

## From the desk of the Manager

# Construction Work Plan will be Aggressive in 2013

As we move into the New Year there is plenty of work piling up to keep crews busy for quite a while. The amount of demand on the system in 2012 was unprecedented and our operations/engineering personnel have identified new areas that need to be “beefed up” to maintain quality service to customers and to accommodate new on-coming loads. Our 2013 work plan includes a new transmission line and substation northwest of Hartington and equipment upgrades at several other substations in the district. We’ll also be constructing many miles of line for the continuation of replacement and upgrading of lines that are nearing load capacity. Requests for new irrigation services are well above normal as crop prices remain high and the drought persists. We always expect to accommodate new service requests in a timely manner; however, as our “to do” list grows, we must give priority to maintaining and enhancing the main infrastructure of substations and feeder circuits on our

distribution system so that it can continue to handle the amount of new load being brought onto the system.

### *Irrigation Load Control*

Electricity is a unique form of energy in that it cannot economically be stored in large quantities and must be generated as it is being consumed. Because of this, an equal amount of generation resources (power plants) must be available to be operated as needed during maximum electricity usage periods. In order to minimize and delay the construction of these costly new power plants, our power supplier provides wholesale rate incentives to rural utilities like Cedar-Knox to curtail irrigation loads during peak periods allowing cost savings to be passed on to irrigators. Each year about 500-600 megawatts are reduced from the electricity demand in Nebraska because of irrigation load control programs. That is the equivalent of more than a half-million horsepower!

Unfortunately, 2012 was an extreme year and control was needed on 38 different days during the summer. Some irrigation customers understandably exited the load control program (paid a higher rate to not be controlled) during the season. As control days piled up and the drought persisted the extra pumping hours were needed to help salvage crop yields. Hopefully 2013 will bring a more normalized weather pattern. In the 5 years prior to 2012, the total days with irrigation control ranged from just 3 to 15 total days each summer. I do understand the urge to not want to bother with the control hours when corn prices are high, but I hope that customers will continue to support and utilize the control program. Abandoning this program would obviously make the entire system less efficient and can ultimately affect electricity costs long-term. Please consider this as you choose your irrigation rate this spring.



Dan Leise

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season. As we begin our 76th year, we look forward to continuing to provide safe and reliable service to our consumers.

## Director Update

Cedar-Knox PPD honored Terry Pinkelman of Wynot, NE who has served as Director of Board District 1 for 24 years at a recent board meeting. Terry did not run in the last election for another term. Terry’s public service does not end here; he is currently in his first term as Cedar County Commissioner for District One. Terry’s hard work and dedication to CKPPD customers and employees will be missed. Thank you, Terry.

Ed Lammers is the new director for District 1, and will start his term at the January 2013 board meeting. He has experience, since he was previously a director for one six year term. We welcome Ed to the Cedar-Knox PPD Board.



Terry Pinkelman and Dan Leise.

## Vandalism Costs You

Vandalism may have been an issue in a recent incident where Cedar-Knox PPD equipment was damaged. Shooting of meters and insulators or any CKPPD equipment costs you as well as Cedar-Knox PPD. If you see or hear about someone damaging CKPPD equipment in anyway, please let us know. Remember, this is your Public Power District.



# Recipe Corner

## CAROL'S CROCKPOT LASAGNA

### Meat mixture:

- ½ medium onion chopped
- 2 lbs hamburger
- 1 tsp oregano
- 1 tsp minced garlic
- 1 T sugar
- 1 24 oz can Spaghetti sauce
- 1 12 oz can tomato paste
- 1 cup water

### Cheese mixture:

- 1 15 oz container ricotta cheese
- 1 32 oz container cottage cheese, drained
- 4 cups mozzarella
- ½ cup shredded parmesan
- 2 eggs

### Noodles:

- 10-12 no boil lasagna noodles

Sauté onions, brown hamburger; add garlic, oregano and sugar. Add spaghetti sauce, tomato paste and water. Stir. Set aside.

Mix all ingredients of the cheese mixture.

Spray large crock pot with cooking spray, then pour about ¼ cup of hamburger/tomato sauce mixture in the bottom, next put layer of uncooked lasagna noodles on bottom, you will need to break to fit. Then 1/3 of the meat mixture, then 1/3 of cheese mixture and repeat process two more times; be sure to end with cheese mixture. Put on lid and cook on low for 5 hours. Remove lid and shut off cooker, wait 5 minutes before serving. This serves 12-14 people.

# EnergyWise Programs for 2013

## Residential Attic Insulation Incentive Program –

If your home has six inches or less of insulation in your attic, and you use primarily electricity to heat it, there is an EnergyWise program to help. The attic insulation program pays 15 cents/square foot with a maximum incentive of \$300. New construction and/or additions do not qualify.

## High Efficiency Heat Pump Program – (Air source and ground source)

**Option 1** – Direct Incentive – Install a qualifying heat pump (minimum 14 Seer and Min 8.2 HSPF). Incentive payments range from \$200 to \$1700.

**Option 2** – Install a qualifying heat pump and contact the financial institution of your choice and request an EnergyWise Loan, which is 2.5% interest through the Nebraska Energy Office “Dollars and Energy Savings Loan Program”. Find more information at [www.neo.ne.gov](http://www.neo.ne.gov)

## Cooling System Tune-up Program –

Is it about time to have your cooling system inspected, serviced and cleaned? Fortunately, there is a \$30 EnergyWise incentive available to home owners that have their cooling system tuned-up regardless of what type or age of cooling system it is (air conditioner, air or water source heat pump).

There are also other programs for Commercial Lighting and Commercial HVAC, Variable Frequency Drives, and Irrigation Pump Efficiency.

Please contact us with questions about any of the programs. We are here to serve you.

## Fordyce Substation

Cedar Knox PPD is in the process of building a new 5000 KVA substation in the Fordyce area in 2013. The reason for the new substation is to reduce the load on the Bow Valley Substation along with relieving some load from the Hartington and South Yankton Substations. The location of the new Fordyce substation is one mile south and three miles east of Fordyce, and will have four circuits feeding out of it with the capability to back feed the other substations involved. This also creates more reliability to our customers by reducing the length of line feeding them. We hope to have this substation operational before the heavier load comes on next summer.

## Cedar Knox Public Power District Employees

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- Terry Thunker

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- Mary Lammers