

ENERGY INSIGHT

Current news about Nebraska Public Power District

First Quarter 2025

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years



Beatrice Power Station

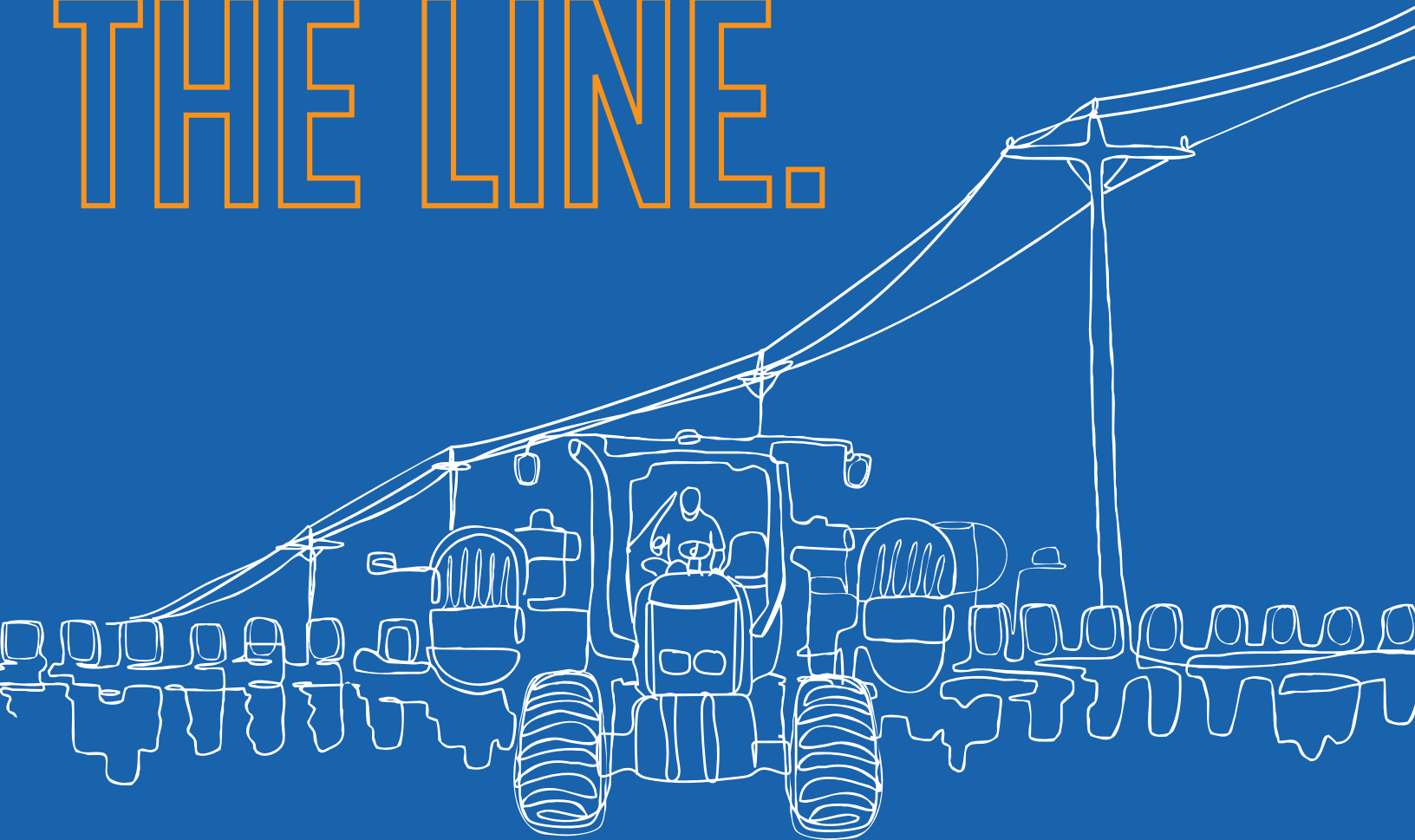
PLUS: NPPD shapes a powerful future for customers; awards abound for teammates and retirees; customers gain new ways to save money and energy; NPPD welcomes newest board members; and more!

This planting season, don't put your

LIFE ON THE LINE.



Scan with your smartphone to see farm electrical safety tips.



Today's farm machinery is bigger, taller and more automated, making the danger of working around power lines greater than ever.

Nebraska Public Power District urges farm workers to use caution when completing farm activities around power lines this spring.

