

CUSTER

PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

With Area Service Centers in Sargent,
Callaway, Stapleton and Thedford

Currents



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Newsletter of the

Custer Public Power District

Serving Custer, Loup, Blaine, Thomas, Hooker, McPherson, Logan, and parts of Sherman, Garfield, Brown, Cherry, Lincoln, and Dawson Counties.

Custer Public Power District
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Custer Public Power District
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Broken Bow, NE 68822

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From the **GENERAL MANAGER'S** desk

Public Power is Affordable Power

Inflation is hitting everybody this year, with the energy sector being one of the drivers for those increased costs. This is the case in most of the United States, except for the price you pay for electricity at Custer Public Power District.

I want to look at cost. When I talk about cost, I talk about it as \$/kWh, or more like cents per kWh. Custer PPD's average cost per kWh is \$0.12. So, think about the old 100 watt light bulb when we start talking about costs. If you let that light bulb stay on for 10 hours, that would equate to 1 kWh. Therefore, leaving that light on for 10 hours would cost you about \$0.12.



The good news is that over the last three years - 2020, 2021, and now 2022 - that cost has not increased. In fact, Custer

PPD has given money back to you, the customer/owner, in the form of a power cost adjustment, a PCA. In 2021, that totaled over \$1,500,000. In 2022, it is looking like it will be the same PCA coming back to the customers/owners.

There are lots of ways that I can describe how Custer PPD controls costs, but our biggest cost is wholesale power and that makes up roughly 55% of our costs. Beyond wholesale power costs, Custer PPD has the mind-set of, "every dollar we spend is a dollar our customers/owners gave us." That phrase always hits home for me and everybody at Custer PPD.

On the other hand, when Custer PPD or our power supplier Nebraska Public Power District have a better year than we had planned we send that

Board Meetings

The regular monthly meeting of the Custer Public Power District Board of Directors is on the last Thursday of each month, beginning at 9:00 a.m.(CDT) in the main office in Broken Bow at 625 E South E on HWY 2.

An agenda for each regular meeting of the board is available for public inspection during business hours.

In the event of matters of an emergency nature or conflicts with other meeting dates, the Board of Directors will set changes. Any change in the monthly meeting date will be posted in the legal notice at the main headquarters building at Broken Bow and at each of the District's area service centers located in Callaway, Sargent, Stapleton and Theadford, Nebraska.

back to the customer/owner. Thus, the reason for the PCA the last couple of years, NPPD had better than expected revenue. Not because they missed the mark, but because they've been operating more efficiently and are able to be sellers of energy in the market when the prices are high. While they have a "rate stabilization fund", money over and above that fund either goes to paying down long-term debt or is given back to the customer/owner.

That whole concept is what makes public power a great model. Custer PPD and NPPD do not give money back to share holders, who may not live in this state or not even buy

electricity from us, when things go better than planned. Every public power district in the state has cost of service-based rates. The main variable is the weather for most of the power districts in rural Nebraska, but at the end of the day, our rates are based on the costs it takes to run the power district and to have enough money to put back into the system for future generations to enjoy electricity at a cost of service-based rate.

Afford-ability is one of the key areas that differentiates "public power" from privately held utilities in other states and is a shining example of the way power districts do things in Nebraska. ♦

Congratulations Ron Baillie



Ron Baillie has retired from Custer PPD after 41 years of service. Ron has served as Lead Lineman of Sargent for the last 12 years.

Ron, thank you for your many years of service and a job well done.

*Enjoy your
retirement!*

LINEMEN & STAFF APPRECIATION

In the month of April, take time to tell the Custer Public Power District's linemen and staff
"Thank You"
for keeping your lights shining bright.



Our Mission

Our mission is to safely deliver electricity to our customer/owners, keep the District in a sound financial position, and exceed expectations in service and reliability.



BE PREPARED FOR A WINTER STORM



FEMA

Winter storms create a higher risk of car accidents, hypothermia, frostbite, carbon monoxide poisoning, and heart attacks from overexertion.

Winter storms and blizzards can bring extreme cold, freezing rain, snow, ice, and high winds.



Greater risk



Can last a few hours or several days



Can knock out heat, power, and communication services

IF YOU ARE UNDER A WINTER STORM WARNING, FIND SHELTER RIGHT AWAY

Stay off roads.



Use generators outside only.



