



PRESS RELEASE

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Loup retail rates unchanged for 2019

COLUMBUS, Neb. — Retail rates for Loup Power District’s retail customers will remain the same in 2019.

The Loup Power District Board of Directors reviewed and approved a retail cost of service and rate design study at the December 20 board meeting.

The board analyzed the purchased power costs from Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD), the District’s wholesale power supplier.

NPPD’s overall costs to Loup did not change, although the allocation of costs between the winter and summer seasons did change. Therefore, the District’s Board of Directors felt there was no need to change retail rates.

“Over the past several years the District has reacted to changes in wholesale power and operational costs by making changes to the retail rates,” said Jim Donoghue, chairman of Loup’s Rates Committee. “However, the District Board has worked with management to keep retail rate levels the same in 2019 as they were in 2018.”

Donoghue added that Loup’s board has implemented a long-term strategy to maintain its reserve margin at reasonable levels and keep retail rates competitive. “Over the past several years, the District’s costs have shifted from the summer months to the winter months due to rate methodology shifts from NPPD,” he said.

Loup Power District’s overall rates were 25.4 percent below the national average and 12.5 percent below the Nebraska average based on data from a 2017 American Public Power Association survey.

“Loup’s rates remain among the lowest in Nebraska and the Nation,” said Loup Board Chairman Rich Aerni.

Overall, Loup Power District’s rates are in the lowest tenth percentile both statewide and nationally.

Energy or kilowatt-hour (kWh) usage is always the determining factor in a customer’s bill. Customers in all rate classifications continue to have opportunities to reduce their costs by taking advantage of numerous programs offered by the District.

These programs include energy incentives and home energy audits. For more information on the District’s retail rates and energy-saving programs, visit the District’s website at www.loup.com.

ABOUT LOUP POWER DISTRICT: For more than 80 years, Loup Power District has provided reliable, low-cost electricity to customers in Boone, Colfax, Nance and Platte Counties and part of Madison County. The District also provides economic development and five parks in these areas. More information about Loup is available at www.loup.com.

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