IT CAN SAVE YOUR LIFE.



Nebraska Public Power District

Always there when you need us

Together with your local public power utility



Energy Insight is published by the Nebraska Public Power District Corporate Communications Department as a service for employees, customers and friends of NPPD. Its purpose is to communicate NPPD news and information and to recognize achievements of employees, retirees and their families.

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Heather Becker and Anna Johnson, *York*



THE MANUAL ABOUT THIS ISSUE

- 4 **President's Message**
Public power is helping to shape a prosperous future for all Nebraskans, while keeping electricity plentiful, reliable and affordable.
- 6 **Two Decades Down, Many More to Go**
NPPD celebrates the 20th anniversary of Beatrice Power Station, which has been an essential part of District operations throughout history.
- 8 **Complete Circuit**
From energy assistance to energy savings, see program changes that seek to improve the customer experience.
- 10 **Meet NPPD's Newest Board Members**
NPPD board members, Kirk Olson and Rob Hinrichs, bring to the table valuable personal experience and a commendable commitment to NPPD's customers.
- 12 **Positively Charged**
Teammates and their family members across the state celebrate notable achievements.
- 16 **Remembrances**
Honoring NPPD retirees who have recently passed, as well as York Senior Substation Construction Technician Dave VanAsperen.
- 18 **Retiree News**
New retirements and awards aplenty are in sight for several of NPPD's past employees.



About the Cover: Beatrice Power Station came on-line in 2005, a momentous occasion marking the newest generation added to NPPD's mix since Gerald Gentleman Station was built in the late 70s and early 80s. Beatrice Power Station has been pivotal to NPPD's overall mix since that day, aiding greatly in times of increased demand, during other plant outages, and in extreme events such as Winter Storm Uri in 2021.



TOM KENT

THE POWER OF PEOPLE

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

Have you ever experienced an unforgettable vacation, dined at an incredible restaurant, or been to a fully immersive sporting or cultural event? It likely left quite an impression on you – one you shared excitedly with others in the days or weeks following. And, it likely was the result of a positive, collaborative experience with others.

I bet all of us could list off the reasons public power is a benefit to our state. We put customers first, we listen to local voices, and we don't maximize profits for distant shareholders. We honor reliability, affordability and outstanding customer service above all else. These are the things that have allowed us to stand year-over-year as the trusted choice in powering homes, businesses and communities across Nebraska.

We certainly can't accomplish this alone, nor do we want to. No, the real value of what we've built is fully rooted in the work our enormously skilled and knowledgeable teammates have done alongside our wholesale customers – the people who truly know their end-users and advocate for them like family. This is what has allowed us to keep public power special and unique.

Public power has a noble legacy in Nebraska because we keep our business structured upon

what – and who – really matters. We commit ourselves to effective cost management even amidst a tumultuous energy market and even as we grow our generation mix because that's what's needed to meet customer expectations and needs.

We're able to do this because we never stop learning or yearning to improve. We benchmark to maintain our competitive edge, and we establish symbiotic relationships that allow us to pass down these learnings and opportunities to customers. Nowhere is this more apparent than within our participation in the Southwest Power Pool's energy market, where our diverse generation mix is fully utilized and

where we can incorporate innovative market-forward strategies, including hedging, to manage the changing energy landscape effectively for the people we serve.

We're dedicated to providing customers with the tools they need to succeed, and the flexibility they need to meet their specific goals, all while keeping energy local and efficient. Our portfolio

We are more than just an energy provider—we are a collaborator in the growth and prosperity of Nebraska.

of innovative products and services is designed with customer engagement in mind. These include demand response offerings, qualifying local generation options, variable rates, energy efficiency, electrification and load control programs and more. We want to empower customers to take control of their energy usage and costs, while also supporting Nebraska's broader energy requirements.

We are more than just an energy provider—we are a collaborator in the growth and prosperity of Nebraska. Our work extends beyond energy to include initiatives that foster economic development, create jobs and support community projects. By collaborating with local businesses and organizations, we contribute to a thriving state economy and a brighter future for everyone.

NPPD's participation in the Southwest Power Pool's energy market, where our diverse generation mix is fully utilized and where we can incorporate innovative market-forward strategies, including hedging, helps us manage the changing energy landscape effectively for the people we serve.

As customer energy needs increase, long-term contracts become vital in our ability to plan and invest in future generation resources that complement our existing fleet and further improve flexibility, responsiveness, reliability and resiliency.

