

Manager's Report

By Chet McWhorter, CCPPD GM



Chet McWhorter, CCPPD GM

It's the most wonderful time of the year! At least that's what the old song says. We are in amongst the "holiday" season. Days are short, and nights are long. The AC is shut down, but the heater is working double time. Folks are generally in high spirits unless they don't have family close or friends closer. Sometimes we just have to take a minute and remember all the great things that we have to be thankful for and try to reach out to someone in need and make sure that they get a blessing as well.

This time of year, there are many opportunities to be charitable and to help others. Most communities have a food bank or a church or two that will put together programs to help folks in need. Participating in these ventures is easy. I've even seen where there are baskets at the grocery store where you can put a can of food in or whatever after you've shopped. At the gas station

they'll ask for an extra dollar to help this cause or that. Bottom line, if we don't participate in some charitable act or another it's really by our own choice.

I got a call the other day from a person who I think has a beautiful soul. This individual had a neighbor in need and decided to do something about it. You see, the neighbor had fallen well behind on their bills and consequently was without electrical service and had been for a few months. While we do what we can to avoid these things (we will work with anyone to come up with a solution), it still is necessary occasionally to disconnect services. CCPPD had shut off the electrical service due to non-payment in September. With the cold temperatures and impending weather coming, the good neighbor came forth and paid the amount past due to get the power turned back on. Mind you this wasn't a tiny bill either. This was a truly kind act and made me pause to consider what I could be doing for my fellow man.

One of my fellow employees here at CCPPD mentioned the other day that we ought to do a kindness challenge for December. We will track the good choices we've made day to day and

be able to document the kindnesses we show. I thought this was a great idea! Maybe we'll create a few good habits to counteract the bad eating habits that we will likely gain through the holidays!

My thought is this; I hope you'll join us in spreading kindness this holiday season. Like I said, it's easy and won't cost you much. What will you gain? Maybe a better night's sleep or a smile here or there. I think it's worth the price of admission. I wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

No act of kindness,
no matter how small,
is ever wasted.
- Aesop

CCPPD's office will be closed
Tuesday, December 25th to
celebrate Christmas Day and
Tuesday, January 1st for New
Year's Day!


Happy
Holidays

Join us at the CCPPD office for
Cookies & Cider
December 19th-21st

We want to thank all of you for
being great customers!

10 Quick Tips to Avoid High Winter Bills

*Looking to lower your bills this winter?
Use the 10 tips below to conserve energy.*

1



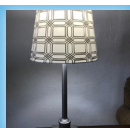
Seal air leaks and insulate well to prevent heat from escaping and cold air from entering your home.

2



Reduce waste heat by installing a programmable thermostat.

3



Turn off lights when not in use.

4



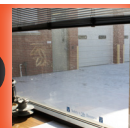
Lower your water heater temperature. The Dept. of Energy recommends using the warm setting (120 degrees) during fall and winter months.

5



Unplug electronics like kitchen appliances and TVs when you're away.

6



Open blinds and curtains during the day to allow sunlight in to warm your home.

7



Close blinds and curtains at night to keep cold, drafty air out.

8



Use power strips for multiple appliances, and turn off the main switch when you're away from home.

9



Wash clothes in cold water, and use cold-water detergent whenever possible.

10



Replace incandescent light bulbs with LEDs, which use at least 75 percent less energy.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

What is Grid Resiliency?

Resiliency of the grid is one of the most popular concepts being talked about in the electric industry today. This concept recently made headlines in the wake of Hurricanes Irma and Maria, which caused extraordinary damage to Puerto Rico's electric grid resulting in the longest sustained outage in U.S. history. Lack of resilience became the go-to phrase to describe Puerto Rico's grid. Here in Nebraska, what does grid resiliency mean for you?

Resiliency is many things – it's reliability in your electric service, it's our ability to efficiently restore your power, it's being able to meet the demands of new technology and it's how we serve you with various generation sources without skipping a beat. Ultimately, resilience is how we deliver on our promise to improve the quality of life for our customers.

When it comes to having a resilient electric grid, it begins with a system that is designed and built to withstand high winds, powerful storms, cybersecurity threats and other disruptions that could result in outages. A resilient grid is also flexible and adaptable by allowing different types of generation – such as wind, solar, coal and hydro – to seamlessly work together to provide you, our customer, with safe and reliable power. The way our systems react to advancements in technology – from demand response investments to serving the needs of electric vehicles – all factor into the resilience of our grid.

Resiliency is a 24/7, 365-days-a-year task. Whether it's the power lines, substations or generation facilities on our grid, it takes proactive maintenance and investment to keep them running smoothly. With thousands of consumers without power for months, the lack of resiliency in Puerto Rico's power grid wasn't solely caused by hurricane damage; it was the result of years of neglect in taking care of their system and preparing for a worst-case scenario.

