

Highway 35 Project to Improve Reliability for Woodland Park

The State of Nebraska is set to begin conversion of a section of Highway 35 to a four-lane expressway past the Woodland Park subdivision, northeast of Norfolk.

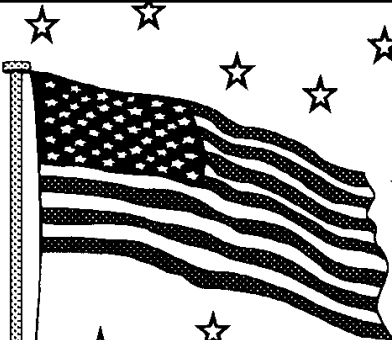
The expanded right-of-way needed for the project requires that Elkhorn RPPD relocate the distribution lines in the area. The district will be reimbursed for the required relocation of lines.

Our crews are currently working to relocate our main electrical distribution lines to the residents of Woodland Park.

The operations department is using this opportunity to upgrade the electrical distribution feeds to the subdivision and to provide an alternate feed, should we have an outage on the primary feed.

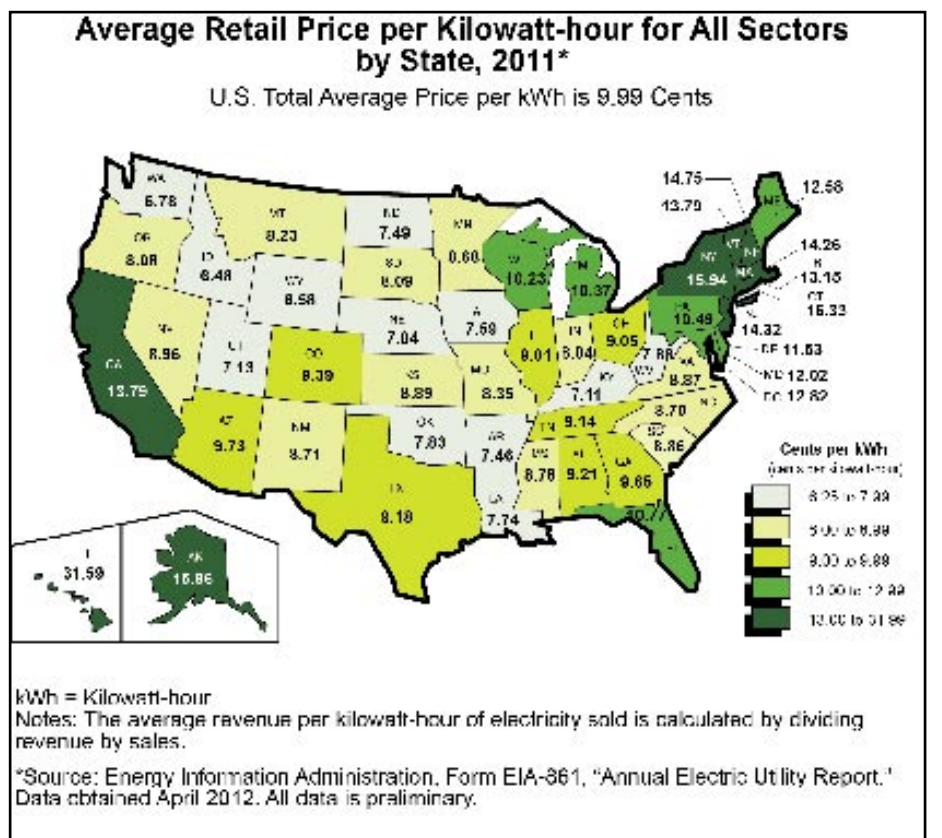
This cooperation between the State of Nebraska and Elkhorn RPPD will allow the project to be completed in a very efficient and economical manner.

The staff and directors of ERPPD are dedicated to providing reliable, low-cost, and safe electricity for all of its customers.



Labor Day is Monday, Sept. 5

ERPPD offices **will be closed** for employees and their families to remember the day that's dedicated to the workers of America.



Husker Harvest Days Sept 11-13

Elkhorn RPPD will share a booth at Husker Harvest Days in Grand Island along with other public power utilities. The booth will be staffed with energy efficiency experts from various public power utilities. Also featured during the three days will be High-Voltage safety demonstrations. Stop by the booth and learn how you can stay safe around electricity and how you can conserve energy and save money!

OPERATIONS REPORT

Tree and Brush Control

Evidence for the need to control growth of trees along power line rights-of-way is easy to see in rural areas. Overgrown rights-of-way can cause problems during severe weather and can make it difficult to reach trouble spots to make repairs.

