



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.

## South Central Public Power District Continues To Add Technology To Better Serve Our Customers

Over the last couple of years, South Central Public Power District has embarked on a mission to convert our system to AMI (Advanced Metering Infrastructure). As a result of this upgrade, many of the ways we control and operate our system have changed.

Our customers are no longer asked to submit their own meter readings along with their monthly payment. We no longer employ part-time meter readers in the towns we serve.

We put our new load control system to the test this summer and it is working as intended. We are now able to read load on individual irrigation wells to confirm if they are under control or not.

SmartHub technology allows our customers to set up on-line payments and track usage in their homes down to the day.

### OUTAGE MAP

Our latest addition is an Outage Map that you can view in real time on our web page, [www.southcentralppd.com](http://www.southcentralppd.com). There is an example of what you would see if you went to the website on the next page.

South Central's method for handling outages is done in-house. Many of the power districts in Nebraska contract with the NPPD call center for after-hours calls and dispatching.

We feel it is important that we use our own people to stay connected to our customers. Our dispatchers are more familiar with our District than someone sitting at a desk in Norfolk.

Our new AMI meters have the ability to report their own

outage and our system will automatically plot the meter on our map.

We still encourage our customers to call in to report any outage. An outage in the middle of the night may not be noticed by our dispatchers so your call is important as it can speed up the process.

A customer with knowledge of a line down, broken pole, implement contact or other useful information can dramatically speed up response time when we dispatch our linemen to an outage area.

Many times, during larger outages, it can be difficult to get through on the phone as many other customers may be calling in. This is where the outage map can help our customers know what is going on.

By checking the Outage Map on the website, you can quickly see if your area is under a wide-spread outage. Knowing the outage is not just your individual account and that it is plotted on the map, can ease your concerns about not getting through on the phone.

As power is restored, the meters will start sending readings back to our office and the red pinpoint on the map will turn off. An individual outage may still affect you if damage at your account still needs to be addressed.

We work outages in a manner that we repair the system to turn as many accounts back on as possible. We then go back and pick up smaller outages as soon as personnel is available.

We hope the Outage Map is another tool that you can use to better understand what we do to keep the lights on for our customers.

