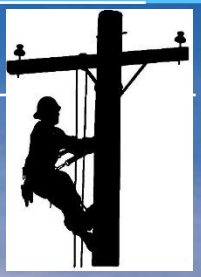
July 2023 >>>

Impact of Increased Energy Sales
New Load Growth
Demand Efficiency
Dangers of Heat
Holiday Closing

STANTON COUNTY PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

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

EnLIGHTening NEWS



About Us >>>

Stanton County Public Power District: Board of Directors

Gary Koehlmoos ……..President
Weldon Marotz ……Vice President
Jim Scherer … ……Secretary
Doug Oertwich.……Treasurer
John Gall ……Director
Bob Schellpeper……Director

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Check us out on Facebook & Twitter

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

System Growth

Impacts of Increased Energy Sales

Electric infrastructure is typically built to handle additional load in the future. The original plant built was vastly oversized and built to support new load growth that was expected in the life of the plant.

Read more inside

Growth>>>

REA's Started with Government Loans

In the infant stages of electrification and growth, the risk was high with very little opportunity for return on an investment causing the investor-owned utilities to shy away from rural areas. Rural electric utilities were originally formed with the Rural Electrification Act to serve the rural areas of the country.

The Rural Electrification Act was a government program that loaned money to the PPDs and Cooperatives across the country for investment in infrastructure to serve these rural areas. Stanton County PPD received funds to make that original investment in the district. These government investments could be some of the best investments the federal government has made. This created the infrastructure to power rural America and helped build the agriculture sector of this country to what we know today.

This infrastructure was once deemed too expensive to provide a business model to be sustainable. There was concern as to who would pay for the replacement of the electric plant. Today the industry is self-sufficient without government subsidy except for FEMA payments covering storm damage, which SCPPD has received in the past. The original life expectancy of electric plant was about 30 years setting up another capital investment for the industry. The increased cost of materials, fuel and labor drive up the cost of this replacement. This cost can be offset by consistent load growth.

Growth of Electric Load

The original services built back in the 1930's and 1940's were typically small residential services under 50 amps. These services provided lights in the home, water for the farm and kept the food cool or frozen. In the 1950's and 1960's, air conditioning became very popular, and the typical residential electric service was 100 or 200 amps. The development of electric irrigation began in the 1970's, and Nebraska farmers took notice. Today Nebraska is one of the largest irrigated states in the country and several of these wells are powered with electricity. American innovation continues to use electricity to power many aspects of our lives.

Impacts of Load Growth

Electric infrastructure is typically built to handle additional load in the future. The original plant built was vastly oversized and built to support new load growth that was expected in the life of the plant. This continues today as we build lines to allow for that new load growth. We have strengthened our backbone lines, installed larger substation transformers, and built services at the farm and homes to handle some load growth.

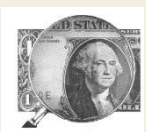
This growth is what helps offset inflation of the system. We can spread the fixed costs over additional kilowatt-hours to keep rates low. If we do not experience growth over a period, any new costs or inflation will be added back into the cost of those original kilowatt-hours. This was realized by utilities during the energy efficiency push with new LED lights, more efficient heat pumps and variable frequency drive motors. This all lowered the kilowatt-hours sales to spread fixed costs over. We have been fortunate at SCPPD and have not needed to raise rates during this period.

New Load Growth

It is important for us to continue to grow our load at SCPPD. We see slow but steady growth in our residential customers. The farms are getting larger all the time and irrigation load continues to increase. We have also seen interest in developing large industrial loads in the District. This all helps keep the cost of electricity down.

Will the load growth continue? There seems to be new ways to use electricity all the time and that will continue with the development of electric tools, mowers, and even electric vehicles in the future. We are seeing large amounts of research and development in this industry. For the foreseeable future, we expect to see growth in the industry while keeping the cost of electricity very affordable.

EnergyWise Incentives >>>



There are several options for customers to take advantage of in the 2023 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 - $3,300 Incentive
- Minimum *SEER 15, EER 12.5 & HSPF 8.5
- Includes Air-to-Air, and Water/Ground source

