



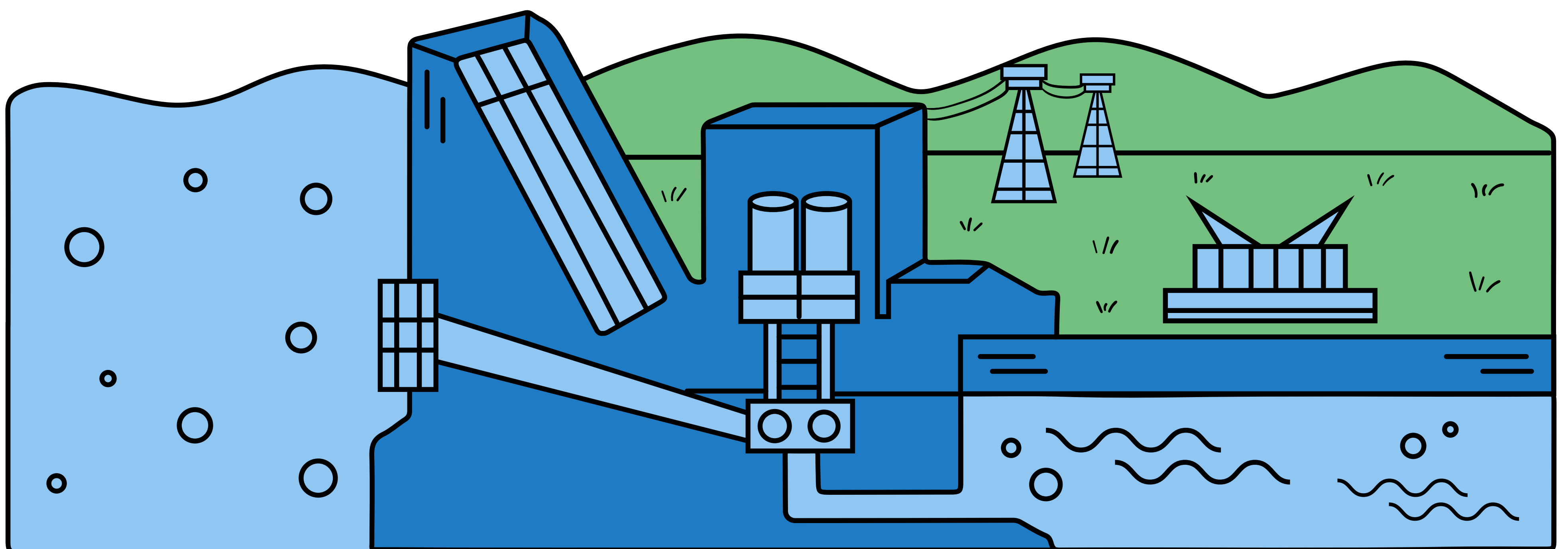
HYDRO 101

What is hydropower?

Hydropower is a way of generating energy.

It uses water (usually from a river) and gravity to spin turbines inside of a dam to generate energy.

The water passes through the dam and continues on its way down the river, out to the ocean.



Is hydropower actually solar?

The water in our rivers comes from rain and snow.

A lot of that rain and snow starts in the ocean.

The sun evaporates the water on the surface of the ocean, forming clouds in the sky.

Eventually, all of that water vapor turns back into rain and snow. It then runs into our rivers, passes through dams to generate energy, and winds up back out in the ocean to start all over again.

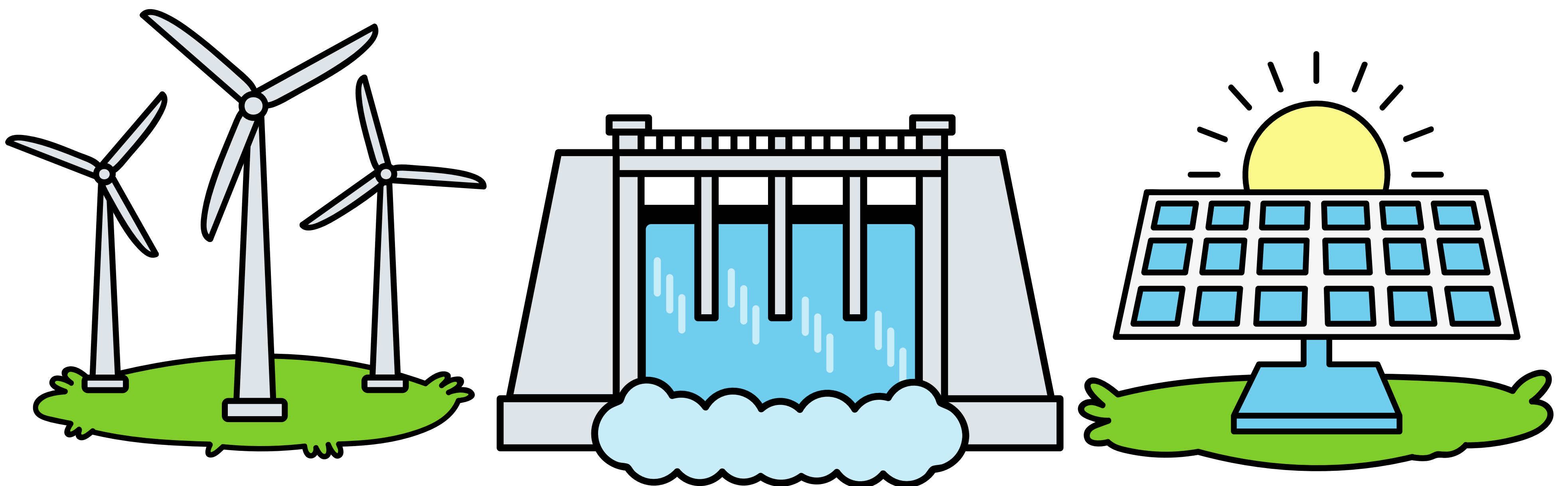


Where do we get our energy from?

