



Manager Memos -by Curtis Kayton

Wholesale Power Supply is in the air.

CRPPD has received its Wholesale Power Supply from Tri-State Generation and Transmission Cooperative Association (TSGT) since 1957. This fall the wholesale customers of Tri-State in Nebraska, Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico are exploring the possibility of extending the date that it expires. Looking at the future through my lens, I think this is a good idea. Long-Term Wholesale Power Supply contracts typically are as advertised with some extending even 50 years into the future.

Our business is very capital intensive, and when TSGT needs to build a power plant to serve the loads of the customer it is realistic to expect 50 years or more of performance from your investment. To make such an investment of hundreds of Millions and even Billions of dollars affordable for all, utilities will finance such a huge amount over decades. That's a lot of money! Yes, it is but as I said we are a capital-intensive industry and we do all we can to provide affordable and reliable service, and long-term financing is the only way we can do it.

This fall I will be spending more time than normal in meetings to discuss what is good, and what needs to be improved with our Wholesale Power Contract with TSGT. There are many challenges that lie ahead in our world of securing the most reliable and affordable source of Wholesale Power for you the customer. There are many introduced electric generation technologies out there, but the bottom line is if they are not reliable and affordable they will just not be considered.

In the end I do expect we will arrive at the balancing point of a solid generation mix, at an affordable price that will provide stability for the long-term for you the ratepayer.

Energy Efficiency Credits

Energy Efficiency Credits are available on electric motors, electric heating, electric hot water heaters, and LED lights. Must be new installations only, and submitted within 90 days.

Certain standards of efficiency must be met to qualify depending on the type of electric equipment installed.

Some of the credits include:

- *Electric water heaters - new construction or conversion from gas to electric
- *Heat pumps-\$150-\$500/ton
15 SEER Minimum
- *Electric motors 10-500 hp \$8/hp
- *Old refrig and freezer going to be recycled
- *Clothes Dryers - \$30-\$90
- *Induction Cooktops 30" or larger, must be replacing gas
- *LED lights - lesser of 1/2 cost of lights or \$8 per lamp, 500 Lumens or greater
- *Electric trimmer, chainsaw, or pruner, electric blower or lawn-mower - 25% of cost, up to \$150
- *Whole House Fans - \$100
- *Smart Thermostats - \$25

Receipts are required.

Please contact our office for information on requirements and credit amounts at 586-1824.

Let us help pay for your new electric appliances and motors.

DON'T OVERLOAD YOUR HOME!

i According to the National Fire Protection Association, **47,700 home fires** in the U.S. are caused by electrical failure or malfunction each year. These fires result in **418 deaths, 1,570 injuries, and \$1.4 billion in property damage**. Overloaded electrical circuits are a major cause of residential fires. Help lower your risk of electrical fires by not overloading your electrical system.

OVERLOADED CIRCUIT WARNING SIGNS



Flickering, blinking, or dimming lights



Warm or discolored wall plates



Burning odor coming from receptacles or wall switches



Frequently tripped circuit breakers or blown fuses



Cracking, sizzling, or buzzing from receptacles



Mild shock or tingle from appliances, receptacles, or switches

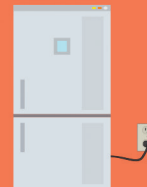


HOW TO PREVENT ELECTRICAL OVERLOADS

Never use extension cords or multi-outlet converters for appliances.



All major appliances should be plugged directly into a wall receptacle outlet. Only plug one heat-producing appliance into a receptacle outlet at a time.



A heavy reliance on extension cords is an indication that you have too few outlets to address your needs. Have a qualified electrician inspect your home and add new outlets.



Power strips only add additional outlets; they do not change the amount of power being received from the outlet.



50%

The CPSC estimates more than 50% of electrical fires that occur every year can be prevented by Arc Fault Circuit Interrupters (AFCIs). To learn more about AFCIs, visit ESFI.org.



Only use the appropriate watt bulb for any lighting fixture. Using a larger watt light bulb may cause a fire.