When we last undertook major generation build-outs, 35-year contracts were necessary to help responsibly finance those projects. Similarly, long-term agreements will still be critical in maintaining a stable, reliable power supply for years to come, especially as we identify potential investment opportunities in groundbreaking technologies such as Small Modular Reactors (SMRs), research carbon capture and sequestration, and seek to extend the license of Cooper Nuclear Station to 2054. Not only do these technologies help us meet future energy needs, but they position us as a leader in clean energy solutions.

Our teammates' commitment to our customers gives true purpose to our everyday work. This is particularly true as we strive to create positive experiences for all and keep people excitedly talking about how public power is shaping a prosperous energy future in Nebraska.!





TWO DECADES DOWN, MANY MORE TO GO

Beatrice Power Station celebrates 20 years

Back in January, NPPD's 250-megawatt combined cycle power plant marked a milestone anniversary! Beatrice Power Station (BPS) officially turned 20 years old, and a small get-together was held to celebrate the special occasion. Current teammates, some of whom have worked at BPS since the very beginning, gathered to share memories over a catered lunch. While the event itself was relatively humble, BPS has much to boast!

On June 26, 2003, a groundbreaking ceremony was held at the site where the plant now stands. Its construction began the first major power plant project NPPD had embarked on since building Gerald Gentleman Station in the late 70s and early 80s, as well as the first use of combined combustion and steam turbines within the District. As an intermediate load facility, BPS was designed with the intention to operate 20-60% of the time, which differed from the other base load units that were already on NPPD's system.

Commercial operation of BPS then began Jan. 7, 2005, approximately six months ahead of schedule and \$40 million under budget! Since then, the plant has provided NPPD with the operational flexibility to meet customers' needs during periods of high demand or when unexpected outages occur on a major unit. For example, several years ago when Winter Storm Uri disabled much of the grid in the southern states, BPS was called on-line to provide reliable energy.

As NPPD enters another era of new growth, BPS is a shining example of how the District has successfully responded to the state's energy needs in the past by diversifying NPPD's generation mix, while also remaining committed to customer service. Perhaps the 2003 *Energy Insight* article written about BPS' construction says it best, "The plant is part of NPPD's long-term supply strategy to provide Nebraskans low-cost, reliable energy for years to come." Kudos to all of BPS' former and present employees for proving that statement to be true two decades in!

NPPD earns award for mutual aid in 2024

On Dec. 23, 2024, NPPD was awarded a national commendation from the American Public Power Association (APPA) for support in power restoration efforts. When disaster strikes other utilities, District crews often jump into action, traveling near and far to get people back on-line as soon as possible. Last year, NPPD teammates sacrificed time at home to lend a hand close by in Omaha, as well as provide needed assistance to hurricane-ridden Georgia and Florida. This particular honor was granted for the relief administered to the Orlando Utility Commission.

"Mutual aid is at the heart of what public power does, and the public power community thanks you for stepping up to help a neighbor in need—whether they are next door or thousands of miles away," APPA President and CEO Scott Corwin said in his congratulatory letter.

NPPD participates in the APPA's Mutual Aid Network, which coordinates with utilities and authorities during widespread power outages. This is of great benefit to the District, should the worst happen, and to the more than 2,000 public power utilities represented by the association.



The award seen above recognizes the 15-man NPPD crew that went to help Floridians after Hurricane Milton struck in October. Immediately prior to this event, the same group was in Georgia cleaning up destruction left by Hurricane Helene.

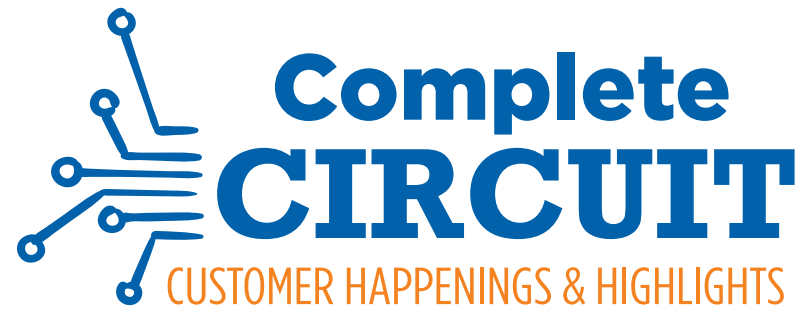
CNS receives 5th consecutive INPO Excellence Award

CNS received the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO) 2024 Excellence Award during INPO's annual CEO Conference and Excellence Awards ceremony last Oct. 29. CNS was among the 22 plants recognized for achieving the highest level of safety, reliability and operational performance over the last year.

