



# ELECTRIC IRRIGATION 2023

## MERGER UPDATE:

### Going forward from here

In mid-February, the Nebraska Power Review Board heard testimony about the proposed merger of The Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District and Dawson Public Power District. The PRB asked for an extension of the normal 60-day deadline for a decision. Central and Dawson agreed to extend the deadline until May 8, 2023.

Let's recall why we considered a merger in the first place. Our conversations started with power sales.

Central sells hydro power and Dawson PPD can purchase up to 20,417 kW of renewable power (10 percent) outside of the wholesale contract with Nebraska Public Power District.


We soon discovered the benefits would be even greater if the two companies merged. A contract couldn't flex with energy market changes, but a merged organization can. We have complimentary workforces, territories and assets. There are additional possibilities for economic development if we work together. Platte River Public Power and Irrigation District will provide rate stability for all customers and save money.

If you have questions, please contact me. You can also contact your representative on the board. They are listed on the back of this newsletter.



**GWEN KAUTZ**  
**General Manager**  
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 or call 308-324-2386

## Sign it online!

Would you like a digital version of annual irrigation paperwork instead of mailed forms? Let us know! The goal is to streamline the process in 2024, reducing paper and postage. 

Two forms will be available electronically in 2024: the verification of customer information and the selection of load management options.

Paper mailings will be sent to those who do not opt for electronic forms.

### Contact:

Marti Fischer or Casandra Way  
 Call 308-324-2386 or email:  
 MFischer@dawsonpower.com or  
 CWay@dawsonpower.com



*Merger information and documents are available at [DawsonPower.com](http://DawsonPower.com).*

### Dawson PPD helps Twin Platte NRD

The Twin Platte Natural Resource District wanted to provide more accurate water pumping information to the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources. To meet that goal, Twin Platte needed data. They reached out to Dawson PPD and other electric utilities for help.

"With the electric customers' permission, Dawson can provide energy usage information to the NRD. Twin Platte uses that information to calculate

water use," says Cole Brodine, Manager of Engineering.

"When we talked to the electric utilities, they just got it. They understood the need and wanted to help the irrigators," explains Billy Tiller of GiSC. GiSC created the app that calculates and provides data to the irrigator and Twin Platte NRD.

