

Manager's Report

By: Chet McWhorter



Cuming County



As I mentioned last year, we are looking very closely at an offer that has been extended to the District to install a wind turbine in Cuming County that would be owned and operated by a third party. The third party is Bluestem Energy Solutions, an energy company that is based out of Omaha and has been in business for over 100 years. CCPPD would purchase the output of the turbine at a fixed cost that has been discussed as being less than our current price and locked in for 25 years. This turbine would provide about 10% of our peak energy needs. Per our contract, we are limited to 10% from local generation.

What this means for each customer-owner of the District is that about 10% of your kilo-watt-hour costs would be locked in at a known rate for the next 25 years. The remaining 90% would be subject to the ebb and flow of the market, but having control over the 10% would supply some stability for rates over a long term. It is the belief of your Board and Management that this kind of stability is beneficial for all of us.

The downside of these types of projects can be the placement of the wind turbine and the intermittent nature of the resource. Wind turbines have a capacity factor of approximately 50%. The turbine is likely to produce electricity some of every hour of every day, but rarely will it produce electricity all hour. The other factor is that the turbine is over 300 feet tall and will be visible for a long distance. Also, the wind turbines make some noise while rotating, kind of a "whooshing" sound, and they have lights on them so that

aircraft can spot them at night or in cloudy/rainy weather.

The process that Bluestem goes through includes environmental, communications, noise, soil, and wind studies. All the studies must show results within the established guidelines or the tower must be moved. As of this writing, the studies have been completed and everything is in order. The communications studies show that there will not be interference with neighboring cellular or GPS facilities, the sound is well within the established criteria, and the placement of the tower is not going to harm the environment. Now Bluestem has moved to the pricing stage. In the next few weeks, they will provide CCPPD with a price and the Board will determine whether the price offered is in fact economically beneficial for the customer-owners for the life of the contract.

I'm hopeful that this change will be a benefit to all the customer-owners of CCPPD. Change is constant. Sometimes we are agents of change and sometimes we are opponents of change. It really depends upon attitude and what is to be gained or lost. I don't believe in change for change's sake, but I also don't believe in standing still just to stand. In the words of W.L. Bateman: "If you keep doing what you've always done, you'll keep on getting what you've always got." Thanks for reading and please let me know if you have any comments or concerns.

Join us at one of our Ice Cream Socials to celebrate 80 years! CCPPD 1937-2017

- Monday, June 19th Beemer Main Street 12:30pm-2:30pm
- Tuesday, June 20th Dodge Main Street 12:30pm-2:30pm
- Wednesday, June 21st Bancroft Main Street 12:30pm-2:30pm
- Thursday, June 22nd CCPPD Office 12:30pm-2:30pm

When Convenience is **DANGEROUS**

MYTH: My car came with an infotainment system. Since it's built into my car, it must be safe.

FACT: A National Safety Council survey found more than 50 percent of drivers believe this myth. But technologies that allow drivers to make hands-free calls and use voice commands to dictate texts and emails, change music and update social media can be distracting to drivers - even if they are built into the vehicle. In fact, the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety found drivers doing some voice tasks via infotainment systems may remain distracted for as long as 27 seconds after they finish a task.

MYTH: I know distracted driving is dangerous, but I can't afford to miss calls, emails or text messages. My job depends on it.

FACT: Car crashes are the #1 cause of workplace deaths with distracted driving as a leading factor in road fatalities. Fortunately, more employers are recognizing this hazardous expectation of always being connected and they are doing something about it. Dozens of Fortune 500 companies have adopted cell phone policies, banning the use of phones while driving. By eliminating this deadly distraction, employers are keeping their workforce safer.

MYTH: Most car crashes are caused by malfunctions such as faulty brakes, blown tires or

engine problems.

FACT: On the contrary, 94 percent of crashes are caused by driver error. Therefore, nearly all of the crashes that happen on our roadways are 100 percent PREVENTABLE. Vehicle problems only account for about two percent of car crashes (NHTSA).

A leading cause of these human errors?

DISTRACTIONS!



IMPORTANT FACTS

- Distraction leads to driver error
- 7% of all drivers at any given time are using their phones while driving
- Drivers talking on phones, hand-held or hands-free, miss seeing up to 50% of what is around them like:

- Other drivers
- Pedestrians
- Bicyclists

- When you start your car, disconnect your phone and Just Drive.

#justdrive



Dehumidifier Tips

If you live in Nebraska, you know it can get hot in the summer. But if you live in the eastern half of the state, you probably know with heat usually comes humidity, which can make things sticky!

The amount of moisture or water vapor in the air is most often talked about in terms of Relative Humidity (RH). RH is the amount of water vapor actually present in the air compared to the greatest amount of water vapor the air can hold at that temperature. Depending who you talk to, recommended RH levels for a home are generally between 30 and 55 percent. Anything above this range may promote bacteria growth. During winter, humidity levels should be in the range of 30 to 40 percent RH to prevent window condensation. Summertime comfort is usually achieved between 45 and 55 percent RH.

