

# The Oeser Company

Bellingham, Washington

TPM Member Since January 2014



The Oeser Company has been supplying wood utility poles to North American utility markets for over 85 years. Oeser is large enough to handle the requirements of major utilities throughout the nation, while at the same time capable of giving close personal attention to utilities of all sizes. Oeser can provide custom peeling, drilling, framing, incising, and tagging. It machine peels poles from 20 to 130 feet in length, and up to 30 inches in diameter.

Operating a treating plant involves complex environmental practices and regulations. Oeser has staff dedicated solely to effective performance of these functions. Through effective operation of our environmental control facilities we consistently achieve regulatory standards. Since 1997,



*"Barkie Poles" as delivered from the woods.*



*"Barkies" ready to begin processing inside, the peeler will debark the logs and they will be graded.*

Oeser has been working in cooperation with the United States Environmental Protection Agency to address historical conditions. This assures our customers that their products are produced at one of the most environmentally sound treating facilities in the nation.

The Oeser Company is a manufacturer of Coastal Douglas Fir and Western Red Cedar utility poles. Its corporate office, pole manufacturing, treating plant, and storage facility are located on a 26 acre industrial site in Bellingham, Washington. Bellingham is conveniently located between Seattle, Washington and Vancouver, British Columbia. The company and its employees have the privilege of living and

operating in the beautiful Pacific Northwest near some of the world's best timber.

Oeser's outlook on its staff is to train the best and keep them happy. It is absolutely necessary to build a healthy, well trained work force in order to maintain the Oeser's excellent product standards. The average tenure for Oeser's management is over 30 years and 14 years for its crew. While this is evidence of a stable work place, it also demonstrates its means for providing consistent product quality to customers in every aspect associated with the management and production of utility poles.

Since 1929, we have been growing and changing to meet the needs of the nation's utilities. Founded on a commitment



*Poles being incised to ensure proper preservative treatment. Notice the teeth that are pushed into the log.*

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to its customers, it is ready to meet the challenges of the future with top service and quality from harvest to delivery. Oeser keeps its focus on employees and customers as it looks to maintain its high level of excellence in the industry and innovation.

The Oeser Company specializes in the manufacturing of utility poles in accordance with the latest ANSI 05.1 and AWPAs C-1, C-4 specifications in lengths ranging from 20 to 120 feet.

The advantageous location of the Pacific Northwest provides access to federal, state, industrial, and private timberlands in the US and North Western Canada. With this wide resource base there is a stable, and ongoing supply of raw material.



*Framing skidway for drying poles before preservative. In the background the poles are in storage.*



*Poles are loaded for delivery to the midwest. Westcoast loads are usually delivered by truck.*

amount of preservative, with as much as 120 pounds of pressure. Poles are pressure treated with a 5% solution of Pentachlorophenol, meeting the requirements of American Wood Preservers Association (AWPA) specifications P-8 & P-9 Type 'A'. Pressure Pentachlorophenol treating service is available for customer provided lumber, timbers, posts, poles and even laminated wood products up to 120 feet in length.

The Oeser Company strives for thorough quality control throughout the entire organization. Oeser's key to quality is the experience of its employees, most with 10 to 40 years of producing a premium product. Complete inspection and sampling are routinely conducted at the on-site testing facility.

Poles require specialized logging techniques. The company's foresters and loggers are specially trained in locating and removing prime pole timber. Coupled with the favorable location and its expert crews allow Oeser to maintain the quality for which it is known.

Pre-selected material is machine-peeled and inspected for conformance to all requirements of ANSI 05.1 specifications. Only the material that meets all of these requirements is then accepted as pole stock. The company pressure treats, using the Lowry Pressure Process. Poles are seasoned with a combination of air seasoning and Boultonizing (heating in the preservative solution while under vacuum). This process removes moisture and sterilizes the wood with a combination of vacuum and heat, before pressing in the required



*A double overhang load of poles 120 feet long.*

**The Oeser Company** can be reached at: Phone (360) 734-1480  
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