



The *KMU Dispatch*

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Generation Advisory Committee Appointed

At the 2009 KMU Conference in Wichita, a new members committee was announced that will help guide and provide feedback to the municipal generation project. The Generation Advisory Committee is made up of individuals appointed by each of the four organizations that have helped sponsor and facilitate the project. KMEA, KPP, Kansas City BPU and KMU have all joined forces to pursue the concept of municipally-owned and operated generation opportunities.

The municipal generation planning project was initiated last summer to investigate the possibility of working together towards jointly-owned municipal generation. KMEA, KPP and Kansas City BPU funded a high-level engineering study by consultants Sawvel & Associates, the results of which were presented to the membership at last December's Power Supply Summit. Since that time, the group has worked to further develop a joint approach and to learn more from other states and entities that have successfully conducted similar projects. This past spring, a delegation visited American Power-Ohio (AMP-Ohio) to seek counsel on appropriate steps towards a joint

membership generation project. AMP-Ohio President & CEO Marc Gerken made a presentation during the keynote session of the KMU Conference in May. One item that is greatly needed for such a project to succeed is constant communication with and support from the membership. Those two key objectives are primary roles to be filled by the Generation Advisory Committee.

Generation Advisory Committee representatives were selected to provide a good cross-section of the public power community across Kansas and to take into consideration such characteristics as utility size, location, transmission area, and current wholesale

(Continued on page 6)

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Webinar:

Funding Update for Municipal Utilities

July 8, 2009
10 a.m. - 12 noon

For more information, please refer to page 7.



kansasmunicipal**utilities**



Legislation Shortens Sales Tax Credit or Refund Timeframes

Legislation passed in the 2009 Kansas legislative session has shortened the statute of limitations for claiming sales tax credits or refunds. The legislation, which ended with the title of "Senate Substitute for House Bill 2365" was made effective on May 28, 2009. The bill provides that sales tax credit or refund claims filed after June 15, 2009 will be allowed only for the prior one-year period (which commences on the due date of the return). This replaces the previous three-year period allowed for refund or credit. The Kansas Department of Revenue will issue a Revenue Ruling regarding how this change will apply when a taxpayer is being audited at a later date.

High-Voltage Transmission Project Underway

Prairie Wind Transmission, LLC, a joint venture between Westar Energy and Electric Transmission America (ETA) has entered into an agreement with ITC Great Plains, LLC, Sunflower Electric Power Corporation and Mid-Kansas Electric Company for the construction of the first extra-high voltage transmission lines west of the Mississippi. The details of the agreement pertain to which segments of the proposed 765-kilovolt transmission project each company will be responsible for. If the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) approves the proposal, the lines will stretch from Wichita to Dodge City. "We want to thank Governor Parkinson for his support and encouragement in settlement negotiations," said Kelly Harrison, President of Prairie Wind Transmission. "The completion of this project will provide enormous benefits to Kansas and the region, including additional jobs, enabling the development of renewable wind energy, avoiding some generation costs and improving the efficiency of transmitting electricity." The companies involved will need to receive regulatory and Southwest Power Pool (SPP) approval before beginning the project.

Wellington Begins Construction of New Wastewater Treatment Plant

In Wellington, ground has been broken for a new wastewater treatment plant. The project is expected to be completed in eighteen months and will be capable of processing twice as much water as the current plant. Prompted by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) to upgrade the city's current plant, Wellington officials decided that it would be prudent to consider a new location and a larger facility. At a cost of \$8.7 million, the bid received from CAS Construction was well below the original estimate of \$12 to \$13 million. The project is funded through the Kansas Revolving Loan Fund.

Overland Park Seeks Innovative Wastewater Treatment Facility

Overland Park hopes to tap into federal stimulus funding to construct an energy-independent wastewater treatment plant. If completed, the plant would be the only facility of its kind in the Midwest. The \$15.6 million dollar project would utilize cutting-edge technology to create methane gas from solid waste and restaurant grease. The methane would then be used to power two small generators. Energy generated onsite – approximately one megawatt per generator – would be sufficient to cover the electrical needs of the plant itself. And, according Johnson County, this would cut down on the community's energy usage, reduce emissions and produce long-term savings for taxpayers. It is estimated that the project will create a total of 270 new jobs and save the county more than \$600,000 in energy costs annually.

