

From the desk of the Manager

No Rate Increase for 2017

It's always nice to be able to tell customers that there will be no rate increase and fortunately we've been able to do that 3 out of the last 4 years. I'm happy to report that all Cedar-Knox Farm, Residential, Irrigation and Commercial electric rates will remain unchanged in 2017. The lone exception to this will be our large industrial power rate, which is contractually tied to actual wholesale power costs and will increase slightly next year due to higher, pass-through wholesale transmission costs.

Construction Season Continues

Cedar-Knox crews continue to tackle the 2016 work-plan as we enter into the fall season. We tend to experience lighter loads between the irrigation and electric heating seasons, which enables crews to re-route circuits and take main feeder lines out of service for repairs, upgrades and replacement. Work is on-going and crews have constructed or replaced roughly 30 miles of high voltage circuits throughout the year. We will also be busy replacing "rejected"

poles from our annual pole testing program. Each year we test roughly 3000 poles for rot and damage and this year we are working in the Wausa and Bloomfield areas. Our employees work very hard to keep your electric distribution system reliable and efficient.

Lineman Safety Incident

For more than six years Cedar-Knox line workers had avoided on-the-job accidents severe enough to require a worker to miss a day of work. Unfortunately that changed on July 11th as our linemen were reminded just how dangerous their jobs can be. Line Foreman, Matt Sudbeck fell from a structure after coming in contact with unexpected voltage during an after-hours service call. Needless to say, there were some anxious moments throughout our system as co-workers scrambled to engage the emergency procedures that are in place to handle these situations and to help a severely injured lineman in need. Fortunately, Matt received immediate treatment at the scene from his Cedar-Knox trouble partner



Dan Leise

Eric Becker, who is also a local EMT for the Hartington Rescue Squad. After a stint in the hospital emergency room and some time off to mend some broken bones, we are happy to say that Matt is fine and has returned to work. Also on the positive side, we were able to learn valuable lessons from the incident and critique our emergency response routine at our monthly safety meeting. Working with lethal voltage at dangerous heights can sometimes be a formula for danger in the world of an electric lineman and we work hard to prepare our people to handle certain situations that might come our way. Thanks go out to our employees and also the Hartington Rescue Squad for their prompt and professional response.

Finally, it's hard to believe that we are headed into the 2016 Holiday Season already!

(continued...)

Revolving Loan Funds through Cedar-Knox PPD

Cedar-Knox Public Power established a revolving loan fund in 2007 that is available to many small commercial businesses. Some of the criteria that are part of the requirements for approval of an application to obtain a loan are, start and/or expand an existing business, improve infrastructure, and job creation or retention.

We have revolved these funds several times in the last nine years and are ready and willing to do again. Several small businesses in our service territory have used this method to improve their businesses in the past, taking advantage of this low interest

loan. As these businesses have been or are in the process of repaying their loans, funds accumulate and are available for relending.

Revolving loan funds are not an all-purpose tool for funding development projects, but may be appropriate for your future financing needs. We would be glad to assist you, and if the need exists, please contact Jackie Kathol at Cedar-Knox PPD for more details on this program. We are proud of our opportunity to work with businesses for the betterment of our community, from which we ALL BENEFIT.

CKPPD Memorial Scholarship



Since 1982, Cedar-Knox PPD has offered the Harold Martindale Scholarship. Harold Martindale was the first General Manager for Cedar-Knox PPD and he served as General Manager for more than 45 years.

We would like to remind High School Seniors who are a dependent of a resident rate payer of Cedar-Knox PPD, to apply if they are attending Northeast Community College in the Utility Line Program in the fall of 2017. The scholarship is \$2,000 for the two year program. Applications must be submitted to NECC no later than February 1, 2017. Any questions, please contact Carol at 800-891-5196 or 402-254-6291.