Stay indoors and dress warmly.



Listen for emergency information and alerts.



Prepare for power outages.



Look for signs of hypothermia and frostbite.



Check on neighbors.



HOW TO STAY SAFE WHEN A WINTER STORM THREATENS



Know your area's risk for winter storms. Extreme winter weather can leave communities without utilities or other services for long periods of time.

Prepare your home to keep out the cold with insulation, caulking, and weather stripping. Learn how to keep pipes from freezing. Install and test smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors with battery backups.

Pay attention to weather reports and warnings of freezing weather and winter storms. Sign up for your community's warning system. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio also provide emergency alerts.

Gather supplies in case you need to stay home for several days without power. Keep in mind each person's specific needs, including medication. Do not forget the needs of pets. Have extra batteries for radios and flashlights.

Create an emergency supply kit for your car. Include jumper cables, sand, a flashlight, warm clothes, blankets, bottled water, and non-perishable snacks. Keep the gas tank full.

Learn the signs of and basic treatments for frostbite and hypothermia. For more information, visit: www.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/staysafe/index.html.

Stay off roads if at all possible. If trapped in your car, stay inside.

Limit your time outside. If you need to go outside, wear layers of warm clothing. Watch for signs of frostbite and hypothermia.

Avoid carbon monoxide poisoning. Only use generators and grills outdoors and away from windows. Never heat your home with a gas stove top or oven.

Reduce the risk of a heart attack. Avoid overexertion when shoveling snow.

Watch for signs of frostbite and hypothermia and begin treatment right away.

Check on neighbors. Older adults and young children are more at risk in extreme cold.

Frostbite causes loss of feeling and color around the face, fingers, and toes.

- **Signs:** Numbness, white or grayish-yellow skin, and firm or waxy skin.
- **Actions:** Go to a warm room. Soak in warm water. Use body heat to warm. Do not massage or use a heating pad.

Hypothermia is an unusually low body temperature. A temperature below 95 degrees is an emergency.

- **Signs:** Shivering, exhaustion, confusion, fumbling hands, memory loss, slurred speech, and drowsiness.
- **Actions:** Go to a warm room. Warm the center of the body first—chest, neck, head, and groin. Keep dry and wrapped up in warm blankets, including the head and neck.

Take an Active Role in Your Safety

Go to **Ready.gov** and search for **winter storm**. Download the **FEMA app** to get more information about preparing for a **winter storm**.



RECIPES

Irish Boxy

Courtesy of Epicurious from Rachel's Irish Family Food-Rachel Allen
Boxty are traditional Irish potato pancakes.

INGREDIENTS:

1 egg
1/4 cup light (single) cream
9 ounces baking or russet (floury) potatoes, peeled and coarsely grated
2 tablespoons all-purpose (plain) flour
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
2 tablespoons butter

1. In a bowl, whisk together the egg with the cream. Add the potato and flour, season with salt and pepper, and stir to mix. The mixture will be slightly runny.

2. Melt the butter in a frying pan over medium heat. Add the potato mixture and cook for 8 to 10 minutes on each side, until the surface is golden brown and the potato is cooked through. Remove to a serving plate and cut into wedges to serve.



Lemon Blueberry Bread

Courtesy of Tasteofhome.com

INGREDIENTS:

1/3 cup butter, melted
1 cup sugar
3 tablespoons lemon juice
2 large eggs, room temperature
1-1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup 2% milk
1 cup fresh or frozen blueberries
1/2 cup chopped nuts
2 tablespoons grated lemon zest

GLAZE:

2 tablespoons lemon juice
1/4 cup sugar

1. In a large bowl, beat the butter, sugar, lemon juice and eggs. Combine the flour, baking powder and salt; stir into egg mixture alternately with milk, beating well after each addition. Fold in the blueberries, nuts and lemon zest.

2. Transfer to a greased 8x4-in. loaf pan. Bake at 350° for 60-70 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Cool for 10 minutes before removing from pan to a wire rack.

3. Combine glaze ingredients; drizzle over warm bread. Cool completely.



Share Your Recipes

Earn a free gift if we publish your recipe.

