

THE WIRE

CURRENT NEWS FROM THE ELKHORN RURAL PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

June 2010

Serving the Elkhorn River Valley since 1940

Volume 19, Number 6

Irrigation Waiting List Addressed By The ERPPD Board of Directors

The board of directors approved a management plan to shorten the wait time for electric irrigation service. Using criteria established in 2001, and based on valid assumptions at that time, the present list has new irrigators waiting until possibly 2016 to be connected.

Barring any unforeseen circumstances, the new plan would have all present irrigation service requests honored by 2013. Several factors led to the decision to speed up the process, but one major factor was a 2009 board decision to discontinue the practice of installing the secondary wire past the meter to the pump panel. This has allowed ERPPD operations personnel to focus its efforts

on building infrastructure. Another factor was instituting a requirement for new irrigation customers to install "power factor corrective capacitors" on their services to ease the system loading from the added services.

In order to accomplish this goal, we are asking your cooperation. On June 1, we will be sending letters to the next 200 customers on the waiting list. The letter will ask for a commitment for service by August 31, 2010. This commitment will need to be accompanied by an earnest check for \$1,000 to be considered for construction in 2011. This check is non-refundable, but will be applied to the customer's aid-to-construction payment or their new irrigation account.

The August 31 deadline will allow the operations department to order materials and plan the construction season.

Bob Coble Retires May 21



Bob Coble

Bob Coble, Manager of Engineering Services, retired from Elkhorn Rural Public Power District on May 21 with over 10 years of service to the

district.

ERPPD wishes Bob the very best in his retirement.

Automatic Meter Reading Project 50% Completed-Target Completion Date is May, 2011

The Automatic Meter Reading project for the rural areas of the district has reached the halfway point.

The project was started in May 2009, with a projected time frame of 18-24 months. With the project at the halfway point, a goal of April 2011 has been set for ERPPD to assume the responsibility of reading the customers' meters for billing purposes.

Until that time, customers that normally read their own meters, need to continue reading their meters and submitting them to the office. This is true even though you may have the new meter installed at your service. You will be notified when the district will take over the meter reading responsibilities for you.

In all, 6,300 meters will be changed and meter reading equipment will be installed in 23 substations.

Did You Know ERPPD Is On The Web?

Elkhorn Rural Public Power District's web site is located at www.erppd.com

The web site contains links to valuable information on safety, energy efficiency, irrigation information, safety and energy pages for kids, customer service, submit meter readings, etc.

Will we have the affordable electricity we need in the future?



Our Energy, Our Future
A Dialogue With America
Start the dialogue with your elected officials at:
www.OurEnergy.coop



ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS

EnergyWiseSM incentives reward energy savings

Elkhorn Rural Public Power District, in partnership with Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) and its other wholesale customers, is offering energy efficiency programs to assist customers in becoming more energy efficient. The purpose of programs under the EnergyWiseSM logo is to make electric customers more aware of ways they can use electrical energy more efficiently and the savings that come with these practices.

Residential High-Efficiency Heat Pump Incentive

Home owners who install a qualified heat pump (14 SEER or higher cooling ratio and 8.2 HSPF or greater heating ratio) will be eligible for a variable rebate, depending on the SEER of the unit. ERPPD customers who replace a window or central air conditioner with a qualified heat pump will earn a double rebate.

Heat Pump Qualifying Installation	Basic Rebate	Replace A/C Unit
14 SEER	\$200	add \$200
15 SEER	\$250	add \$250
16 SEER (& up)	\$300	add \$300
Geothermal Unit	\$400	add \$400

The installing HVAC dealer will also receive an incentive payment if the new unit operates within 10% of manufacturer's specifications.

Cooling System Tune-Up

An incentive of \$30 is available to homeowners who have their cooling systems tuned up (Does not include heating systems). Eligible systems include air conditioners, air source heat pumps (regardless of back-up source), and water source heat pumps. Contact your HVAC dealer.

ENERGYWISESM
Use less. Spend less. Do more.

Residential Attic Insulation

The attic insulation program allows a homeowner to install at least six inches of attic insulation in up to 2,000 sq.ft. of attic space in an existing home. The rebate is \$0.15 per square foot with a maximum rebate for any one dwelling to be \$300. See ERPPD or a building or remodeling contractor for details.

