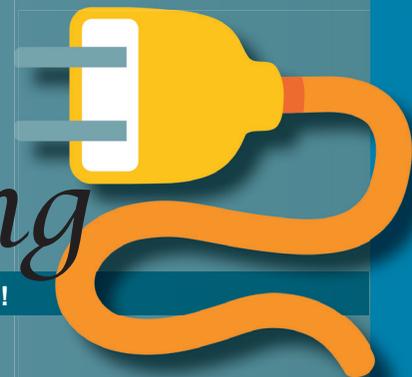




Nelson, Nebraska

Watt's Happening

Keeping you plugged in to what's happening!



OBJECTIVE: To make electricity available at the lowest cost consistent with sound economy and good management.



Manager's Column

by
Craig Cox

DEAN ZALMAN RETIRES FROM SOUTH CENTRAL PPD BOARD OF DIRECTORS AFTER 44 YEARS OF SERVICE

Dean Zalman has been our Sub-District 7 Director for over 44 years, an incredible accomplishment when you consider that the South Central Public Power District has only existed for 75 years. He was appointed in 1976, when Harvey Merrill stepped down from the Board of Directors. His 44+ years of service is by far the most ever served by a Director of the District.

Late last year Dean made the decision to step down at the end of 2020. His leadership on the Board will be greatly missed. Dean served as Board President for 24 of those years (1986-2010). His guidance has shaped the District and made it stronger over that time.

Dean has several memories and highlights that come to mind, as far back as when Board Meetings were held in the old Nelson Bank, while the present office was being constructed in 1981. Looking at an old picture of the Board members from that era, Dean recently laughed and said, "You know, I'm the only one in that picture that's still alive."

In Dean's time as a Director, South Central was the first district in Nebraska to perform load control on irrigation services. Today there's almost 2.5 million horsepower of irrigation under control by NPPD's wholesale customers. In the mid 80's, Dean had a part in the decision to pay off the REA debt we borrowed to start the District. Today we are debt-free and better able to invest in a more reliable power system.

Dean supported bringing satellite television services to our rural customers in 1994, which
March, 2021



Dean Zalman with plaque commemorating 44 years of service and 24 years as Board President

would later grow to about 2,200 DirecTV customers in 7 counties. He also supported the "re-alignment" of about 2,500 urban customers served by NPPD to South Central's electric system in 2001. Accounts served by South Central have grown from 3,428 when Dean started, to 8,325 now.

Dean is still as sharp as ever, and plans to spend many more years enjoying his family and his hobbies. A life-long resident of Red Cloud, Dean still lives within 3 miles of where he was born. He and his late wife, Pam, have 3 children, 6 grandchildren, and 9 great grandchildren. His son, Mark, and daughter, Jackie Fountaine, also live in Red Cloud, and his son, Mike, lives in Lincoln.

A Husker football fan, Dean has held season tickets since 1963. He has also enjoyed golfing and playing pool over the years, when he wasn't working with cattle and farming. We wish Dean the best of luck. Thanks, Dean, for all the hours and miles you've committed to South Central Public Power District.

THE COOPERATIVE SPIRIT

Most of South Central's service area is very rural in nature. And yet, the rates charged for electric service are competitive.

South Central and the consumers it serves have the advantage of the cooperative efforts between South Central and other rural utilities and cooperatives.

Cooperative effort is a way for small utilities to get the economies of scale available to larger utilities while still being able to provide locally focused electric service.

This cooperative effort starts within the state and spreads out in concentric circles literally across the country.

General Managers from six rural utilities in southwest Nebraska meet about ten days per year to discuss issues of common concern and to learn from each other.

South Central is also a member of two Nebraska-based cooperative organizations. The Nebraska Rural Electric Association (NREA) was founded on October 26, 1935 by the 10 rural electrics then operating with the State. Today, NREA has 34 members, including 6 members with headquarters out of state.

Besides providing a forum for members to interact and work towards common goals, NREA provides a number of services to its members.

Through our membership in NREA, our line employees get up to date training, especially with regard to safety practices, and have access to a safety manual meeting Federal guidelines, but focused on Nebraska needs. NREA also provides education to help directors, managers, and employees better perform their respective functions at their local utility.

An important NREA function is to represent rural electric systems before state agencies, the Unicameral, the Congress, and, just as importantly, the general public through the "Working for Nebraska" educational communications program. You are reading this article in a magazine published on our behalf by the NREA.

Our power contract is with Nebraska Electric Generation & Transmission Cooperative. NEG&T represents its members through the power contract it has with NPPD, and assists members in resolving issues related to power supply, renewable generation, power wheeling, wholesale billing, and contracts.

