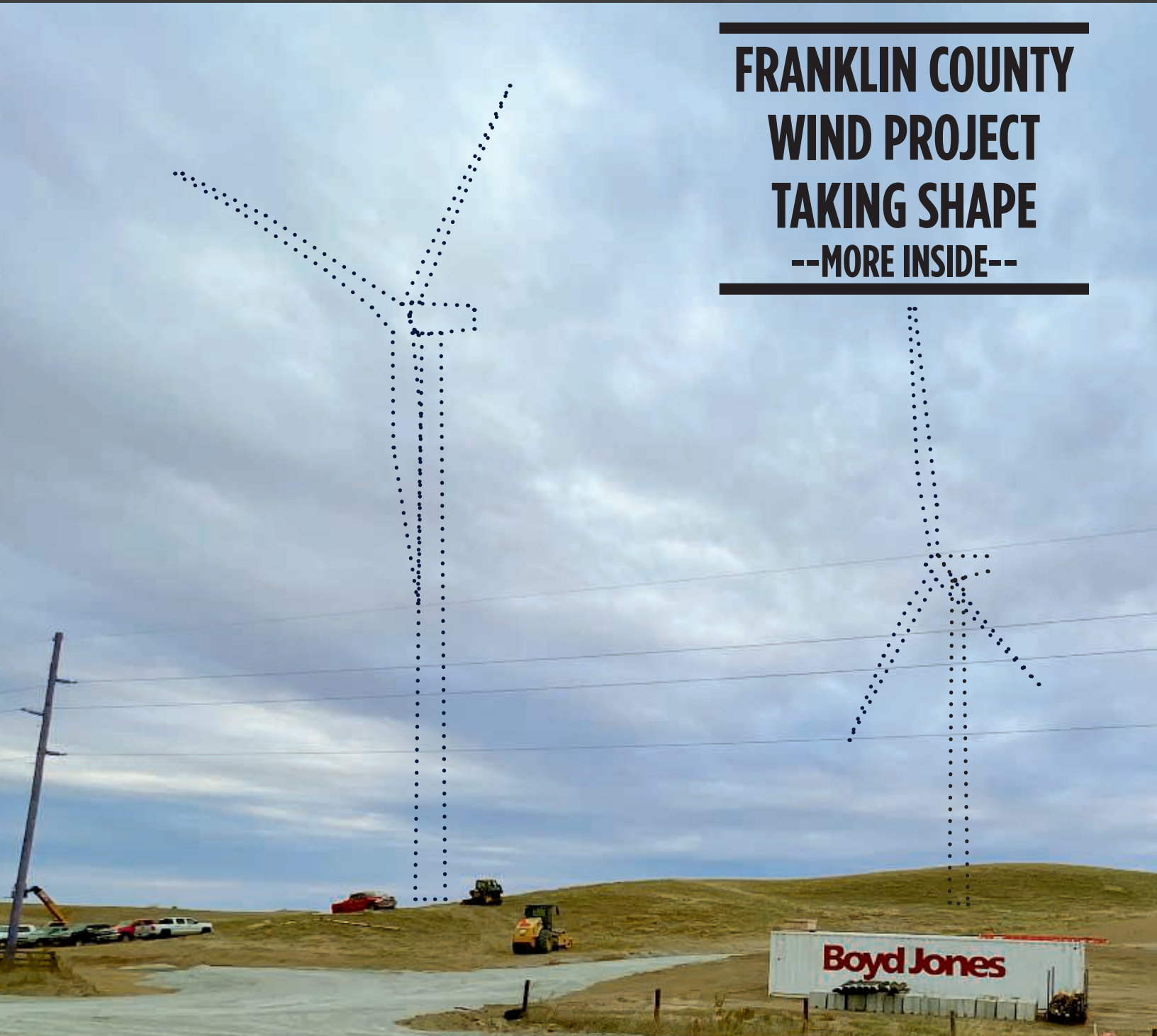

FRANKLIN COUNTY WIND PROJECT TAKING SHAPE --MORE INSIDE--





SPPD News Magazine (USPS23530)

is published bimonthly by:

Southern Public Power District

4550 West Husker Highway

PO Box 1687

Grand Island, NE 68802-1687

email: ldoose@southernpd.net

Subscription Rates: \$1.00/issue

Non Profit Periodical Postage paid

at Grand Island, NE

POSTMASTER:

Send Address changes to:

SPPD News Magazine

P.O. Box 1687

Grand Island, NE 68802

ldoose@southernpd.net

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Arlon Jacobitz, Chairman

Dana Meyer, Vice-Chairman

Wayne Anderbery, Secretary

Kevin Choquette, Treasurer

Larry Benson

Rick Bergman

Marvin Fishler

Lee Grove

Neal Katzberg

Robert Kieborz

Dean Klute

Joel Kuehn

Mike Lowry

Kevan Reeson

PRESIDENT/CEO:

Neal F. Niedfeldt

ON THE WEB AT:

www.southernpd.com

FOLLOW US HERE:



Comments or questions:

LeAnne Doose

Public Relations Manager

ldoose@southernpd.net

Employee TRANSITIONS

BEST WISHES DOUG WARD

September 30, 2021 marked the final day of Doug Ward's career at SPPD. Doug provided 42 years of dedication to our customers, beginning as an Apprentice Lineworker on May 1, 1979. He advanced to the status of a Journeyman Lineworker, and became an Electromechanical Specialist--a title which he has held since 1994.

Doug has also served as the Grand Island Area Steward and Chief Steward for the Local Union IBEW 1597 for a total of 20 years. He demonstrated leadership, thoughtfulness and respect in his service to the employees and customers of SPPD.

Best wishes to you Doug, we wish for you and Cheryl many years of happiness and good health!



DOUG WARD

VANIS ASSUMES NEW ROLE

Grand Island Area Lineworker Taylor Vanis has been appointed to fill the role of Electromechanical Specialist. Taylor has been serving the customers of SPPD for 12 years as a utility lineworker. Going forward, he will be responsible for connected technologies in substations, including PCB management and capacitor controls.

We know that Taylor is up for this new challenge, and we congratulate him as he assumes this position.



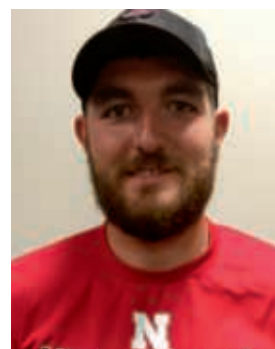
TAYLOR VANIS

GORACKE ASSIGNED TO GI REGION

Ben Goracke, Apprentice Lineworker on the District's Construction Crew, has been transitioned to a role with our Grand Island Area Office.

Ben has been employed at SPPD since May of 2018 and is currently serving as a Journeyman Lineworker.

Congratulations to Ben and best wishes in this new role.



BEN GORACKE

END OF YEAR REFLECTIONS

On the heels of a challenging year in 2020, we approached 2021 with a sense of hope and optimism. We weathered the pandemic in 2020 and have continuously risen to meet the challenges it created this past year. We are proud of the efforts of our employees to adapt and engage in new procedures that assure the ongoing health and safety of our workplace and our interactions with our customers.

As we move into the months of November and December, our Board and staff are working on establishing our 2022 Budget and Work Plan. We will share more information in a future edition of our *Customer News Magazine*, and on our website and social platforms.

Going forward into a new year, we will work hard to continue rising to the challenges that we are all facing at home, on our farms and in our workplaces. We are keeping open lines of communication and collaborating to assure we are prepared to deliver excellent service to you...with a safe and healthy workforce and the tools and materials we need to keep your electricity flowing in the efficient manner you deserve.

WIND ENERGY PROJECT: GROUND WORK IS UNDERWAY

Earlier this year, the Franklin County Planning Commission and Franklin County Board of Supervisors approved a Special Use Permit submitted by Bluestem Energy Solutions, Inc, which called for the construction of two wind turbines. Each turbine will produce 2.82-mega-watts of electricity. The output will be purchased by SPPD and 100% of the electricity will be consumed by our customers.

In recent months, work has taken place to ready the site for the construction of the two structures. Dirt work is underway in preparation for construction of the towers, and maintenance roads have been developed that will allow for access to the structures for service.

The illustration on the cover of this magazine is NOT a precise depiction of the location of turbines, but the two structures will be located four miles west of Upland, or 7 miles east of Hildreth, along Nebraska Highway 10. With the roadways being developed and other preparations taking place it is becoming easier to visualize this project coming to fruition.

The wind turbines will interconnect with SPPD's 69kV transmission line system. At this time, we anticipate that the project will be in operation by the Summer of 2022.



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

IRRIGATION CUSTOMERS ENCOURAGED TO EXPLORE POWER FACTOR

All irrigation services 20 horsepower and greater will be affected by our policy requiring the assessment of a power factor adjustment on services with a power factor less than 93%. Customers that choose to improve their power factors can avoid the power factor adjustment by installing capacitors that improve power factor to 93% or greater.

