

CEDAR-KNOX PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT
P.O. Box 947, HARTINGTON, NEBRASKA 68739

cedarknoxppd.com

January/February 2011

VOL. 11 NO. 1

Re-capping 2010 and looking ahead to 2011

2010 in review

2010 was again a safe and productive year for the District. In addition to the many work-plan projects, new service installations and other maintenance work throughout the year, the crews also safely upgraded several substations and seven miles of main feeder line in our continued goal to maintain quality service to our consumers. As our loads increase from the addition of new homes, irrigation and grain drying, lines and substations become stressed, energy losses increase and power quality is jeopardized if these capacity upgrades do not take place. Cedar-Knox has always stayed ahead of the game when it comes to system planning and our consumers continue to enjoy one of the more reliable and efficient rural distribution systems because of our proactive approach.

We've also started the process of installing automated metering infrastructure (AMI). As reported in recent newsletters, this will be a 4-year project and a huge asset to our operations. Remotely reading every meter in our distribution system on a daily basis, is only one of the many benefits that we will realize upon completion. This system will also provide us with detailed loading and distribution performance information that will be invaluable for our system planning, outage restoration and billing processing.

Looking ahead

Challenges, new and old await us in 2011. We will continue with a second phase of the AMI installation, adding another 5 substation injection points and 2200 meters to our system. Our work plan also includes many more miles of circuit upgrades, both transmission and distribution, along

with some substation improvements and the usual line maintenance from trees, storms and normal deterioration of the facilities.

As most people are probably aware, producing electricity by burning coal is the prevalent form of generation in the Midwest - including Nebraska. Coal produces the cheapest electricity but receives heavy scrutiny for the carbon emissions that it leaves behind. As federal authorities attempt to progressively regulate these emissions, Nebraska utilities will face further challenge to continually provide reliable and affordable energy to consumers in future years. Simply put, the more restrictions that are placed on this resource, the more Nebraskan's electricity cost will rise. We will continue to work with our power supplier and lawmakers to limit the effects of these regulations on our consumers.

I want to thank the employees and directors for their continued dedication to the District again this year. To limit service interruptions to our customers, crews perform an increasing amount of energized line work and our safety record remains solid. Our focus is simple - to safely provide our consumers with the most reliable and responsive service at the lowest rates in the state.

Have a great 2011.

FROM THE DESK
OF THE MANAGER

DAN LEISE



Asche retires:

Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) CEO Ron Asche recently surprised many colleagues when he announced that he will be retiring from NPPD effective February 2nd of this year. He will be taking a job as CEO of United Power in Brighton, Colorado. United is a 160-employee electric cooperative serving 120,000 consumers along the northern Front Range of the Rockies. Ron has been with NPPD for 35 years – the last 5 as CEO. He's done a great job and we want to thank him for his service to Public Power in Nebraska and we wish him well in his new endeavor.

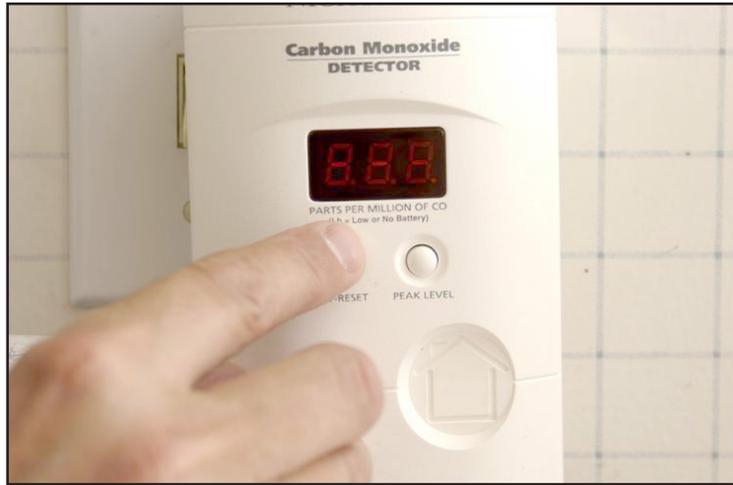
Purchase and install UL-listed CO alarms

Known as the “Silent Killer”, CO is produced by incomplete burning of fuel, such as propane, kerosene, gasoline, oil, natural gas, wood and charcoal. A CO leak can be attributed to many common household sources including malfunctioning gas-fired appliances, space heaters, chimney flues and portable generators.

Because you cannot see it, smell it or taste it, you or your loved ones could be exposed to CO without even knowing it. The symptoms - headaches, fatigue, nausea, dizziness and shortness of breath - are often mistaken for the flu.

Purchase and install UL-listed CO alarms outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement and any other locations required by applicable laws; be sure to read the manufacturer’s instructions carefully before installing the alarm.

If you already have CO alarms installed in your home, make sure to test them monthly and replace the battery at least once a year.



and ventilation and move to a fresh air location outdoors. Make sure everyone from inside the home is accounted for. Call for help from a fresh air location and stay there until emergency personnel arrive.

- If anyone in the home is experiencing symptoms of CO poisoning - headache, dizziness or other flu-like symptoms - immediately evacuate the house, call the fire department and seek medical attention.

Be alert to some of the danger signs that signal a CO problem:

- Streaks of carbon or soot around the service door of your fuel-burning appliances
- Moisture collecting on the windows and walls of furnace rooms
- Fallen soot from the fireplace or small amounts of water

leaking from the base of the chimney

“A CO alarm should not be confused with a smoke alarm,” says John Drengenberg, manager of Consumer Affairs for UL. “A smoke alarm tells you to get out immediately. A CO alarm warns of a potential poisoning risk, usually long before symptoms are apparent, which allows you adequate time to get help. You need both life-safety devices in your home.”

Source: Rural Electric Nebraskan Magazine.

Be prepared

If your alarm sounds, immediately open windows for doors

Valentine’s Day

Did you know Valentine’s Day started during the days of the Roman Empire. Like many holidays; Valentines Day is a day of symbols, such as the Heart. People believed that when they gave their heart, they were truly giving all of the love they could give. The men would pull a woman’s name out of a bowl, and to show his devotion he would wear the woman’s name on his sleeve for a week. This soon became known as “wearing your heart on your sleeve” and is now known as Happy Valentines Day!



RECIPE CORNER

Mexican Cheesy Potatoes

16 oz sour cream
1 can condensed cream of chicken soup
1 can chopped green chilies
½ cup onion, chopped
32 oz frozen hash brown potatoes, thawed
2 cup mild Mexican Velveeta, cubed
1 cup shredded pepper jack cheese
1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese
1 to 2 cups crushed tortilla chips
In large bowl, mix sour cream, soup, green chilies and onion. Stir in hash browns. Fold in cubed and shredded cheeses.



Pour into sprayed 9” x 13” glass dish. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour on until potatoes are tender and mixture is hot and bubbly. Sprinkle crushed tortilla chips and bake 5-10 minutes longer or until chips are golden brown.

Downed Power Lines – Stay Away!

Call 911 and your local power supplier (Cedar-Knox PPD) if you see downed power lines. If downed lines are on your vehicle and you are inside, stay inside, as long as you are not in other immediate danger. Wait for help to come. Most important; assume all power lines are energized and dangerous.

NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS

The monthly Board of Directors meeting for Cedar-Knox PPD date has changed. The Board will meet at the Cedar-Knox PPD office the second Wednesday of each month at 10:00 am. Notice of this meeting is also posted in the local paper each month.