Newton Approves Water Rates, Homebuyer Incentives

The Newton City Commission approved a change in water rates that will increase bills for all but the lowest consumers. With the new water rate structure, water customers will be charged a base rate of \$10.75 for 200 cubic feet of water. Each additional 100 cubic feet will be charged at \$5.95. The current rate is \$10.75 as a base rate for 300 cubic feet with each additional 100 cubic feet costing \$3.45. The water rate change will be effective July 1. In separate action, the Commission approved a new housing incentive to anyone buying a new home in Newton. The incentive program provides a \$1,000 incentive from the city which will be combined with an additional \$1,000 incentive from the developer, the builder, and the real estate agent for a total of \$4,000. The incentive is intended to spur economic growth, property tax revenues, and other spending in the area. The new incentive program will go into effect immediately and apply to any new home closed by December 31.

KCC Approves Westar ECRR

On May 29, Westar Energy announced the Kansas Corporation Commission's approval of an update to its Environmental Cost Recovery Rider (ECRR). The ECRR is a tariff which permits Westar to recover a portion of the costs incurred from mandatory environmental improvements at its generation facilities. The \$32.4 million ECRR went into effect on June 1, 2009, with \$25 million reflected in the utility's northern territory and \$7.4 million reflected in its southern territory. The average Westar customer can expect to pay about \$2.95 more per month in the north and \$0.88 more per month in the south. Westar has plans to spend an additional \$570 million in the upcoming years installing environmental controls in its power plants.

Westar Files Follow-up Rate Case

On June 2, Westar Energy filed a limited rate case with the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC), seeking to recover funds from investments made since the company concluded its 2008 rate case. Westar is requesting a \$19.7 million rate increase -- \$9.7 million in its northern region and \$10 million in the southern region. The rate case reflects the second phase of the construction of a natural gas plant, Emporia Energy Center, which hadn't been completed and was not included in Westar's 2008 rate case. The utility has also invested in three wind farms in Kansas: the Meridian Way Wind farm in Cloud County, the Flat Ridge Wind Farm in Barber County, and Central Plains near Leoti. Because the 2008 filing did not reflect all of Westar's wind investments, all parties agreed to revisit the issue during this limited rate case.

Lawrence to Hire Sustainability Coordinator

The Lawrence City Commission has unanimously agreed to use federal stimulus money to fund a new staff position: Sustainability Coordinator. The new employee will be responsible for examining city vehicle usage and energy efficiency standards in city buildings, as well as encouraging companies in the 'green' industry to locate in the community. Ideally, commissioners hope to reach an agreement with Douglas County so that the position could be funded 60 percent by the county and 40 percent by the city. As part of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program, Lawrence is eligible for \$858,600 in federal stimulus dollars. A list of proposed uses for the funding is due to the Department of Energy by June 25.

Kansas Gets Weatherization Funds From ARRA

Kansas is one of four states to have received a second round of stimulus money from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). Kansas will get \$22.6 for its weatherization program from the U.S. Department of Energy. The funding is in addition to the \$5.6 million the state received earlier. The state will get a total of \$56 million for the weatherization program. Nationwide, weatherization programs will receive \$5 billion through the ARRA to achieve President Obama's goal of weatherizing 1 million homes. The Kansas program is expected to weatherize an additional 5,820 homes and create about 35 new jobs statewide according to the Kansas Housing Resources Corp. To be eligible for the program households must be at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level -- \$44,000 a year for a family of four. The allowable average cost per home has been increased to \$6,500. According to department estimates, weatherization reduces heating bills by 32 percent and cuts energy bills by an average of \$350 a year.

Louisburg, Miami Co. RWD No. 2 Consider Future Action

The Kansas Supreme Court recently overturned a district judge ruling on a territorial dispute between the City of Louisburg and Miami County Rural Water District No. 2. After the ruling, both sides are considering possible future action. Both entities have been involved in the litigation since 2005 when the rural water district filed a petition attempting to force the city to comply with statues regarding compensation for city-annexed land within the rural water district territory. An appraisal panel in 2007 ruled that Louisburg need to pay \$133,200 to RWD No. 2 for the property, facilities, and improvements located on the 1,800 acres of annexed land. That amount was far less than the \$8-\$12 million the water district was seeking. RWD appealed the decision, but the district judge ruled that the water district failed to prove the amount was unreasonable. The Supreme Court overturned the decision stating that the water district should have been granted an opportunity to provide new evidence in its appeal. The Supreme Court did not question the district court judge, but indicated that the process was a result of poor wording in state statute.

