

# LIGHTNING ROUND

### August 2019

#### In this issue:

- EV Plan Shifting Gears
- KPP Taking Next Steps in Future Power Supply Planning
- Have You Completed the Cybersecurity Scorecard?
- Let Me Talk to the Mayor
- Distribution of Energy Resources
- · Hillsboro!

# **EV Plan Shifting Gears**

#### **KPP Charging Station Buildout to Commence**

KPP's electric vehicle promotion plan moved into the left passing lane last Thursday when the Board of Directors authorized the commencement of a KPP charging infrastructure. Plans are now in motion to install Level 2 charging stations at locations strategically selected by the Staff. KPP's action will be seen in concert with Evergy, and other providers, who have also commenced installation plans. More broadly, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment oversees the deployment of Volkswagen settlement dollars to fund additional infrastructure. The locations, and especially the timing, of that project is far less certain than individual efforts of utilities.

Director of Engineering Services, James Ging, gave Board members a rundown



on existing technology together with installation and maintenance costs and options. Discussions centered on the significantly higher price tag of the Level 3 DC Fast Charge station versus utilizing approximately the same cost to install numerous Level 2 stations in loca-

tions where more KPP Members can directly benefit.

Compatible with all

electric vehicles, it offers charging through a



240V, AC plug and

require a 40 or 50 amp circuit. Depending on battery technology used in a vehicle, the Level 2 generally takes 4 to 6 hours to charge. But that amount of charging is for a fully depleted battery. Driving and usage patterns of EV owners seem to be emerging and calling

only for a brief charge to complete a commute or errand. Trickle charge at home has already become the preferred charging pattern.

It is expected that last Thursday's discussions will set the stage for activity in 2020 and the balance of 2019. More review and further planning for future years is expected in early 2020. In the more immediate future, the amount of charging stations, perhaps 5 to 7 in number, will likely be seen going into service within the next few months.





Other elements of EV promotion include a new KPP vehicle. Earlier this month KPP took delivery of its Nissan Leaf EV. KPP Members should soon see it on display in our Cities. Earlier this year approval was given on a refresh of KPP's energy efficiency incentives. Now included is up to \$1500 for the installation of a home electric

## **KPP Taking Next Steps in Future Power** Supply Planning

### Next Round of Consultation with Burns & McDonnell Occurs in late August

Approval was given in the August Board meeting to review task orders with Burns & McDonnell

in advancing plans for installing additions to KPP resource mix of generation capacity. A complete economic and technical overview had previously been given to all Mem-



bers on August 6<sup>th</sup> at the KMU Training Center in McPherson.

Larry Holloway, Assistant General Manager of Operations, guided Board members through a task order document explaining that a specific site selection assessment is central to the next phase of consultation. Staff had previously provided Burns & McDonnell 5 sites reflective of the financial evaluation performed earlier by the Brattle Group. Precise site location evaluation will define the plant, land and utility requirements. A geographic information systems (GIS) analysis is also planned as part of an infrastructure evaluation.



Sample image of Wartsila quick start RICE engines

A kickoff meeting with Burns & McDonnell is planned for late August. Site evaluation, transmission system impact and requirements, along with the consultant's interconnection support, are all part of the intended services to be provided.

KPP Members have long been informed of the anticipated expiration of the Westar resource contract expiring at the end of 2022. Plans for replac-

ing the capacity with Wartsila quick start units, and optimizing the resource in the integrated market, have given strong confidence that this planned resource addition to the portfolio will result in a cost reduction. Other details will be repeated at KPP's Fall Planning Retreat on September 20 and 21.

### **Have You Completed the Cybersecurity** Scorecard?

#### KPP Committed to assisting all Members

We asked this question in June. We believe about half of KPP Members have done so. We want to help others to get it done. It's easy. There are only 14 questions and it will take probably 30 minutes to complete. But this online self-assessment tool will be enlightening - maybe revealing.

If you're wondering just what is it? The Cybersecurity Scorecard helps to assess cyber risk, plan improvements, prioritize investments and benchmark their security posture. Developed by the American Public Power Association (APPA) and its partner, Axio, it is an excellent starting point to address cyber risks.

