

Cuming County Public Power District

May 2021

A Few Words From Chet McWhorter, CCPPD GM



What's in a word? Any of you who read these monthly missives know that I love words. I love the flow of a beautiful quote or poem. I love the power of communication whether via written word or verbal. Words are what make us able to share our experiences, thoughts, likes and dislikes with others. Words are powerful! As kids we always said that sticks and stones could break our bones, but words could never hurt us. I wish that were true!

Our mission statement reads: "The employees of CCPPD provide highly reliable, cost-based electricity in a safe, professional manner." I've written on our mission before and truly believe that each of your employees does their best to live up to this mission. While we live this mission day in and day out, each of us at CCPPD have an individual take on what our piece of the mission means and what it takes to maintain our part. Lately, I've spent a lot of time contemplating what it means to provide "highly reliable" electricity. In the electrical industry there has been a push toward resiliency and using the word resiliency in place of the word reliability. As noted, words are powerful, and the choice in words holds meaning. Why the shift? What does it mean to each customer?

A colleague of mine provided some definitions that are appropriate for this discussion. Reliable means suitable or fit to be relied upon, being dependable, giving the same result on successive trials. As a public power provider, it seems to me that we would want to be reliable. You should expect that when you flip the wall switch your lights will come on. You should expect that you can charge your cell phone or microwave your popcorn. You should expect that the electricity that we provide will be there to do the million tasks that we ask of it each day. If we are reliable, you really shouldn't have to think about us much, if at all.

Now resilience. Resilience is the ability of a system or organization to respond to or recover readily from a crisis, disruptive process, etc. In the electric power business resilience is a given. I would argue that we can't expect to be reliable if we can't be resilient. Think of last November's ice storm as an example. The ice came, the lines fell, we got help and got out to the field, the lines got picked up, and the power was turned back on. This was and is a good example of resilience. We resiliently react to every outage, crisis, or disruptive process that comes our way because we want to be highly reliable.

The question that is burning in my mind is this: Would you rather do business with the reliable business (suitable or fit to be relied upon, being dependable, giving the same result on successive trials) or the resilient business (the ability of a system or organization to respond to or recover readily from a crisis, disruptive process, etc.)? As for me, I choose the reliable business. I want dependability in my life as much as I can get it. I expect the dependable, reliable business to react appropriately to crisis and disruption. I don't think that I should have to give up dependability or reliability to have resilience. I also want you to know that I don't think you should have to expect less from us at CCPPD.

In the coming months, you'll likely hear bigger players in the power industry using the word resilience and not using the word reliable. When you do, remember that you have a voice in what goes on in the electrical industry in Nebraska because you own all the utilities in our great state. Reach out to your elected directors at Nebraska Public Power District or Omaha Public Power District, for example, and let them know that you expect resilience AND reliability from your public power systems. Together we can keep the mission of highly reliable, cost-based, and safe electricity for all at the forefront. Thanks for reading and enjoy the season!

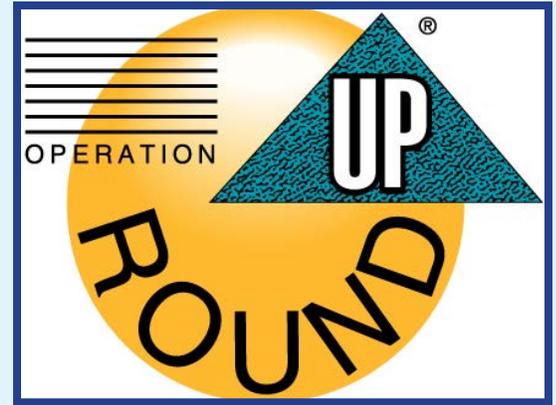
**The CCPPD Office
will be closed
Monday, May 31st**



Operation Round-Up® Fund

"Giving back to the community!"

Total Given: \$5,230.00



Guardian Angels Central Catholic.....	Projector & Bulbs.....	\$1430.00
Just A Stitch Quilt Guild.....	Fabric & Batting.....	\$500.00
Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D.....	Sponsorship.....	\$350.00
NENCAP, Inc.	Security System at Central Office.....	\$1000.00
St. Wenceslaus.....	Flexible Seating.....	\$1000.00
Sunshine Center, Inc.	Postage & Envelopes.....	\$350.00
West Point Chamber of Commerce....	Laptop, Monitor & MS Office.....	\$500.00
West Point Little League Baseball.....	Annual Sign Renewal.....	\$100.00



Danielle Ortmeier, CCppd ORU board member (right) presented a check to Danielle Klosen, Head Teacher at St. Wenceslaus for Flexible Seating.