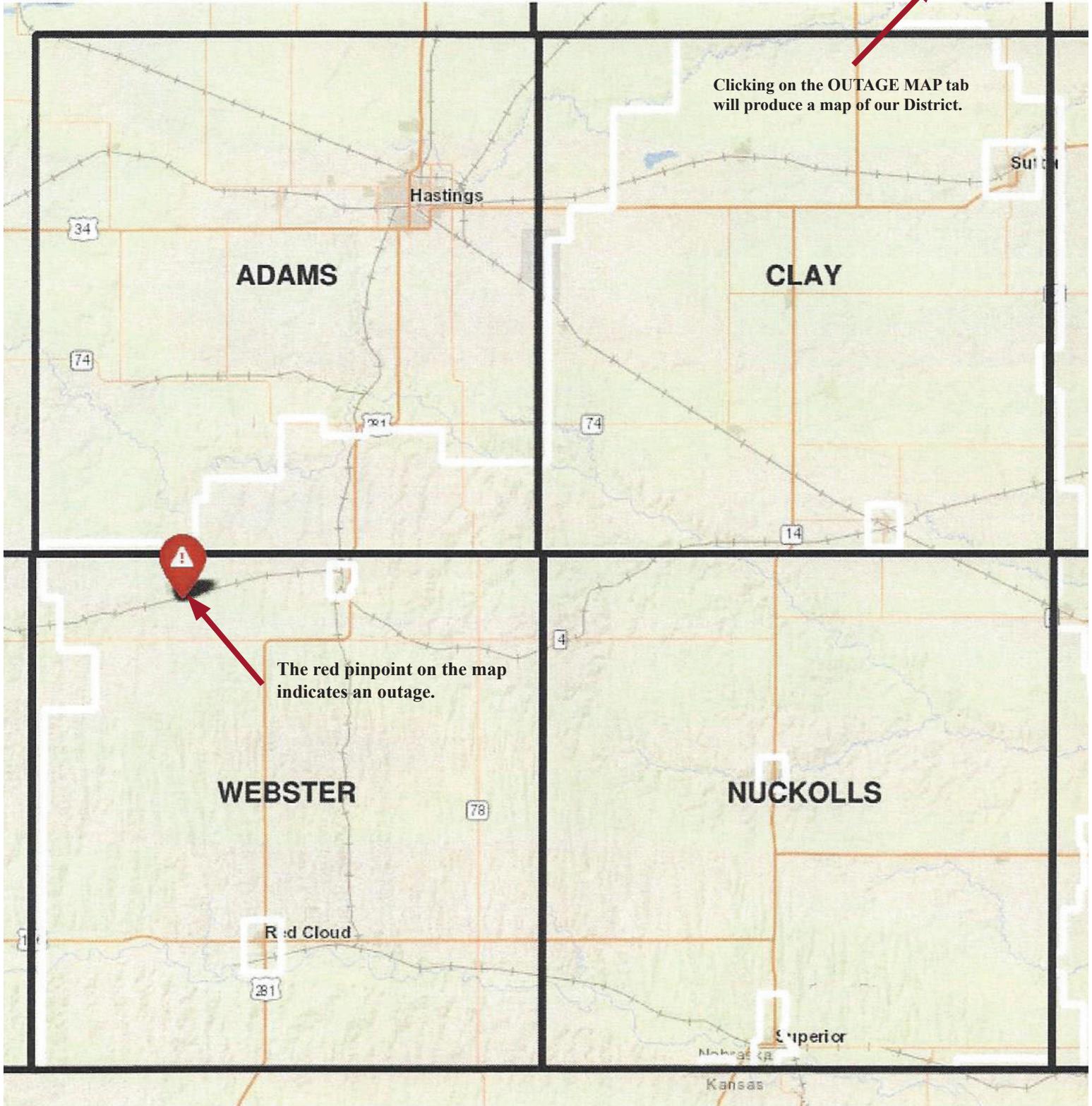


# SOUTH CENTRAL PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

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](#) [OUTAGE MAP](#)



# YOU ARE INVITED

SOUTH CENTRAL PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

## 75TH ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021  
11:00 TO 3:00

CITY AUDITORIUM & SOUTH CENTRAL PPD OFFICE  
NELSON, NEBRASKA

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED FROM 11:00 TO 1:30

This event was originally scheduled for September of 2020 but was rescheduled due to Covid-19. We are pleased to finally be able to celebrate our 75 plus years of service to our customers and communities.

We invite you to come join us for a fun-filled celebration that will have something for everyone. We will be serving a noon meal in the Auditorium. There will be informational displays both in the Auditorium, and in South Central's office. Bucket rides and pole climbing will be available for the brave at heart. An all-electric Ford Mustang EV will be on display. Door prizes for all ages will be awarded throughout the day and prizes can be won playing Plinko.

SOUTH CENTRAL  
1945 **75** YEARS 2020  
PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

## ARE HOME ELECTRONICS AND APPLIANCES DRAINING YOUR ENERGY?

If you collect your spare change in a jar, all those coins add up over time, usually to a larger amount than you expect.

Small amounts of consumed energy throughout your home add up as well, so plug "energy vampires" into a smart power strip that detects dormant devices or unplug items when not in use, especially those with illuminated controls.

## TOP NINE ENERGY VAMPIRES



## TONY GERARD 35 YEARS



Tony Gerard came to Nelson in 1984 as a Foreman for Osmose, a pole inspection and treatment company, to inspect poles for South Central PPD.

He opted to change professions and joined South Central PPD as an apprentice lineman in September, 1986.

In 1994, Tony was appointed Senior Warehouse Clerk, a position he holds to this day. Tony is responsible for all of the material needs of the Nelson and Clay Center operations plus the contractors that are working on various SCPPD projects.

Tony and his wife, Lynn, live in Nelson. Lynn is the Receptionist/Secretary for the Nelson Community UCC Church. Their son, Anthony, also lives in Nelson and is a radio personality for KFRS AM FM radio in Superior.

We thank Tony for his 35 years of service to the District.

**South Central Public Power District  
Will Be Closed  
Monday September 6  
For The Labor Day Holiday**



### 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, 8a.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