In a continuing effort to control tree and brush growth, ERPPD has contracted with Midwest Spray Team and Sales, Inc. to treat vegetation in power line rights-of-way with governmentally-approved herbicides. They will start the program in late-August or early-September, using the foliage herbicides of Krenite-S and Escort, which are foliage absorbed and are non-volatile. The herbicides will be applied with a hand-held nozzle. Midwest Spray Team and Sales, Inc, will follow up later in the fall with a basal treatment, using Tahoe 4E, Stalker, and basal oil to treat the areas they could not foliage spray. Growth in county road ditches will be sprayed, but if the Midwest crew has any questions, they will attempt to contact the landowner before spraying.

The Midwest Spray Team crews will be treating power line rights-of-way in our service area from southwest to southeast of Clearwater.

If you have any questions or concerns, or requests not to spray, contact ERPPD Operations Manager Jim Ridder at our Battle Creek office, 1-800-675-2185.

You can also contact the Midwest Spray Team by mail at:

Midwest Spray Team and Sales, Inc

PO Box 65668

West Des Moines, IA 50265

Tree and brush control is yet another way that ERPPD can attain our goals of service reliability and cost management.

Phase II of AMI Project to be Completed This Fall

Phase II of the AMI (Automatic Meter Infrastructure) project is scheduled to be completed later this fall. Phase I involved the installation of automatic TWACS meters on 6,500 rural residential, irrigation, and grain bin services.

Phase II will replace the Turtle automatic meters in Woodland Park, Clearwater, Ewing, and Elgin, with the new TWACS meters, the same as those used in the rural area, simplifying maintenance of the system. The meters in these areas were installed in 2000, and are limited to one-way communication. They report the meter reading to the office, but do not allow for extra readings on-request. Having the ability to read meters at any time will be very useful in detecting the extent of an outage, or detecting that power has been restored following an outage.

If you live in one of these areas, you can expect a notification that a crew will be in your area to change out your meter.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY



**FILL
IN THE
GAPS**

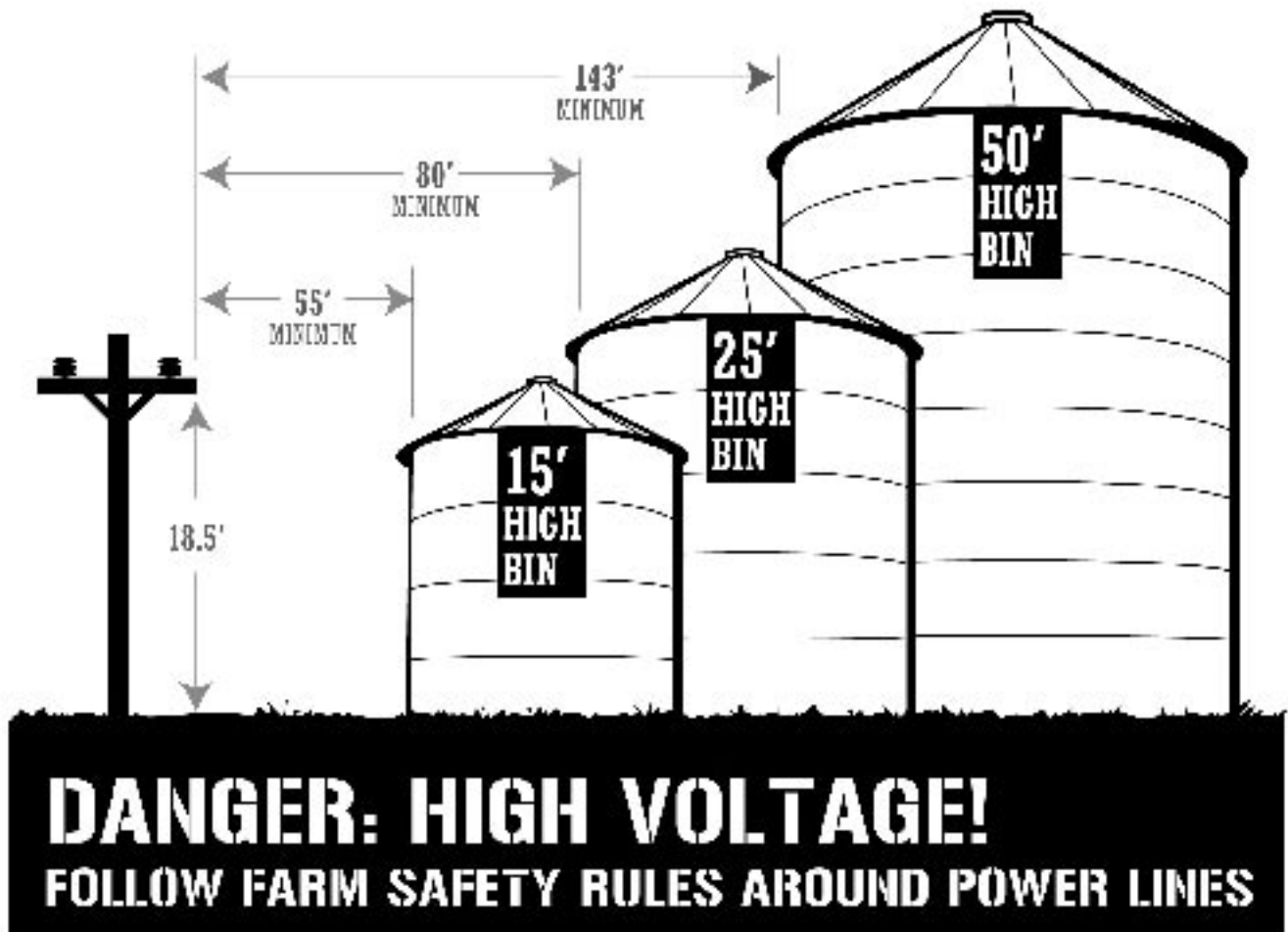
Fifteen percent of the energy you pay for escapes through cracks and gaps in your attic and walls. Sealing gaps and cracks, plus adding insulation, keeps your home comfortable year-round, while saving you money.