Local Municipal Utility News to Share?

Call us at 620/241-1423, fax us at 620/241-7829
or email your story to kmu@kmunet.org.

KMEA/KMGA Update



by Jim Widener, General Manager
Kansas Municipal Energy Agency

New Offices Become Reality for KMEA/ KMGA

After more than a year of searching for properties, negotiating contracts and completing renovations, KMEA/KMGA will finally move into new offices on June 26. The 10,000-square-foot facility at 95th and Lamar in Overland Park will provide enhanced office and meeting space for the Agency. During the move on June 26, our offices will be closed; staff members will be available by cell phone, in case of emergency.

EMPs Select New Leadership

The Agency's Energy Management Projects (EMPs) also elected new chairmen at their May meetings. EMP No. 1, which serves five cities in the KCPL area, selected Rob Culley, Utility Superintendent, Baldwin City, to replace Bob Mills, Power Plant Superintendent, Garnett. EMP No. 2, which serves nine cities in the Sunflower/MKEC region, chose Kenny Kreutzer, Public Works Superintendent, Pratt, to take the chairmanship previously held by Duane Banks, Electric Utility Director, Russell.

Augusta, Clay Center and Goodland Begin Receiving Hydropower

After acquiring firm transmission and providing the required three-year notice, two KMEA cities began receiving WAPA (Western Area Power Administration) hydropower allocations June 1. Clay Center, which has been a WAPA "B" city since 1989, and Goodland, a "B" city since 2004, are now "C" cities in the WAPA contract KMEA originally negotiated in 1989.

Clay Center also began receiving SWPA (Southwest Power Administration) hydropower June 1, as did Augusta. Both cities have been SWPA "B" cities since the contract's inception in 1983, and will now become "C" cities.

Officers, Executive Committee Named

At the Annual Meeting in May, KMEA reappointed the following officers and Executive Committee members:

- **President:**
Jim Bradley, Director of Utilities, Ottawa
- **Vice President:**
Dave Howard, City Manager, Pratt
- **Secretary/Treasurer:**
Tim Schook, City Administrator, Arma
- **At-Large Executive Committee Members:**
Greg DuMars, City Manager, Lindsborg
Jeff Dingman, City Administrator, Baldwin City
Duane Moeder, City Manager, LaCrosse
- **Member-at-Large, Joint Board:**
Dave Howard, City Manager, Pratt

KMGA approved the following officers and Executive Committee members:

- **President:**
John Sweet, City Administrator, Lyons
- **Vice President:**
Mike Gilliland, Director of Utilities, Osage City
- **Secretary/Treasurer:**
J.R. Hatfield, City Administrator, Halstead
- **At-Large Executive Committee Members:**
Ron Huxman, City Administrator, Moundridge
Larry Tucker, City Administrator, Humboldt
John Carder, City Administrator, Hesston

In addition John Sweet becomes Chairman of the Joint Board; Ron Huxman was reelected to the Joint Board as Member-at-Large.

We'd also like to extend a special thanks to John Carder, who served as KMGA President for three years. The time and commitment he has given to the Agency is greatly appreciated.

KMEA Releases Firm Transmission Rights for Three Member Cities

KMEA has released firm transmission rights to three member cities—Ellinwood, Girard and Holton—effective June 1. The release will facilitate KPP's Network Integrated Transmission Service (NITS).

Kansas Power Pool (KPP) Update

by Colin Whitley, General Manager
Kansas Power Pool

KPP: Driving Solutions for All Municipal Systems

NITS Service Achieved

Kansas Power Pool is excited to announce that a major organizational objective has been achieved which brings significant benefits to KPP member cities. On June 1st, KPP's Network Integrated Transmission System (NITS) took effect. Securing NITS service was a significant undertaking with Southwest Power Pool and KPP's member cities. The benefits of NITS services were immediately apparent as two major hurdles were overcome regarding Western Area Power Administration's (WAPA) deliveries to KPP cities on Westar's transmission system. By utilizing the firm path established by KPP's network service for Clay Center BPU's WAPA allocation, both Seneca and the Clay Center BPU will receive their full power allocation. KPP will provide similar service to other KPP cities including Holton, Lucas, Minneapolis and St. Marys as their transmission requests are completed by the Southwest Power Pool.

