

ENLIGHTENING NEWS

**SPECIAL
EDITION**



STANTON COUNTY
PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

ENLIGHTENING NEWS

Published bi-monthly by Stanton County
Public Power District

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Office Hours: Monday - Friday
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Doug Oertwich: *President*

John R Gall: *Vice President*

Robert Schellpeper: *Secretary*

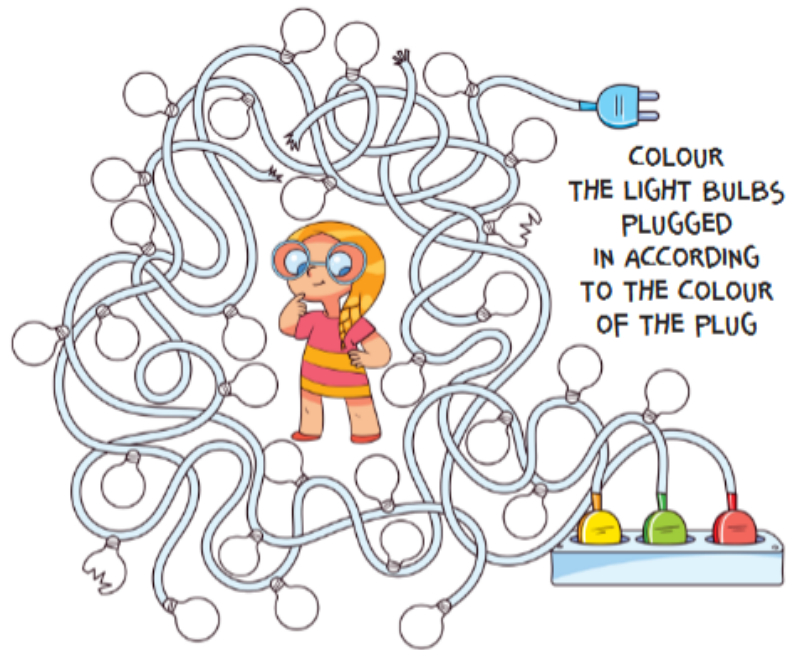
Darin Petersen: *Treasurer*

Tim Reese: *Director*

Gary Koehlmoos: *Director*

MEETING INFORMATION:

Unless otherwise notified, regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held monthly on the fourth Thursday of each month. The Directors shall hold their meetings at the general office of the District or at such other place or places determined by the Board.



RESIDENTIAL HEAT PUMP/ WATER HEATER

\$400 for Air Source

UEF > 1.9

\$650 for Water or Ground
Source COP > 2.8

HIGH EFFICIENCY HEAT PUMP

\$400 - \$3300 Incentive

Minimum SEER 16, EER 12.5 &
HSPF 8.5

Includes Air-to-Air, and
Water/Ground source

SMART THERMOSTAT:

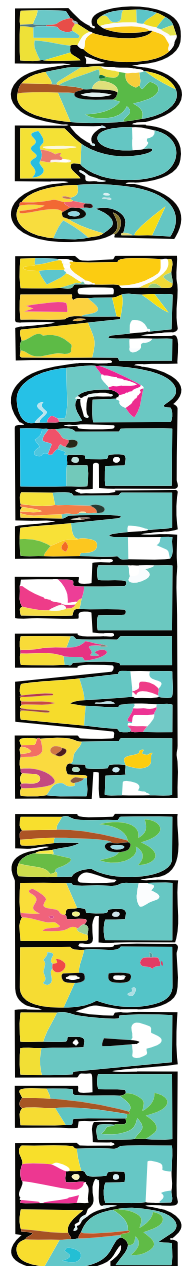
\$25 - \$100

COOLING SYSTEM TUNE-UP:

\$30

ATTIC INSULATION:

\$0.30 PER SQUARE FOOT -
\$600 MAX



Building for the FUTURE

As we move into the month of May, we're reminded that it is Electrical Safety Month, an important time to highlight the role safety plays in everything we do. Whether it's our crews working on the system or homeowners tackling projects around their property, electricity deserves respect. Simple steps like calling 811 before you dig, staying clear of overhead power lines, and using qualified professionals for electrical work can go a long way in preventing accidents. Safety is not just a priority for our employees; it's something we encourage throughout the communities we serve.