Energy Efficiency

Month *Tip of the*

Using compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) in outdoor lights can save money and energy because these lights stay on the longest. ENERGY STAR-qualified CFLs use 75 percent less energy than traditional incandescent bulbs. To save even more, look for fixtures designed for outdoor use that have automatic daylight shutoff and motion sensors. Learn more at www.energysavers.gov.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy



MOVING EQUIPMENT

Be aware of power lines when you're moving equipment like augers, conveyors, scoopers, hoppers, scaffolds and irrigation equipment. You must maintain at least a 10-foot clearance.

FILLING A GRAIN BIN

Keep in mind that high-voltage wires are not insulated. When using a portable auger, conveyor or elevator to fill your grain bin, be sure to maintain adequate high-voltage clearance.

SAFE CLEARANCE

Follow the procedures outlined under Rule 232 and 234 of the National Electrical Safety Code shown in the chart.

To be safe, you must always maintain an 18-foot vertical clearance from the highest point of the filling boom of the grain bin and nearby high-voltage wires.

A REGULATION REMINDER

For grain bins built after September 9, 1997, clearance regulations can be enforced. If the required clearance is not provided near an existing electric line, an electric utility company can refuse to provide service. If you have questions contact the Elkhorn Rural Public Power District.



Height of grain storage structure	D—Minimum distance from line to bin wall*
15 ft.	55 ft.
20 ft.	68 ft.
25 ft.	80 ft.
30 ft.	93 ft.
35 ft.	104 ft.
40 ft.	118 ft.
50 ft.	143 ft.
60 ft.	168 ft.
70 ft.	193 ft.
80 ft.	218 ft.

*Based on a typical power line having a vertical clearance of 18.5 feet above the ground and a supply line whose to-ground voltage of more than 0V to 22 kV, National Electrical Safety Code Rule 232.

SAFETY NEWS

Poletop Rescue



Each year, ERPPD linemen participate in Poletop and Bucket Rescue training. This training was held at the regular August safety meeting. All of our personnel are trained in CPR and First Aid, but only the qualified climbers are able to participate in Poletop Rescue. Following is the scenario:

Lineman A climbs the pole to perform assigned maintenance on the high-voltage lines or equipment and is rendered unconscious due to an electrical contact, heart attack, or any other reason.

Lineman B, A's partner, is faced with rescuing an unconscious victim from the top of the pole. B will perform the following procedure:

1. Call to A to check responsiveness
2. Use the truck radio to broadcast a Mayday call, to alert the office of a serious accident.
3. The office will respond and prepare to take the following information from the caller:

a) type of accident, b) exact location of accident.

4. The rescuer will proceed with rescue, using a hand line to lower the victim to the ground to start CPR.
5. The office will call 9-1-1 to dispatch Emergency Medical Services.
6. The victim's designated emergency contact will be contacted in person and transported to the hospital.

We pray that we will never need to use the drill for a real-life situation, but we feel confident that we are ready if an accident does occur.

Safety is our #1 priority here at Elkhorn Rural Public Power District. We will not put our employees in harm's way without the proper training to minimize the hazards involved in a hazardous occupation.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

with Board position and subdivision

- Rod Zohner
President.....II
- Tim Means
Vice President ..II
- Larry Lindahl
SecretaryIII
- Dennis Kuchar
Treasurer I
- Jerrell Dolesh
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. 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**