

NEWS MAGAZINE



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Powering A Brighter Future

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4550 West Husker Highway P.O. Box 1687 Grand Island, Ne 68802-1687

Phone: (800) 579-3019

www.southernpd.com

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to:

SPPD News Magazine PO Box 1687 Grand Island, NE 68802

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Comments or questions: LeAnne Doose Public Relations Manager Idoose@southernpd.net

BOARD MEMBER SOUGHT

VACANCY TO BE FILLED IN HALL COUNTY

Southern Public Power District is an electric distribution utility, governed by a 14-member democratically elected board of directors. Each county served by Southern is represented by two directors.

All corporate powers of the District are exercised by the Board of Directors. Decisions made regarding district operations, policies and rates are guided by the direction of the Board. Meetings are held monthly, typically on the second Wednesday of each month, most commonly at the District's Corporate Office in Grand Island. Additional assignments are made to steering committees, that delve deeply into studies of special topics such as finance, irrigation, legislation and strategic planning.

Currently, we are seeking to fill a vacancy on our Board, for representation in Hall County. If you are a registered voter and reside in Hall County, you are eligible to submit your name for consideration. If you are interested in shaping the future of local electrical service, we encourage you to submit your name.

All individuals under consideration will be reviewed by a special Board committee, and a final selection will be made by the Board of Directors.

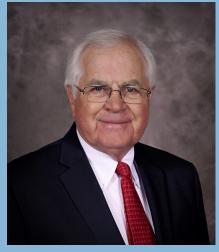
The individual selected to fill the vacancy will serve until the election of 2022.

For more information or to indicate your interest in this vacancy, please contact Neal Niedfeldt, President and CEO at 308-384-2350. All applicants must indicate their interest by August 14th.

IN MEMORY: GARY HEDMAN

On March 26th, Southern Public Power District lost one of its Board Members when Doniphan resident Gary Hedman passed away. Gary served the customers of the District as an elected board member for 7 years. Prior to his election, he served as the District's CEO, retiring in March of 2012. He was employed by the District for 38 years.

We are grateful for Gary's service to our customers and public power, and extend continued condolences to his family.



GARY HEDMAN

TAKE A PEEK INSIDE OUR NEW FACILITY



Truck Barn

We'd rather share our new facility with you in person. Until then, take a look inside our Funk Office.

On February 17, employees from our long-time Holdrege service area office relocated to their new work space in Funk, Nebraska. The office site is located at 336 Lions Drive on the west edge of Funk.

The new location is positioned in the central part of the Funk Service region, allowing for optimal response time for customers throughout Phelps and Kearney Counties.

In all, the building encompasses 26,700 feet of space with offices, a meeting room, warehouse, and a truck barn that safely houses District vehicles and equipment. The interior was designed in order to safely accommodate the large equipment utilized by our lineworkers, and provides a functional office space that will provide an efficient home base for these employees.

One of the most exciting concepts for this new facility will be the opportunity to operate within a community that we serve. We look forward to serving our customers from this new location, and look forward to the reopening of our office to the public, so we can show you this facility in person!







HELPING YOU FIND VALUE

There is tremendous benefit in knowing how to optimize cooling efficiency while minimizing cooling costs. It comes down to two simple concepts--keeping as much heat as possible outside, while dealing with the remaining excess heat using the minimum amount of energy needed.

KEEP THE HEAT OUT.

- Inspect, Seal and Insulate. Keeping hot air out and cool air in requires inspection of your home for air leaks and poor attic insulation and/or ventilation.
- Block out the sun. On hot days, keeping the shades or blinds closed on sun-facing windows is beneficial. Highly reflective blinds can reduce heat gain by 45 percent. Dual-sided shades that are reflective (white) on one side and heat absorbing (dark) on the other can be reversed for benefits in all seasons. Remember, the reflective surface should always face the warmest side.
- Vent it. When you shower or bathe, use the bathroom fan to remove heat and humidity. Let it continue to run for about 15 to 20 minutes after you have finished. But, don't forget to switch it off thereafter.
- Minimize activities that generate heat. Examples are washing and drying clothes in hot water, running a dishwasher, or using hot devices such as curling irons or hair dryers. Even stereos and televisions will add some heat to your home. If you can, wait until after dark to run these and other appliances.
- Use your microwave and grill. Outdoor grilling and microwave cooking are two ways to prepare food without generating extra heat inside. When only baking will do, consider making smaller portions using a toaster oven.

MAXIMIZE COOLING WHILE MINIMIZING ENERGY.

