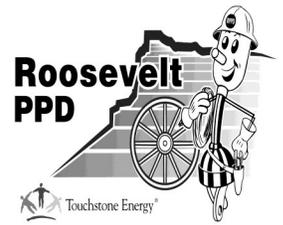


# Roosevelt Public Power District

www.rooseveltppd.com



Issue 4

DECEMBER 2016

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS DECISIONS

At the November board meeting, consideration was given to the 4.5% rate increase that the District will receive from Tri-State Generation & Transmission. Due to the fact that the cost of service study was completed in 2016 and an energy rate increase was passed on to customers in May of 2016 the Board chose to only increase the monthly customer service charge at this time.

That increase of \$3.00 per month will begin with the January billing. Results of the cost of service study showed that the District was not generating the revenue needed in the customer service charge to cover fixed costs. These fixed costs include all administrative, maintenance, and repair costs needed to maintain the services.

Also considered at the November board meeting was the appointment of a Director due to the loss of Keith Hampton. A letter of interest was submitted by Scott Long of Lyman, NE, and he was appointed to the Board effective December 1st. We welcome Mr. Long to our Board.

## DON'T BE FOOLED BY COMMON ENERGY MYTHS:

**MYTH: THE HIGHER THE THERMOSTAT SETTING, THE FASTER THE HOME WILL HEAT (OR COOL).** Many people think that walking into a chilly room and raising the thermostat to 85 degrees will heat the room more quickly. This is not true. Thermostats direct a home's HVAC system to heat or cool to a certain temperature. Drastically adjusting the thermostat setting will not make a difference in how quickly you feel warmer. The same is true for cooling. The Department of Energy recommends setting your thermostat to 78 degrees during summer months, and 68 degrees during the winter.

**MYTH: CLOSING VENTS AND REGISTERS IN UNUSED ROOMS SAVES ENERGY.** The heating and cooling system in your house is designed to function as a balanced system; by closing off one vent, it places a strain on other areas of the system, forcing it to use more energy rather than less. There's no point in shutting off vents and registers in an effort to save energy—you're probably doing the opposite instead. A better way is to set the thermostat a couple of degrees higher in summer or lower in winter.

**MYTH: OPENING THE OVEN DOOR TO CHECK ON A DISH DOESN'T REALLY WASTE ENERGY.** While it can be tempting to check the progress of that dish you're cooking in the oven, opening the oven door does waste electricity. Every time the oven door is opened, the temperature inside is reduced by as much as 25 degrees, delaying the progress of your dish, and, more importantly, costing you additional money.

Dennis Duffield—Manager

Sandra Hendren—Manager

Jennifer Heimboach—Office Supervisor

Dael Cron—Billing Clerk

A. J. Kuxhausen—Line Superintendent

John Walker—Service Technician

Ralph Paez—Safety Foreman

Jacob Gonzales—Line Foreman

Doug Beebe—Lineman

Dillon Wademan—Lineman

Jordan Stull—Lineman

Ralph Hilyard—President

Bruce Howell—Vice President

Andrew Stratman—Director

Wes Ullrich—Secretary/Treasurer

Ken Strey—Director

Brenda Darnell—Director

Scott Long—Director



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## WEATHERING A WINTER POWER OUTAGE SAFELY

Winter storms can cause prolonged power outages by weighing power lines down with ice, causing trees to fall into lines, or creating hazardous road conditions resulting in vehicle accidents with power poles. To safely weather a winter outage, you need to prepare and know what to do when a storm strikes.

When the lights go out, you should first contact your utility company to inform them of the outage. Once they are aware of an outage, they will immediately begin the assessment and restoration process. How long it takes to get your power restored depends on the extent of the storm's destruction, the number of outages, and when it becomes safe for utility personnel to get to the affected areas. Until the power comes back on, do all you can to keep your family comfortable.

A storm preparedness kit can help you do this. The kit will need to be assembled ahead of time and should include such items as: bottled water, non-perishable food, blankets, warm clothing, first aid kit/ medicine, flashlight, radio, extra batteries, and toiletries.

Monitor the temperature in your home. Infants and elderly people are more susceptible to the cold. You may want to stay with friends or relatives or go to a shelter if you cannot keep your home warm.

There are many ways to stay warm during a winter power outage. First, dress warm and cover up in layers of blankets. Next, remember to place draft blocks at the bottom of doors to minimize cold air entering the house. Cover the windows at night to keep the cold air out. Finally, avoid going outside. Opening doors will let cold air in and going outside will make you more vulnerable to the cold.

If you are using an alternative heating source, be sure to know how to use it safely and that you have all supplies gathered for it. Follow operating instructions, use fire safeguards, and properly ventilate. Always keep a multipurpose, dry-chemical fire extinguisher nearby and know how to use it.

Use caution when using a portable generator. These should never be operated indoors because they emit deadly carbon monoxide. Additionally, never plug it into a wall outlet. This is an important precaution in preventing potentially deadly backfeed, which occurs when electricity travels from the generator back through the power lines.

Take steps to protect your circuits and appliances before power is restored by switching off lights and unplugging everything. Leave one light switched on as a quick reminder that the power is restored.

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### FROZEN CRANBERRY SALAD

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 CAN (16 OZ) JELLIED CRANBERRY SAUCE    | 1 CAN (8 1/4 OZ) CRUSHED PINEAPPLE, DRAINED   |
| 2 (3 OZ) PACKAGES CREAM CHEESE, SOFTENED | 1 CUP CHOPPED WALNUTS                         |
| 2 TABLESPOONS LEMON JUICE                | 1 BANANA, DICED                               |
| 3/4 CUP SUGAR                            | 1 (8 OZ) CONTAINER OF WHIPPED TOPPING, THAWED |

AT LEAST 4 HOURS IN ADVANCE, REFRIGERATE CAN OF CRANBERRY SAUCE. OPEN CAN AT BOTH ENDS AND REMOVE ONTO A PLATE. SLICE AND THEN CUT INTO SMALL CHUNKS. REFRIGERATE. MIX CREAM CHEESE, LEMON JUICE, AND SUGAR THOROUGHLY WITH ELECTRIC MIXER, UNTIL SMOOTH AND CREAMY. STIR IN PINEAPPLE, NUTS, AND BANANA. FOLD WHIPPED TOPPING INTO MIXTURE. LIGHTLY FOLD IN CRANBERRY CHUNKS. POUR INTO A 9" X 5" X 3" LOAF PAN THAT HAS BEEN LINED ON ALL SIDES WITH A DOUBLE THICKNESS OF WAXED PAPER. COVER AND FREEZE FOR 12 HOURS OVERNIGHT. TO UNMOLD, LIFT SALAD OUT OF PAN AND INVERT ONTO PLATTER. PEEL OFF WAXED PAPER AND SLICE 1/2–3/4 INCH THICK.

LOIS COCKSON, BELLWOOD, NEBRASKA FROM THE NOVEMBER 2016 *RURAL ELECTRIC NEBRASKAN*

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