

A message from CCPPD General Manager



Chet McWhorter
CCPPD GM

One of the only certain and sure constants in life is change. Change is continual and is caused by new information; sometimes it is a good thing and sometimes not so much. I think it is essential to remember the wise words of Gail Sheehy, when considering changes: "Changes are not only possible and predictable, but to deny them is to be an accomplice to one's own unnecessary vegetation."

Since 2016, CCPPD's Board and Management have been looking very closely at an offer that has been extended to the District by Bluestem Energy Solutions to install a wind turbine in Cuming County that would be owned and operated by Bluestem. CCPPD would purchase the output of the turbine at a known rate for the next 30 years. This single turbine would provide about 10% of our peak energy needs. Per our contract, we are limited to 10% from local generation so there is no reason for any more than one turbine to be put in.

What this means for each customer-owner of the District is that for about 10% of your kilowatt-hour costs, we would be able to lock in at a known rate for the next 30 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. This type of agreement allows for the District to hedge that portion of our power costs. Essentially, we can plan long term for that percentage of the costs, which equates to lower rates long term to each of our customer owners. The concept of hedging is not new in the energy business; it is just something that we have not had the ability to take advantage of in the past due to contract restrictions. In our current contract we negotiated the ability to work with the 10% of our peak demand and it is sound business to do so.

Additionally, there is an economic benefit to Cuming County. This benefit has been estimated to be over \$1 million over the contract period, including over \$11,000 per year in property taxes which will benefit local schools and townships.

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 of any hour of any day. 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 ground for this project has been leased by Bluestem. It is located northeast of Wisner and has a legal description of 28-24-5 SW ¼ Cuming County, NE. The proposed turbine will be in the southwest corner of this parcel and in the opinion of Bluestem, this location meets all county setback and zoning regulations. If you have questions regarding the site or construction of the project, please contact Bluestem Project Manager Matt Robinette at 402-917-6655. And as always, you can call me at the office, 402-372-2463 ext. 217. You can call or text my cell phone 402-380-0146 or email me at cmcwhorter@ccppd.com.

As I stated earlier, change is a 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 I look forward to hearing from you!

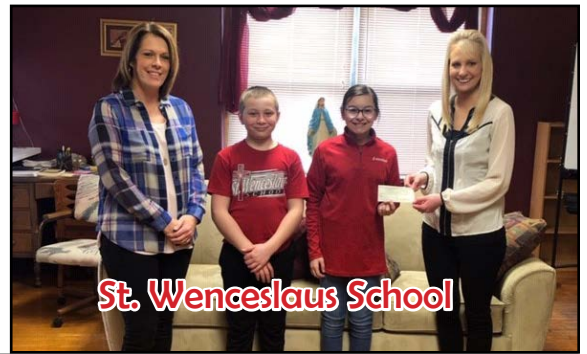
CCPPD Operation Round-Up® Helps Our Communities

The Cuming County Public Power District Operation Round Up® board members met March 27, 2019. Following are the organizations that were awarded a total of \$5,295.00:

| | | |
|---|---|-------------|
| Bancroft Senior Center | Lighting..... | \$ 1,000.00 |
| First Presbyterian Church of Bancroft | Siding, Insulation, Gutters & Paint | \$ 500.00 |
| Guardian Angels Central Catholic | Science Summer Camp | \$ 345.00 |
| Howells-Dodge Consolidated East..... | Various Special Seating in Classrooms | \$ 500.00 |
| Just-A-Stitch Quilt Guild | Pillowcases for Veterans in the Hospital | \$ 500.00 |
| Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D | Membership Sponsorship..... | \$ 350.00 |
| St. Mary's Catholic Church..... | Teen Camp for 10 High School Teens | \$ 500.00 |
| St. Paul Lutheran First Lego League..... | Registration for Team to go to Competition..... | \$ 500.00 |
| St. Wenceslaus School | High Quality Science Education Program | \$ 500.00 |
| TeamMates Mentoring..... | Mentor Recruitment for all Area TeamMates Groups..... | \$ 500.00 |
| West Point Little League Baseball Assoc | Annual Sign Sponsorship | \$ 100.00 |