Kansas' municipal electric utilities power portfolio includes a significant amount of WAPA hydropower. However, the lack of NITS service has hindered many municipals from receiving a portion or all of their hydro. We know first-hand that our WAPA allocation is a low-cost, stable power generation source which is integral to providing affordable service to our customers. Furthermore, in the era of renewable energy standards, the WAPA hydropower provides the added benefit of integrating reasonably-priced and reliable energy into our generation mix.

Municipal Participation in EHV

While the settlement agreement between ITC and Prairie Wind regarding construction of the Kansas V-Plan dominated the headlines, a lesser known but hugely significant success for transmission dependent utilities was also included in the settlement agreement. KPP had a seat at the settlement table and was able to secure protection for KPP and other municipal utilities' rights to jointly own any future interconnects into the EHV system. Included below is the specific ownership language from the

agreement: *Nothing in this Stipulation shall contradict, modify or change the Stipulation and Agreement particularly concerning the rights of transmission*

dependent utilities to acquire an ownership interest in transmission facilities. Additionally, nothing in this Stipulation shall contradict, modify or change municipal utilities' and/or the Kansas Power Pool's or its successor's rights under the SPP Tariff or their ability to seek future agreements with any transmission owner to own or co-own transmission facilities in Kansas.



KPP, represented by Colin Whitley and Clay Center BPU's Bill Callaway, was proud to stand alongside Governor Parkinson and the other Kansas electric utilities for the announcement and signing ceremony in the Governor's office on June 1. The settlement is good news for the state as it marks the potential for the first 765 kV line west of the Mississippi and the largest transmission infrastructure project in the state's history.

Enhanced Website

Lastly, please check out KPP's new website! We have included more robust content and features including a members-only section with city-specific pages. [Contact our office to establish your password and to work with us to develop your city's page!](#)



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EPA Proposes New Regulations on Small Generators

On February 25, 2009, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed new national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants (NESHAP) for stationary reciprocating internal combustion engines (RICE) that were not already covered by existing EPA rules. The proposed standards have the potential to impact many small public power generating units. The rule would set emission limits for engines that:

- Are located at area sources of air toxics emissions;
- Have a site rating of less than or equal to 500 horsepower, are located at major sources of air toxics emissions, and were constructed or reconstructed before June 12, 2006;
- Have a site rating of greater than 500 horsepower, are located at major sources of air toxics emissions, and were constructed or reconstructed before December 19, 2002.

If they meet the thresholds of the new rule, municipal utilities operating existing engines would be required

to:

- Install emissions control equipment that would limit air toxics emissions by up to 90 percent,
- Perform emissions tests to demonstrate engine performance and compliance with rule requirements, and
- Burn ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel in non-emergency engines with a site rating greater than 300 horsepower.

On behalf of utilities and organizations such as the American Public Power Association (APPA) and National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), the Utility Air Regulatory Group (UARG) submitted comments to EPA on the proposed rule on June 3, 2009. KMU will monitor the rulemaking process and provide updates to members throughout the process. For more information about the EPA proposed rule, please contact Colin Hansen at chansen@kmunet.org or 620/241-1423.

KMU Generation Advisory Committee


(Continued from page 1)

power provider. The thirteen-member committee will be chaired by 2009-2010 KMU President Merl Page. Committee members include:

- Merl Page, KMU (Chair)
- Rick Anderson, McPherson BPU
- Jeff Dingman, Baldwin City
- Darrell Dorsey, Kansas City BPU
- Greg DuMars, Lindsborg
- Don Gaeddert, Larned
- Barry Hodges, Minneapolis
- Dave Howard, Pratt
- Duane Moeder, La Crosse
- Bob Peter, Ellinwood
- T.J. Rausch, Attica
- Jim Bradley, Ottawa (KMEA President)
- Bill Callaway, Clay Center (KPP President)

The group's first meeting is scheduled for June 25th.

In addition to determining the goals and objectives of the committee, the group will hear an update on the current status of the municipal generation planning project. Recent efforts on the project include efforts to draft an RFP for resource planning services for the entire public power community in Kansas. Please call or write Colin Hansen at chansen@kmunet.org or 620/241-1423 with any questions about the project.