Thank you to our dedicated ORU board members:
 Kay Raabe, Danielle Ortmeier,
 Brenda Duhsman, Brooke Fullner
 & Cindi Peters

Happy Mother's Day!



The New Bancroft Substation



The new Bancroft Substation is on Highway 16 on the north side of town.



Eric & Tristan were getting ready to set a new power pole on the edge of the substation.



The ground was a little wet and soft so they did a great job getting set.

The linemen are great at getting the difficult jobs done safely & on time.



Lineworker Appreciation 2021

To our heroes in hard hats, thank you for keeping the lights on.

Lineworker Appreciation Day
April 12, 2021



Our CCPPD linemen: Brian, Austin, Eric, Jess, Willy, Tyson & Tristan

Rain or shine, we're ready. Because letting you down is not an option.



Our CCPPD office: Scott C., Scott H., Chet, Monte, Kari, Tisha, Sarah, Sheena, Mary, Kinzey, & Nicki

SAFETY FIRST!



May is National Electrical Safety Month

Dust Bunnies

By: NPPD Energy Efficiency Program Manager Cory Fuehrer

Whoever in the middle ages coined the term, “Out of sight, out of mind,” must have said it right after discovering one of the favorite hangouts for an elusive and energy-stealing beast well known in the refrigeration world: the Dust Bunny. Okay, maybe they didn’t have modern refrigeration appliances in the 1500s, but dust bunnies are definitely energy-stealing pests that can shorten the life of refrigerators and freezers today. Fortunately, you can rid yourself of their effects with a little extra effort once a year (or twice if you have pets).

Before discussing how to perform this simple maintenance task, answer this important question: “Where are my condenser coils?”

If your fridge or freezer doesn't have a toe-grill on the front, you will find condenser coils attached to the back of the unit or behind a panel held in place by a few screws. If this is the case, you will need to pull the unit away from the wall for access. The coils will look like metal tubes wound in a U-shaped grid pattern. These coils transfer heat from your unit’s refrigerant into the room’s air. If you have never cleaned them before, don’t be alarmed if you find yours surrounded by a dense colony of dust bunnies!

For the heat transfer to occur, air must pass over the coils. That air often contains dust, dirt, pollen, pet hair and moisture which builds up over time to create a great environment for dust bunnies to flourish.

Before starting, you will need the following tools: a flashlight, coil condenser brush and dust mask. As you should before working on any appliance, start by unplugging the unit. Don’t worry about spoilage. The coil-cleaning process will only take 15 minutes or less, and the doors will remain closed the whole time.

Next, don the dust mask. Though most of the dust/debris will get vacuumed up, some will likely become airborne. Start by vacuuming the loose dust and debris along the inside of the toe grill or from the backside of the fridge. If your condenser coils are underneath the unit, the flashlight will come in handy to help spot them.

Next, brush away the dust clinging to the coil with a coil condenser brush. These brushes are available at most DIY stores for around \$10. Measuring approximately 27 inches long with short bristles on the top one-third, the brush’s cylindrical design lets you easily slip it between the spaces in the coil grid. Work it back and forth to remove dust while keeping the vacuum running to remove loosened dust. Once the coils and surrounding area are clean, replace any toe grills or plates previously removed, plug the electrical cord back in and push your unit back against the wall if necessary.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, a dirty condenser coil can increase compressor energy consumption up to 30%. While the total energy saved of 100 to 300 kilowatt-hours per year may only save \$12 to \$36, dirty condenser coils can shorten your refrigerator or freezer’s lifetime by up to five years. Considering the cost for repairing or replacing a broken or worn-out unit, even greater savings are realized.

Cuming County Public Power District and Nebraska Public Power District want to help you make the most from the energy needed to keep your food cold! Contact CCPPD at 402-372-2463 or visit www.nppd.com if you would like more information on other low-cost/no-cost energy-saving measures, as well as various EnergyWiseSM incentives that may be available to you.



**2021
Rebates**

ccppd.energywisenebraska.com
or call for more info

CUMING COUNTY PPD
500 SOUTH MAIN STREET
WEST POINT NE 68788
402-372-2463
TOLL FREE 877-572-2463

CCPPD BOARD
Regular meetings of the
CCPPD Board of Directors 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
BRAD PETERSEN, SECRETARY
402-404-0588
ED KAUP, TREASURER
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402-693-2833
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