To achieve this prestigious honor, plants undergo a rigorous process in which the technical staff at INPO conduct a comprehensive plant evaluation, as well as an analysis of evaluation results and the plant's performance history. INPO senior leaders

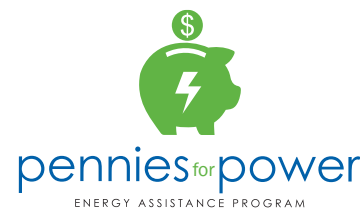
then review this information and assign an overall assessment. To reach the excellent category, a plant must achieve the highest levels of operational safety and reliability and have no significant weaknesses.

"We are extremely honored and humbled to accept this excellence award for the fifth time in a row on behalf of NPPD," said Site Vice President **Khalil Dia**. "It truly takes a village to sustain this high level of performance. While we are proud of this accomplishment, we are never satisfied, and our actions and efforts will continue to drive us to be the best of the best."



Pennies for Power program change

Effective January 2025, Dollar Energy Fund began the management of funds and the application process for NPPD's Pennies for Power program. Dollar Energy Fund is a 501(c)(3) (ie. a



non-profit deemed tax-exempt by the IRS) organization that has been in the business of utility assistance for more than 40 years.

Their mission is to improve the quality of life for households experiencing hardships by providing utility assistance and other services that lead to self-sufficiency. Dollar Energy Fund has more than 50 utility partners in 17 states that help families in need.

For employees and customers already donating, nothing will change with the way they make donations. NPPD customers will continue to donate through their NPPD bills, and employees who are retail customers will have the same option. Teammates wishing to begin donations can sign up through payroll deductions via SuccessFactors > View my Profile > Deductions.

Those who request a one-time donation to Pennies for Power can now donate using their debit or credit card or PayPal directly through the Dollar Energy Fund ["Donate Now" website](#). Customers who want to send money via check can mail their donations to the Columbus General Office, P.O. Box 499, Columbus, NE 68602-0499.

Customers needing assistance can apply by using the [Dollar Energy Fund MyApp web portal](#) or by visiting one of NPPD's expanding network partner assistance agencies across the state. These

include Good Neighbors in Norfolk, Mid Nebraska Community Services in Kearney, Blue Valley Community Action in Plattsmouth, and more.

SPP names new CEO



Lanny Nickell

The Southwest Power Pool (SPP) has announced their new president and CEO is **Lanny Nickell**. Nickell took over the role effective April 1, 2025, and was formerly SPP's executive vice president and chief operating officer.

John Cupparo, chair of SPP's board of directors, said, "Nickell has more

than two decades of exceptional service and has helped lead the evolution of SPP's strategy, bringing unparalleled experience, deep organizational knowledge and a passion for the organization's stakeholder culture. His leadership will ensure SPP continues to deliver on its mission and successfully navigate the generational challenges confronting the industry, region and organization."

Nickell has more than 30 years of transmission planning and operations experience in the electric utility industry and looks forward to fulfilling SPP's mission of ensuring reliable electric service for millions of consumers and continuing to build on SPP's strong foundation.

NPPD updates EnergyWiseSM incentives

NPPD has a wide variety of EnergyWiseSM program incentives designed to help customers save energy and money while contributing to a more sustainable future for all Nebraskans. These incentives are available to NPPD's customers and participating wholesale electric utilities. They are constantly being updated and added to so NPPD can provide more value to all.

NPPD has incentives for home, business, ag operations, lawn and garden, and electric vehicles. Customers can find cost savings associated with attic insulation, cooling system tune-ups, induction cooking, custom lighting, commercial HVAC and HVAC system optimization, automated grain aeration, irrigation moisture sensors and much more.

Several small changes have been made to many of these programs for 2025, particularly for high efficiency heat pumps and commercial conduit.

Here are updates you may find of interest:

- Explore NPPD's lawn and garden incentives, which are a 20% cost savings on items that now include electric blowers, trimmers, edgers and pruners.
- Those wishing to purchase an electric vehicle (EV) this year will be happy to know this program has been expanded to include any Level 2 residential EV charging station, at 50% of the purchase price (maximum \$500).
- And, NPPD's Smart Thermostat program has also been expanded to include non-ENERGY STAR-certified products, so long as they provide four specific capabilities: Wi-Fi connectivity, schedule setting, providing information regarding HVAC energy use, and supporting utility demand-side management programs.