Refrigerator/Freezer Recycling

Remove inefficient, operating secondary refrigerators or freezers from ERPPD's distribution system and receive \$35 per unit for up to two working units. This program is administered through JACO Environmental, which specializes in refrigerator recycling. Customers should call JACO (toll-free 1-866-444-9160) for information or to arrange an appointment for pick-up.

Commercial and Industrial Lighting Efficiency Program

Customers have an opportunity to earn incentives for upgrading to qualified, more efficient lighting. Incentives are available for both indoor and outdoor technologies.

Prescriptive and custom programs are available. Contact Mark Gronau at ERPPD to discuss the one that is right for your business, then contact the lighting contractor of your choice.

Commercial HVAC system

The commercial HVAC program allows rebates to businesses for installing water-cooled or air-cooled air conditioners or air source, water source, or ground source heat pumps. The rebate depends on total tonnage of the unit(s)

and/or one of two performance ratings, either SEER or Actual EER. Contact your HVAC dealer for specific details about the program. Some cooling systems do not qualify, so be sure to contact an HVAC dealer. Brochures are available at ERPPD that define both the type of equipment and the associated equation to figure the rebate.

NEW! An HVAC System Optimization Program is also available.

Premium Efficiency Motors

One way for businesses to reduce the cost of starting and running motors is by upgrading to premium efficiency motors. Incentives are prescriptive and range from \$20 to \$400 based on motor size. Those who qualify for irrigation incentives cannot qualify for this incentive.

Variable Frequency Drives

Variable frequency drives (VFDs) can be effective at reducing power and energy consumption to centrifugal equipment such as pumps and fans. The incentive is \$30 per horsepower. Businesses who qualify for irrigation incentives cannot qualify for this incentive. Contact ERPPD to see if a VFD is right for you and if it can be used on your lines.

Irrigation Efficiency

This program seeks to help irrigators utilize water and electric energy in the most energy efficient and cost-effective manner. It is designed to provide customers with financial incentives to help assess irrigation system performance and improve areas of inefficiency. The incentive is \$0.20 per kWh saved per year for the first year.

Call Mark Gronau at ERPPD for de-

EMPLOYEE INFORMATION



Andy Starman

Andrew Starman is New Apprentice Lineman

Andy Starman was recently hired as an apprentice lineman. Andy started on May 17, and will be working out of our Neligh office.

Andy is originally from Elgin, and graduated from the Utility Line Program at Northeast Community College in Norfolk in May of 2010. He did his summer internship at ERPPD in 2009.

His hobbies include camping, playing basketball, and helping his parents on the farm.

We welcome Andy to the ERPPD line crew, and wish him all the best in his career as a utility lineman.

Co-op Interns Help ERPPD During Summer Months



Jared Schantz



Seth Heggemeyer



Tyson Steskal

A cooperative internship program between Northeast Community College's Utility Line Program and the state's public power districts will allow three students to gain practical, on-the-job training at Elkhorn Rural PPD during the summer.

Jared Schantz of Battle Creek, Seth Heggemeyer of Tilden, and Tyson Steskal of Clearwater, will spend their summer days working with ERPPD line crews. They will be doing a variety of utility functions as well as filling in for full-time employees who take their vacations during the summer. Schantz

and Heggemeyer will be assisting crews from the Battle Creek headquarters, while Steskal will be working with crews from ERPPD's Neligh facility.

ERPPD usually employs two or three NECC utility line students for summer help. Since 1974 (the first graduating class of the Utility Line Program), 23 current employees have been hired after earning their associates degrees at NECC.

All three of this year's summer interns will begin the second year of the two-year program when classes resume this fall.



Luke Sudbeck

Luke Sudbeck Hired as Temporary Apprentice Lineman

Luke Sudbeck was recently hired on a temporary basis to assist the ERPPD operations department during the spring and summer construction season. Luke is an apprentice lineman, and will be performing the duties of a lineman under the direction of a journeyman lineman.

Luke is originally from Norfolk and graduated from the Utility Line Program at Northeast Community College.

Luke enjoys fishing, hunting, four-wheeling, boating, golfing, and slow-pitch softball.

