THE CURRENT
SUNFLOWER ELECTRIC POWER CORPORATION
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative
Spring 2022
For Our Member Systems, Employees and Friends

Sunflower Goes "ALL IN" on Safety Brand Refresh

A Sunflower lineman taps a sign with the company's new safety slogan as he exits the Garden City Transmission shop. The signage is part of a safety brand refresh campaign coinciding with the issuance of a safety challenge coin that employees are encouraged to carry.

On Feb. 17, the conference room at Holcomb Station was quiet with the exception of a few rustling chairs as Stuart Lowry, Sunflower's president and chief executive officer, began delivering a strong message: **ALL IN, ALL OUT**.

"**ALL IN, ALL OUT**. It's more than just a safety slogan at Sunflower; in a mere four words, it captures the heart of who we are and how we accomplish our work every day," Lowry said.

SUNFLOWER SAFETY
BECAUSE I CARE
BECAUSE **WE** CARE
BECAUSE **THEY** CARE

ALL IN, ALL OUT is not a new slogan. Sunflower has been using the phrase in messaging since 2015, but the safety brand has been updated by the Sunflower Safety Continuous Improvement Team (SCIT), comprising employees from across the company who volunteered their time to refresh the brand.

A total of 300 employees participated in one of four scheduled events over a two-day period when the safety brand refresh was rolled out.

"No matter our individual task—whether we're doing line maintenance, deploying generation units, advocating for our members, or gathering at the engineering table—**ALL IN, ALL OUT** means bringing our best efforts to every project from start to finish," Lowry said. "It takes each of us embracing our safety culture… holding ourselves and each other accountable for following safety procedures. **ALL IN** means always being fully engaged in applying safety protocols, so we are **ALL OUT** the door every day, safely with our families and loved ones."

The message was reinforced in a video developed by SCIT, followed by the issuance of a safety challenge coin incorporating the slogan.

The safety coin features the slogan printed on its face around a logo of helping hands. Staff are encouraged to carry it every day to promote safety awareness and team unity, and supervisors are encouraged to promote the coin in unique ways.

"We carry the coin as a reminder to be safe and for the safety of each other and our families," said Adam Wolking, line crew chief. "We challenge each other to carry it every day; if they don't, they have to buy lunch for everyone on the crew."

Learn more about Sunflower's safety brand refresh by visiting sunflower.net/video-gallery/ and clicking on "Safety Brand Refresh 2022."

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

SPP Analyzes Storm Uri, Makes Recommendations

Gone but not forgotten. 2021 Winter Storm Uri packed a punch still being analyzed nationwide. If you've chosen to put it out of mind—and who can blame you— it was that week in February when the weather pattern brought frigid temperatures for an unprecedented amount of time to the central U.S. extending far north to far south.

Electric generation became unavailable due to generator outages; fuel supply issues (primarily natural gas) caused by the cold weather; and low output from renewable resources due to ice, low wind, and low sunlight.

As a result, for the first time in the 80-year history of the Southwest Power Pool (SPP), the regional transmission organization tasked with ensuring the reliable delivery of electricity to a 14-state region, directed electric utilities to interrupt electricity service for a specified period of time. This was done to prevent uncontrolled blackouts on the grid that would have resulted in much longer periods with no power for a widespread area of the bulk electric system.

While the two electricity interruptions were as short as necessary to balance the electric grid (approximately four hours total), the goal among SPP and electric utilities is to avoid electricity interruptions.

SPP is responsible for matching generation resources to electric demand in a way to avoid load sheds. Therefore, in March 2021, the SPP board directed a comprehensive review of the event to identify how SPP can better prepare for future extreme reliability threats. Five teams and several hundred stakeholders conducted in-depth analysis and published "A Comprehensive Review of SPP's response to the February 2021 Winter Storm."

