

April 2024

CUMING COUNTY PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT



## A Message from our General Manager, Chet McWhorter

Robert Frost said, “Half the world is composed of people who have something to say and can’t, and the other half who have nothing to say and keep on saying it.” I have used this quote before in my articles and hate to be redundant, but it is such a wonderful turn of phrase. I can certainly relate to this quote and have known folks on both sides of the spectrum, truly we see this type of talking, saying nothing, each day in both Washington DC and Lincoln. I have, in fact, been on both sides of the continuum. There is no worse feeling than having the answer to a tough question or an extremely valid point that no one seems to want to hear. A close second is the realization that following a conversation with someone and noticing that it was one way with only one person doing a lot of talking and not near enough listening. As I’ve stated before, I try to make sure that what I share in these pages is timely and valuable for all that take the time to read, I don’t want to write for the sake of writing.

The Cuming County Public Power District was established by its customers to provide themselves with a vitally needed service, which would improve their economic and social standards with significant long-range benefits and contribute to the wellbeing of the community. We cleave to a number of ideals that inform our decisions and keep our eyes on what is important and what behaviors and beliefs will drive us toward the completion of our mission. To that end, we believe: That it

is the right of persons to provide for themselves a vitally needed service, and that CCPPD provides this service in a manner consistent with our mission statement as approved and provided by the Board of Directors. That CCPPD exists for the mutual benefit of its customers, directors, employees, and of the public and that free participation, understanding and support by each of these groups is necessary for a well-run utility.

We further believe that the ability of CCPPD to continue providing this essential service depends upon attracting and retaining capable employees who must be competitively compensated and given every opportunity for personal development and for advancement within the limits of their demonstrated capabilities. Also, CCPPD must exemplify leadership in the community by doing all things essential to good management, including proper organization, sound financing, leader development and adequate research. These opportunities carry with them both economic and social responsibilities. Our obligations and responsibilities as a local business are to the community, the public and our employees, as well as to our customers. These groups should also benefit from leadership in the economic and social development within and adjacent to the service area. We know that the attaining of this mission will require constant and untiring effort toward the achievement of our objectives.

Finally, we hold that the only number that is acceptable in terms of safety is zero, as in zero accidents,

and zero incidents. If we have that goal for safety, we also need the same goal for outages. The only number that is acceptable for outages is zero. If you have one that’s too many. Our recent outages in the Beemer area are unacceptable to both our affected customers and the employees and directors of CCPPD. Our crews have put in a lot of time and effort on the line section that has caused the outages this winter. We have done a ton of maintenance work on the line and believe we have taken care of the problems. We have heard from a few customers of late that we need to do a better job being reliable and we are taking it very seriously. We will not rest on past successes and will continue to tirelessly strive toward zero outages and zero safety related incidents.

If we live out the beliefs/statements listed, we are living up to our mission which states that: “The employees of CCPPD provide highly reliable, cost-based electricity in a safe, professional manner.” And our vision statement, “The customers of CCPPD view us as a leader in providing innovative, customer-oriented utility services who are accountable for our decisions and actions.” So, the question of the day is, how are we doing? Shoot me an email at [cmcwhorter@ccppd.com](mailto:cmcwhorter@ccppd.com) if you’d like to let me know. Because, after all, like author Steve Maraboli stated, “Everything is easier said than done. Saying something is easy. The challenge and the reward are in the doing.” Have a great Spring!

# Working in the Field

COPPD Linemen

They updated power poles and wire to power an irrigation well

Thank you to Scott Haber for the great pictures

# Thank you

THANK YOU to  
all the linemen that...

go on-call 24/7  
miss time with family  
work holidays & weekends  
go out in all kinds of weather

THANK YOU to  
all the linemen that...  
Keep the Lights on!!

#ThankALineworker

# Electricity Usage

When doing energy audits and looking at ways for customers to save on their electric bill, we are always hoping to find something that stands out for the high energy usage. But with many of the audits, there isn't one thing that stands out. Many times there are several things that add to a high bill.

What we find on most occasions are space heaters. The operating cost to run a space heater = Watts x Hours x Cost per kWh/1,000. If you run a 1,500 watt rated element for 1 steady hour without cycling (at \$0.10 cents) your cost would be: 1,500 x 1 x \$0.10/1,000=\$0.15. If the heater ran steady every evening for 4 hours for a solid month, it would cost \$18.00.