To reduce indoor humidity levels in the summer, many people use a dehumidifier. These units work by drawing moist air over a refrigerated coil with a fan. The evaporator coil is kept cold by a compressor. As moist air passes through this coil, it cools and condenses water vapor. The air is then reheated by the condenser coil and blown into the room. A dehumidifier's operating capacity is usually measured in pints of water removed every 24 hours. Two main factors impact its operation: the size of the space that needs to be dehumidified and conditions that exist in the space before dehumidification. What many people do not realize is running a dehumidifier can use the same amount of energy as a small air-conditioner. Unfortunately, when they receive their first summertime electric bill, the extra kilowatt-hours and dollars charged become a cold reality check!

What can you do to manage a dehumidifier's impact on your budget? If you choose to use a dehumidifier, do so in the most efficient way possible.

Most dehumidifiers have top-mounted air discharge and can be placed against walls. If you do not have top-mounted air discharge, make sure the dehumidifier is located away from walls and furniture so air can circulate freely around the unit. Operate your unit away from sources of dust and dirt, which can clog coils and grills. Finally, be sure all exterior doors and windows to the space being dehumidified are closed while the unit is running so you are not continually bringing in outside air with a higher humidity level.

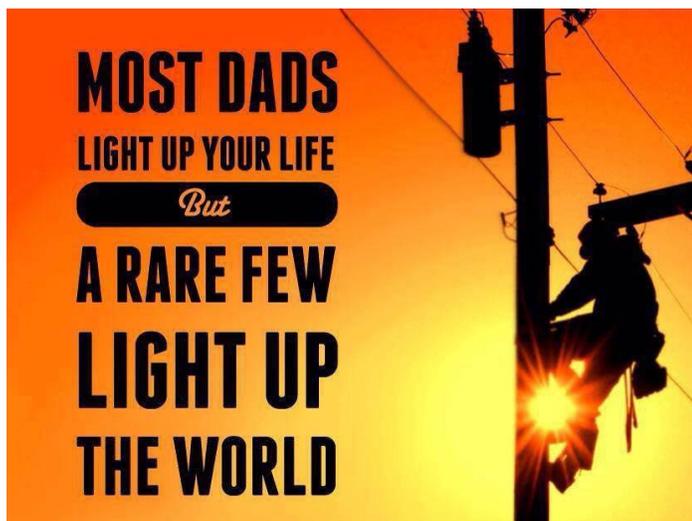
Note that dehumidifiers receiving ENERGYSTAR® recognition have more efficient refrigeration coils, compressors and fans than conventional models. They remove the same amount of moisture, but use nearly 30 percent less energy compared to less efficient models.

There are other ways to control home humidity levels, too. If you're already cooling your home with a central air-conditioning system, your indoor unit is also dehumidifying while bringing the air temperature down. Consider having an additional air register installed in the humid space in your home, and take advantage of the air conditioner's dehumidifying capabilities. This will also help improve airflow between humid and drier parts of your home.

How about keeping moisture out of your home in the first place? Extend down spouts from your gutters, and direct them away from your home's foundation. Ensure soil slopes away from your foundation to avoid water pooling around your home. Avoid over-watering grass and other plants right next to your house. Repair leaking outdoor faucets attached to the side of your home.

Ensure clothes dryers are properly vented to the outdoors and not dumping their moist air inside. Use vent fans in bathrooms and kitchens to remove humidity at the source. Do not forget to turn fans off when you are done creating additional humidity, or you will continue venting your nicely air-conditioned air!

Cuming County Public Power District and Nebraska Public Power District want to help you keep cool this summer! This includes helping you manage indoor humidity levels. For more ideas on how you can make your home or business EnergyWiseSM, as well as financial incentives to help with the cost of your energy-saving upgrades, contact CCPPD or visit www.nppd.com.



Happy Father's Day!

Tip of the Month

Tip of the Month

Circulate savings! Ceiling fans are a great way to keep cool during summer months and can even allow you to raise your thermostat setting about 4 degrees without affecting your comfort.



Source: U.S. Department of Energy

CCPPD BOARD MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the CCPPD Board are normally held on the second Wednesday of each month at the office.

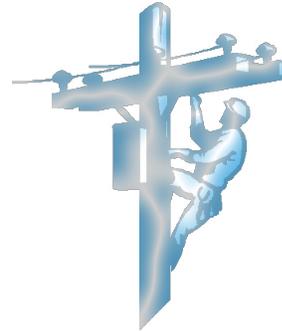
Notice of times and date changes are published monthly.

Visit our website at www.ccppd.com

**Love the work.
Respect the work.**

CCPPD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Greg Strehle, President.....402-380-3659
- Leroy Mostek, Vice Pres.....402-528-3872
- Dennis Weiler, Sec.....402-372-2713
- Ed Kaup, Treasurer.....402-372-2966
- Fred Schneider.....402-528-3683
- Danny Kluthe.....402-693-2833



**Please Move
Over for
Emergency
and
Utility Crews**

If you see police, fire-fighters, utility crews or other emergency personnel on the side of the road, please slow down and move over when possible. Together, we can keep our crews safe!