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Smart Grid Investment Grant Funding Announcement Expected

The U.S. Department of Energy is expected to issue a competitive Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for the Smart Grid Investment Grant Program on June 17, 2009. The purpose of the program is to gain the improvements in cost and performance that will come from the deployment of smart grid technology. The program will provide federal assistance to cover up to fifty percent of investments by electric utilities and other entities for projects that promote the goal of deployment, including development of component technologies. These investments will help implement the necessary digital upgrades to the electric grid enabling it to work more efficiently, as well as making it capable to effectively integrate renewable and energy efficient technologies and demand management practices.

The DOE will provide funding covering up to 50% of qualified investments requested by grant applicants. DOE anticipates providing funds in the range of \$500,000 to \$20,000,000 for smart grid technology deployment grants.

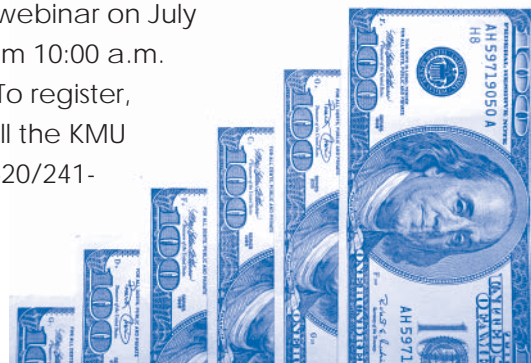
The announcement will permit applicants to submit applications on or before three separate due dates with the complete obligation of funds to be awarded by September 30, 2010. The three anticipated application due dates are: July 29, 2009; December 2, 2009; and March 31, 2010.

KMU Offers ARRA Workshop and Webinar

In response to member interest and inquiries, Kansas Municipal Utilities offered a workshop on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to provide a funding update for municipal utilities. KMU and its staff presented an organized summary of the programs and financing opportunities that could be available and impact municipal utility operations. The workshop gave participants an update on key measures incorporated in the ARRA including a status report and updates on programs impacting municipal utilities including tax measures, federal programs, and state programs. Participants were walked through the federal registration and application process as well as an actual application submitted through Grants.gov.

With the positive feedback from participants at the June 4 workshop in Lyons, KMU will be offering a slightly abbreviated edition of the workshop again by webinar on July 8, 2009 from 10:00 a.m.

to noon. To register, please call the KMU office at 620/241-1423 or complete the form below.



Registration

City/Utility

Address

Zip

Phone

Email

Webinar Fee:

\$59 per Member City

Please send invoice
PO# _____

Payment enclosed



Utilities Joining WaterSense Program as Promotional Partners

WaterSense, a partnership program sponsored by EPA, seeks to protect the future of our nation's water supply by promoting water efficiency and enhancing the market for water-efficient products, programs, and practices. WaterSense promotional partners are utilities, state and local governments, and other organizations that share information with the program and promote WaterSense.

EPA is building WaterSense as a national brand for water efficiency. The brand is more than just a product label; it is a symbol that represents the importance of water efficiency in the United States. With the help of our partners, WaterSense will encourage water-efficient behaviors and the purchase of quality products that use less water.

Water is vital to the survival of everything on the planet and is limited in supply. The Earth might seem like it has abundant water, but in fact only 1 percent is available for human use. While the population and the demand on freshwater resources are increasing, supply remains constant. Managing water is a

growing concern in the United States as communities across the country are starting to face challenges regarding water supply and water infrastructure.



Utilities are an important piece in the road map to water efficiency. Your utility can implement water efficiency strategies that incorporate water-saving technology along with innovative management practices to use less water while delivering an unchanged or improved level of service to consumers. By becoming water-efficient, the utility can not only reduce overhead costs, but also help consumers and businesses save money. Your utility may be eligible to become a WaterSense partner if the utility promotes water efficiency.

Follow these simple steps to become a leader in water efficiency:

1. Join WaterSense.
2. Develop a water conservation plan.
3. Make system improvements to reduce water loss.
4. Read the Using Water Efficiently: Ideas for Utilities fact sheet online at www.epa.gov/WaterSense/pubs/utilities/htm.
5. Develop sustainable water infrastructure through enhancing utility management, saving water through efficiency measures, cooperative ventures via the watershed approach, and full-cost pricing.