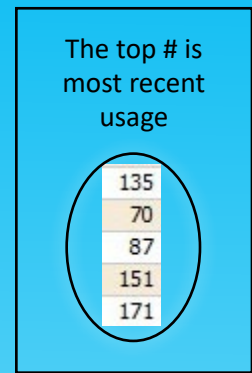
If the same heater ran the entire month (30 days) non stop, it would cost \$108.00 in addition to your normal electric bill. It would be safe to say that when you turn the thermostat on your fossil fuel heating system down, you are definitely saving on your fuel bill, but do not expect to run a 1,500 watt heater at no cost.

Recently, we were watching usage for a customer. Their bill was higher than normal and it was very cold, but the bill was unusually high. After discussing a few things with the customer they mentioned that their furnace was on emergency heat (back up electric heat) and they sometimes use space heaters.

On that day, they turned off emergency heat on their thermostat and unplugged their space heaters. For the following days, the usage went from 171 kW/day to 70 kW/day. Three days later the usage went back up to 135 kW/day. (See usage at top right)

So we checked in again with the customer and she said she turned the emergency heat back on because she was feeling cold. We continued to watch the usage for a week or so. If you look below, you can see that their usage went up again on February 27th at 1pm. She said she turned the emergency heat back on.

Watching your usage can really help you save on your electric bill. You can sign into the Smarthub App and track all of your information or give us a call at the office.



Watch space heater usage. It can add to your electric bill.



Customer turned emergency heat on at 1pm 2/27 and off at 8pm 12/28.

	1am										1pm										8pm					Total
02/27/2024	1.73	1.28	1.86	2.18	1.60	1.98	1.92	3.78	3.52	3.39	5.18	2.69	8.32	11.52	9.472	10.24	12.80	14.98	12.93	16.96	17.54	14.66	14.46	14.78	189.76	
02/28/2024	14.59	15.81	15.42	15.10	15.04	14.85	16.77	15.74	11.90	7.04	10.75	9.86	9.15	8.64	9.216	7.49	8.00	8.32	9.47	2.94	2.75	4.61	3.71	5.25	242.43	



## 2024 INCENTIVES

CCPPD.ENERGYWISENEBRASKA.COM

**CCPPD Incentives:**

- lighting
- attic insulation
- high efficiency heat pump
- heat pump water heater
- cooling system tune-up
- prescriptive irrigation
- smart thermostat
- lawn & garden & more

# Youth Energy Leadership Camp

July 22-26, 2024

Nebraska Rural Electric's Youth Energy Leadership Camp is July 22nd through July 26th at Camp Comeca near Cozad, NE. Any high school student currently in 9th through 11th grade can attend. CCPPD covers your cost for camp and takes you to and from camp. You will learn about the electric industry and could make life-long friends. There's also camping, sports, a banquet and dance. A tour of Gerald Gentleman Power Station and the Kingsley Hydro-Electric Power Plant provide for a first-hand look at the process of generating electricity. Contact Nicki White at CCPPD for more information 402-372-2463 or turn in this application form by April 28, 2024.



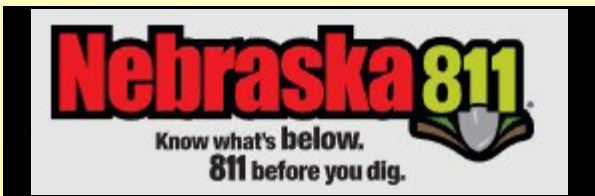
Deadline: April 28, 2024

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Parents: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Your Sponsoring Rural Electric System: \_\_\_\_\_

## NREA Youth Energy Leadership Camp

Camp Comeca near Cozad, Nebraska

Call 811 or



800-331-5666

**CALL 811**

**BEFORE**

**YOU DIG**

Know what's below. Call before you dig.

### Cuming County Public Power District

500 South Main Street ♦ West Point NE 68788  
 402-372-2463 or 877-572-2463

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

Find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Find online billpay, tips to save on your electric bill, newsletters, & so much more on our website: [www.ccppd.com](http://www.ccppd.com)



Greg Strehle, President  
402-380-3659



Leroy Mostek, Vice President  
402-380-8803



Ed Kaup, Treasurer  
402-380-9417



Brad Petersen, Secretary  
402-404-0588



Danny Kluthe, Director  
402-720-3425



Sonya Arduser, Director  
402-649-8113