

# SPD Newsletter

CELEBRATING 80 YEARS OF LIGHTING THE WAY

May 2016

Series 33, Issue 5

## Last Call for Recipe Entries!

As we near the mark for our 80th anniversary in October, we would like to wrap up the collection of recipes for our special edition cookbook! Clip the recipe entry form from the back page and send us your best!

## Electrical Safety Month!

May is nationally recognized as Electrical Safety Month. Open this newsletter to page three for some potentially life-saving tips!









## Proposed Hamilton County Wind Project

Southern Power District is making progress on a renewable energy project with Bluestem Energy Solutions, in which four wind turbines would be developed southwest of Aurora near I-80. Our wholesale power contract with Nebraska Public Power District allows us the option to purchase as much as ten percent of our power requirements from renewable resources within our service area. With the Aurora-area project, the four turbines would generate 9.2 MW of power.

The proposed project offers several benefits for our customers. One of the most significant of these benefits is that generation from this project offers a pricing hedge against any future increases that may be imposed by NPPD. This would be accomplished with a pricing agreement in the 25-year contract with Bluestem Energy.

Currently, the Hamilton County Joint Planning Commission is examining wind zoning regulations, and will conduct a public hearing on the matter in May.

### OTHER FACTS AND BENEFITS:

-  Offers affordable renewable generation as requested by SPD customers.
-  Places \$3 million into the local economy.
-  Can power over 3,000 homes per year.
-  Consumes no water.
-  Creates temporary employment during the construction of facilities.
-  Expands internet fiber in Hamilton County.

### Proposed Site of Four Wind Turbine Units



T1

T2

T3

T4

To Aurora

14

# SPD Signs Wholesale Power Agreement with Giltner

Effective May 1, 2016, the Village of Giltner will become a wholesale power customer of Southern Power District. The Boards of the Village and Southern Power District signed the 20 year agreement in April. The agreement shifts the responsibility to provide the town's energy needs from NPPD to Southern Power District. Additionally, Southern will continue to provide for the maintenance of the town's distribution system.



We look forward to providing electricity to the community of Giltner!

## Board of Directors Awards Scholarship to Five

At their April Meeting, Southern Power District's Board of Directors authorized the distribution of scholarships to five students who will be entering into a Utility Lineman Training Program.

The recipients of the 2016 Scholarships include: Dylan Davis, Grand Island; Judd Garner, Grand Island; Quenton Timm, Minden, Cody Christiansen, Marquette; and Kelby Weakland, Phillips. Each of the recipients will be awarded a \$1,000 scholarship, with the first half awarded after the completion of their first year, and the remainder upon graduation. Congratulations to these upcoming students!

## Review of Important Billing Dates

With changes in postal services in recent months, we continue to hear from many of our customers that bills are arriving a little later to your home, and likewise, payments are taking longer to arrive at our office when they are dropped in the mail. With that knowledge, we would like to review our billing and payment procedure, which is the same every month.

Each month, bills are mailed to you on or before the first of the month. Payments are due in one of our offices by the 15th. **REMEMBER: the 15th is the date payments must be received in the office in order to be considered timely. The postmark on the envelope is not the determining factor of timely payments.**



If you are concerned about the timeliness of mailing your payment, there are other options to assure your payment is received on or before the due date.

### AUTOMATED CLEARING HOUSE (ACH)

ACH is an electronic funds transfer payment. When you sign up, you will receive billing notices marked "BILL PAID BY AUTO PAY". Fifteen days following the billing date, or the next banking day, we will notify your financial institution of the amount to be transferred from your account to pay your bill.

### SMART HUB

Smart Hub is a customer self-serve solution that allows you to manage your SPD accounts with mobile and web apps in a secure environment. With Smart Hub, you can pay your bills with credit, debit or electronic check with no fees, submit meter readings and opt out of receiving paper bills in the mail. Sign up by visiting [www.southernpd.com](http://www.southernpd.com) and look for the SmartHub icon on our home page.



### PAYMENT BY PHONE

Bills may also be paid by credit card—without a fee—by calling our Customer Services Department at 800-579-3019.

## Electrical Safety, A Simple Concept to Practice!

As we observe Electrical Safety Month in May, we would like to point out that many of the hazards that exist with electrical facilities are very easy to remember. Most accidents outdoors can be prevented by remembering as few as two words. For example...

