

Irrigation & Load Control Newsletter

Early Equipment Operation Checklist:

When you get to the field to start disking and planting, go over to the irrigation panels.

1. Take a quick glance inside/outside/underneath looking for:

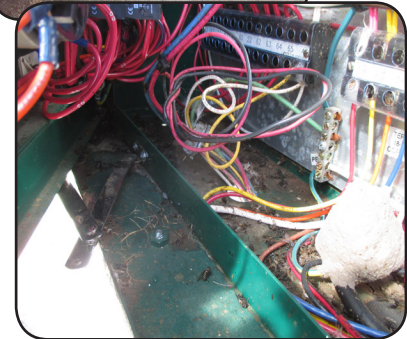
- Mice nests
- Chewed or damaged wires
- Openings where mice enter
- Broken conduit
- Black or burnt areas

2. Push the pivot start button to make sure the pivot will start up right away. If not, ask yourself:

- Is the road kill switch on "Off"?
- Is the road disconnect off?
- Did I check reset buttons?
- Are all switches in correct operation positions?
- Did I check fusing?
- Will the well or pivot run independently of each other?

3. Finally, turn on the pump making sure the motor runs and the water pumps properly.

- Be sure to check for any leaks spraying water onto electrical equipment.



Please Call If:

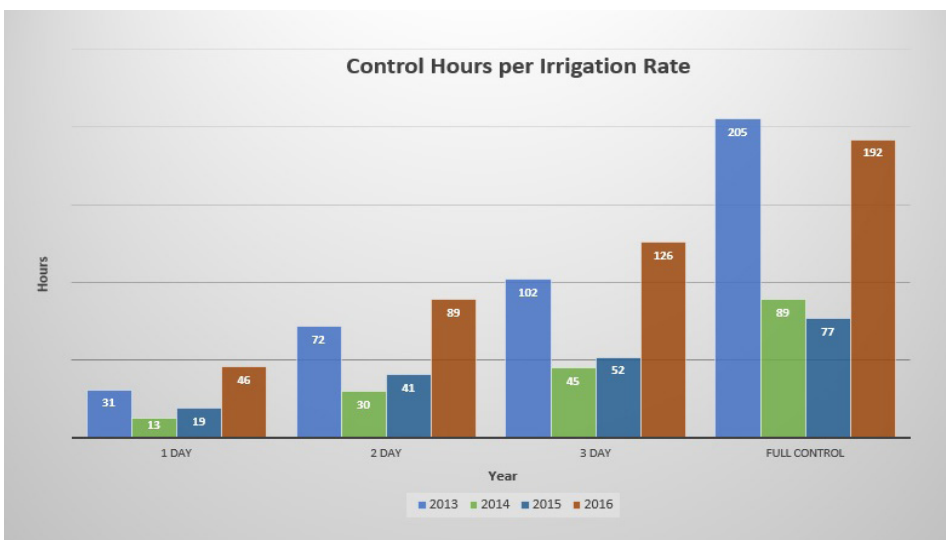
1. The Meter or Transformer pole has:
 - a. A fuse blown or hanging down
 - b. Any deceased animals found on top or below
 - c. Noticeable lightning damage
2. The meter display is blank
3. LCR has no lights

Important Irrigation Dates to Remember

April 1st	Deadline for irrigation rate change requests.
May 1st	Bill for Minimum Horsepower Charges will arrive.
June 15th	Deadline for payment of Minimum Horsepower Charges.
October 15th	Bill for summer kWh irrigation usage will arrive.
November 15th	Deadline for payment of summer kWh irrigation usage.

Historical Perspective

These charts put each summer into perspective by days and hours with an addition of hours per Irrigation Rate.



Load Control Updates

Custer PPD policy requires that all irrigation motors larger than 100 horsepower be controlled with a Solid State Reduced Voltage Start (SSRV). This may be accomplished with the use of a Soft Start control or a Variable Frequency Drive (VFD). The replacement of existing equipment must also comply with this policy. Smaller irrigation services located in critically loaded areas may also be required to adhere to this policy.

Irrigation motors larger than 20 horsepower are required to have a secondary power factor correction capacitor installed. Existing motors being uprated must also have the capacitor uprated. New services will be left disconnected until these requirements are met.

Installations using a VFD will not be required to have a power factor correction capacitor. The use of a secondary capacitor may inhibit the proper operation of the drive.

Help Us Serve You

Please have your **meter number, account number, or LCR number** available when contacting Custer PPD for service or a question on your account. This helps us locate your account quickly and accurately. It also helps us dispatch service personnel to the correct location.

Are you tampering or bypassing load control?