For more information on EPA's WaterSense Program, visit www.epa.gov/WaterSense. Join Kansas Municipal Utilities and other utility organizations as a WaterSense Partner.

The advertisement has a dark grey background with large, faint, repeating letters "S", "E", "G", "A" and "E", "N", "G", "I", "N", "E", "E", "R", "I", "N", "G" in the background. At the top, "SEGA INC." is written in large white letters. Below it, "Engineering & Technical Services" is written in a smaller white font. In the center, there is a logo for "Sega" inside an oval. Below the logo, the text "Power Generation", "Power Delivery", and "Air Quality & Environmental Control Systems" is listed in white. At the bottom, the website "www.segainc.com" is displayed in white.

It's Time to Test Your WaterSense!

How well do you understand your own water usage? Do you know how to best save water in your home? Test your knowledge with the following quiz, and find out if you're a WaterSense novice, expert, or genius!

1. The average family of four uses approximately ___ gallons of water per day?

- A. 50
- B. 100
- C. 250
- D. 400

2. How much of the water on earth is available for people's everyday use?

- A. More than 50%
- B. 28%
- C. Less than 1%
- D. 12%

3. How much water can you save per day by turning off the tap while brushing your teeth in the morning and at bedtime?

- A. Up to 2 gallons
- B. Up to 4 gallons
- C. Up to 8 gallons
- D. Up to 6 gallons

4. Which of the following uses less water?

- A. Taking a five minute shower
- B. Taking a bath

5. In the average household, which of the following wastes the MOST water per day?

- A. Running the tap while washing dishes
- B. Using a garbage disposal
- C. A leaky toilet
- D. Long showers

6. How much water is saved per flush with a high-efficiency toilet?

- A. 0.6 to 1.9 gallons
- B. 2.2 to 5.7 gallons
- C. More than 6 gallons

7. How much water used for irrigating lawns and gardens, on average, is wasted due to overwatering and evaporation?

- A. 50%
- B. 25%
- C. 15%
- D. 10%

8. A water-efficient irrigation system may include which features?

- A. Drip irrigation
- B. Moisture sensors
- C. Rain shut-off device
- D. All of the above

9. Which of the following uses less water?

- A. Washing dishes under a running tap
- B. Washing dishes in a fully loaded automatic dishwasher without pre-rinsing

10. Between 1950 and 2000, the U.S. population grew by 89 percent; approximately how much has our water use grown in the same period?

- A. 200%
- B. 50%
- C. 100%
- D. 25%

11. High-efficiency washing machines save about how much water per load compared to traditional models?

- A. 2-5 gallons
- B. 7-10 gallons
- C. 11-13 gallons
- D. 14 gallons or more

12. Easily corrected household water leaks account for what percentage of the average water bill?

- A. 2%
- B. 4%
- C. 6%
- D. 8%

Answer Key:

1. D: The average person uses 100 gallons of water each day—that's enough to fill 1,600 drinking glasses.
2. C: About 75 percent of the earth's surface is covered by water, but less than 1 percent of this is available for people to use.
3. C: The average bathroom faucet flows at a rate of 2 gallons per minute; by simply turning the tap off, you can save more than 100 gallons of water per person each month.
4. A: Taking a five minute shower uses 10 to 25 gallons of water, while a full tub requires about 70 gallons.
5. C: A leaky toilet can waste about 200 gallons of water every day!
6. B: New high-efficiency models use less than 1.3 gallons per flush—that's 60 to 80 percent less water than their less efficient counterparts.
7. A: Water-efficient irrigation systems help save water, potentially more than 11 billion gallons per year across the United States. This is equal to the amount of water used by 3,200 garden hoses flowing constantly for one year!
8. D: Look for sprinklers that produce droplets—not mist. Systems with rain shutoff devices and moisture sensors reduce excess watering and runoff.
9. B: To waste the least amount of water in the kitchen, operate your automatic dishwasher only when it's fully loaded.
10. A: With demand outstripping supply, 36 states anticipate some degree of water shortage by 2013.
11. D: High-efficiency washing machines use less than 27 gallons of water per load, compared to traditional models that use an average of 41 gallons.
12. D: Leaky faucets that drip at the rate of one drip per second can waste up to 3,000 gallons of water each year.

