

# TWIN VALLEYS PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

Cambridge, NE

June 2011

*“Electricity” — your least expensive energy source, keeping your life running, delivered with reliability by people who care about you*

## Is it time to replace your air conditioner??

Is your air conditioner on its last leg? Does it make weird noises when it runs? If this describes your air conditioner, then maybe its time to replace it with a new air source heat pump. You may be thinking “this is not December”, but a heat pump will work as a very efficient air conditioner while also providing a more efficient heating source for your home.

An air source heat pump gets its efficiency from the transfer of heat from location to another. In the summertime it works like a normal air conditioner, transferring the heat inside your home to the outside air. In the winter, by reversing the refrigeration process, it pulls heat from the outside air and transfers it indoors. This is when the heat pump

is the most valuable, being up to three times as efficient, and helping to lower your energy bill.

- A new air source heat pump can give you a combination of convenience, safety and savings at the same time.
- A complete space conditioning system. It is an air conditioning and heating system built into one unit.
- Using electricity, it is a clean, safe and efficient to operate.
- No flue is needed since no fossil fuels are burned, also eliminating the concern with carbon monoxide.
- An air source heat pump uses less energy, conserving our natural resources.
- A savings of 25-30% of your

energy costs over other systems.

- A rebate of up to \$900 from Twin Valleys Public Power District.
- A \$300 federal tax credit. Purchase your system before December 31, 2011 and you may qualify for this credit. Consult your tax advisor to find out if you qualify.

There has never been a better time to switch to electricity. An efficient air source heat pump system will save you year after year on your energy costs. Call us at Twin Valleys Public Power District and we will be glad to help you get started, showing you the many ways a air source heat pump will benefit you.

## 18' Long Truck Mounted Grain Box in Excellent Condition

Sealed bids will be received until 10:00AM, July 1, 2011 at the headquarters of Twin Valleys Public Power District 1125 Nasby St. Cambridge, NE Bids may be mailed to P O Box 160 Cambridge, NE 69022. Mark bid envelopes “Grain Box Bid”. Include the dollar amount of your cash bid and your contact information. At 10:00AM in the presence of any and all bidders, the bids will be

opened and read out loud. The grain box will be sold to the highest bidder – condition as is. The winning bidder must deliver a certified check within 30 of bid opening and remove the grain box from Twin Valleys’ property to finalize the sale. Call 800-658-4266 to see this grain box. Twin Valleys Public Power District reserves the right to reject any and all bids and waive any informalities



## Better Service coming for Harlan County

On April 18<sup>th</sup>, Twin Valleys Public Power District signed a contract with Mid-Plains Power, Inc. from Grand Island to build 9 miles of new 69kV transmission line in Harlan County. The new line route will go north along P Road from Road 711 Road to Road 719, continuing along Road 719 west to O Road. In addition, the existing line along road 711 will be reconducted with larger conductor. All the new conductor will be T-2 twisted pair conductor which is the least prone to icing problems. There will also be 5 miles of 3 phase distribution line under built from Road 719 going south, and Twin Valleys Public Power District would be pleased to discuss conversion to electric irrigation for 2012 with irrigators along this 5 mile stretch.

The contract amount awarded is \$1,193,622.77 and construction will begin on July 18<sup>th</sup> and be completed by December 30, 2011. Mid-Plains

Power was the lowest cost bidder of 8 bidders.

The process to obtain right-of-way will begin shortly with the anticipated location of the line being 1 foot on private property along P Road and Road 719. All land owners along the route will be contacted and asked to sign easements before construction begins.

When the new line is completed, the McNiel substation south of Ragan will be converted to 69kV which will complete the first phase to improve reliability for the area.

In 2013 Nebraska Public Power District will convert the existing feed to Twin Valleys Public Power District's McNiel substation from 34.5kV to 69kV, resulting in a two way feed to several area substations and the ability to better transfer power between locations. This will provide

increased reliability for most of Harlan County and Southern Phelps County.

During the construction period, it will be necessary to have some power outages along the route. Homeowners along the route will be contacted before any outages. Twin Valleys Public Power District apologizes in advance for any inconvenience.

Also during the construction period, large trucks and crews will be working along the route. The construction period will extend through the fall harvest. Please be alert to construction activities from July 18<sup>th</sup> through December.

These improvements are part of the efforts by Twin Valleys Public Power District to upgrade their system to better serve the people who live in our service territory.

## Farm equipment and power lines don't mix

Those who live on a farm know that not only is it hard work, but it can be dangerous, too. Each year, farmers are electrocuted when large farm machinery comes into contact with overhead power lines.

Often, the situation occurs because a newer, bigger piece of equipment no longer clears a line the way a smaller one did. In addition, shifting soil may also affect whether or not machinery avoids power lines from year to year.

The following tips will help keep everyone on a farm safe:

- Look over work areas care-

fully for overhead power lines and utility poles.



- Make sure you have ample clearance when moving large

machinery such as combines, grain augers, pickers, bailers, and front-end loaders. Do this every year as equipment sizes or soil conditions may change.

- Store large equipment properly if near or under power lines. When planning new construction, factor in existing power lines.
- Be extra careful when working around trees and brush; they often make it difficult to see power lines.
- Train all farm workers to keep an eye out for overhead power lines.

## Tips for lowering cooling costs

Don't let warmer weather turn into "summertime blues" when your monthly electric bill arrives. Here are some energy-saving tips from Twin Valleys Public Power District.

**Adjust the thermostat.** Lowering a thermostat in winter can save as much as \$85 per year. During warmer months, raising the thermostat a few degrees can save money, too. Set the temperature between 78-80 degrees Fahrenheit, and you could save up to 8 percent on monthly cooling bills.

Programmable thermostats make it easy to save by offering four pre-programmed settings to regulate a home's temperature throughout the year.