- Get a cooling system tune-up. This assures optimal performance and efficiency.
- Keep your vents clear. Check all vents to make sure they're open, free of dust and directing air toward the center of the room.
 Remove obstacles, such as furniture. Balancing the flow of air is essential for optimizing your system's efficiency.
- Check and change your filter regularly. Failing to do so will minimize the efficiency and performance of your HVAC system.
- Use ceiling and pedestal fans. Fans allow you to raise your thermostat four degrees without any reduction in comfort. Just make sure your ceiling fans are turning counterclockwise for summer and that you don't leave fans running in empty rooms. Fans don't cool air, just people!
- Upgrade to a smart thermostat. Smart thermostats can be controlled from anywhere with a smartphone, making it easy to warm things up a few degrees when you're away from home. Check out our website for Smart Thermostat incentives offered by SPPD.
- Don't crank it! Avoid setting your thermostat to a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner. It will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.
- Free cooling. On cool summer nights, turn off your cooling system and open your windows while sleeping.



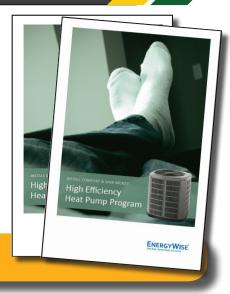
Southern offers several EnergyWise™ incentives to help you accomplish greater efficiency, including cooling system tune-ups, attic insulation and smart thermostats. To learn more about these incentive programs, visit our website:

HEAT PUMPS: AN EFFICIENT CHOICE

Heat pumps are a great option for your heating and cooling needs. The investment for a heat pump is greater than traditional central air units or furnaces. But, heat pumps provide optimal, efficient performance that can reduce your carbon foot print, and cut down on your heating bills. SPPD also offers rebate incentives for the installation of new units. Those details can be found at www.southernpd.com.

If you are not familiar with the operational features of heat pump units, we have outlined three types that are common in residential use. You can also learn more about these systems by visiting with your preferred HVAC professional.

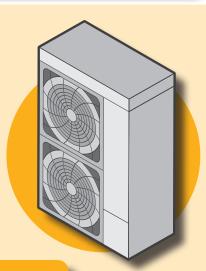
Learn more about the value-added incentives offered by SPPD for heat pump installations. Visit www.southernpd.com/heat pump

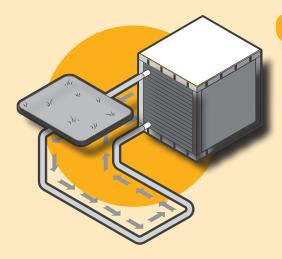


THREE TYPES OF HEAT PUMPS

Air-Source Heat Pumps

- Most commonly used heat pumps.
- Moves heat rather than converting it from a fuel like combustion heating systems do.
- Can reduce heating costs by about 50% when compared to baseboard heaters or electric furnaces.
- Newer, more efficient systems now offer a legitimate space heating alternative in colder regions like the Midwest, although auxiliary heating systems are still necessary here.



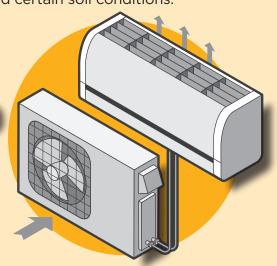


Geothermal Heat Pumps

- More expensive to install but provide more energy savings for heating and cooling.
- Move heat through pipes buried underground.
- When compared to a conventional heating system, can reduce energy use by 25-50%.
- Effective in extreme climates.
- Not ideal for smaller lots and certain soil conditions.

Ductless Mini-Split Heat Pumps

- Easier to install, quiet, small in size.
- Flexible for heating and cooling individual rooms and smaller spaces.
- No energy loss through ductwork, which accounts for more than 30% of a home's energy use for space heating/cooling.



OPERATIONS AND CONSTRUCTION

LOAD MANAGMENT COMMUNICATION

Crews have been hard at work installing new load management devices that syncronize with the new metering system that was implemented recently. This year, that system will be fully functional and will provide our staff with the ability to implement load management for participating irrigation customers with greater efficiency.

This summer, we ask that customers contact the District immediately if the indicator lights are reporting control occurring outside of your arranged schedule. We anticipate a smooth transition, but would like to fine-tune in any areas where that work is necessary.

The load management program is offered to the District's irrigation customers. Irrigators are offered an array of electric rates according to levels of "control" they are willing to assume. By allowing the District to turn off electric service on scheduled intervals, participating customers are helping us to reduce our maximum usage. Ultimately, the peak loads we achieve throughout the summer are a large factor that determine wholesale power costs passed on by Nebraska Public Power District. Minimizing those peaks provides a beneficial impact to electric rates for all SPPD customers.