Find energy efficiency incentive info, guidelines and applications at EnergyWiseNebraska.com.

ENERGYWISE
Use less. Spend less. Do more.

Earn a
20% incentive
on electric lawn and garden equipment

Includes lawn mowers, chainsaws, edgers, pruners,
leaf and snow blowers, tillers, trimmers, etc.



Visit EnergyWiseNebraska.com to learn more about the available incentives designed to help you **SAVE ENERGY AND MONEY!**



Nebraska Public Power District

Always there when you need us

Meet NPPD's newest board members

In the last year, NPPD has welcomed two new members to its board of directors. **Kirk Olson** of North Platte was appointed to fill NPPD's empty Subdivision 4 seat last August after it was vacated by **David Gale**. Meanwhile, **Rob Hinrichs** officially took office in early January and represents Subdivision 6. Hinrichs replaces former director **Ed Schrock**.

Both Olson and Hinrichs are fifth generation farmers. In this feature story, the *Energy Insight* team sat down with them to learn about their professional and personal backgrounds, interest in public power, and future goals for NPPD.



KIRK OLSON
Subdivision 4

You've served on boards for Mid America Bio Energy, Nebraska International Port of the Plains and NEBRASKAland Days. How will these experiences help you better serve on NPPD's board?

Serving on these boards has enabled me to understand how important it is to be open to the ideas of others who may bring different views and opinions to the table. It has also given me insight into the inner workings of industries/events in my area and how they can add value to not only our towns, but the overall economy of our state. My time served on the ethanol board has given me an overview into how important ethanol is to the goal of clean and renewable energy in our state. Serving on the Port of the Plains Board has educated me on how using this more efficient mode of transporting products to and from other countries can add value to our local and area economies.

What is the most pressing energy challenge for Nebraska's farmers and the ag industry overall these days, and how can NPPD help support this important and valued industry?

The most pressing energy challenge for Nebraska's farmers and ag industry is having a

continued supply of reliable and affordable energy for their daily and seasonal energy needs to operate their businesses efficiently.

What do you believe is NPPD's biggest opportunity this year, and how can we use this to our advantage to better serve customers, especially within Subdivision 4?

NPPD's biggest opportunity in 2025 revolves around the conversation concerning the idea of constructing a mini nuclear plant in our state, as well as natural gas generated power. This would give opportunities for value-added ag markets in our state, especially within Subdivision 4 because of our ability to move products both north/south and east/west because of our location to interstate and highway infrastructure.

Why do you believe public power is so important to our state?

It's important because it makes our power both reliable and affordable for all customers.

What's something about yourself few may know, but all find surprising?

During my time at the University of Nebraska, I helped my current District 42 state senator, Jim Pappas, research a book on Nebraska. I traveled to every county seat in Nebraska to obtain the research for this book.



ROB HINRICHS
Subdivision 6

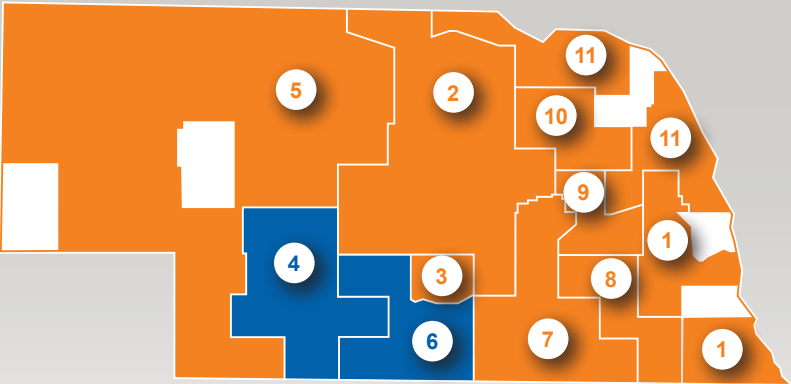
is vital to the success and productivity of this region. Irrigation, grain drying, and grain storage are the main electric demands of my operation. There is also strong demand for electricity from end users of commodities in our area such as ethanol plants KAAPA, Chief, and Nebraska Corn Processing, as well as an abundance of cattle, pork and poultry facilities.

District 6 also has high-quality manufacturing and industrial businesses, as well as innovative new users such as DG Fuels and the Meadowlark project that are looking at facilities here. I also understand the importance of being respectful of our environment. The Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District project that District 6 is blessed with contributes greatly to that end with the recharge water to our aquifer and with their renewable power generation facilities.