As stated in SPP's analysis of Storm Uri, "The unavailability of generation, driven mostly by lack of fuel, was the largest contributing factor to the severity of the winter weather event's impacts, which were exacerbated by record wintertime energy consumption and a rapid reduction of energy imports."

Recommendations to be addressed first:

- **Develop fuel policies to improve the availability and reliability of generation in the SPP region**
- **Advocate for improvements in gas industry policies to ensure gas supply is readily and affordably available during extreme events**
- **Assess the minimum resources needed in SPP's resource mix for reliability**
- **Improve policies and market-based incentives to ensure resources will be available during normal and extreme conditions**

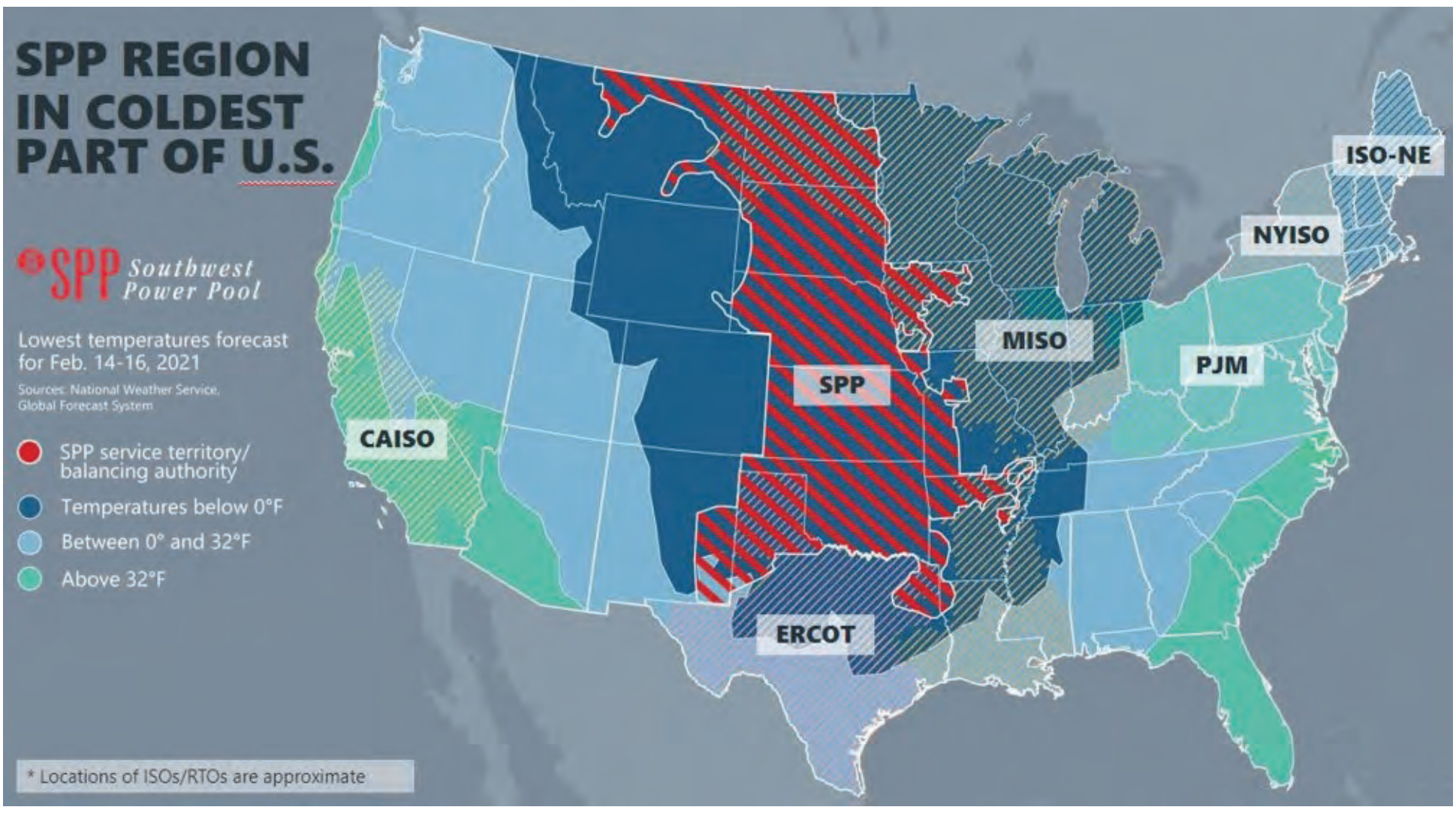
The final report recommends 22 actions, policy changes and assessments related to address the current system, a system that contains more and more renewable resources and fewer traditional base-load resources. The recommendations were divided into a three-tier ranking system with Tier 1 deemed the most urgent.

