



THE WIRE



CURRENT NEWS FROM THE ELKHORN RURAL PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

March 2025

Serving the Elkhorn River Valley since 1940

Volume 34, Number 3

A YEAR OF FINANCIAL STRENGTH AND STABILITY



From the GM - Mark Johnson

As we review our 2024 year-end financials, I'm happy to report Elkhorn Rural Public Power District

remains in a strong financial position. Our commitment to sound financial management, strategic planning, and operational efficiency continues to benefit the customers we serve.

We had a strong year for electric sales and ended 2024 with \$32,414,641 in revenue. This was a slight increase in our sales from 2023 (see the graph to the right). Our district continues to grow mostly from adding new irrigation services. In addition to our irrigation growth, we also energized a new industrial load in 2024. Norfolk Crush came online in the second half of the year and will provide increased sales to our district for years to come.

Back in December, we hit a significant financial milestone by making our final bond pay-

ment. This officially makes ERPPD long-term debt-free. This achievement reflects years of disciplined budgeting, responsible investments, and an overall focus on the long-term financial health of our organization. I believe this truly highlights our amazing team both past and present and positions us well to navigate future challenges and continue to provide great service.

2024 marked another year without a rate increase. This was the 12th consecutive year without an increase and included rate decreases in 2022 and 2023.

ERPPD rates (\$0.093/kWh for 2023) are some of the lowest in the nation and in Nebraska. (See graphic on page 4) None of this would be possible without the strong partnership we have with our customers. As a public power district, we are not driven by profits but by our mission to serve you, our friends, neighbors, and local businesses. Your trust, support and investment in our district is the foundation of our success, and we are grateful for the opportunity to work alongside you to ensure a strong and reliable electric system for generations to come.

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NATIONAL AG WEEK MARCH 16-22

During Ag Week, we want to recognize our customers who are hardworking farmers who dedicate their lives to produce the food, fiber, and fuel that sustain us all.

Agriculture is more than just an industry—it's a way of life that connects us all. Whether you're a farmer in the fields or a consumer at the market, your role in this essential cycle is invaluable.

This Ag Week, ERPPD celebrates the people who nourish us and recognizes the importance of supporting agriculture in our daily lives. The graphic to the right shows some of the statistics about farming in Nebraska.

Thank you, farmers, for your dedication, and hard work in feeding the world and making our communities great places to live and work.

ERPPD is grateful that we can partner with our farmer-customers in this endeavor!

**If you eat today
THANK A FARMER**

- 1 in 4 jobs in Nebraska are related to agriculture.
- Farms and ranches in Neb. utilize 44 million acres - 89.4% of the state's total land area
- The average age of producers is 56.9 years. 11% of producers are 34 years old or younger and females make up 33% of all producers.
- Nebraska is first in beef and veal exports; harvested cropland acres; great northern bean production and cash receipts per capita.

Nebraska Department of Agriculture Fact Sheet: <https://nda.nebraska.gov/facts.pdf>

ARE YOU STORM READY?

Follow these safety and preparation tips during spring and summer storm season.

Be Prepared.

- Create an emergency kit with power outage essentials: batteries, power banks, flashlights, non-perishable foods, water, medical supplies and prescriptions.
- Develop an emergency family plan with meeting points, communication methods and evacuation routes. Share your plan with all family members.
- Monitor weather for important updates that could impact your emergency plan.

Stay Safe.

- Ensure a safe shelter: Stay away from windows and doors. In tornadoes, move to a basement or an interior room without windows.
- Use portable generators safely: operate outdoors in well-ventilated areas, place on a flat, dry surface, do not overload and always read the operating manual before use.
- Severe storms can bring down tree limbs and power lines. If you encounter a downed line, stay back. Always assume a downed line is live and dangerous.



**YOUTH ENERGY
LEADERSHIP CAMP**

JULY 21 - 25 **CAMP COMECA**
Cozad, Nebraska

Apply Today!

**Tours, workshops,
sports, friends & fun!**


The Nebraska Rural Electric Youth Energy Leadership Camp (YELC) is not your usual camp. YELC is a great opportunity for youth in high school to experience what it is like to be involved with their electric power utility, while having a lot of fun, meeting new people, and learning leadership skills.

Campers also tour Gerald Gentleman power station, participate in fun activities like games and swimming. There is a talent show and on the last night there is a dance.

Who should attend?
Any 9-11 grade high school student:
*with leadership potential;
*with an awesome personality;
*strong academic record and,
*an interest in meeting new people;
*and who is served by ERPPD.
For questions, call the office at 402-675-2185 and ask for Stacie Young.