NEG&T provides technical support to members, NREA when requested, and works with NREA in the Nebraska Power Association for the benefit of all Nebraska consumers.

Through membership in NREA and the NEG&T, Nebraska's rural electric systems can accomplish through cooperative effort what few, if any of them, could accomplish on their own.

South Central also belongs to the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). NRECA's roll parallels that of NREA in many ways, except that NRECA works on a national level.

NRECA serves over 900 member systems scattered across the United States. Through the combined purchasing strength of NRECA, systems are able to provide better employee benefits than they otherwise could on their own.

A long-range study commissioned by NRECA during the 1960s found a need for supplemental financing beyond that provided by REA.

The National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC) helps rural electric systems with finance and business management. Through CFC, South Central has access to millions of dollars of funds for storm repair or construction within days of making a request.

In an effort to get cost-effective insurance, power cooperatives in Wisconsin formed the Federated Rural Electric Insurance Corporation (FREIC) in 1957. FREIC provides liability, casualty, and workers compensation insurance to rural electric systems across the United States under the name of Federated Rural Electric Insurance Exchange (Federated). Federated promotes safe work practices.

In 2000, two successful regional cooperative computer programmers merged to create the National Information Solutions Cooperative (NISC). NISC created flexible modern billing, accounting, and management software to meet rural utility needs. South Central joined NISC in 2013. Your monthly bill is printed and mailed by NISC each month.

Thanks to the **power of cooperative effort**, South Central is an 8,800-meter utility with the "power" of a 20,000,000-meter utility.

Source: Current Comments, Max VanSkiver

What Is The Cost Of Using Space Heaters?

Space heaters can seem like an economical way to heat an area in your home, and, in some cases, may be a good option. However, it is a good idea to be aware of how running a space heater may affect your electric bill.

All electric space heaters with the same wattage use the same amount of energy. See the chart below to see how those costs can add up. For the purposes of the calculation, ten cents per kWh of electricity was used. South Central's residential rate averaged 9.4 cents in 2020. As you can see from the chart, using a 1500 watt space heater all the time could add \$108.00 to your monthly bill.

Instead of utilizing a space heater consider taking some

energy saving steps to keep your home warmer this winter:

- *Caulk around windows and window frames.
- *Put clear plastic over drafty windows.
- *Place weather strips around doors.
- *Leave your curtains open during the day to let the sun in and close them at night to keep the cold out.
- *Check your insulation and install some if needed.

South Central PPD, through NPPD's EnergyWise program, offers incentives to energy saving options, such as installing a heat pump, attic insulation, smart thermostats, heat pump water heater, and a cooling system tune-up.

AVERAGE COST OF OPERATING AN ELECTRIC SPACE HEATER

HEAT SETTING (watts)	DAILY HOURS OF OPERATION					Cost per month (24 hours/day)
	1	4	8	12	24	
600	\$0.06	\$0.24	\$0.48	\$0.72	\$1.44	\$43.20
750	\$0.07	\$0.30	\$0.60	\$0.90	\$1.80	\$54.00
900	\$0.09	\$0.36	\$0.72	\$1.08	\$2.16	\$64.80
1350	\$0.14	\$0.54	\$1.08	\$1.62	\$3.24	\$97.20
1500	\$0.15	\$0.60	\$1.20	\$1.80	\$3.60	\$108.00

The chart is based on \$0.10 per kWh.

Space Heater Safety Tips

Materials -Parts like metal grating can be hot to the touch and may burn anyone who gets too close. Make sure you purchase a heater cool to the touch and one that has guards over the coils.

Placement - It is safest to place the heater on a level floor on a non-flammable surface. Placing the space heater on the floor can help keep it from tipping over, preventing fire hazards. The most important rule about space heater placement is the THREE-FOOT RULE. Always keep a space heater three feet away from flammable materials and out of the way of children and pets.

Cords - You should never use an extension cord when using a space heater as it can cause overheating. Plug it directly into a wall outlet. Do not use space heaters with frayed or cracked cords.

Use - Never leave a space heater unattended while in use. If you are leaving your house or going to bed, make sure to unplug the heater.

Source: Elkhorn RPPD

Check out our website, southcentralppd.com, for information on our incentive programs!