What opportunities this year within the electric industry excite you most?

Public power and NPPD have been great for Nebraska. Coming onto the NPPD board is in many ways like the coach(es) following the Tom Osborne years as the Cornhuskers football coach.

NPPD BOARD OF DIRECTOR SUBDIVISIONS



Which of NPPD's five strategic priorities resonates most with you, and why?

Of the five strategic priorities, I would say NPPD remaining cost competitive resonates most to me and the people I represent in District 6. As a farmer in central Nebraska, having affordable and reliable power

A tough act to follow for sure. Years of safe, reliable, and affordable electricity have led to increases in demand and the need for additional power generation facilities, which are expensive. I'm sure we can meet the challenge, and I look forward to the opportunities that lie ahead.

What things can NPPD do, in your opinion, to ensure it always puts customers first?

I have been to just a few NPPD meetings so far. I have also attended a customer meeting in Grand Island and new director orientation with Kirk Olson in Columbus. I can say without question that every teammate I have met so far has been 100% dedicated to putting our customers and Nebraska first. I would expect nothing less going forward.

What mark do you want to leave on public power during your time on NPPD's board?

While attending Hildreth High School, I was selected to serve on Gov. Kay Orr's youth advisory council. I remember her saying to be a good "Nebraskan," we should try to contribute in one of three areas unique to our state: natural resource districts, the Unicameral, or public power. I will represent District 6 to the very best of my ability.

What's something about yourself few may know, but all find surprising?

Here are a few things about me that not many folks would know: I got recruited to play D-1 football for Bill Schneider at K-State. I made a half-court shot at the state basketball tournament at Pershing Auditorium. I'm married to my high school sweetheart. I am halfway to getting my pilots license. And, if you ever need to find me on the weekend, I'm probably fishing Harlan County Lake.



Balerud chairs industry supply chain working group, Columbus



Carol Balerud

Procurement Manager **Carol Balerud** was selected to serve as chair of the Large Public Power Council’s (LPPC) Supply Chain Working Group for a term of two years. There are approximately 15 LPPC member utilities active in this working group, which exists to facilitate the exchange of insights, address concerns and regulations, and share best practices relating to the complex and ever-evolving issues impacting utility supply chains. Their efforts aim to enhance the efficiency, resilience and sustainability of supply chain operations within the utility sector to promote industry-wide improvements.

Brian Vasa named to Top 50 list, Ogallala

Brian Vasa, senior economic development consultant, was recently named to Consultant Connect’s Top 50 Economic Developers list. Consultant Connect is an organization that fosters relationships between economic developers and location consultants.

The award is a prestigious recognition given to men and women across North America who have demonstrated exceptional dedication, innovation and effectiveness in driving economic growth and prosperity in their communities. Economic developers like Vasa are vital in cultivating business expansion, job creation and overall economic vitality.

“His enthusiasm, commitment and collaboration to fostering growth and opportunity for Nebraskans have made a lasting impression, and this recognition is so well-deserved,” said Economic Development Manager **Nicole Sedlacek**.

Vasa and fellow recipients accepted their awards during the ECONOMIC conference in



Brian Vasa, center

Salt Lake City. Honorees were also featured on Consultant Connect’s website and social media to elevate their accomplishments and the economic development sector.

Teammate wins Big Idea contest, North Platte



Uerling takes the floor to present his woodworking invention.

If you’ve ever watched “Shark Tank,” you’ve probably marveled at the genius inventors who bravely pitch their products to an intimidating panel of investors. It’s certainly not for the faint of heart! North Platte Engineer IV **Dustin Uerling** learned this firsthand when he recently entered and won a local version of the hit program.

For five years, North Platte has hosted a Big Idea contest, calling upon entrepreneurs young and old to show off their creations. Participants first send in a video for consideration. Select individuals are then invited to give a two-minute live presentation before judges and community members.

“One of the main reasons I went into engineering is because I enjoy solving problems. Over the years, my family and friends have encouraged me to submit my other ideas, which have been developed out of necessity, but not passion,” Uerling said. “I decided to enter this time because it was finally something I made for my

hobby that I truly enjoy. I felt the tool I invented could be beneficial to fellow woodworkers.”

And, the judges agreed! After 10 months of behind-the-scenes work, Uerling found himself in front of the captivated Big Idea audience. His T-Fence MicroMag Adjuster, which makes precision and control easy when adjusting a table saw fence, made such a big splash that it earned him the top prize for adults – a whopping \$10,000!