Scoring:

9 or more questions correct: Congratulations, you're a WaterSense genius! You understand that water is a precious resource that must be used more efficiently.

6-8 questions correct: You're a WaterSense expert!

Less than 6 questions correct: You're a WaterSense novice. But that means there's room for improvement! To learn more about why water efficiency is important and how you can become more water-efficient, visit the WaterSense Web site at www.epa.gov/WaterSense/index.htm.

Horse Trading

APPA Washington Report
by Robert Varela
Editor, Public Power Weekly

The effort to pass a comprehensive climate change and energy bill in the House of Representatives has reached the horse trading stage. House Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Henry Waxman, D-Calif., and Energy and Air Quality Subcommittee Chairman Edward Markey, D-Mass., drafted an ambitious bill, the American Clean Energy and Security Act, with aggressive provisions for reducing emissions of greenhouse gases.

As initially drafted, the bill had one huge hole (nothing on allocation of emission allowances), a wide variety of other controversial provisions (such as a tough renewable energy standard) and probably not enough votes for passage.

That means it's time to trade and there's plenty to swap. It also means it's time for stakeholders to stake out their positions.

APPA has done that in policy resolutions adopted by its members and APPA President and CEO Mark Crisson conveyed public power's climate change principles to Congress in testimony before the House Energy and Commerce Committee on the Waxman-Markey bill.

"APPA supports congressional action to address climate change, but we are

very concerned that achieving environmental goals be properly balanced with affordable costs to the consumer and the economy," Crisson told the committee April 23. "Any solution must be workable and sustainable" for consumers and the economy, he said.

The bill as originally drafted does not meet that test, Crisson said.

APPA has a detailed set of principles on implementation of a cap-and-trade program, Crisson said. First, legislation must "include a safety valve or other stringent cost-containment mechanism that sets a maximum price on carbon," he said. APPA supports offsets and other mitigation provisions, but they are inadequate, he added.

All allowances available to the electric industry should be allocated to load-serving entities, Crisson said. That would give utilities time to adapt while low-emissions technology is developed, "without imposing unsustainable rate increases on consumers." Load-serving entities "are in the best position to ensure that allowance revenues are used to reduce costs to electric

consumers," he said.

Allocating free allowances to independent generators that sell into the wholesale markets run by regional transmission organizations "will raise the already artificially high wholesale prices these markets are producing," Crisson warned. Generators that most often set the clearing price in those markets will add the value of those allowances to their bids, thus adding that cost to all generation—including no- or low-carbon sources—bidding into the RTO-run markets, he said.

APPA has serious concerns about auctioning allowances, Crisson said. With a stringent cost control mechanism in place, APPA could support phasing in an auction gradually. "But without such a control mechanism, we think no auction should occur until new emissions control technology is commercially available."

With regard to the proposed renewable electricity standard of 25% by 2025, Crisson reiterated APPA's support for a renewable electricity standard of 15% by 2020. This should be contingent

on a federal standard that is workable, allows a significant proportion of the standard to be met through energy efficiency measures, and ensures that comparable incentives are available to public power electric utilities, among other things, he said.

The new source performance standards



Washington Report *(continued)*

contemplated in the draft bill should be dropped, Crisson told the committee. "The language would effectively eliminate coal as a generation fuel after 2015 because there is no commercially deployable coal technology in the United States that can achieve the standard set in the draft, he explained. In order for public power utilities to meet their legal obligation to serve their customers, they must have the ability to bring new coal generation units on line to provide reliable service, Crisson said.

Another concern for APPA is that the draft contemplates three overlapping mandates on the utility sector at once: a cap-and-trade regime for greenhouse gases, a federal renewable electricity standard of 25% by 2025, and an energy efficiency

resource standard of 15% by 2020. "This straitjacketing of the electric utility industry by Congress is likely to result in higher-than-necessary electricity prices," Crisson said.

Given the complexity and breadth of the legislation, the number of industries and organizations involved and the confusion surrounding the debate—cost estimates ranging from \$93 to more than \$3,000 per family annually—there's going to be a lot of horse trading going on. Free allowances in return for tough emission-reduction targets? The possibilities are virtually endless. All of which makes it that much more important that public power present a united front on a consistent set of principles.