SOUTH CENTRAL PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

PO Box 406 / 275 South Main Street / Nelson NE 68961 / (402) 225-2351



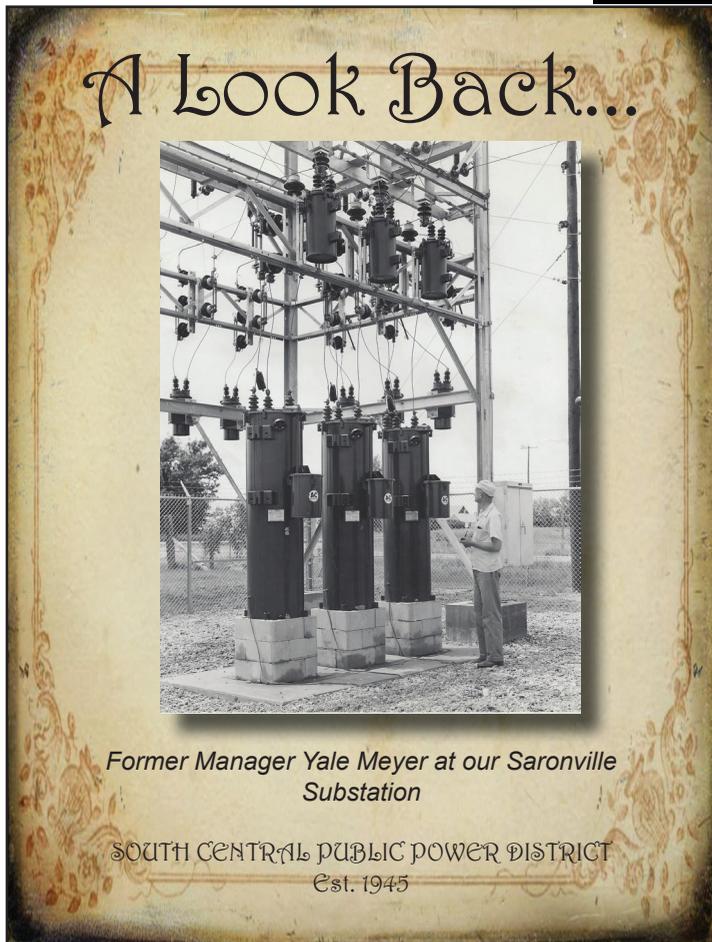
ABOUT US CUSTOMER SERVICES LOAD CONTROL ENERGY EFFICIENCY ECON DEV SAFETY NEWS CONTACT US COVID-19

Use the *EnergyWise Incentive Programs* tab to find information and applications for all of the EnergyWise programs that are offered.

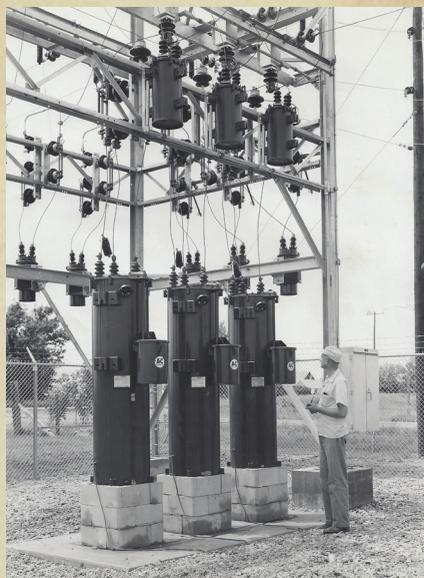
EnergyWise Incentive Programs

**SCPPD Water Heater/
Electric Heating Incentive Program**

Use the *SCPPD Water Heater/Electric Heating Incentive Program* tab to find information on the Water Heater and Electric Heating programs offered by SCPPD.



A Look Back...



Former Manager Yale Meyer at our Saronville Substation

SOUTH CENTRAL PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT
Est. 1945

BABY proofing

How does your home stack up?



Learn more at SafeElectricity.org



NOTICE



Planning is underway for the 2021 Youth Energy Leadership Camp.
July 19 - 23, 2021
State 4H Camp, Halsey National Forest

Look for more information in next month's Watt's Happening

WATT'S HAPPENING

Newsletter of the South Central Public Power District
Nelson, Nebraska

NOTICE

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of South Central Public Power District is held the third Tuesday of each month at 9 a.m. at the District's office in Nelson, Nebraska.

Current Comments Editor: Royce Schott

Board of Directors

David Woods ----- President
Neal Carpenter ----- Vice President
David Hamburger ----- Secretary
Philip Wehrman ----- Treasurer
John Greer ----- Director
James Hoffman ----- Director
Mark Zalman ----- Director
John Hodge ----- Attorney
Craig Cox ----- General Manager

Nelson Office Hours

8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday
402-225-2351 or 1-800-557-5254
For **Billing Questions**, please call:
(M-F, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.)
402-225-2351 or 1-800-557-5254
For **Power Outages**, please call:
(Any time of day or night)
402-225-2351 or 1-800-557-5254