

# KEY 2015 BPU INITIATIVES



## Environmental

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The Kansas City Board of Public Utilities (BPU) is investing \$250 million to install additional Air Quality Control equipment on its 235 MW Nearman Power Plant in order to comply with the new Mercury and Air Toxics Standard MATS rule, also known as the Utility MACT, or Maximum Achievable Control Technology. This will allow BPU to retain its capacity to utilize coal as a fuel source for our generation.

## Education

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New emPOWER Education Program launched by BPU in all 3 Kansas City, Kansas school districts:

- Encourages environmental responsibility and teaches utility safety standards, while promoting the importance of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) for future learning to area youth.
- BPU in partnership with the school districts and teaching staff designed a series of lesson guides that elementary, middle and high school teachers can incorporate into their lesson plans under the science strand, with a focus on energy, water conservation, and environmental related issues.
- Aligns with the Next Generation Science Standards and meets the State of Kansas Common Core School District Standards.

## Utility Assistance

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BPU developed a new utility assistance program for unforeseen hardships such as health emergency; change in employment; change in family composition or unforeseen documented expenses. BPU also works through the United Way with 14 local organizations that offer utility assistance.



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# Fast Facts

## General Utility Information



- 100+ years of service to Wyandotte County, serving 63,000 electric and 50,000 water customers.
  - 158,000 residents
- Revenue Source
  - 85% electric
  - 15% water
- One of the top public utilities in the nation.
- BPU is a publicly owned administrative agency of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/ Kansas City, Kansas (UG), and is self-governed by an elected six-member Board of Directors.
- As a municipal utility, BPU is non-profit, which means it answers to Main Street not Wall Street.
- BPU's mission is to focus on the needs of its customers, to improve the quality of life in the community while promoting safe, reliable and sustainable utilities.
- The Utility serves 127.5 square miles of Wyandotte County. Electric services are provided within the Kansas City, Kansas (KCK), area and water is supplied to KCK, as well as portions of suburban Wyandotte, Leavenworth and Johnson counties.

## An Environmental Steward



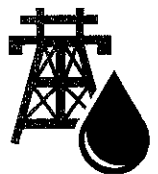
- BPU operations are managed in an environmentally efficient and responsible manner, working to comply with all applicable local, state, and federal regulations and laws.
- 22% of BPU's energy comes from renewable energy.
  - Federal Hydro = 44 MW
  - Wind Energy = 50 MW
  - Hydroelectric Energy = 7 MW from Bowersock Mills
  - Land Fill Gas = 3.5 MW
- Conducts free energy efficiency workshops in the community.
- BPU maintains its own water testing lab to ensure water quality.

## Customer Service Focus



- Only utility in area with customer service lobby.
  - 12,500 walk-in transactions a month in customer service lobby.
  - Extended lobby hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- Payment kiosks throughout county and free online/phone bill pay options for easier access.
- New automated meter reading will save money, reduce carbon footprint from vehicle use, speed up all transactions and improve outage and leak detection.
  - Through soon-to-be-launched Energy Engage, customers will be able to track daily energy and water usage to assist them with their consumption decisions.

## Meeting Wyandotte County's Utility Needs



- Electric system includes two active power stations, 29 substations, and 3,000 miles of electrical lines.
  - BPU responsible for county's 9,000 traffic signal heads, 6,000 fire hydrants, 19,000 street lights and radio system for first responders: fire, police, ambulance and sheriff.
- State-of-the-art water treatment plant, 3 major pump stations, and 1,000 miles of water pipes over 150 sq. mile area.
  - Water quality consistently exceeds all federal and state standards.
  - Two of the nation's largest horizontal collector wells deep below Missouri river ensure safe and consistent BPU drinking water at all times.
- BPU recently purchased 17% ownership in Dogwood, a combined cycle natural gas plant.



## WYANDOTTE COUNTY, KANSAS STATISTICS

### Population/Geography

- Total Population = 158,224 (increase of 0.5% since 2010)
- White = 43%
- Hispanic = 27%
  - Language other than English spoken at home = 23.6%
- African American = 25%
- Total square miles = 155.9 (smallest county in state of Kansas)
- Density = 1,043 persons per sq. mile

### Income/Housing

- Median Household income (2008-2012) = \$39,163
  - Median Household income in state of Kansas = \$51,273
- Per capita income = \$18,827
- Homeownership rate = 63%
- Persons living below poverty level = 21.9%
  - Persons below poverty level in Kansas = 12.4%
  - Persons below poverty level nationally = 14.3%
- 30% of children live in poverty
- 77% of children participate in free lunch program for the poor
  - Compared to 47% that participate in free lunch program statewide
- Unemployment Rate = 9.4%
- Number of BPU residential customers on arranged electric bill payment plan = 6%
- Number of BPU residential customers in queue for electric service disconnection due to nonpayment of bill = 8%



Source\* US Census 2010, Unified Government of Wyandotte County, State of Kansas

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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