Employment

Water Quality Superintendent

The City of Nixa is currently taking applications for the position of Water Quality Superintendent. This position is under general supervision of the Public Works Director. The position manages, directs and coordinates activities for the Water Quality Division of the Public Works Department, including water production, storage and distribution systems, wastewater collection and treatment systems, composting facility and Recycle Center. Manages, directs and coordinates activities for all Public Works Departments and facilities in the absence of the Director and at other times as directed by the City Administrator or Director. Knowledge, ability and skill in personnel management, budget preparation and administration, effectively interpret and apply Federal, State and local policies, procedures, laws and regulations, skill and experience in oral and written communications, reviewing and interpreting civil engineering drawings and plans, operation of personal computer and various software packages such as MS Office, Outlook, Word and Excel. A complete job description with list of qualifications is available with the application. Please contact Sharon Hankison at 417-

724-5626 or email shankison@nixa.com if you have questions or would like to request the application packet. Grade: 9 Salary range: \$44,339 - \$64,839

The City of Nixa offers an attractive benefit package to full-time employees and their dependents. The benefit package includes Health, Vision, Dental, Life insurance, retirement, vacation, sick leave, and paid holidays. Only qualified applicants need apply. Deadline for applications: Open until filled.

Electrical Lineworker

The City of Nixa, MO is accepting applications for a full time Electrical Lineworker. Job duties include a variety of skilled journey level electrical installation, maintenance, and repair activities on electrical high voltage overhead and underground transmission, distribution, and service lines for the City of Nixa. Certification is preferred but prior experience will be considered. The City of Nixa provides a generous benefit package including medical, dental, life insurance, vision, retirement and paid leave. Annual starting salary is \$34,028. Nixa is located 10 miles south of Springfield, MO and 30 miles north of Branson, MO. Nixa is a fast growing, family oriented community. Applications can be

picked up at 715 W. Mt. Vernon St., Human Resources Dept. or call 417-724-5626. The City of Nixa is an equal Opportunity Employment Employer.

Journeyman Lineman

Full-time, Electric Journeyman Lineman position opening with City of Eudora. 5 years experience with journeyman certification. Knowledge or experience with construction and maintenance of overhead and underground electric distribution system. Job description available – call 785-542-2153 or send written request to City Hall, PO Box 650, Eudora, KS 66025. Residency required 30 minute drive of city. Position open until filled. EEO.

Electrical Distribution Superintendent

The City of Seneca is seeking an Electrical Distribution Superintendent. This position supervises personnel, plans and coordinates electric utility related construction, and maintains and operates the City's electrical distribution system, transmission lines, and facilities. Requires a high school diploma or GED, a Journeyman Lineman Certificate of Completion, a valid Kansas Commercial Driver's License, and 4 years related experience. Knowledge of National Electrical Safety Code, EPA, and OSHA Rules and Regulations required.

Expected hourly wage range is \$20 to \$25, depending on qualifications and experience. Submit completed application form with resume to Tami Dandliker, City Administrator, PO Box 40, Seneca, KS 66538. Application forms and complete job description online at www.seneca-kansas.us or in person at City Hall, 531 Main Street. Call 785/336-2747 for more information. EEO.

Electric Lineman

The City of Osborne is currently taking applications for Electric Lineman. Duties and salary will depend on applicant's qualifications. Applicant will be required to live in the City of Osborne, possess or able to obtain a valid CDL drivers license. Benefits include vacation, KPERs, health insurance, holidays and sick leave. The City of Osborne is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Contact the City Office at 785-346-5611 for information.

For Sale

Voltage Regulators

For sale: three 100 kVA voltage regulators. The regulators will be sold as is, for more information please contact Utility Superintendent Don Colson at (785) 437-2200.



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Upcoming Events

- **Competent Person Training: Trenching & Excavation**
June 24, 2009
Iola, Kansas
- **Competent Person Training: Confined Space Entry**
June 25, 2009
Iola, Kansas
- **American Recovery & Reinvestment Act Webinar**
July 8, 2009
10 am - 12 pm
- **KMU Public Relations & Accounting Workshop**
September 10-11, 2009
Wichita, Kansas
- **KMU Electric Distribution Workshop & Lineman Rodeo**
October 15-16, 2009
McPherson, Kansas
- **KMU Power Plant Operator Workshop**
October 21-23, 2009
Ottawa, Kansas

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