In order to achieve the advantage of improved power factor, capacitor installations must be complete by June 1, 2022.

We encourage irrigation customers to explore the potential power factor adjustments for irrigation services with the calculator available at southernpd.com/powerfactor. We also offer a \$100 rebate for the installation of a capacitor. The application and guidelines are also available on our website.

If you have questions about this policy or need assistance with calculating your potential power factor adjustment, please contact our office at 800-579-3019.

USPS DELIVERY STANDARDS TO IMPACT MAIL DELIVERY

The US Postal Service (USPS) recently announced new service standard changes that will impact the delivery of first class mail. While local mail deliveries are expected to be unchanged, delivery times are expected to be longer for mail that travels greater distances.

We want to remind our customers that bills are due on the 15th of each month. We are watching to see how the USPS changes will impact the delivery of bills and payments. But as we navigate these changes, the billing due date remains at the 15th of the month.

Although postal delivery timelines are uncertain at this time, we are glad to provide two hassle-free options that assure your payment is made on time.

SMARTHUB

SmartHub is the payment option that we recommend. The portal offers a self serve solution that allows you to manage your SPPD accounts, including payments. Your business with us can be conducted in mobile and Web apps in a secure environment. You can view billings, usage and payment history, pay with credit, debit or electronic check. SmartHub also provides the option of paperless billing.

To sign up for access, visit our website at southernpd.com/smarthub.



AUTO PAY

Auto Pay is an electronic funds transfer payment. Once you are signed up, you will receive your billing notice(s) marked "Bill Paid by Auto Pay". On the 15th of each month, funds are withdrawn from your banking account in the amount due on your billing statement. To sign up for Auto Pay, contact our Customer Services Department at 800-579-3019.

The above two methods are a popular choice among our customers, with approximately 65% utilizing either SmartHub or Auto Pay.

In addition to our SmartHub portal and Auto Pay methods, we also offer drop boxes at all of our office locations and will accept payments in person at any location. Be sure to check office hours on our website if you plan to visit in person.

VILLAGE OF BLOOMINGTON RECEIVES ITS FIRST GRANT

We had the pleasure of paying a visit to the Village of Bloomington during their October meeting for a very special presentation.



The village was awarded a \$2,500 grant for improvements to the town's community center. The application sought funds for improvements to the floor and for the installation of new lighting.

The Community Center is an important hub for social activities in the community. It is used for a variety of gatherings including funeral luncheons, parties and more. This was the first grant sought by the community, so it

was exciting for us to help in making these improvements possible. We would like to thank customers who participate in Operation ROUND UP for making grants like this one possible for our communities.



SPPD Public Relations Manager LeAnne Doose is pictured with members of the Bloomington Village Board on October 12, 2021.

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS: LINEWORKER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PERIOD IS OPEN

Southern Public Power District has opened its 2022 application period for Utility Lineworker Scholarships. This program offers scholarships to students attending an accredited utility line study program. Scholarships amount to \$1,000 for students pursuing a one-year program, or \$2,000 for those attending a two-year program.

Applicants must currently reside within Adams, Franklin, Hall, Hamilton, Kearney, Merrick or Phelps Counties in Nebraska. Scholarship winners will be required to serve a 12-week summer internship with SPPD in cooperation with the school attended.

The deadline for scholarship applications is April 1, 2022. The application form can be accessed from SPPD's website.

We encourage potential students to reach out to the program of their choosing as soon as possible. These programs can fill up quickly, and it is best to enroll in order to assure a spot will be ready for the next academic year.

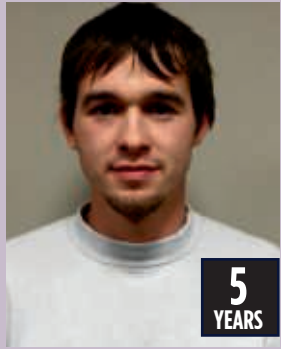
To learn more about our scholarship program, please contact Brad Kool at Southern Public Power District.

Employee SERVICE MILESTONES

Please join us in thanking the 15 SPPD employees pictured below. They have all reached an employment milestone in 2021. This group has provided a total of 160 years of service.