Generic Chargers Can Cause Serious Injury

Don't cut corners when buying and using phone chargers

People are always losing their phone chargers. As a solution, many people reach for the low-cost, generic plug-in USB chargers and charging cables found in the sea of impulse items that flank check-out lines. It can save money and it's so convenient, most people rationalize when making a purchase. Without much more thought, in the virtual cart or on the counter it goes.

Knockoffs can be great, but not when replacing your original phone charger, and for a variety of reasons.

"Although it is tempting to pick up an inexpensive phone charger to save money, buying and using cheap chargers is one place you might not want to cut corners," according to Erin Hollinshead, Executive Director of the Safe Electricity program. "Using an authentic replacement charger made by your mobile phone's manufacturer is always a better choice."

Along with a potential burn and fire hazard, using cheaply made charging components and devices can also cause shock and electrocution.

Serious potential dangers aside, they may cost you more in the long run since they can cause damage to your phone, tablet or other electronic devices.

When using charging gear follow these guidelines:

- Do not leave items that are charging unattended.
- Always keep charging items away from flammable objects, especially bedding, and do not take them to bed with you. Tell kids and teens to NEVER place any charging device under their pillow. The heat generated gets trapped, which could cause the pillow or bed to catch fire.
- Do not touch charging electronic devices with wet hands or while standing in water.
- Make sure charging components are certified by a reputable third-party testing laboratory.
- Only buy product-approved chargers and cables (those made or certified by the manufacturer). Using cheaper devices can cause damage to the USB charge chip, which can have a lasting impact on how quickly and effectively your device charges in the future.
- Be on the lookout for fakes or imposters claiming to be brand approved. If the price seems too good to be true, it probably is.



Buffalo Chicken Dip

1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
1 cup chopped cooked chicken breast
1/2 cup Buffalo wing sauce
1/2 cup ranch or blue cheese salad dressing
2 cups shredded Colby-Monterey Jack cheese
French bread baguette slices, celery ribs or tortilla chips

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spread cream cheese into an ungreased shallow 1 quart baking dish. Layer with chicken, wing sauce and salad dressing. Sprinkle with cheese.

Bake uncovered, until cheese is melted, 20-25 minutes. Serve with baguette slices, celery or tortilla chips.

Protect Electric Meters and Disconnect Boxes from Cattle

Large animals, like cattle, can cause damage to guy wires, poles, meters and disconnect boxes. They can cause physical damage and cause an outage or make the system more prone to outages in the future. This fall when putting cattle out in corn stalks please fence around our electrical equipment to avoid damage. There will be a charge to repair any damage caused by cattle.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

TIP OF THE MONTH

Now is the time to schedule annual maintenance for your home's heating system. During fall months, HVAC technicians are typically less busy, making this an excellent time for maintenance and any necessary repairs before the winter months.

A qualified technician can clean filters, check for leaks and ensure all system components are working efficiently to keep you home cozy and warm when the temperatures begin to drop.



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**During normal office hours
and after hours call:**
(308) 586-1824 or
(877) 773-6300

September Board Meeting:
September 17th- 8:00 am

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Make Time for Safety

AVOID HAZARDS WITH OVERHEAD POWER LINES

Fall harvest is the most likely time of year for farm-related accidents and fatalities. The number one factor in electrocution on the farm is an auger that hits a power line when being moved. Be aware of your surroundings and look up often.

SAFE ELECTRICITY OFFERS THE FOLLOWING HARVEST SAFETY TIPS:

1. Check the height of the farm equipment to determine clearance.
2. Be aware of the location of power poles and lines, including field entry and exit points, and plan a safe equipment route.
3. Always keep a minimum 10-foot safety radius around an electric line.
4. Use a spotter when moving tall loads near electrical lines.
5. Lower extensions to the lowest setting when moving equipment.
6. Never attempt to move a power line out of the way or raise it for clearance.
7. Know what to do if your equipment does make contact with a power line. It's almost always safest staying in the cab. Call 9-1-1, warn others to stay away, and wait until the electric utility says it's safe to get down.

Learn more at:

 **Safe
Electricity.org**