*When working outdoors in close proximity to power lines...*

### **LOOK UP!**

Especially on the farm when working with large equipment.

*If your vehicle or farm equipment comes into contact with a power line...*

### **STAY INSIDE!**

Wait in the vehicle until utility workers arrive and de-energize lines.

*If you see a low-hanging power line, or one that has fallen on the ground...*

### **DON'T TOUCH!**

Instead, call us immediately and instruct bystanders to keep their distance.

*When traveling through utility workers' construction zones...*

### **SLOW DOWN!**

Help our employees go home safely at the end of the day.

Inside your home, take the time to observe your surroundings, and take note of some of the following issues, and make adjustments accordingly:

- Make sure entertainment units and computer equipment has plenty of space for proper ventilation.
- Extension cords are only a temporary solution. Never use them for permanent power supply.
- Don't place extension cords in high traffic areas, under carpet or across walkways. They can pose a tripping hazard.
- If you are relying on numerous power strips, it is an indicator that you don't have enough outlets for your needs. Enlist in the help of a licensed electrician to upgrade your system.
- Keep liquids, including drinks, away from televisions and computers.

## Safety Education with Live Demonstrations

If you would like to learn even more about electrical safety, consider asking Southern to provide a Hotline Demonstration at an event in your community. The demonstrations are conducted by utility linemen, and the information can be tailored to meet the needs of any group. Contact LeAnne Doose or Todd Bailey at Southern Power District.



## Cooling System Tune-Up Incentive

*NOW is the time to have your unit inspected, serviced and cleaned!*

Typically, tune-ups on systems that have been neglected can yield a savings of five to fifteen percent in energy costs, or more! Not to mention, a tune-up can extend the life of your unit and help it to perform at its best.

Southern Power District offers a \$30 EnergyWise incentive to homeowners that have their cooling system tuned-up, regardless of what type or age the system is. This incentive is available to residential customers once every three years. If you would like to learn more and access an application for the Cooling System Tune Up Incentive, log onto our website at [www.southernpd.com](http://www.southernpd.com).





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**SERVICE CENTERS:**

Grand Island (308) 384-2202  
Central City (308) 946-2964  
Franklin (308) 425-6217  
Hastings (402) 751-2535  
Holdrege (308)-995-5112  
Toll Free 1-888-484-2470

**GENERAL OFFICE:**

384-2350 or 1-800-652-2013

**CUSTOMER SERVICE**

381-5942, 1-800-579-3019

**ON THE WEB AT:**

[www.southernnpd.com](http://www.southernnpd.com)

This newsletter is published as a service to Southern Power District's customers.

Comments or questions?

Contact: LeAnne Doose, editor  
(308) 384-2350, 1-800-652-2013  
PO Box 1687  
Grand Island, NE 68802-1687



# RECIPE SUBMISSION FORM

CATEGORY (Circle One):

- Appetizers & Beverages
- Soups & Salads
- Vegetables & Side Dishes
- Main Dishes
- Bread & Rolls
- Desserts
- Cookies & Candy
- This & That

RECIPE TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

SUBMITTED BY (Your Name): \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT HOMETOWN & PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

INGREDIENTS:

- |          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 8. _____  |
| 2. _____ | 9. _____  |
| 3. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 12. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 13. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 14. _____ |

DIRECTIONS:

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- Print NEATLY in ink. One recipe per form.
- Your recipes should fit into the categories listed at the top of this form.
- If more room is needed, attach separate sheet to recipe form.
- Write legibly, as this will greatly reduce errors.
- List all ingredients in order of use in ingredients list and directions.
- Include container sizes, e.g., 16-oz. pkg., 24-oz. can.
- Keep directions in paragraph form—not in steps.
- Use names of ingredients in the directions, e.g., "Combine flour and sugar." DO NOT use statements such as, "Combine first three ingredients".
- Include temperatures and cooking, chilling, baking, and/or freezing times.
- Be consistent with the spelling of your name for each recipe you contribute.
- Any special recipe notes (anything other than ingredients, directions, contributor name, serving size or recipe title) should be kept as a separate comment on the bottom of this form, as they may not be included.

Clip and submit your recipe, to Southern Power District, Attn: LeAnne, at PO Box 1687, Grand Island, NE 68802-1687. Additional recipes can be submitted on a separate sheet of paper. Please include information for all fields listed on this form. You may also visit [www.southernnpd.com](http://www.southernnpd.com) and complete the recipe entry online.