At the same time, spring and early summer mark the beginning of a busy season for projects across our area. From new construction and service upgrades to system improvements and maintenance, our crews are preparing for another productive year. These efforts focus on maintaining reliability and ensuring we're well-positioned to meet current and future energy needs.

One project I'm especially excited to share an update on is our new material and pole yard. This project is coming along nicely and is nearing completion. The added space and improved layout will allow us to better organize materials and equipment, helping our crews respond more efficiently, especially during outages or large-scale projects.

Looking ahead, we are planning to construct a 60x90 machine shed at this location later this summer. This facility will house equipment and materials and include a modest wash bay. Having dedicated space to clean and maintain equipment will help extend its life, improve reliability, and support the high standards our team holds for safety and professionalism. As with all investments we make, this project has been carefully evaluated with a focus on cost, effectiveness, and long-term functionality for the district.

While we continue building for the future, this year also marks a significant milestone, our 90th



anniversary as a public power district. For nine decades, we've been proud to provide reliable, affordable electricity to the communities we serve. That legacy is built on the leadership of our board, the dedication of our employees, and the trust of our customers.

Public power is unique in that decisions are made locally, with our customers' best interests always at the forefront. As we reflect on the past 90 years, we are also looking ahead, continuing to invest in infrastructure, embracing new technologies, and ensuring we are prepared for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

Thank you for your continued support of Stanton County Public Power District. It is truly a privilege to serve you.

Trevor A. Turner
General Manager / CEO

WHAT IN THE WORLD?

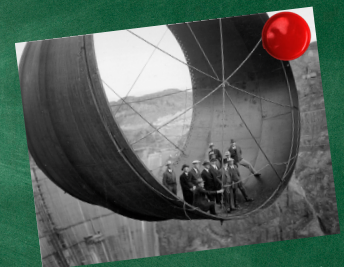
1936



While the movie came later, "The Wizard of Oz" marked the introduction of new merchandising for the beloved book series in the US.



Sylvan N. Goldman, owner of the Humpy Dumpty supermarket chain in Oklahoma City. Developed the "folding basket carrier," better known as a shopping cart, inspired by a folding chair.



Construction finished on the massive Hoover Dam, the project was officially dedicated by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

TECHNOLOGY FROM 90 YEARS AGO

It's amazing to think how far technology has come in just 90 years. According to a New York Times digitally archived article from April 26, 1937, the United States had about 17.5 million telephones as of January 1, 1936. Further research on World Population Review's website shows that approximately 372.7 million cell phones are used in the United States in 2026. In celebration of our 90th Anniversary, let's look at some of the technology from 90 years ago that cell phones have replaced.

The 1930s saw a significant rise in both landline and mobile communications. Rotary phones were gaining popularity and started to replace candlestick-style phones. If you were away from home, you could use a public phone booth or pay phone. In the event of an emergency, police and fire call boxes were also placed throughout cities. As for mobile communications, two-way radio technologies were starting to take off. Walkie-talkies were gaining popularity in the military and industrial sectors, which allowed for fast and reliable communication without having to build out any infrastructure.

If you wanted to send a message 90 years ago, the two best options were by mail and telegram. Telegrams allowed shorter messages to be sent much faster than mail, however, the increase of rotary telephones in homes began the decline of use of telegrams.

The 1930s also saw huge advancements in photography. 35mm cameras were becoming more compact, affordable, and easier to use for the average consumer. Single lens reflex (SLR) cameras were also changing the industry during this time. SLR technology allowed photographers to see exactly what the picture was going to look like in the view finder. Both 35mm and SLR eventually became an industry standard to which modern cameras are based on today.

90 years ago, radio was the main source of news and entertainment. Newspapers were also still popular, however, the advancements in FM and AM radio delivered information faster. Radios also allowed families to enjoy popular shows together and listen to sporting events. Another popular form of entertainment was movie theaters. Technicolor was replacing black-and-white in more films which allowed the audience to experience stories as they never had before.

We are more connected now more than any humans in the history of the world. We receive information in real time and can communicate with just about anyone in the world from a small device that fits in our pockets. It's fun to imagine where technology will be in another 90 years from now and how future generations will look back at the technology we used. And all of this is possible thanks to the wonderful power of electricity.



1930



1960



1990



2000



2010



now

EMPLOYEE NEWS

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

TATE PETTERA – OPERATIONS INTERN

SCPPD is excited to welcome Tate for his summer internship. Tate is currently enrolled at Northeast Community College in the Utility Line Program.