15 SEER incentive discontinued after 2023

SMART thermostat:
- $25-$100 Incentive options

Cooling System Tune-up: $30

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

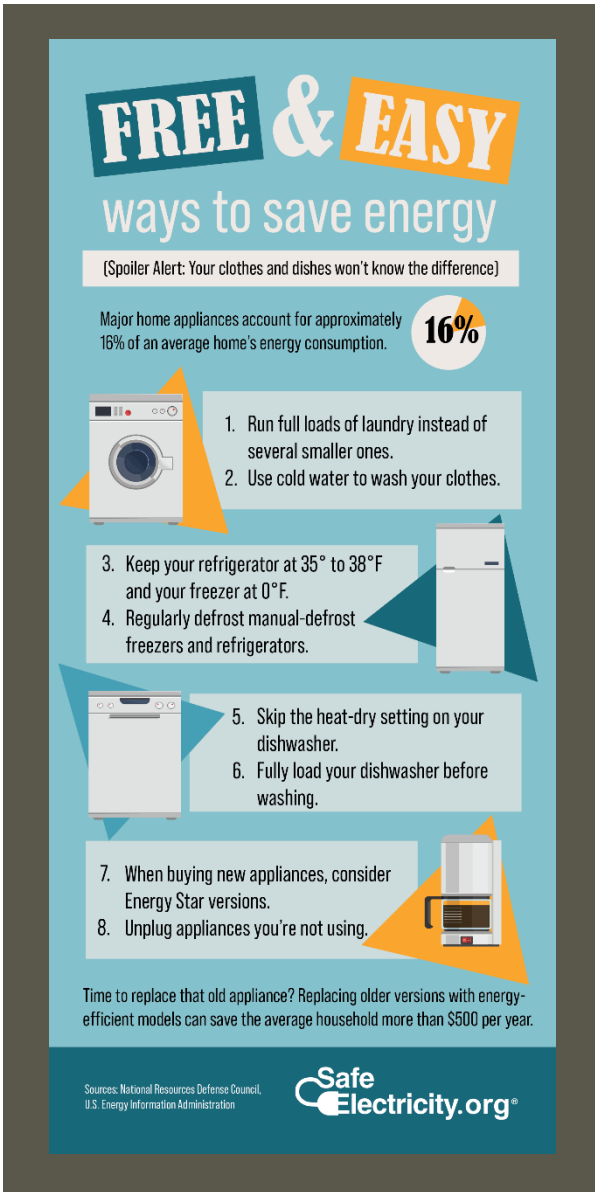
Efficient Energy Usage

When the weather is extreme, use energy wisely

We hear a lot about peak energy demand, but what is it and how does it impact electricity use? As the name implies, peak energy demand occurs when energy consumption is at its highest. In much of the U.S., energy use spikes in summer and winter due to the need to heat and cool indoor spaces.
Although it depends on where you live, summertime energy demand increases between mid-to-late afternoon (when outdoor temperatures soar) and evening. In the winter, there are two high-use times of day: early morning and late afternoon/evening. Weekends and holidays are typically considered off peak. Changing the time of day you use energy can help lower your energy bills and avoid interruptions or service glitches that can occur during peak demand times. To do this, consider running major appliances during off-peak times; smart devices or appliances that have delay starts can help achieve this goal. Do your part to use energy wisely when temperatures are high. In the summer months, help decrease demand by doing the following:

- Turn your thermostat up by two degrees or more.
- Program your thermostat to a higher temperature when no one is home.
- If you do not have one, consider purchasing a smart thermostat.
- Make sure your HVAC system is in good working order.
- Use bathroom and kitchen fans temporarily to remove heat and humidity.
- Use your countertop toaster/convection oven instead of your oven.
- Use major appliances in the early morning or late evening.
- Program smart devices to run appliances at off-peak times.
- Close window coverings during the hottest part of the day.
- Use minimal lighting.
- Turn off and disconnect electronics that are not in use.
- Turn off stand-alone dehumidifiers.

Making small changes to conserve energy can help even out energy use, save money on your utility bill and avoid service interruptions caused by high demand.



Beware the silent dangers of heat>>>

It is often said that electricity is a silent killer. This is true because you cannot see, hear or smell electricity. Intense summertime heat is also a silent killer. Unlike hurricanes, floods and tornadoes, the dangers of extreme weather strike without much notice. An average of 702 heat-related deaths occur each year in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Heat-related illnesses
Hot weather is associated with an increase in heat-related illnesses, including cardiovascular and respiratory complications, renal failure, electrolyte imbalance, kidney stones, negative impact on fetal health and preterm birth, according to the CDC. Death rates increase during and after heat waves, which is why the number of deaths is attributed to heat-related illnesses.
Heat-related deaths result from:

- Heat stroke and related conditions.
- Cardiovascular disease.
- Respiratory disease.
- Cerebrovascular disease.

Holiday Closing

In observance of the Independence Day Holiday
The SCPPD office will be closed on Tuesday, July 4, 2023.

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

It's the Law – Call Before You Dig!
1-800-331-5666
811

STANTON COUNTY PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

877-439-2228 www.scppd.com scppd@scppd.net
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smart hub

RESOLVE TO SAVE ENERGY

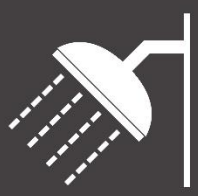
Make a home energy resolution and reap the benefits all year long!

Three easy ways to save energy:

1. **Install a programmable thermostat.**
You could save an estimated $180 annually!

2. **Ditch incandescents.**
Did you know incandescent bulbs release 90% of their energy as heat? Use LEDs instead.

3. **Reduce energy used for water heating.**
Lower your water heater's temp and consider installing low-flow showerheads.



Source: energy.gov