



Manager Memos -by Curtis Kayton

Everything costs.....

Price volatility with everything has been a common topic even to the degree that distribution transformer cost increases have made the mainstream news. In 2022, over 68 cents of every dollar spent was on wholesale power to serve your needs. Unfortunately, that amount will increase in 2024. How much? We are still analyzing the effects of a new rate that our wholesale power provider Tri-State Generation and Transmission Cooperative located in Denver filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission earlier this summer.

Over the next couple of months, we will be modeling this increase from Tri-State with our financial forecasting and become effective January 1, 2024.

We also have begun our budget season for 2024. Preparing for system upgrades and replacements requires a lot of planning and coordination. Lead-times on materials, and equipment have required us to order special items much earlier so we can get them in time for project execution.

The last time Tri-State increased our rate was in 2017, and we did take a smaller increase this March to offset operating costs. So, in the next 30-45 days we will know the amount of our rate increase for 2024 and will be communicating with you accordingly.

I have noticed beets starting to pile up at the sugar factory and am reminded to wish everyone a safe harvest.

As always, if you have questions about anything feel free to call or stop in.

Energy Efficiency Credits

Energy Efficiency Credits are available on electric motors, electric heating, electric hot water heaters, and LED lights. Must be new installations only. and submitted within 90 days.

Certain standards of efficiency must be met to qualify depending on the type of electric equipment installed.

Some of the credits include:

- *Electric water heaters - \$50/unit
- *Heat pumps-\$150-\$500/ton
15 SEER Minimum
- *Electric motors 10-500 hp \$8/hp
- *Old refrig and freezer going to be recycled
- *Clothes Dryers - \$30-\$90
- *Induction Cooktops 30" or larger, must be replacing gas
- *LED lights - lesser of 1/2 cost of lights or \$8 per lamp, 500 Lumens or greater
- *Electric trimmer, chainsaw, or pruner, electric blower or lawn-mower - 25% of cost, up to \$150
- *Whole House Fans - \$100
- *Smart Thermostats - \$25

Receipts are required.

Chimney Rock also contributes to some of the credit.

Please contact our office for information on requirements and credit amounts at 586-1824.

Let us help pay for your new electric appliances and motors.