Recipe Corner

Pumpkin Caramel Cream Cheese Poke Cake

- 1 box, spice cake mix
- 1 cup canned pumpkin 1 cup water
- 3 eggs
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 3/4 cup caramel ice cream topping, divided
- 1 (8 oz) pkg, cream cheese
- 2 Tbsp. milk
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 1/2 cup whipped topping

Pre-heat oven to 350.

Mix together the cake mix, pumpkin, water, eggs and oil until smooth. Pour batter into pan and bake at 350 for 30- 33 minutes.

As soon as the cake comes out of the oven, while it is hot, poke holes into the cake with the end of a wood spoon. Heat up caramel sauce for about 20-30 seconds in the microwave. Pour 1/2 cup warm caramel sauce over the top of the hot cake, making sure the sauce gets into the holes. Let cake cool.

When cool, prepare the cream cheese frosting. Mix cream cheese, powdered sugar and milk until smooth. Add the whipped topping into the cream cheese mixture. Spread frosting over cake. Drizzle remaining caramel over top for a decorative effect.



Generator Safety

- Portable generators come in handy during long-term power outages. However, if you do not know how to use them properly, they can be dangerous. Safe Electricity has the following tips to use generators safely. Contact a qualified vendor or electrician to help you determine what generator is best-suited to your needs.
- If you are installing a permanent generator, it must have a transfer switch. The transfer switch prevents energy from leaving your generator and going back into power lines where it could harm a lineman, a process known as “back-feed.” A qualified electrician should install your generator and transfer switch.
- If you have a portable generator, operate it outdoors in an area with plenty of ventilation. Never run a generator in a home or garage. Generators give off deadly carbon monoxide.
- Do not plug a generator into the wall.
- Be sure the generator is turned off and cool before fueling it.

- Turn off or disconnect all appliances and lights before you begin operating the portable generator. Once the generator is running, turn your appliances and lights on one at a time to avoid overloading the unit. Remember, generators are for temporary usage, prioritize your needs.
- Generators pose electrical risks especially when operated in wet conditions. Use a generator only when necessary when the weather creates wet or moist conditions. Protect the generator by operating it under an open, canopy-like structure on a dry surface where water cannot form puddles or drain under it. Always ensure that your hands are dry before touching the generator.
- Keep children and pets away from portable generators at all times. Many generator components are hot enough to burn you during operation.

Safe Electricity suggests that these safety guidelines and basic operating instructions be posted in the home and with the generator. Remember to read and follow manufacturer’s instructions with all your electronics.

From the desk of the Manager

No Rate Increase... (Continued from front)

Politics and news headlines can be a bit painful to watch at times, but there is still plenty to be thankful for in this greatest nation on earth. May God bless you and your families and best wishes for a safe, healthy and happy holiday season from everyone at the Cedar-Knox Public Power District.

Holiday Notices:

Our office will be closed on the following days

Veterans Day • Nov. 11, 2016

Thanksgiving • Nov. 24 & 25, 2016

Christmas • Dec. 26, 2016

New Years • January 2, 2017



LED Bulb Rebate

LED bulb rebates are coming to an end in 2016. Because LED bulbs have become much more affordable in recent years, the \$3 per LED bulb will be ending by December 31, 2016. So if you haven’t taken advantage of this great program, time is running out. Check it out. The full 2017 EnergyWise programs listing will be coming in next newsletter.

New State Tax Exemption Class

As of October 1, 2016, commercial grain facility service accounts qualify to be State tax exempt. In order to qualify such accounts must fill out a 13E Exemption Form properly, sign and return to Cedar-Knox PPD to keep on file at our office.

Any questions, please contact our office, 402-254-6291 or 800-891-5196.

Phone Numbers Request

Occasionally, when we try to get in touch with a CKPPD customer we discover that the phone number or numbers we have on file are not in service. It is very important that we have your current active phone number for notifications. Please contact us with this information if you have recently changed, added or discontinued a number. We appreciate your cooperation.

Also remember – cordless phones do not work during a power outage.