**JOHN
GITS**
JOURNEYMAN LINeworkER



**SAM
GNAGY**
JOURNEYMAN LINeworkER



**JASON
HECK**
STOREKEEPER



**BERENICE
RODRIGUEZ-LARRAGA**
WORK ORDER CLERK



**BECKY
LESIAK**
MAPPING TECHNICIAN



**DAN
THIES**
JOURNEYMAN LINeworkER



**TRAVIS
DAHLIN**
ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN



**ANDREW
NADEN**
STOREKEEPER



**JACK
WELCH**
IT MNGR



**AARON
BROWN**
ENGINEERING/OPERATIONS MNGR



**MATT
LOVEJOY**
JOURNEYMAN LINeworkER



**SAM
REINKE**
ENERGY SERVICES MNGR



**SETH
SANDERSON**
ELECTROMECHANICAL SPC.



**CRAIG
MALASEK**
LEAD LINeworkER



**TOM
SMITH**
LEAD LINeworkER

Winter PREPAREDNESS

GENERATE SAFELY

If you plan to use a portable generator this winter during power outages, it is critical that you keep safety at the top of your mind.

Before you operate a generator, you must disconnect from SPPD facilities with a double throw switch. This equipment prevents electricity produced by your generator from backfeeding onto our power lines, which creates a danger for lineworkers. Double throw switches must be installed by a qualified electrician.

Another option available to SPPD customers is the Generlink Transfer Switch. This device is installed behind the meter by SPPD lineworkers, which disconnects the home from SPPD facilities and prevents dangerous back-feed of power onto our lines. Generlink is available for a \$7.75 per month fee and is charged to your regular monthly electric bill. The GenerLok 20-foot power cord is available for a deposit of \$150, with other lengths available for an additional charge.



Call 800-579-3019 for additional information.

POWER OUTAGE REPORTING

As the winter season descends upon us, please be reminded that power outages must be reported by phone. Although we use Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for mass communication, social media timelines and message boards are not suitable for reporting an outage.

We are available to take your call all day, every day at 800-579-3019. In order to assure a smooth reporting process, it is essential that your contact information is up-to-date in our system. Additionally, if you are reporting your outage after hours, be aware of the primary phone number listed on account. If you are prompted to enter your phone number, use your primary number so the system can access your account location and dispatch a lineworker to you as soon as possible.



GENERAL SAFETY TIPS

Never use a portable generator indoors.

Do not plug generators into standard electrical outlets.

Use heavy-duty extension cords to connect appliances into the generator.

Start the generator before connecting appliances.



DECK YOUR HALLS EFFICIENTLY!

As you begin your holiday decorating, take some time to think about methods to incorporate energy savings into your decor.

If you are adding lighting, be sure to use LED bulbs rather than incandescent lights. LED bulbs have a longer life and use much less energy. They are also safer than incandescents because they are made with epoxy lenses--not glass--making them more resistant to breaking. They are also cooler to the touch, so you won't burn your fingers!

If you are still using incandescent bulbs, you can still make a difference in your usage by purchasing a programmable lighting timer. Most models cost between \$10 to \$25, Specify your timer to trigger the lights to illuminate at night time, whether you are at home or away.

HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURES

All SPPD offices will be closed for the holidays according to the schedule below:

- Thursday, November 25, 2021
- Friday, November 26, 2021
- Friday, December 24, 2021
- Friday, December 31, 2022

If you have business to conduct with SPPD, keep these closure dates in mind. As always, lineworkers are available to respond to outages as needed. Simply call 800-579-3019.

From all of us at SPPD, we wish a bright and merry holiday season to our customers, and we look forward to another year of serving you in 2022!

RECIPE

TURKEY & SPINACH STUFFING CASSEROLE

INGREDIENTS

- 1 can (14-1/2 oz) reduced-sodium chicken broth
- 3 T butter
- 3 C stuffing mix
- 3 C cubed cooked turkey
- 2 C fresh baby spinach
- 1/2 C dried cranberries
- 3/4 C shredded cheddar cheese

1. Preheat oven to 350°. In a large saucepan, bring broth and butter to a boil. Remove from heat. Add stuffing mix; stir until moistened. Stir in turkey, spinach and cranberries.
2. Transfer to a greased 11x7-in. baking dish. Sprinkle with cheese. Bake, uncovered, 10-15 minutes or until cheese is melted.

NUTRITION FACTS: 1-1/4 cups: 565 calories, 24g fat (12g saturated fat), 125mg cholesterol, 1259mg sodium, 43g carbohydrate (15g sugars, 2g fiber), 42g protein.



SOURCE: Recipe & Photo: Taste of Home