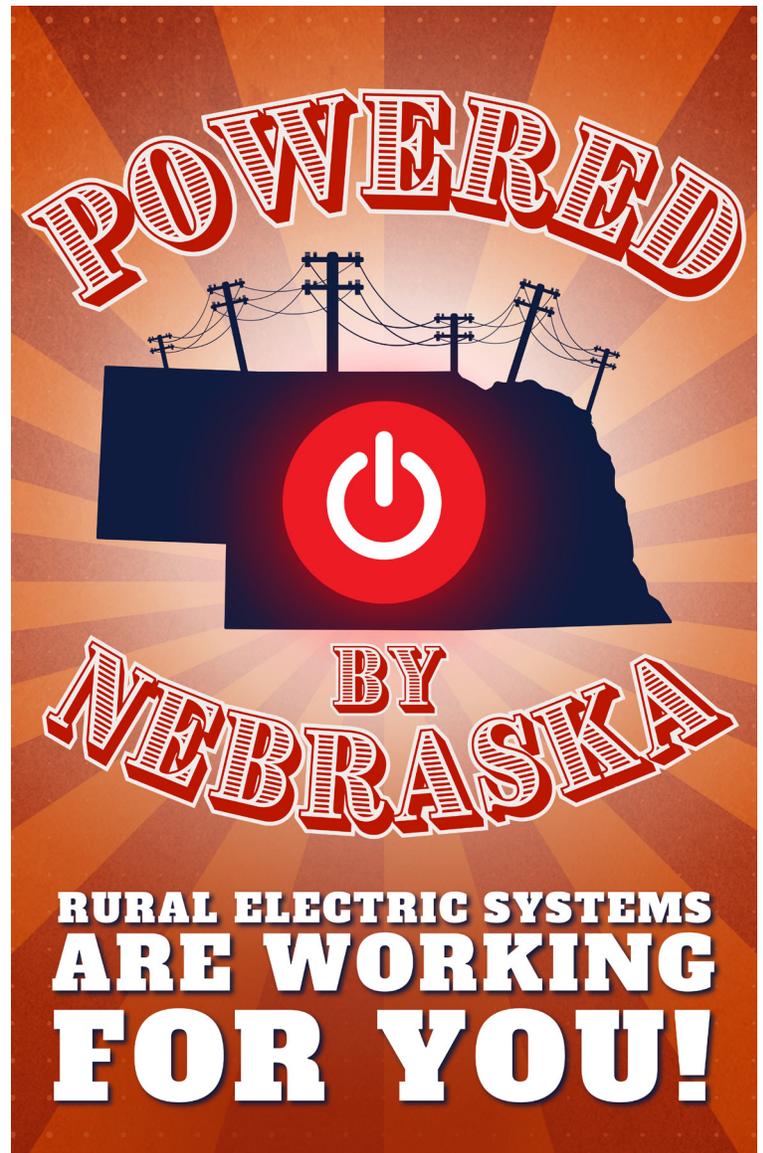
October is Public Power Month

Nebraska has its heritage to celebrate when it comes to public power. In 1936 Nebraska Senator George Norris worked to get the Rural Electrification Act passed. He believed that public power represented a way to ensure that every citizen was provided with reliable service at a reasonable price.

Our state is the only one in the nation that is totally served by public power. Other states have investor-owned utilities that are in the business to make money. Electric utilities in Nebraska are in business to provide affordable, reliable, and safe electricity.

Today, Nebraska's public power utilities monitor more than 27,000 miles of power lines, that would span from New York to Los Angeles, ten times. From small towns to big cities, and all the miles in between.

In Nebraska, electricity is created from several sources, including coal, nuclear, hydropower, and wind.



Meet and Greet with Congressman Adrian Smith

On August 21st Congressman Adrian Smith was at Chimney Rock PPD for an informal visit. He discussed some of the current events happening in Washington DC and his thoughts on upcoming legislation. He also answered questions about other issues regarding the energy industry.

Spooky Energy Savings

This spooky season, we're sharing a few energy-saving tricks so you can treat yourself to lower energy bills. Here are four simple ways to save energy in your home.

Install a smart thermostat for instant savings. One of the easiest ways to save energy is through thermostat control, since home heating and cooling account for a large portion of monthly energy use. Smart thermostats can help you manage heating and cooling costs by learning your daily routine and adjusting the temperature settings accordingly. You can control a smart thermostat from anywhere (through your smart phone), which allows you to prevent unnecessary energy consumption while you're away.

Get rid of goosebumps by eliminating drafts. The winter chill is just around the corner, so now is the time to seal air leaks around your home. Apply caulk and weatherstripping around drafty windows and doors to make your home more comfortable and lower energy use.

Illuminate your home with energy efficient lighting. LED bulbs use 75% less energy and last 25 times longer than incandescent light bulbs. Make the switch to reduce energy used for lighting. Remember to use LEDs when it's time to decorate for the upcoming holiday season. LED light strings offer an average of 88% energy savings compared to traditional incandescent light strings.

Stir up savings with countertop appliances. Cooler weather summons our favorite soup recipes. Small countertop appliances like slow cookers use less energy than cooking meals on the stovetop. Grab your book of spells (or recipes) and start stirring up savings in the kitchen.

When we look around our homes, there are many opportunities to save energy. So this spooky season, investigate your space and unlock a different kind of magic – the kind that brings real energy savings.



DECORATE SAFELY

Avoid real scares, and decorate safely. Only use cords and lights rated for outdoor use.



Delicious Pumpkin Bread

5 large eggs
1-1 1/4 cups canola oil
1 can (15 ounces)
solid-pack pumpkin
2 cups all purpose flour
2 cups sugar
2 packages (3 ounces
each) cook-and-serve
vanilla pudding mix
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon ground
cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon salt

In a large bowl, beat the eggs. Add oil and pumpkin; beat until smooth. Combine remaining ingredients; gradually beat into pumpkin mixture.

Pour batter into five greased 5-3/4x2-in. loaf pans. Bake at 325 degrees for 50-55 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Cool for 10 minutes before removing from pans to wire racks to cool completely.

Mix can also be made in muffin tins with streusel topping.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Did you know using your dishwasher is more energy efficient than washing a load of dishes by hand? To maximize efficiency, wash full loads in the dishwasher and don't block the arms or other parts that move while the appliance is in use.

For additional savings, turn on the "air dry" setting instead of using the "heat dry" setting and use a rinse aid to help dishes dry faster without spotting and streaking.

Source: Dept. of Energy



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and after hours call:**

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(877) 773-6300

October Board Meeting:

October 9th - 8:00 am

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

