

North Central's News

Delivering a difference to parts of Knox, Antelope, Pierce, and Holt Counties Since 1945



CEO / General Manager Doyle Hazen

Beneficial Electrification and Doing Your Part

As you peruse through your daily reading, specifically reading that concerns the use of electricity in our society, you will see more and more mentioned about beneficial electrification (BE). Well, that sounds like a benign term that may even be “beneficial”. Beneficial electrification as defined by the organization called the Beneficial Electrification League (BEL), is as follows:

“Beneficial Electrification includes the application of electricity to end-users where doing so satisfies at least one of the following conditions, without adversely affecting the others:

- Saves consumers money over time;
- Benefits the environment and reduces greenhouse gas emissions;
- Improves product quality or consumer quality of life;
- Fosters a more robust and resilient grid”¹

All of the points of this definition, at face value, seem very straight forward. If these are followed, I am in agreement with making changes to our way of life to accommodate switching from a carbon based to an electrified way of doing any given task. I think that the BEL is honestly trying to promote the electrification of many tasks and

processes in our daily lives. However, as with any good thing, we must be vigilant that all points are followed and are not ignored.

As a consumer, it is your responsibility to advocate for what is good for you and your family. This good intention that beneficial electrification brings can be manipulated and used as cover for the promotion of seemingly “beneficial” projects. Some projects may not tick all of the boxes that are required for any given project to be considered beneficial electrification. It is not to say all of the conditions have to be met for all projects, it says at least one condition should be met while not conflicting with the other conditions.

The heavy subsidization and legislative policies that accelerate the implementation of electric vehicles (EV) is an example of an electrification of transportation. I do not think EVs are bad, but perhaps it is not for all people in all places. Remember all of the criteria that beneficial electrification must meet:

- Save consumers money over time. Nope, not currently or in the life of any of the EV vehicles on the road today at least not on a per mile basis. Although many studies show a savings, I have not seen numbers that include the replacement of the battery in the life of the vehicle. They will often bring up the replacement, but not put it in their

calculations. I have not seen examples with an overall per mile cost.

- Benefits the environment and reduces greenhouse gas emissions. Maybe, over the life of the vehicle. Quick fact: The manufacture of one EV battery requires the removal of 500,000 pounds of earth to produce the needed rare earth minerals to produce ONE battery.²
- Improves product quality or consumer quality of life. Yes, reduces overall maintenance costs, but currently service for these types of vehicles is limited.
- Fosters a more robust and resilient grid. It could, if the storage capacity is used in outages or in times of short supply. On the other hand, the increased need for electricity to charge EVs is adding to demand on an already taxed electrical system.

You see I am not trying to cause friction to the momentum of the betterment of the planet. By using our resources wisely and taking advantage of technology, we can improve our position on climate change. However, we must temper our decisions so that we meet criteria that will truly be beneficial.

¹Beneficial Electrification League. (n.d.) Home Page. Beneficial Electrification League. Retrieved October 19, 2022, from Promoting Beneficial Electrification - Beneficial Electrification League (be-league.org)

²<https://www.manhattan-institute.org/mines-minerals-and-green-energy-reality-check>. July 9, 2020.

6

HELPFUL TIPS

WHEN THE POWER

GOES OUT...

- 1 Avoid carbon monoxide poisoning. Generators, camp stoves, or charcoal grills should be used outside and at least 20 feet away from windows.
- 2 Plan ahead before an outage occurs: Have alternate plans for refrigerating medicines, using power-dependent medical devices and charging cell phones.
- 3 Check on your neighbors if you can. Older adults and young children are especially vulnerable to extreme temperatures.
- 4 Go to another location with power if heat or cold is extreme and if conditions are safe to do so.
- 5 Keep refrigerators and freezers closed to maintain temperatures in the appliances for as long as possible. Once the power is back on, when in doubt, throw food out.
- 6 Turn off or disconnect appliances, electronics or other electrical equipment. Power may return with momentary surges or spikes that can cause damage.

High Voltage Demonstration at Santee Health Clinic



North Central Public Power District (NCPD) provided a High Voltage Demonstration as part of the Santee Health Clinic's "Winter Preparedness Day." The demonstration consisted of wearing proper PPE (personal protective equipment), discussing the hazards of working around energized power lines, and the importance of a double throw switch. Also discussed was the importance of isolating NCPD from the energized backfeed when customers are using a generator. Finally, the crew went over the hazards associated with house fires and vehicle accidents involving power poles.

DOT Safety Presentation



Nebraska State Patrol Trooper Brian Detlefsen presented a DOT (Department of Transportation) Safety Regulations seminar to the employees of North Central Public Power District. The presentation reviewed truck weight limitations, dimension limitations, cell phone usage, load securement, and CDL regulations as required by the DOT.