“I was surprised,” he said. “Just being done with my pitch was a huge relief, but winning was a great feeling of accomplishment. I wanted my daughters to see that anything is possible if they are determined and work hard.”

Those same daughters are currently trying to convince Uerling to buy a UTV with his payout, but he plans to use the money to grow and improve his product. Talented, wise and customer focused – now that’s a true NPPD teammate!

Ayden Veik earns national championship, Columbus

Technical Analyst **Ayden Veik** has been recognized as a member of the Central Community College NJCAA Esports team for the 2023-2024 season. The team successfully secured national titles in video games, Call of Duty: 4X4 and Call of Duty: Gunfight 2X2. Veik and his teammates were recently honored for their accomplishments and received their national championship rings.

Veik is a graduate of Central Community College-Columbus and is currently pursuing a degree in Business Administration at Wayne State College.

He has played a vital role on the Raiders Esports team and is a two-time winner of two tier 1 national titles.

Congratulations, Ayden!



Ayden Veik

Young named to the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Hall of Fame, Columbus



Mary Young

Mary Young was named to the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Hall of Fame late last year. Young has served as head coach of the Central Community College-Platte campus volleyball squad for 28 years and stepped into the role of athletic director in 2019. Young's coaching record is 800-432. Under her leadership, the Raiders won 18 Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference (NCCAC) championships, 14 Region 9 championships, and appeared in 11 NJCAA national tournaments. Young was named American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) West Region Coach of the Year three times, NCCAC Coach of the Year 14 times, and NJCAA Region 9 Coach of the Year 14 times. She

also received the NJCAA Sportsmanship Award in 2014 and was an *Omaha World-Herald* Midlands Coach of the Year finalist in 2018.

Throughout her career, Young has coached 100 All-NCCAC players, 94 All-Region 9 players, 26 NJCAA All-Americans and three AVCA All-Americans. On a national level, she has served on several NJCAA committees, including NJCAA DII volleyball and beach volleyball, as well as chaired both committees.

Young has worked as an assistant region director, region director, an NJCAA Board of Regent member and currently is the NJCAA Senior Women's Administrator to the Board of Regents. She is also credited with co-editing the writing of the legislation for the addition of beach volleyball as an NJCAA sport.

Young is the wife of Resource Planning Team Leader **Joel Young**.

Newly licensed operators honored, Cooper Nuclear Station

Nine teammates were honored Nov. 16 for earning their senior reactor operator (SRO) or reactor operator (RO) license from the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). They include SROs **Mariah Bantz, Brian Hasselbring, Cory Jones, Benjamin Munoz,** and **Shelaine Murphy**, as well as ROs **Quincy Crawford, Bailey Giles, Benjamin Isbell** and **Sheldon Rightsell**.

Before the NRC licenses an individual to operate or supervise the controls of a commercial nuclear power reactor, applicants must complete extensive training and pass rigorous examinations. The 18-month program consists of approximately 140 classroom lectures, nine months of simulator

training and evaluations and four months of on-the-job training in the main Control Room.

Following completion of the facility-administered training program, the initial licensing examination is administered. For ROs, this consists of a 75 multiple-choice, written examination and an NRC-administered operating test that includes a plant walk-through and a performance demonstration on the facility licensee's power plant simulator. SRO license applicants must pass an additional 25-question, written examination and a more rigorous operating test.

Congratulations to these new operators for this incredible accomplishment!





REMEMBRANCES

HONORING LIGHTS THAT SHINE IN OUR HEARTS & MEMORIES

A Special Remembrance

York Senior Substation Construction Technician **David “Dave” VanAsperen**, 57, passed away suddenly on Jan. 7. Dave was hired by the District in March 2007. Throughout his nearly 18-year tenure, he was promoted several times and served exclusively on teams in Customer Service & Delivery and Transmission & Distribution.

“Dave was a great member of the NPPD family. He shared our values and was always eager to provide me feedback and ask the tough questions,” Vice President of Energy Delivery **Scott Walz** said. “Dave worked hard and was honest and trustworthy. He will be missed, but not forgotten.”



DAVID VANASPEREN



JOANN HANSEN

Retired Lincoln Manager of Governmental Affairs **JoAnn Hansen**, 92, passed away Nov. 19. JoAnn began her NPPD career in 1978 and retired in 1996.



WILLIAM TIMM

Retired Ogallala District Manager **William “Bill” Timm**, 95, passed away Nov. 27. Bill began his NPPD career in 1950 and retired in 1992.



