the district, and the inhabitants thereof and any other persons, including public and private corporations, within or without its limits, with electric current for all uses, with full and exclusive authority to sell and regulate and control the use, distribution, rates, service, charges, and price thereof, free from the jurisdiction and control of the utilities and transportation commission, in all things, together with the right to purchase, handle, sell, or lease motors, lamps, transformers and all other kinds of equipment and accessories necessary and convenient for the use, distribution, and sale thereof. PROVIDED, That the commission shall not supply water to a privately owned utility for the production of electric energy, but may supply, directly or indirectly, to an instrumentality of the United States government or any publicly or privately owned public utilities which sell electric energy or water to the public, any amount of electric energy or water under its control, and contracts therefor shall extend over such period of years and contain such terms and conditions for the sale thereof as the commission of the district shall elect; such contract shall only be made pursuant to a resolution of the commission authorizing such contract, which resolution shall be introduced at a meeting of the commission at least ten days prior to the date of the adoption of the resolution: PROVIDED FURTHER, That it shall first make adequate provision for the needs of the district, both actual and prospective.

[1955 c 390 § 5. Prior: 1945 c 143 § 1(d); 1931 c 1 § 6(d); Rem. Supp. 1945 § 11610(d).]

Notes:

Joint operating agency: RCW [43.52.360](#).

Reduced utility rates for low-income senior citizens and other low-income citizens: RCW [74.38.070](#).

Right of city or town to acquire electrical distribution property from P.U.D.: RCW [35.92.054](#).