In a similar way to how we maintain our vehicles with regular oil changes, inspections and tire rotations, a grid must also be properly maintained. Throughout the year, we regularly conduct pole and line inspections. Our goal is to find a problem before it becomes one. For example, if we find a weak pole that has damage from termites, we replace that pole. Doing so ensures that pole is as strong – or as resilient – as it can be.

Living in Nebraska, we know that significant power outages can occur, especially as we enter the winter storm season. Whether we're at the mercy of ice, snow or wind, we have confidence in the resiliency of our system to recover from the situation with as little disruption as possible.

In the dictionary, resilience is defined as "the ability to bounce back, recover quickly and go back into shape or position after being stretched." When it comes to providing our customers with resilient service, this is what we work toward – day in and day out!

A Full House of Energy Savings

ATTIC

In many homes, attic insulation is one of the easiest, least expensive and most effective ways to reduce your energy use. Contact us to find out how much insulation is right for your home. In colder regions, a properly insulated attic also reduces the chance of ice dams.

DEN/OFFICE

Plug all electronic gadgets such as phone and laptop chargers, printers, gaming consoles and BluRay players into a power strip with an on/off switch. When not in use, turn the power strip off to eliminate all those energy vampires.



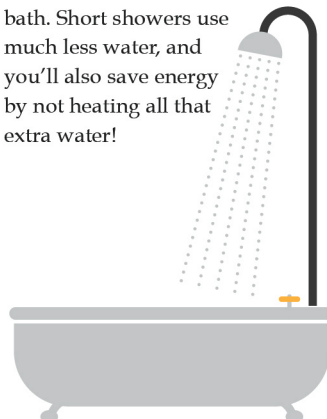
BEDROOM

Ceiling fans can help save energy all year long! In the summer, fans should rotate counter clockwise to push air down creating a cooling flow. In the winter, fans should rotate clockwise to help draw cool air up toward the ceiling and push the warm air that naturally rises down to you and your family.



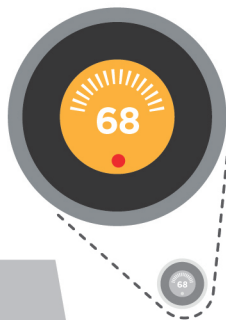
BATHROOM

Take a short shower instead of a bath. Short showers use much less water, and you'll also save energy by not heating all that extra water!



LIVING ROOM

Smart thermostats learn how you and your family live, and automatically adjust the temperature settings based on your lifestyle to keep you comfortable while saving you money.



KITCHEN

Make sure your burner isn't bigger than the pan, and use flat-bottomed pans to maximize surface contact with the burner. Don't preheat the oven until you're ready to use it. Minimize the number of times you open and close the refrigerator or oven door.



**Want to learn about additional ways to save energy?
Contact us for more energy efficiency tips!**



Featured CCPPD Employee

Scott Case



Scott Case began working at Cuming County Public Power District on March 24, 1986. Scott is a working foreman with CCPPD and helps with staking, paperwork,

meeting with customers, and many other duties. His first position with the District was as a mechanic. Any maintenance on vehicles in the CCPPD fleet was taken care of by Scott. Later, he achieved his Merchant Job Training in 2008 and became a Journeyman Lineman. He then moved into his current position as working foreman in January of 2015.

He and his wife, Sue, live in West Point. They have four children: Brittany, Kari, Austin and Gavin. They also have two grandchildren, Ryker and Maria.



Outside of work, Scott enjoys Husker football, farming, driving truck, hunting, going to the lake and spending time with his family.

Please help us thank Scott for his dedicated service to Cuming County Public Power District.

4-H Achievement Day

Cuming County Public Power District gives special awards to 4-H'ers that have an interest in electrical projects at the Cuming County Fair. The 4-H Achievement Day was November 11, 2018 at the Nielsen Center in West Point. The special awards were given to Ian Schiller (grand champion overall) and Gavin Kreikemeier (reserve champion overall). Thank you to all of the 4-H'ers that took an interest in electrical items.



Picture by Chad Moyer

Ian Schiller (left) accepting his award for his electrical project from Nicki White, CCPPD Communications Manager. Not pictured: Gavin Kreikemeier.

Find us on Facebook: facebook.com/CCPPD

Twitter: @CumingCountyPPD

Blog: ccppd.blogspot.com

Online billpay, tips to save on your electric bill, newsletters, and so much more on our website

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



Greg Strehle, President
402-380-3659



Leroy Mostek, Vice President
402-528-3872



Ed Kaup, Treasurer
402-372-2966



Dennis Weiler, Secretary
402-372-2713



Fred Schneider
402-528-3683



Danny Kluthe
402-693-2833

C
C
P
P
D

B
O
A
R
D