*Learn more about this partnership in an upcoming press release.*

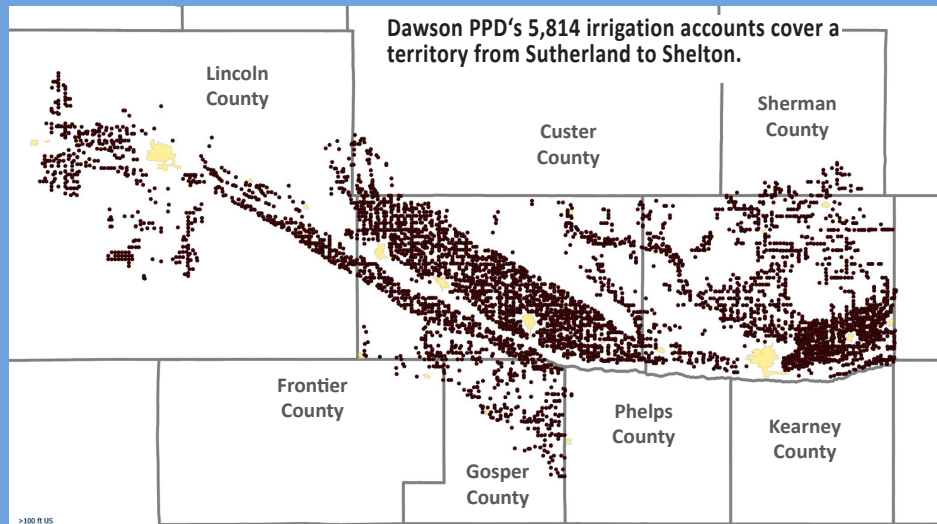
## Rates unchanged for 2023

### FIXED (DEMAND) CHARGES

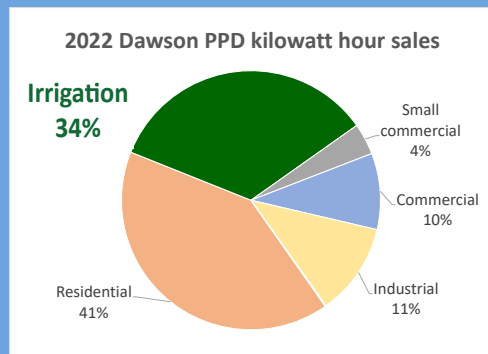
|                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Anytime, including Sunday  | \$32.64/hp |
| Four day control + Sunday  | \$38.14/hp |
| Three day control + Sunday | \$43.64/hp |
| Two day control + Sunday   | \$49.14/hp |
| One day control + Sunday   | \$54.64/hp |
| Uncontrolled               | \$60.14/hp |
| Standby                    | \$22.50/hp |

### ENERGY CHARGES

|                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Anytime, including Sunday  | 6.29¢/kwh  |
| Four day control + Sunday  | 7.54¢/kwh  |
| Three day control + Sunday | 8.16¢/kwh  |
| Two day control + Sunday   | 8.79¢/kwh  |
| One day control + Sunday   | 9.41¢/kwh  |
| Uncontrolled               | 10.04¢/kwh |



## Irrigation by the numbers



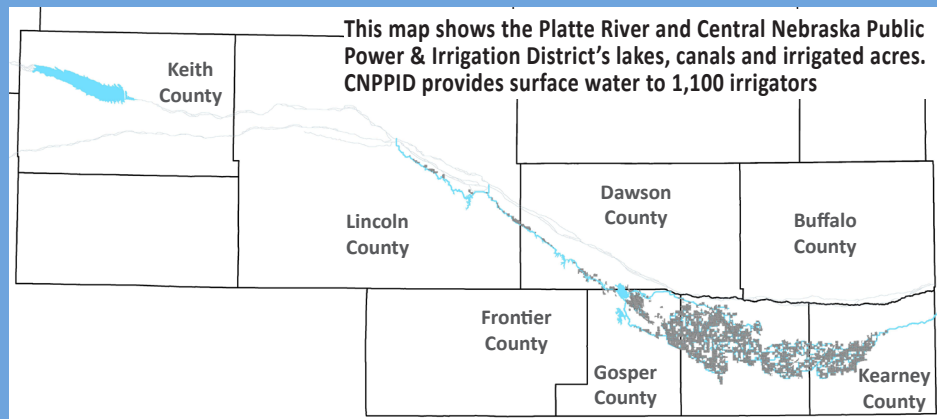
| Year | Kilowatt hours sold to irrigators |
|------|-----------------------------------|
| 2022 | 215.8 million                     |
| 2021 | 164.8 million                     |
| 2020 | 167.0 million                     |

**47.2 HP** Average horsepower of irrigation services powered by Dawson PPD

| Year | Number of electric irrigation accounts served |
|------|---|
| 2023 | 5,814   |
| 2022 | 5,810   |
| 2021 | 5,781   |
| 2020 | 5,780   |
| 2019 | 5,786   |
| 2018 | 5,793   |
| 2017 | 5,796   |
| 2016 | 5,789   |
| 2015 | 5,779   |
| 2014 | 5,776   |
| 2013 | 5,495   |
| 2012 | 5,410   |
| 2011 | 5,329   |
| 2010 | 5,294   |

**142** Total number of load control hours during Dawson PPD's 2022 irrigation season.

**HOLDING**  
the  
**L I N E**  
Electric irrigation rates have remained the same since February 1, 2021.



# Q&A

## Is my well controlled every day I get a CODE RED text message?

The same load management text messages are sent to all electric irrigation customers. A "code red" day will only affect your irrigation system if it is eligible for control that specific day.