EDWARD ROTKVIC

Retired Cooper Nuclear Station Staff Health Physicist **Edward “Ed” Rotkvic**, 79, passed away Dec. 9. Ed began his NPPD career in 1982 and retired in 2006.



CHARLES MILLER

Retired Sheldon Station Material Handling Supervisor **Charles “Chuck” Miller**, 62, passed away Jan. 12. Chuck began his NPPD career in 1989 and retired in 2024.



GARY TROFHOLZ

Retired Columbus General Office (CGO) Building Maintenance Technician **Gary Trofholz**, 74, father of CGO Procurement Specialist **Greg Trofholz**, passed away Jan. 13. Gary began his NPPD career in 1991 and retired in 2015.



ROBERT BECKER

Retired Cooper Nuclear Station Instrument & Control Technician **Robert Becker**, 72, passed away Jan. 28. Robert retired from NPPD in 2016.



STEVE NESBITT

Retired Cooper Nuclear Station Safety Specialist **Steven “Steve” Nesbitt**, 74, passed away Feb. 1. Steve began his NPPD career in 1992 and retired in 2006.



LORI MUHLE

Retired Columbus General Office Insurance Assistant **Lori Muhle**, 62, passed away Feb. 10. Lori began her NPPD career in 1993 and retired in 2023.



WAYNE SWANSON

Retired Ogallala Substation Supervisor **Wayne Swanson**, 87, passed away Feb. 23. Wayne began his NPPD career in 1963 and retired in 1996.



RETIREE NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING RETIREES AND THEIR FAMILIES



Rick Jackson and family

A day of celebration for Rick Jackson

Retired North Platte Planner/Scheduler **Rick Jackson** first started his career July 23, 1979 as a heavy equipment operator. Forty-five years later, Rick retired on the very same day he started, July 23, 2024. A retirement party was held for Rick last summer at the North Platte office. North Platte Engineering and Projects Manager **Ed Dekleva** was master of ceremonies, presenting Rick with his official retirement document and gift.

Special guests in attendance included Rick’s wife, Rochelle; son, Travis and his family; and daughter, Amber Hilligas and her family. Rick looks forward to attending his grandkids’ activities and events in his newfound free time, as well as fishing, gardening and camping.



Janice Gregorius shows off two of three gold medals she won during the 2024 St. George, Utah Huntsman World Senior Games.

Janice Gregorius earns “Power Walking” gold medals

Retired Columbus General Office Employee Benefits Team Lead **Janice Gregorius** won three gold medals in the Power Walking category of the 2024 St. George, Utah Huntsman World Senior Games. She received first place in the age 80-84 bracket of the 1,500 meter, 3,000 meter and 5K brackets, setting a track record for her age division in the 5K Power Walking event.

In addition to her three gold medal wins, Janice was celebrating being a 25-year breast cancer survivor.



Dennis Grennan

Dennis Grennan honored with Outstanding Service Award

Retired Vice President of Customer Services **Dennis Grennan** received the 2024 Scotus Central Catholic High School Outstanding Service Award. Dennis serves on the Columbus Catholic Schools Board of Directors and on the Executive and Advancement Committees. Dennis served as a St. Bonaventure trustee for 20 years and on the Parish Council/Leadership Team and Finance Committee. He was the project manager for the Project 2020 Parish Center, Narthex, and parking expansion. Dennis has served on the Chamber Board of Directors for nine years and as president in 2018-2019.

Dennis began his NPPD career in 1971 at Sheldon Station, and held several positions at Gerald Gentleman Station and the Columbus General Office until retiring in 2003. He and his wife, Coni, have three children and 11 grandchildren.



Dr. Jewelina Wagner

Dr. Jewelina Wagner named Best Doctor in 2024 Minnesota Awards

Dr. Jewelina Wagner [Grennan] was named Best Doctor in the 2024 Minnesota Best Awards as best Overall Doctor in Minnesota for all specialities. She has worked for Clinic Sofia for the past 12 years as an OB/GYN physician, while also raising four daughters.

Jewelina is the daughter of retired Vice President of Customer Services **Dennis** and Coni **Grennan**.

POWERING OUR STATE EMPOWERING OUR PEOPLE

NPPD employees carry a great sense of pride because they know their neighbors and communities rely on them day in and day out. And because every employee is driven and passionate about supporting thousands of homes and businesses across the state, NPPD continues to be a respected company where everyone gets to truly make an impact.

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