Mail to:

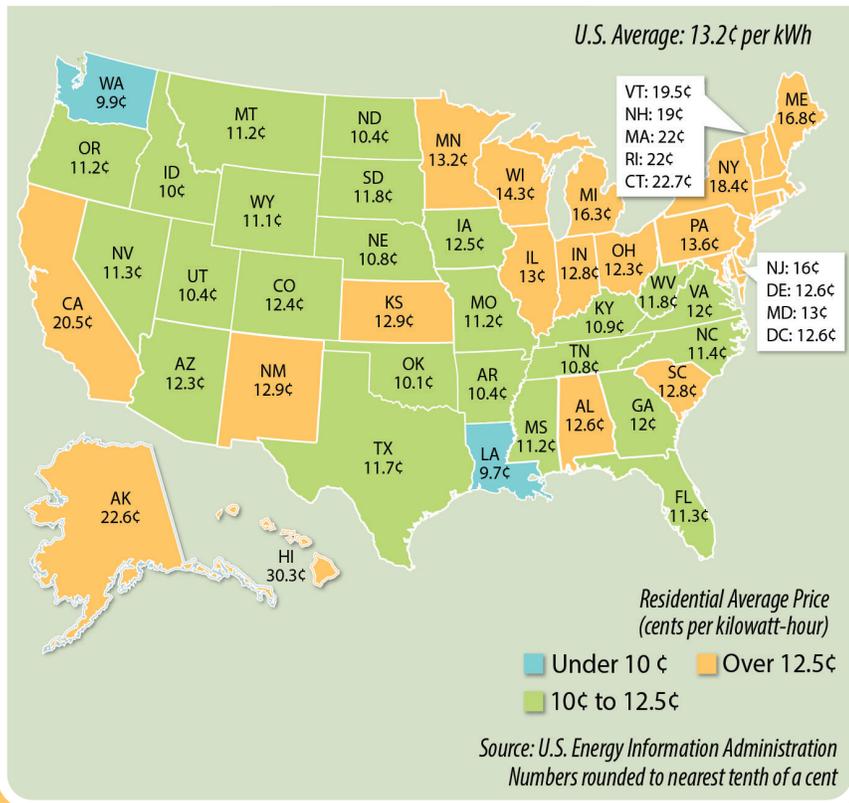
Custer Public Power District

Att. Tarin Burrows
P.O. Box 10
Broken Bow, NE
68822



Average Prices for Residential Electricity

2020 figures, in cents per kWh



"Nebraska is the only state in which all electricity providers are publicly-owned."

eia.gov

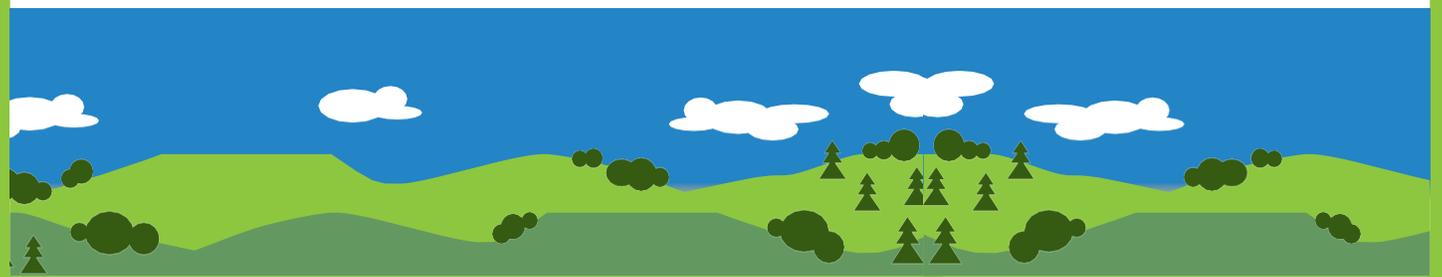
Go to eia.gov/state/ to see Nebraska's state profile and energy estimates compared to other states.

Nebraska Rural Electric Leadership Camp at Nebraska State 4-H Camp - Halsey, Nebraska

July 18 - 22, 2022

High School students who receive their electrical services from Custer Public Power District and are in the 9th, 10th, and 11th grades are eligible for the all-expense paid camp. With attending the NREA Leadership Camp at Halsey, there are several opportunities for an all-expense paid trip to the NRECA Youth Tour at Washington D.C. in 2023.

For more information call Tarin Burrows at 308-872-2451.



OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CST

For after hour emergencies,
call 1-888-749-2453.



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