For example: The first level of control is the one-day. So if you get a Code Red message on Monday and you are signed up for only Monday, your service will be one of the first controlled.

## New account? Check your rate

If you've recently put an account in your name, let Dawson PPD know the control option you need for that service.

When an account changes names, it defaults to the "no control" option. Load management option changes are due March 15.

## What about adding solar to my pivot site?

Contact Dawson PPD if you are considering adding solar to your irrigation service. Note that irrigation accounts with customer-owned generation need to be on monthly energy billing, not seasonal energy billing. Systems over 25 KW do not qualify for the net metering rate.

# Answering your questions

## Can I get a break from load management?

If equipment breaks down or a pivot gets stuck, call Dawson PPD for a break from load management. If your system is under control at that time, Dawson PPD can give you a few minutes or hours to make repairs. There is no charge for this service. Call 308-324-2386.

## Why do I need a soft start device?

Starting motor currents can be as high as three times the running current. This inrush of current can cause blinks and other power quality issues for neighboring customers. A soft start prevents this inrush current.

Dawson PPD requires a soft start device on any irrigation service 100 horsepower or more. Under 100 horsepower, a soft start is not required.

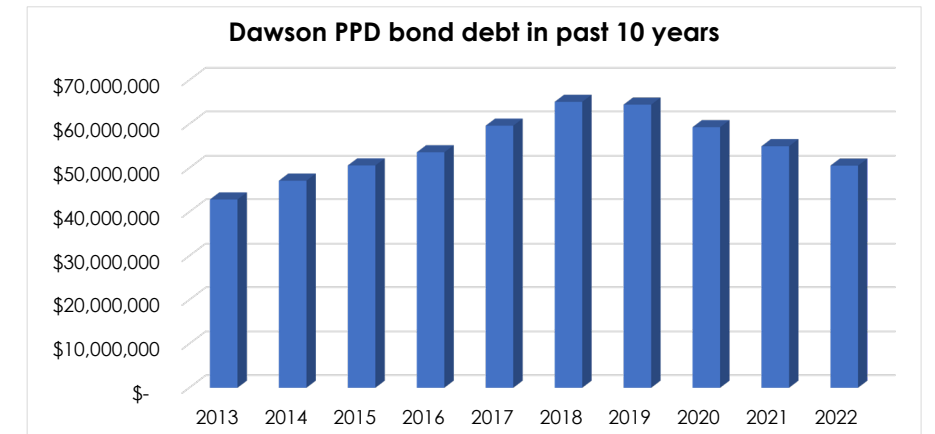
## What does it cost to build a new irrigation service?

Dawson PPD can provide a construction estimate for serving a new well, or converting from fossil fuel. Call 308-324-2386 for an estimate.

Prices for electrical equipment, like transformers and wire, have increased quickly. A Dawson PPD estimate of construction costs is guaranteed for 14 days. To lock in the current pricing, the customer needs to pay the aid to construction costs.

Some electrical equipment has been in short supply. Dawson PPD will notify customers who could be affected by shortages.

## Is Dawson PPD financially stable? What about debt?



Dawson PPD uses bonds to finance big construction projects. These bonds were issued at favorable rates. They will be paid back over several years, by the ratepayers who benefit from the construction projects. These projects have improved the reliability, capacity and efficiency of Dawson PPD's electric grid.

Dawson is current on its loans and bond payments. The district has an "A" bond rating, which provides access to good interest rates. Equity as a percent

of assets is at 68.37 percent; another good indicator of financial well-being.

In the proposed merger, Dawson PPD and the Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District have different business models. Dawson PPD borrows money for improvements. Central saves money before starting improvements. Platte River Public Power and Irrigation District will keep the financials of the businesses separate, meaning that each division of the business is individually accountable.

## At your service



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## DAWSON PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS

Board meetings are typically scheduled the first Wednesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. The date and time are published in the public notice. You can also call 308-324-2386 for information.



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