KPP's goal is to have every Member complete it soon. There are good reasons to do so. And with each passing day, we are all increasingly left without excuses as we feel urgency in addressing threats to our information systems. Fortunately, KPP can help in providing guidance and tools for assessing and establishing readiness. Many KPP Members completed our recent Municipal Cyber Academy. There, Cities discovered how KPP helped them to either start their cybersecurity journey or evaluate ongoing efforts. Our next Academy begins in September. KPP Staff can help you get signed up for that as well.

But waiting for the next Academy does not require you to delay completing the Scorecard. Go to http://scorecard.axio.com. You'll see a video overview and other training if you'd like.

You might be fascinated to discover vulnerabilities you hadn't previously considered! And if so, we can help. If you have questions on the scorecard or our other resources, call or write to KPP Director of Administrative Services, Brooke Carroll at bcarroll@kpp.agency.



### 'Let Me Talk to the Mayor!'

Editor's Note: In February, KPP introduced this new segment to the Lightning Round. Each month, our intention is to report on a Q&A between CEO/General Manager Mark Chesney and the mayor of a KPP Member City. This edition features Steve Brown of Udall.

Mark: I am always curious about the mayor's life story. Are you a lifelong Udall guy?

**Steve:** Well, not exactly. I relocated to Udall in 1974 after finishing school in Oklahoma. So, I've been here awhile.

Mark: Didn't I hear you say once that you retired from Boeing?

**Steve:** Yes. Been retired since 2013. I am a machinist by trade. In school I started out studying Biology/

Chemistry, and eventually understood my purpose was to follow my father's chose field of machinist.



Steve Brown, Udall Mayor



**Steve:** I've been mayor for five and a half years. Prior to that, eight years on the city council. Before that I was eight years on the school board. It's been an interesting time. Population, demographics and city services in Udall have pretty much remained the same – except of course switching to KPP.

Mark: What are the hot topics right now in Udall?

Steve: We've implemented a long-term plan for growth, such

as demolishing blighted and unused buildings. Then also, the City has current plans to

construct a new library, fitness center and clinic. And plus, we have created a new modern park out of the original space.

Mark: What about electric power? The Udall community has owned its utility for many decades now...

**Steve:** That's right. People appreciate it and each year people become more aware of the need for good power quality. Right now I believe citizens realize that power outages are not caused by our provider. In the past we had quite a few long-term outages. Today most of our outages are caused by squirrels getting into the infrastructure and we have addressed that problem. Overall the frequency of outages has gone down dramatically.



Mark: What issues in the coming years do you see Udall, or small cities generally, facing?

**Steve:** Having the funds and resources to keep up with changing technologies. As we progress further into the 21<sup>st</sup> century new energy sources will become available. So having the funds to improve our services will be a challenge that I foresee.



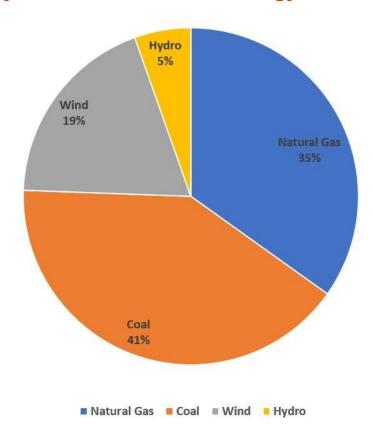
Editorial note from Mark: After my visit with the mayor, I realized I should ask mayors what their hobbies are. That's because I learned that Steve Brown makes guitars! As a guitarist myself from my early 20s, I was fascinated to learn about Steve's hobby just as I was about to leave the city building. Anyway, I asked him to send a picture of one he's currently working on. Thanks Steve! Very cool!

#### **REMINDER!!**

RESERVATION DEADLINE FOR FALL PLANNING RETREAT IS THIS FRIDAY, AUGUST 30! REGISTER ONLINE AT www.kpp.agency. Click banner in upper right hand corner.

Fall Planning Retreat Wichita, KS - Drury Hotel SEPT. 20-21, 2019 CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

# **July 2019 Distribution of Energy Resources**



### **HILLSBORO!**





Workers finish up the Grand Street Project. What's happening in your City? Send us pictures for the Lightning Round!