2025 ERPPD ENERGY LEADERSHIP CAMP APPLICATION FORM

Return to : Elkhorn Rural Public Power District, c/o Stacie Young
PO Box 310, Battle Creek, NE 68715
(Entry Deadline April 16, 2025)

Or apply online: 

Name _____

Address _____

Parents' or Guardian's Name _____ Phone Number _____

School _____ Age _____ Grade _____

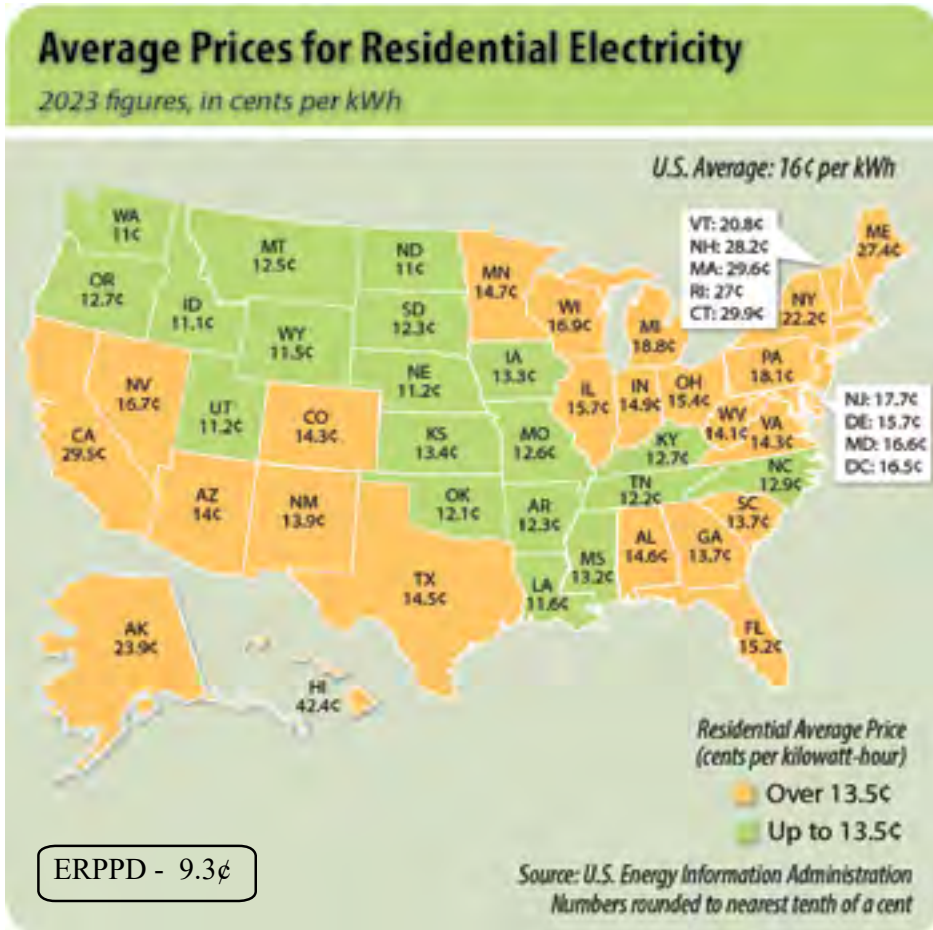
COMPLETE THE SHORT PARAGRAPH BELOW:
Why I would like to attend the 2025 Youth Energy Leadership Camp at Comeca Camp and Retreat Center, Cozad NE, July 21-25, as a representative of Elkhorn Rural Public Power District.

A YEAR OF FINANCIAL CON'T.

As we move forward in 2025, we will continue focusing on financial responsibility, system reliability, and customer service. Thanks to the hard work of our employees and the support of our board of directors, ERPPD remains well positioned for a strong future.

Thank you for being part of the Elkhorn Rural Public Power District community, we look forward to another successful year ahead!

The graphic, right, shows the average residential price for kWh for the nation and each state for 2023- the latest data available. Compare that to ERPPD's average residential price of 9.3 cents in 2023 - seven cents lower than the national average and almost 2 cents lower than the state average. In 2024 ERPPD continued that trend of cost-effective rates with no general increase.



DID YOU KNOW?

ERPPD has a free mobile app? If you are already signed up for online bill pay, you can download the app from the Apple App Store or Google Play.



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Office Hours: M - F
8:00AM - 4:30 PM



General Manager:
Mark Johnson
CFO/Office Manager:
Carmen Christensen
Operations Manager:
Todd Knutson

Connect with us Online:



www.ERPPD.com



SCAN ME

Customer Service: 402-675-2185
For Outages: 1-800-675-2185

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