CLEAN POWER FOR NEBRASKANS MEANS LOWER BILLS FOR NEBRASKANS
GETTING NPPD IN THE GAME

For decades, Nebraskans have enjoyed “the good life” when it comes to low power bills. Loup Public Power District has done a good job at keeping bills low, but Loup can only do so much. Loup Public Power currently buys almost all of its power from coal-dependent NPPD and this means that when NPPD raises rates, our bills as Loup customers go up too.

Nebraska’s other utilities and neighboring states are planning for the future and keeping bills low by investing in renewable energy. Nebraska has top-rated wind and solar energy potential. In fact, Omaha and Lincoln have seized this potential by committing to ramp up renewable energy by 2018 while saving energy customers money. In neighboring Iowa, the wind energy boom keeps electric rates lower and more stable than in Nebraska, all while attracting new businesses and ensuring that clean air and clean water is available for the next generation.

Despite wind’s impressive track record, NPPD lags behind, choosing instead to invest in aging power plants. NPPD’s Gerald Gentleman coal-fired power plant is 60 years old, operating like a beat-up truck that needs constant repairs. As the cost and frequency of these repairs go up, so do our power bills.

Here in Columbus, we can keep our bills down and invest in our local economy by urging NPPD to make its energy portfolio cleaner. Investing Nebraska-based wind and solar will stabilize rates, create local jobs, and bring economic development to rural Nebraska.

Visit sc.org/nppd to send your comment to NPPD online. Text NPPD to 698-66 to stay up-to-date through mobile alerts.

Dear Pat Pope and Nebraska Public Power District Board of Directors,

As a Nebraskan proud of our history of public power, I am eager to regain the competitive advantage that it once offered. Nebraska is no longer a top ten state for low electric rates, a drop that can be attributed to an aging system built on energy sources of the past.

A recent study suggested Nebraska could triple its wind energy capacity, create thousands of jobs and lock in low electric bills for decades to come. Instead of pouring money into outdated coal plants like Gerald Gentleman, NPPD should make smart investments in clean, renewable Nebraska-made energy like wind, solar and energy efficiency.

NPPD has a tremendous opportunity to phase out costly coal dependence and invest in new, modern energy resources that empower our communities. I ask you to encourage Nebraska Public Power District to plan for a future that includes:

• A match of Omaha’s commitment to Nebraska-based wind energy and a commitment to get 30% of its energy from wind by 2020.
• An increased commitment to community energy savings through better energy efficiency programs that can reduce customer bills while using less energy.
• Support for community solar development to stabilize rates, create local economic benefits and provide energy at times of peak demand.
• Creating a plan to phase out its aging fossil fuel infrastructure over the next 15 years while avoiding costly upgrades and plans for long-term replacement.
• A plan to put Nebraska’s trained energy-sector workforce to work in the new energy economy.

Together, we can make Nebraska a healthier and more economically vibrant community.

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