Linda Sokol,
Energy Advisor

New 2023 EnergyWiseSM Programs Announced

North Central Public Power District (NCPD), in partnership with Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD), would like to announce a few changes to its 2023 EnergyWiseSM programs. Your partnership in these programs will provide opportunities to save energy and money, as well as help the environment. The following is a listing of the programs that are available:

EnergyWiseSM Program changes Starting January 1st, 2023

Program no longer offered:

- EV incentives will end December 31st, 2022

Program with Changes:



- Attic Insulation
- HVAC System
- Lawn & Garden Program
- Commercial Charging Station
- Non-Profit Organizations
- High Efficiency Heat Pump

Programs Remaining Unchanged:

- Induction Cooking
- Cooling System Tune-Up
- Heat Pump Water Heater
- Smart Thermostat
- Industrial Process
- Custom Lighting
- Prescriptive Irrigation
- Corner Pivot (Variable Frequency Drive)
- Custom Ag
- Agricultural – Farrowing Heat Mats

All projects must be installed and operational during the calendar year to be eligible for the corresponding EnergyWiseSM program year. Incentive applications must be signed by the contractor, along with the customer, and then provided to NCPD. Your involvement has made EnergyWise a success and will continue to advance the programs and energy savings in the future. If you have any questions or for more information contact the NCPD office or go to ncppd.energywisenebraska.com.

Find NCPD on Facebook

Check out North Central Public Power District on Facebook. We use this social media to share information beneficial to NCPD customers. To join us on facebook, log onto your facebook account, search for North Central Public Power District and click  **Like** . You can also go to our website homepage, www.ncppd.com and scroll down and click .



From our homes to yours . . .

Slow Cooker Stuffed Pepper Soup

Ingredients

- 2 lbs. lean ground beef
- 2 green bell peppers, diced
- 1 small onion, diced
- 3 to 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 can (15 oz) tomato sauce
- 1 can (14.5 oz) diced tomatoes, undrained
- 1 carton (32 oz) beef-flavored broth
- 1 cup water
- 2 Tbsp packed brown sugar
- 2 tsp salt
- 1 tsp pepper
- 4 cups cooked rice
- Shredded cheese, if desired

Directions

Spray 6-quart slow cooker with cooking spray. In 12-inch skillet, cook beef over medium-high heat 5 to 7 minutes, stirring occasionally, until thoroughly cooked; drain. Place beef in slow cooker. Stir in all remaining ingredients except rice and cheese. Cover; cook on Low heat setting 7 to 8 hours. When about 30 minutes are left in cooking time, gently stir in cooked rice. Cover; cook about 30 minutes longer. Serve soup topped with cheese.





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Verdigre Home Show
Saturday, Jan. 21, 2023

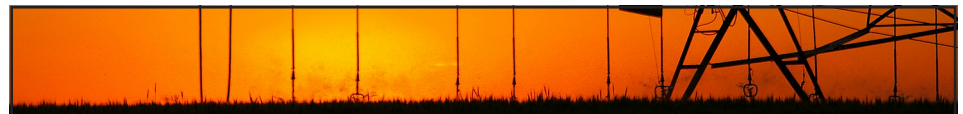
Creighton FCCLA Home Show
Saturday, Feb. 25, 2023
9 am - 2 pm



FOR SALE: 2000 Buick Le Sabre custom.
169,578 mileage. \$1750. Call 402-841-3883.

FOR SALE: LB White Heater. \$150. Call
402-842-3305.

Do you have something to sell or are you looking for something in particular? You may call, send or email (bargain.barn@ncppd.net) your description of what's for sale or what you are looking for to our office. The ad will run in the Bargain Barn section free for one month. Please include name and telephone number. No commercial ads will be accepted, personal items only.



Irrigation Facility Charge to be billed in February

Customers with irrigation accounts are reminded that the 2023 annual facility charge will be billed in February. If you are considering changing your load control schedule (i.e. from 3 Day Control to 2 Day Control) or if an account needs to be transferred into someone else's name, please notify our office as new irrigation contracts will need to be completed. Changes in load control

schedules can be made until the close of business March 31, 2023.

Irrigation Load Control Schedules:

<u>Control Schedule</u>	<u>Facility Charge</u>
No Control	\$60.00 x HP
*2 Day Control	\$37.75 x HP
*3 Day Control	\$24.10 x HP
*6 Day Control	\$21.00 x HP

**Subject to Sunday Control*

Notification Needed of Irrigation Changes

Irrigation customers are reminded if any changes have been made on your irrigation services (replacing on old irrigation system with a new system or replacing an old pump panel with a new one), you need to notify the North Central Public Power District (NCPD) office. The customer is responsible for making arrangements to have the equipment removed and returned to our office. If the load control equipment is missing when the annual irrigation inspection is done in the spring, the customer will be notified and will be responsible for locating the equipment and returning it to NCPD or will be billed for the cost of the missing equipment.