Guardian Angels Central Catholic



St. Wenceslaus School



Just-A-Stitch Quilt Guild



Howells-Dodge Consolidated East

Authorization Form



Choose one Option:

- ☐ Yes, I would like to participate in the Operation Round-Up® Program. I wish to have my monthly electric bill rounded up to the next highest dollar.
- ☐ Yes, I would like to participate in the Operation Round-Up® Program. I wish to contribute \$_____ per month to the Operation Round-Up® Program, and the amount will be added to my monthly electric bill.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Account Number: _____

Please return to: Cuming County Public Power District
500 S Main
PO Box 256
West Point NE 68788

Please call with any questions: 402-372-2463



Field Data Acquisition Project

What is Field Data Acquisition? Basically, it is capturing GPS (Global Positioning System) information for all electrical structures such as poles, meters and transformers. Cuming County Public Power District is going to be gathering all of this information for our GIS (Geographic Information System) mapping system. This will allow us to use any electronic device to view all of the equipment and locations of the equipment in our entire system.

This GIS system is tied into all CCPPD customer data, billing and accounting software. This will allow the linemen to pinpoint the problem before going out to repair an issue as well as helping them know exactly what material is needed. For outages, it helps with planning for system improvements and shows what customers are affected. For staking and planning, it allows for correct quantities to be ordered and material needed prior to construction.

The next step in the process of converting our system to GIS is to locate, identify and connect all of the

information. A company by the name of GMS (Global Mapping Solutions) will be helping us with that by checking, marking and documenting each CCPPD structure. This will include poles, underground transformer boxes and any related electrical equipment. This company will be working for CCPPD starting in May and continuing several months. They will have signs and letters from CCPPD. They also will be working into Saturdays and Sundays to complete their work.

We will notify customers by social media, the CCPPD website, press releases, public postings, newspapers and radio on what sections they will work on next. We will also have a map posted to pinpoint the areas they will be working in. Please tune in to one of these platforms to be more informed.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact us at 402-372-2463 or 877-572-2463.

These CCPPD magnets will be placed on the GMS vehicles.

Contracted by:
**Cuming
County
Public
Power
District**



A couple of the GMS employees out working in the field



GMS will be driving pick-ups and trailers with Rangers or ATV's to do their work in the field.



Featured CCPPD Employee

Nicki White



Nicki White started at Cuming County Public Power District on November 16, 2009. This year she will celebrate 10 years. She is the Communications Manager and handles Energy Efficiency incentives, the newsletter,

website changes, social media, talking to the media, scheduling events, attending parades, attending community events and meetings. She also completes energy audits if customers are seeing a higher than normal electric bill.



Nicki attended the University of South Dakota in Vermillion to get her degree and enjoyed living in Yankton, SD for several years. She wanted to be closer to family so she moved back to Cuming County.

When not working, she enjoys being outside, watching sporting events, walking, and most of all spending time with her family. She and her husband, Jeremy, live in West Point and have three boys: Sage, Jackson and Nathan.

Please help us thank Nicki for her dedicated service to Cuming County Public Power District.

Staking Supervisor

We are pleased to announce that Scott Case has been promoted to Staking Supervisor at Cuming County Public Power District. Scott has worked at CCPPD since 1986 so he has a lot of experience to bring to his new position. As the Staking Supervisor he will provide assistance and recommendations to customers with technical problems and customer service to power quality issues, power requirements and line extensions. He will provide staking on projects, pole replacements and new construction. We want to thank Scott for his dedicated service to Cuming County Public Power District.



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

Please visit our website at www.ccppd.com

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



Dennis Weiler, Secretary
402-372-2713



Fred Schneider, Treasurer
402-528-3683



Ed Kaup
402-372-2966



Danny Kluthe
402-693-2833

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