

ELKHORN RURAL PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

POLICY 3410

Avian Protection Policy

I. Objective

To ensure compliance with legal requirements and to minimize avian interaction with power lines by adhering to the Avian Protection Plan (APP) as adopted by the Elkhorn Rural Public Power District, hereinafter referred to as the District.

II. Policy

The District shall:

1. Implement and comply with its comprehensive Avian Protection Plan (APP)
2. Ensure its actions comply with applicable laws, regulations, and permits.
3. Conduct a comprehensive risk assessment of the distribution system.
4. Document avian mortalities through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Avian Mortality Reporting program when provided authorization by the USFWS to do so.
5. Modify electric infrastructure at sites where avian mortalities occur when practical. Modifications will be in accordance with the APP and will follow the Avian Power Line Interaction Committee's (APLIC) *Suggested Practices for Avian Protection on Power Lines the State of the Art in 2012* whenever possible.
6. Identify problem poles and lines, and problem nests in consultation with USFWS and the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC) as necessary and work to minimize avian interactions at problem sites.
7. Provide information, resources, and training to improve employee knowledge and awareness of the APP and all of its provisions.
8. Construct all new or rebuilt facilities in rural areas (outside city limits or beyond residential/commercial developments) in areas of high avian use, where appropriate, to ERPPD's avian-safe standards that meet or exceed the APLIC guidelines.

III. Responsibility

- A. The Manager shall be responsible for the administration of this policy.

Adopted: October 14, 2014