

July 2022 >>>

- Global Energy Supply
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- Summer Interns
- Holiday Closing



Serving Stanton County and parts of Madison, Wayne, Cuming, and Colfax counties

EnLIGHTening NEWS

About Us >>>

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Check us out on Facebook & Twitter

Report an Outage:
877-439-2300
for after hours service

The US economy is driven by the availability of fuel at reasonable cost.



When manufacturing companies need electricity, the power is available and when companies are shipping products, the fuel (gas and diesel) is available. If farmers need fuel to raise crops, it is available. Now imagine what happens if that fuel is not available.



Details inside

Summer Efficiency>>>

As temperatures begin to spike, there are steps you can take to save money on energy bills this summer.

According to the Department of Energy, a typical home uses a whopping 48 percent of energy expenditures just on the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system (HVAC) system. Although a majority of that 48 percent is spent on heating expenses, Americans still spend \$29 billion every year to power their air conditioners.

Aside from replacing your central air conditioner with a newer, higher-efficiency model, there are some things you can do to increase efficiency, which can help reduce your energy bills.

Besides weather stripping and caulking around windows and doors in your home (always a good idea regardless of the time of year), Safe Electricity offers the following:

- Close curtains, blinds and shades during the day.
- Consider installing a programmable thermostat.
- Clean the filter and get your unit inspected.
- Get a pre-season check up for your system.
- Ventilate the attic and check insulation.
- Consider changes to your landscaping to add shade.
- Make sure your outdoor condenser unit is clean.
- Use your clothes dryer and oven during the cooler parts of the day.



Lightning Safety

Always be aware of the severity of storms. Watch for lightning and take cover under proper shelters. Remember, lightning can strike up to 10 miles away from the rainfall and it CAN strike the same place twice.

64% of lightning fatalities occur during outdoor recreation activities



Safe Electricity.org

research collected from the National Weather Service

EnergyWise Incentives >>>

2022 Incentive Rebate Programs

Energy Efficiency is important to all! If you are looking for ways to save energy and money, check our list of rebate programs. There are several options for customers to take advantage of in the 2022 year. For more information, check the website at www.scppd.com or call the office at 402-439-2228.

Residential Heat Pump Water Heater:

- \$400 for air source with an EF > 1.9
- \$650 for ground source with an EF > 2.8

High Efficiency Heat Pump:

- \$400 - \$3000 Incentive
- Minimum SEER 15, EER 12.5 & HSPF 8.5
- Includes Air-to-Air, and Water/Ground source

SMART thermostat:

- \$25-\$100 Incentive options

Cooling System Tune-up: \$30

- Attic Insulation: \$0.15 per square foot - \$300 max.

ENERGYWISESM
Use less. Spend less. Do more.



Global Energy Supply

Feeling the effects at many levels

The United States is a country blessed with resources and energy. Those resources have been used to fuel the world's largest economy for many decades. The United States emerged from WWII as the financial leader of the world after loaning money to England, France and Germany to cover war debts. The US economy grew ever since and arguably sits as the largest economy in the world since the late 1970's.

The US economy is driven by the availability of fuel at reasonable cost. When manufacturing companies need electricity, the power is available and when companies are shipping products, the fuel (gas and diesel) is available. If farmers need fuel to raise crops, it is available. Now imagine what happens if that fuel is not available.

If the Russian invasion of Ukraine has taught us one thing, it is the importance of a strong fuel supply. It has also taught us how fragile the global fuel supply is. One conflict between two countries can have serious ripple effects. Russia supplies Europe with nearly two-fifths of its oil and gas and one-fourth of its crude oil.¹ European Union (EU) has decided to curb the imports of this Russian fuel due to Russia's invasion of Ukraine causing prices to skyrocket. As they try to backfill this void, the rest of the world will be impacted. The United States has increased Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) exports to the EU to help with the fuel shortage.¹ According to the EIA, the US produces 38.3% of its electricity from natural gas, therefore one would expect this to drive the cost of electricity up.

As the supply of energy is at risk across the globe, the US is still abandoning low-cost, reliable sources from fossil fuels. I will save the climate change debate for another day, but how will the suggested energy transition effect this current energy supply? **Americans are feeling the wrath of this global energy supply at the gas pump, I hope that doesn't trickle to their electric bills.** In recent years the US has transitioned a significant portion of generation from coal to natural gas. The supply of natural gas has far exceeded the demand and the US became an exporter of LNG. This has been marked as a transition fuel as the generation fleets across the country shy away from fossil fuels and transition to renewable. Renewable energy is currently supplying our country with only 10.9% of the energy we consume. This generation is dependent on the wind blowing or the sun shining. They are not dispatchable and create significant issues for grid operators to manage the energy supply.

Many experts are warning of electricity supply issues as we look toward the summer peaks of 2022 and into the future. Please see the links below from the E&E News¹ and the Wall Street Journal¹ sounding alarms about electricity supply. How will this affect the economic outlook in the United States if we have electric power supply issues. How will this play out to the electric consumer in Nebraska? Both very good questions and I can only speculate to answer. I do know reliable low-cost electric service in Nebraska and all across the globe is very important to prosperity. We will do our part to ensure we continue to keep that focus.

¹ <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2022/03/eu-energy-russia-oil-gas-import/>

¹ <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/the-u-s-will-increase-natural-gas-exports-to-europe-to-replace-russian-fuel/>

¹ <https://www.eenews.net/articles/grid-monitor-warns-of-u-s-blackouts-in-sobering-report/>

¹ <https://www.wsj.com/articles/electricity-shortage-warnings-grow-across-u-s-11652002380>

Summer Interns>>>



*Welcome to Cheyenne Mangus and Aaron Jilka!
Cheyenne is a student at Wayne State College and will be helping the office with some records management this summer. Aaron is a student in the NECC Utility Lineman program. He has finished his first year and will be gaining experience with our Lineman in the field.*



Holiday Closing

The SCPPD office will be closed on July 4, 2022 in observance of the Independence Day holiday.

We wish you all a safe and happy 4th of July!



It's the Law – Call
Before You Dig!
1-800-331-5666



877-439-2228 www.scppd.com scppd@scppd.net
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For valuable, timely information on power outages or important updates follow us on Twitter! @StantonCoPPD



When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!

Seek shelter indoors or in a hard-topped vehicle. If you can't get to shelter:

- avoid open fields and hilltops.
- stay away from tall, isolated trees and objects.
- spread out (if you're in a group).

#StormSafety