Here is a questionnaire for more about Tate.

Where did you grow up?

North Platte, NE

What do you look forward to learning at SCPPD?

The different ways REA constructs and maintains its system.

What is one thing on your bucket list?

To travel the world

Why did you choose a career in Utility Line?

To get out of construction and farming.

What is the best advice someone has ever given you?

With enough effort, desire, and determination, anything is possible.

Describe SCPPD in 3 words.

Safety – Cautious – Fun



IRRIGATION SAFETY

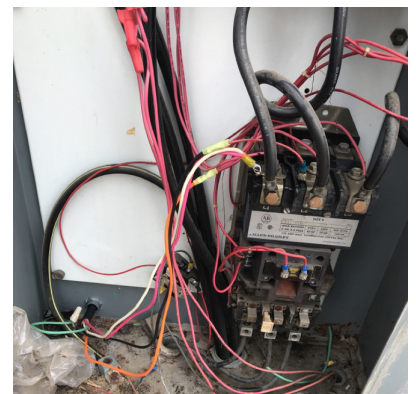


Stanton County Public Power District reminds farmers to put safety first when working around irrigation systems and electrical equipment. These systems use dangerous voltages of electricity, so it's important to stay alert and keep a safe distance from power lines and transformers. Farmers should also know where the disconnect box is located, usually on the pole where the electrical service is connected, so power can be shut off quickly in an emergency.

Before doing any maintenance or repairs, always turn off and lock out the power at the disconnect box. Use proper tools and take extra care when working near motors, wiring, and panels. For larger or more complex jobs, contact

your irrigation system provider or a qualified electrician to make sure the work is done safely. Be especially careful when moving long metal irrigation pipes, as they can come into contact with overhead lines and carry electricity.

Farmers should also be aware of aging irrigation systems, which may have worn wiring, outdated parts, or hidden damage. Regular inspections can help catch problems early and reduce the risk of electrical hazards. Make sure everyone working on the farm understands these safety steps and communicates clearly about potential risks. Taking these precautions can help keep people safe and operations running smoothly.



1941

Fred Ball had come to Stanton County as a construction superintendent for the Vasak Construction Company. He had helped construct the "B" section of the line in his previous employment, giving him experience both with building the line and supervising.

Ball said, "Our big problem was that we did not have sufficient revenue to take care of the principal and interest on our REA loans." Ball worked long hours because the manager and lineman positions were combined, saving the district \$100 per month. Ball was on call 24 hours per day.

Farmers Complete . . . REA Post Holes

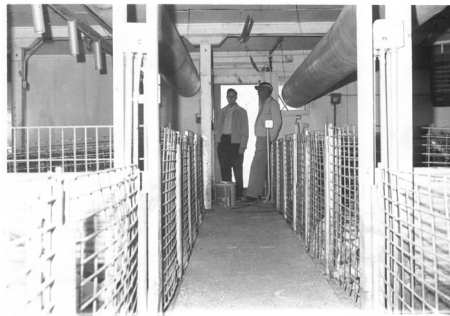


Friday these Stanton county farmers completed digging the post holes for the REA lines. Front row, left to right, Howard Lorensen, Pilger; Grover Vaughn, foreman, Rapid City, S. D.; second row, Harold Mohnson, Leigh; Ernest Nelson, Norfolk; George Dolezal, Clarkson; Delbert Heermann, Gus Koopman, Pilger.

Farmers were paid 40 cents per hole. It typically took at least an hour to dig one hole. However, one farmer, Gus Koopman, was called a "human gopher" when it came to digging holes. He could punch one down in 20 minutes.



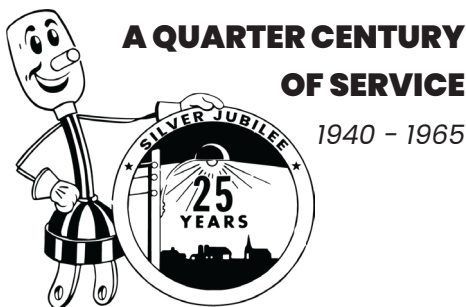
Miss. Flavian Goeller's classroom had electricity furnished by SPPPD. This is a much better option than the "good ole' days" when kerosene lamps had to furnish the illumination.