Tampering with or bypassing of load management controls or associated equipment will not be tolerated; your service will be removed from the load control program and billed at the No Control rate for the entire irrigation season regardless of when found.

Need Help Deciding on Irrigation Control?

Farming is risky business when trying to predict the weather along with crop prices. Well, Custer has a spreadsheet to help you make an educated decision. We start by customizing the spreadsheet using motor size, field size, and hours of operation, then we compare rates side-by-side for easy review. Aaron or April are happy to work through the spreadsheet with you for as many fields as you'd like. Just call or stop into the office.

100	Horsepower Nameplate		3.75	Gal per Hour@ 0.05 Gal/HHP	41963 kWh
75	Horsepower Input		-	Over-Ride Fuel GPH	90 Acres
750	Hours of Operation		\$ 1.93	Diesel Fuel Price	\$ 7.24 <small>Diesel fuel cost per hour</small>
Days of Control per Week	No Control - Not Available	One Day	Two Days	Three Days	Full Control
Horsepower Rate	\$ 52.00	\$ 49.50	\$ 46.50	\$ 44.50	\$ 36.00
Horsepower Charge	\$ 5,200.00	\$ 4,950.00	\$ 4,650.00	\$ 4,450.00	\$ 3,600.00
kWh Rate	\$ 0.1822	\$ 0.0875	\$ 0.0746	\$ 0.0624	\$ 0.0519
Approximate kWh Charge	\$ 7,646	\$ 3,672	\$ 3,130	\$ 2,618	\$ 2,178
Approx Annual Cost	\$ 12,900	\$ 8,700	\$ 7,800	\$ 7,100	\$ 5,800
Average Cost per Hour	\$ 17.20	\$ 11.60	\$ 10.40	\$ 9.47	\$ 7.73
Average Cost per Acre	\$ 143.30	\$ 96.70	\$ 86.70	\$ 78.90	\$ 64.40
Savings Between Rates		\$ 4,200.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 1,300.00
Savings per Horsepower		\$ 42.00	\$ 9.00	\$ 7.00	\$ 13.00
Estimated Annual Fuel Savings		\$ (3,272)	\$ (2,372)	\$ (1,672)	\$ (372)
Running Hours per Week		156	144	132	96

Sunday Load Control

Sunday load control continues to be a possibility if the load forecast reaches extreme conditions. The maximum control for a Sunday is 6 hours within our normal control window from 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 P.M. There is a maximum of 72 control hours each week with any Sunday control included in the maximum.

The 4th of July is also a possible control day up to 6 hours which will also be included in the 72 hours maximum control.

Energy Charges Remain Unchanged in 2017

Irrigation Rates 2017

Irrigation Control Options	2016 Rate per Horsepower	2017 Rate per Horsepower	2017 Energy Rate per kilowatt hour
No Control	\$49.00	\$52.00	\$0.1822
1 Day Control	\$47.00	\$49.50	\$0.0875
2 Day Control	\$44.00	\$46.50	\$0.0746
3 Day Control	\$42.00	\$44.50	\$0.0624
Full-Control	\$34.00	\$36.00	\$0.0519
Line Retention	\$8.35	\$8.35	

Horsepower Charge Is Billed May 1st and is Due June 15th

The Energy Charge Is Billed October 15th and is Due November 15th

Text Messaging Update

Last year we asked everyone to respond to a text or fill out paperwork giving us consent to use your phone number for load control text messages. Thank you to everyone who responded! After all the hard work getting consent, we discovered text messages were not sent to all the customers signed up. We fixed the problem this year by changing our messaging venue. You hopefully already received a reminder text on control changes earlier this month sent through this new venue. Here are a few things to know about the starting & stopping text messages.

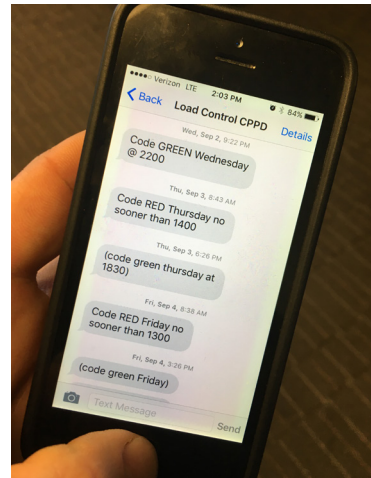
To Receive or Opt-In:

- Submit a Consent Form
- Allow 2-3 days

To Stop or Opt-Out Reply to text message using:

- Stop
- Cancel
- End

A new consent form is required after opting out.



PO Box 10
Broken Bow NE 68822