In the Northwest, we get over half of our energy from the dams. It also makes up the majority of our carbon-free energy.

Dams also help other energy, like wind and solar, by providing them with balance.

Hydropower helps make sure there's always just the right amount of energy available to us.

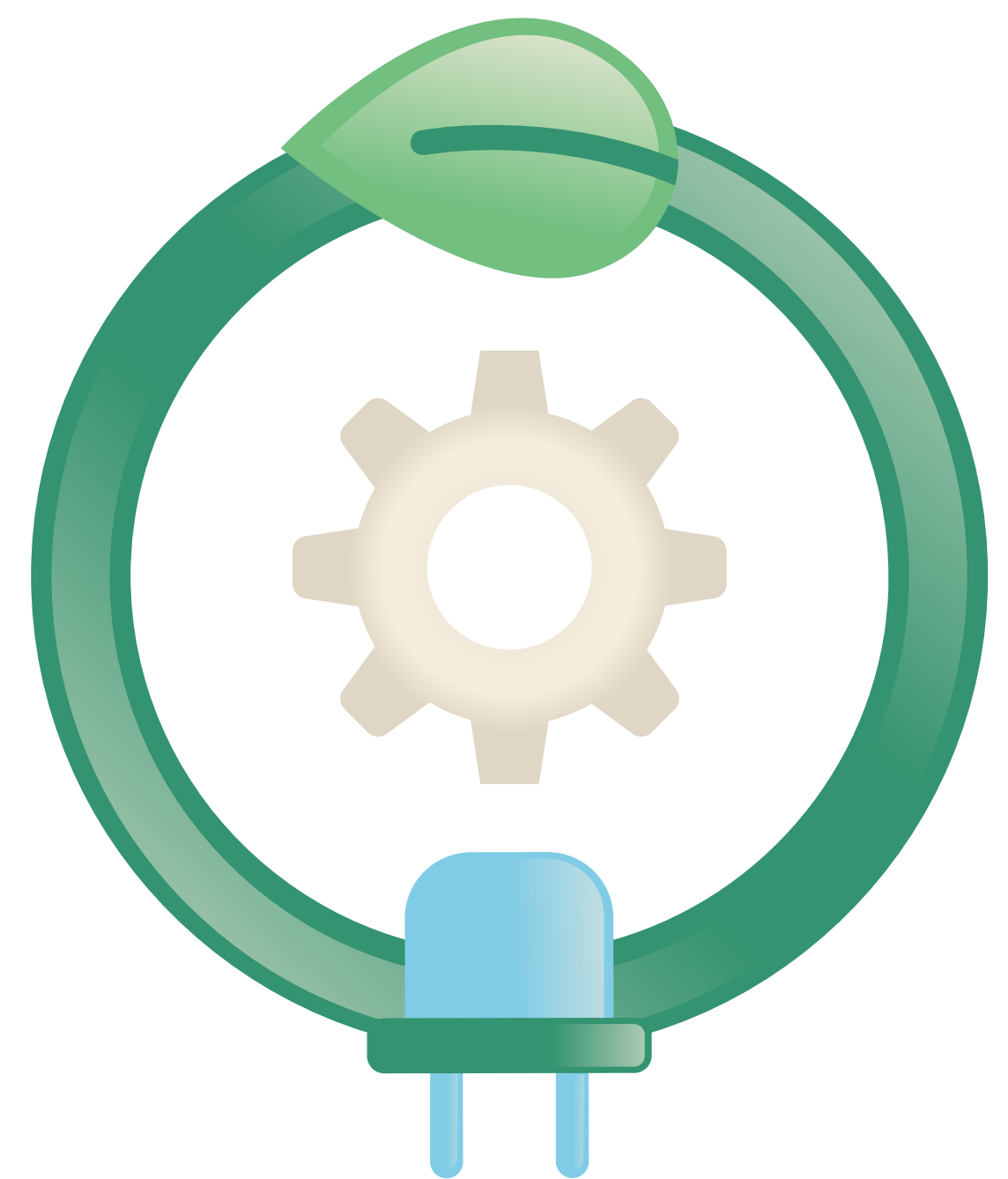


What is important about hydropower?

Renewable, carbon-free

Affordable: If energy costs more, so does everything else.

Reliable: We need it every day.



How does hydro help farmers?

Dams are great at generating electricity, but they're also very important to our farms.

Farmers use dams for irrigation and for transportation of goods - kind of like a highway on the water. Barges are a low-carbon, safe way to transport farmers' crops to where they need to go.