Willis Hoehne and Manager Fred Ball talking about the electrically heated features of his remodeled hog barn. You can see the large overhead ducts which provided fresh air for the hogs.

1963

Mr. Hoehne converted an old horse barn to incorporate some new ideas in swine housing. In the head-end of each pen, electrical wiring was buried in the concrete. Each pen is thermostatically controlled, with fans overhead of the ducts to provide fresh air. "Little did I realize", Willis Hoehne commented, "what a vast potential SPPPD would have and the savings in time and labor it would assure myself and other farmers."



1965

622 miles of district line, 17 miles of transmission line, 2 substations, and customers using 79.1 kW/month.



Mrs. Adolph Servera is a booster for electric heating. Explaining to Fred Ball that electric heating is safe and dependable.

1971

The first "Cherry Picker" was purchased and intended to be used for high-line work by the District.



Pictured standing on the left are Director Earl Scherer and District Manager George Cunningham. Board Treasurer Charles Barth, Board Vice President Stanley Schellpeper, Board Secretary Philip Smejkal, and Board President Willis Hohne. In the basket on the left are Bette Wiese and Wilma Hansen.

1976

Stanton County Public Power District signed a lease agreement with the City of Stanton. This allowed the district to use the City's personnel and equipment.

Load Management was installed to cut down power costs and save irrigators some money. It also helps prolong the investment and duration of the transmission system.



Original load management system - Training by the factory representative. Willis Hoehne present for training.

1992

The district became a charter member of DirecTV. This allowed the district to provide another quality service to rural Stanton County customers who didn't have cable access. They also started offering DirecWAY, high-speed satellite internet to their customers.



1993

The Union Creek Bridge collapsed due to flood waters causing damage to several power poles.



1994

We are on the move, SCPDP assists Brad Hood in a house move in the city of Stanton.



1996

The district held a 60th Anniversary celebration.



Wilma Dobson and Bette Wiese greeting the customers at the open house.



Pictured is Darin Petersen, SCPDP's current Board Treasurer, who also served 34 years as a lineman.

1997

Wet heavy snow hit Omaha and Lincoln and caused 45,000 Lincoln Electric System (LES) customers to lose power. It took 500 utility line workers from 13 public power districts to aid their city, along with 400 contractors and municipal workers. It took these crews eight days to restore power to the cities.



Kyle Voecks and Darin Petersen provide mutual aid in Lincoln, NE, in efforts to restore power to nearly half of the city.

1999

The District's main office has undergone renovations, including a new roof, painting the shop, and adding shelving for inventory.



2001

The district held a 65th Anniversary celebration.



Don Dubas suits up Fred Ball, our first General Manager, for a bucket truck ride.



2005

SCPPD served as one of the corporate hosts and event planners for GreenFiber's \$3 million plant expansion and new Bin Recycling Program. This caused a big boost for SCPPD customers because it doubled its electric load. This allowed SCPPD to keep rates among all its customers competitive and growth-encouraging.



2006

TransCanada Keystone Pipeline Project. Many Stanton residents saw the black and gold pipeline as a major boost to county coffers. Preliminary routing for the 1,830-mile-long TransCanada Keystone Pipeline project runs through Nebraska from Yankton, S.D., to near Marysville, Kansas, which took it right through the western portion of Stanton County. Property tax relief came in the form of this pipeline. SCPPD employees assisted the Elkhorn Rural Power District with a winter storm.



2009

Stanton County Public Power District applied for American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) grant money to fund a Smart Grid Initiative and to install Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) in substations and Automated Meter Readers (AMR) at customers' premises. SCPPD submitted an application to receive up to \$397,000 to install AMI and AMR. In addition, SCPPD submitted an application with Cuming County PPD (West Point) as a Smart Grid Initiative to integrate communication systems. The project cost was \$3,749,987, of which SCPPD's portion was estimated at \$1,499,995.

Heavy snow and strong winds presented a white Christmas to area residents at the end of 2009. However, about 1,400 Stanton County Public Power District customers also experienced some form of power outage during the holiday weekend. Crews put in many overtime hours to restore power to customers and to reconnect them as high winds continued to play havoc with the lines. SCPPD trucks began getting stuck on Christmas Day with drifts as high as 15 feet. Manager Bill Johnson suspended operations until the snow plows could get in front of the crews. By late Sunday, all customers had service restored.