SUMMER CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

SPPD Lineworkers have been hard at work this summer conducting many large construction and maintenance proojects. A total of five "switches" are slated to be replaced this summer, including the one shown in the photograph on this page, and the front cover.

Additionally, over 8 miles of subtransmission line is planned for completion this summer. The construction of these lines is part of a multi-year subtransmission plan the District is working on, in order to convert capacity from 34.5 kV to 69 kV.

Upgraded lines allow us to serve the growing needs of customers, and enables our system to support economic growth and development throughout our service region. Conversion also improves efficiency, increases the system's capacity, and provides additional back-up capability during planned and unplanned outages.

If your travels take you in the vicinity of one of these projects, we urge you to use caution when navigating workzones, in order to allow our men to work safely.



RED LIGHT

The red light is the indicator that tells you if you are currently under control.
On: Load is being controlled.
Off: Load is NOT under control.

YELLOW LIGHT

Indicator of power and device communication. If you only see a yellow light, your service is currently powered, and communicating with SPPD equipment.



ABOVE: Hunter Prince and John Gits work together to install a switch in Merrick County, east of Archer.

OPERATION ROUND UP NEWS



Every summer, Southern welcomes interns into our workforce throughout area offices across the District. These interns are also students, who are working toward their Utility Lineworker Certificate in a certified training program. While here, these students work side-by-side with lineworkers, in order to obain on-the-job experience. The opportunity allows students to see and experience first-hand what

FUNK SERVICE AREA
Attending Metro Community College

COLE SUNDBERG
GRAND ISLAND SERVICE AREA
Attending Northeast Community College

TRISTEN EVANS
CONSTRUCTION CREW
Attending Northeast Community College

TAYLOR PULVER
HASTINGS SERVICE AREA
Attending Northeast Community College

CAL NARBER
CENTRAL CITY SERVICE AREA
Attending Northeast Community College

the day-to-day work of a utility lineworker entails. These men are guided through the process, encouraged to ask questions, and professionally educated about the importance of safety recognition while working.

We are enjoying having these men working with us this summer, and we wish them a continued safe, and productive summer.

Todd Bailey, SPPD Safety Director, provides orientation and safety discussion with interns Taylor Pulver and Tristen Evans.



COVID-19 NEWS

We would like to thank you--our customers--for your patience and understanding of facility closures during the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite closures, we have

worked hard to deliver ongoing, uninterrupted service.

Ultimately, safety is the greatest of priorities

at SPPD. The decision to close offices to public access was made with the health and safety of our customers and employees in mind.

As we work to complete this magazine, the decision of office opening or closure for the remainder of the summer has not been determined. We will post any further information regarding building openings to our website at southernpd.com/covid-19-measures.



We intended to mark the opening of our new Funk Service Area Office with a grand opening celebration, complete with a ribbon cutting and tours of our new facility. Because such an event would bring together many people into one space, we have opted to forego such an event.

As facilities begin to open up in the future, we do look forward to welcoming customers into the front entryway to serve our customers in person!

NEBRASKA LINEWORKER RODEO CANCELLED

In case you missed the news, the annual 2020 Nebraska Lineworkers Rodeo has been cancelled. We hope to see this event return in 2021, stronger



and bigger than ever before. We will share announcements of future events as they unfold.

DUMP & BAKE SPRING PASTA

- 2 C. uncooked spiral pasta
- 1 C. Mayonnaise
- 2 T. lemon juice
- 1 tsp. sugar
- 1/2 tsp. garlic powder
- 1/2 C. sliced green onions
- 4 bacon strips, cooked and crumbled, divided
- 4 C. torn romaine
- 1 C. fresh snow peas, trimmed and halved
- 1 C. fresh cauliflowerets
- 1 C. fresh broccoli florets
- 1 large sweet red pepper, chopped
- 1/2 C. shredded Swiss cheese

Cook pasta according to package directions. Meanwhile, in a small bowl, combine the mayonnaise, lemon juice, sugar and garlic powder; set aside. Drain pasta and rinse in cold water; toss with onions and half of the bacon.

In a large salad bowl, layer half the romaine, pasta mixture, peas, cauliflower, broccoli, red pepper, mayonnaise mixture and cheese. Repeat layers. Sprinkle with remaining bacon. Cover and refrigerate until serving.

Nutrition Facts: 3/4 cup: 186 calories, 13g fat (2g saturated fat), 9mg cholesterol, 115mg sodium, 13g carbohydrate (2g sugars, 2g fiber), 4g protein.