**Be a "fan-atic."** While they don't replace air conditioners or heat pumps, fans move air and help you

feel more comfortable. On milder days, fans can save as much as 60 percent on electric bills. Fans cool people, not rooms, so turn them off when you leave.



**Regular maintenance is essential.** Twin Valleys Public Power District recommends that our customers have their HVAC systems serviced annually by a NATE (North American Technician Excellence)-

certified technician. This HVAC professional will check your entire system to make sure it runs efficiently. This will help to extend life of the system and save money.

**Look for ENERGY STAR equipment.** When it's time to replace your cooling system, it is recommended to replace it with an ENERGY STAR-qualified model. Doing so could reduce your energy costs by as much as 30 percent.

**Bigger isn't always better.** Too often, cooling equipment isn't sized properly and leads to higher electric bills. A unit that's too large for your home will not cool evenly and might produce higher humidity indoors. That's why it is important to have your HVAC contractor do a heat loss/heat gain calculation to determine the size of system you need.

## Tired of high propane prices??

**Switch to an electric heat pump**

**Rebates available up to \$1000**

**2 1/2% loan available through the  
Nebraska Energy Office**

**You could qualify for our "all-  
electric" rate—save an average of  
10%-30% on your electric bill from  
October thru May**



## Twin Valleys Public Power District

| <b>Board of Directors</b>  | <b>Staff</b>   |
|----------------------------|--|
| Gerald Meyerle, President  | James P. Dietz, General Manager                        |
| Bruce Lans, Vice President | Sandra Stagemeyer, Director of Administrative Services |
| Brent Ballou, Secretary    | Mike Langley, Director of Operations                   |
| K. Dale Fufts, Treasurer   | Bill Minnick, Director of Communications & Marketing   |
| Dallas Ott                 |  |
| Larry Kubik                |  |
| David Black                |  |

**Website: [www.twinvalleysppd.com](http://www.twinvalleysppd.com)**

### Notice of Board Meeting

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Twin Valleys Public Power District is scheduled for 2:00 p.m. the third Monday of each month at the District Office in Cambridge, Nebraska. An agenda for the meeting, kept continuously current, is available for public inspection at the principal office of Twin Valleys Public Power District in Cambridge during normal business hours.

**Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**


**Monday - Friday**

### Service Calls After Hours

Please call 800-658-4266 or 697-3315 at all times to report outages or service calls after normal business hours. A Twin Valleys' dispatcher will take down the necessary information.

### ***Twin Valleys' Employees***

David Benson, Line Superintendent  
 Bob Bergquist, Lease Town Meter Reader  
 David Custer, Apparatus Supervisor  
 Todd Eitzmann, Apprentice Lineman  
 Derek Galusha, Apprentice Lineman  
 David Garcia, Load Mgmt & Info Technology Specialist  
 Gary Groshong, Construction Layout Tech  
 Riley Guthrie, Apprentice Lineman, Alma  
 Doug Huxoll, Warehouseman  
 Marcie Houghtelling, Secretary/Receptionist  
 Kim Miller, Cambridge Crew Chief  
 Jim Mollhoff, Journeyman Lineman  
 Brock Mowry, Apprentice Lineman  
 Cole Nickerson, Apparatus Tech  
 Janet Rasmussen, Accountant  
 Adam Stottler, Apprentice Lineman, Alma  
 Jim Teter, Journeyman Lineman  
 Carol Voss, Billing Supervisor  
 Karen Werkmeister, Billing Clerk  
 Nick Woetzel, Apprentice Lineman, Alma  
 Brandon Wright, Alma Crew Chief  
 Philip Young, Area Serviceman



**TWIN VALLEYS**  
PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

**REBATES**

*FOR ELECTRIC SPACE AND WATER HEATING*

| <u>System Type</u>  | <u>SEER Rating</u> | <u>TVPPD Rebate</u> | <u>EnergyWise Rebate</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Air Source Heat Pump—add on</b><br>(natural gas or propane backup) | 14                 | \$300               | \$200                    | \$500        |
|   | 15                 | \$350               | \$250                    | \$600        |
|   | 16+                | \$400               | \$300                    | \$700        |
| <b>Air Source Heat Pump</b><br>(electric furnace backup)              | 14                 | \$500               | \$200                    | \$700        |
|   | 15                 | \$550               | \$250                    | \$800        |
|   | 16+                | \$600               | \$300                    | \$900        |
| <b>Geo-thermal Heat Pump</b>  | Any EER            | \$600               | \$400                    | \$1000       |
| <b>Resistance Heat</b> (furnace, baseboard or cove)                   |                    | \$200               |                          | \$200        |
| <b>Resistance Water Heat</b> (40 gallon or larger)                    |                    | \$250               |                          | \$250        |
| <b>Desuperheater</b> (heat pump water heating system)                 |                    | \$150               |                          | \$150        |

## Heat Pump Tax Credits

### **Air Source Heat Pumps—\$300**

- Must be placed into service from January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011
- Minimum requirements: SEER-15 and HSPF-8.5
- A manufacturer's certification statement is required (signed statement stating that the heat pump does qualify for the tax credit)
- For existing homes only

### **Geothermal Heat Pumps—30% of the total cost with no limit**

- Must be placed into service from January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2016
- Closed loop system—minimum efficiency ratings of EER-14.1 and COP-3.3
- Open loop system—minimum efficiency ratings of EER-16.2 and COP-3.6
- Direct expansion system—minimum efficiency ratings of EER-15 and COP-3.5
- A manufacturer's certification statement is required (signed statement stating that the heat pump does qualify for the tax credit)
- For existing homes and new construction

**These tax credits are in addition to the rebates you receive from Twin Valleys Public Power District**

*“This institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer”*