2010

Keystone Tie Upgrade: Transmission Line, an underground oil pipeline, was granted by FEMA. It involves enhancement and replacement of the current transmission line from the NPPD substation at the intersection of highways 275 and 24 to the intersection two miles west of Stanton.

The Stanton County Public Power District has been implementing AMI (Advanced Metering Infrastructure). This is part of our continued commitment to quality service. This technology will enable the district office to read your meter at any time, and the lineman will no longer be walking the streets reading meters.



2011

SCPPD celebrates its 75th Anniversary.



Bette Wiese, Wilma Dobson and Norma Simon greeting the customers at the open house.



2014

Twin Tornadoes in Pilger – One of up to five tornadoes made a path of destruction, which cut diagonally through the town of Pilger and left the northwest and the southeast portions of town damaged. We lost 15 transmission structures and the distribution underbuild along Highway 24; another 32 transmission structures and the distribution underbuild north of Stanton; and yet another 8 transmission structures and the distribution underbuild along Highway 275.

2016

East Truck Warehouse Expansion and Office remodel. Our new Warehouse Project features energy efficiencies that will save on cost for years to come.



2017

The District established a Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) in collaboration with the USDA Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant Program. The RLF is an economic development resource that focuses on the rural workforce and public infrastructure for rural residents. The first project was the Cooper Family Community Center in Pilger.



2018

The District officially kicked off a project to replace all meters with a new Advanced Metering Infrastructure

2023

The District entered into agreement with Jigowatt LLC for a 70-Megawatt bitcoin mining facility. The Phase 1 20-Megawatt infrastructure was built in the summer, and the facility was energized in August. The Phase 2 additional 50-Megawatt infrastructure is currently underway



2024

A second bitcoin mining facility The owners of Jigowatt LLC formed a new LLC called Bitcorn, and a new 18-megawatt bitcoin mining facility was energized in October.



2025

The District purchased 8 acres of land south of the headquarters building to construct a new pole yard and warehouse building.

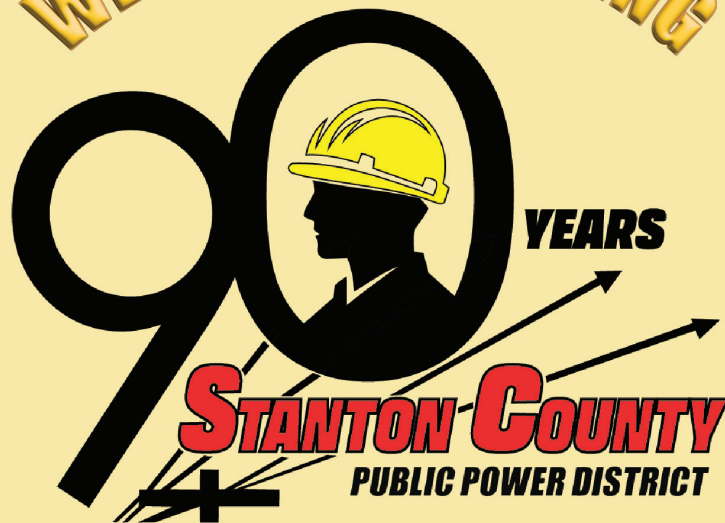
Construction started on our new office addition, a board room and new office for our growing staff. We plan to have our first board meeting in the new addition in May.



2026

The District entered into negotiations with the Nebraska Electric Generation & Transmission Cooperative and the Nebraska Public Power District for a new 35-year Wholesale Power Agreement beginning January 1, 2026. The contract was signed in September of 2025.

WE ARE CELEBRATING



Please join us for a **OPEN HOUSE** at
807 Douglas Street, Stanton, Nebraska

Thursday, June 18th
11:00am - 2:00pm

FEATURING:

HOT Lunch
Pole Top Rescue

12:00pm and 1:30pm

Safety Demonstration

12:30pm

Giveaways

(while supplies last)

ENLIGHTENING NEWS

**From Your Stanton County
Public Power District**

P.O. Box 319
Stanton, NE 68779-0319

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Norfolk, NE
Permit No. 86

WE ARE CELEBRATING 90 YEARS ON
Thursday, June 18th
11:00am - 2:00pm



Read more inside for the details!



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**
1-800-331-5666



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