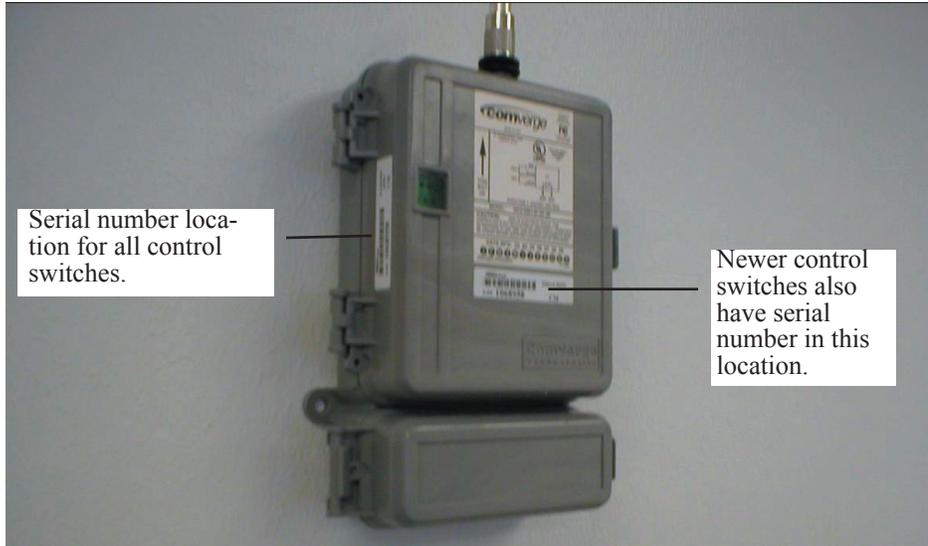
IRRIGATION

Irrigator's switch number is important

This irrigation season, an ERPPD irrigator who has occasion to call the utility should reference the system's switch number when giving information.

While account number and location are necessary components, it is the switch number that will best help district personnel to provide the irrigator with the fastest resolution to his or her situation.

See illustration below for location examples:



Lights have meaning

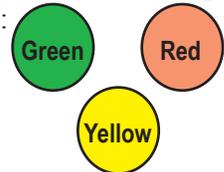
Three LED lights on the control box have particular significance.

Red - No Control

Red and Green - Control

Yellow - Signal Test (has no effect)

The light configuration on the display appears this way:



If the lights are not working, please check the fuses before calling ERPPD's outage number at 800-675-2185.

**Call for ERPPD's
Load Control Status
during the season.
1-800-238-0185**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

with Board position and subdivision

- Rod Zohner
President.....II
- Tim Means
Vice President ..II
- Larry Lindahl
SecretaryIII
- Dennis Kuchar
Treasurer I
- Robert Kee
DirectorII
- Mark Miller
Director I
- Joe Thiele
DirectorIII
- Greg Weidner
Director I
- David Hoefler
DirectorIII

MANAGER

Tom Rudloff

For Emergency Service or Outage Reporting 1-800-675-2185

After Hours Note:

The entire 800-number *must* be dialed, even for a local call.

Communicate Electronically With ERPPD

Internet: www.erppd.com

E-mail: erppd@erppd.com



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

**It's the law!
Call 811 Before
You Dig!**

Or 1-800-331-5666
Diggers Hotline
of Nebraska

Outage Checklist

In the case of an outage:

- First check to see if the fuses below the meter are good.
- If you have breakers, make sure they are on and have not kicked out.
- If you have a double-throw switch for standby power, make sure it is in the correct position.
- Check with neighbors to see if they have power. By doing this before calling us, we can determine if it is a line or an individual outage. This can help cut down on outage duration.
- Please, be prepared to give the name on the account, plus the consumer number and/or the legal location. This will assist us in sending our crews to the correct place.

Questions about your bill?

Please call the ERPPD office at 402-675-2185 or toll-free, 1-800-675-2185, during office hours, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. M-F, in regards to billing questions. When calling the office concerning billing problems, it will save time if you would have your meter serial number or customer account number and current meter reading. Remember to call the Battle Creek office if you have billing questions. All account payments should be mailed to:

**Elkhorn Rural
Public Power
District
P.O. Box 310
Battle Creek, NE
68715**