The full report, available on the SPP website at spp.org, includes recommendations for improving emergency response process and planning; operator tools, communication, and processes; market design; transmission planning; credit and settlements; and emergency communications.

SPP also formed an Alerts and Uncertainty Response Team (AURT) to detect potential issues not captured through regular day-a-head planning, determine periods of reliability risks, and develop mitigation plans to avoid load curtailments.

In addition to undertaking recommendations in the study, SPP and SPP's generator-owners (including Sunflower) established parameters around maintenance on generation units from December through March. This will help ensure generation is available during the coldest times of the year.

"Storm Uri was a historical event with a unique set of challenges" said Stuart Lowry, Sunflower's president and CEO. "While many factors were outside of SPP's and electric utilities' control, the actions being taken represent the commitment of SPP and its members to further protect the reliability and affordability of the electric grid."



Our Mission:

To provide reliable, long-term power supply and transmission services to our members and the people they serve at the lowest possible cost consistent with sound business and cooperative principles.

On the Horizon

Sunflower to Develop 20-MW Solar Facility Near Russell

Sunflower's Key Account Director Anne Erbert discusses the new solar project with attendees at the public informational gathering in Russell on Feb. 15.

Sunflower Electric Power Corporation is excited to announce plans to develop its newest renewable energy generation resource. The 20-megawatt Sunflower Electric Solar @ Russell facility will be located a quick five-minute drive east of downtown Russell, Kan., and include 75,000 photovoltaic (PV) solar panels on 240-acres. Like most newer commercial solar facilities, the panels have single-axis tracking designed to rotate throughout the day and continually face the sun for maximum efficiency and production.

The Sunflower Electric Solar @ Russell project is the second utility-scale renewable energy project for Sunflower. Upon completion, it will match the size of the Johnson Corner Solar Project, Kansas' largest operating solar facility, which came online in April 2020. Construction of the Russell solar farm is expected to provide 180 temporary jobs and begin in late 2022 with commercial operation expected to start by the end of 2023.

The project will benefit Sunflower, a generation and transmission cooperative, and its seven member distribution utilities serving in central and western Kansas. The arrays are expected to produce approximately 53,000 megawatt hours annually, comprising 1% of the Sunflower system's energy.

"The new solar project demonstrates how Sunflower and our Members are committed to a diverse, yet cost-effective generation fleet," said Corey Linville, Sunflower's vice president of power supply and delivery. "One key benefit to solar is it generates energy during the hottest days of the year when we experience our peak demand for electricity. Having generation resources that complement weather patterns boost both reliability and affordability."

> ". . . generatiion resources that complement weather patterns boost both reliability and affordability."

Following Sunflower's submission of a solar energy system permit to Russell County GIS and Zoning in late January, Sunflower hosted a public informational gathering in Russell on Feb. 15 to address concerns and questions from the public. The permit was reviewed and considered by the Russell County Commission, which approved the permit and the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) proposal presented during the March 7 meeting.

The addition of the new Russell solar facility will further increase Sunflower's renewable energy footprint in Kansas. To date, Sunflower has Power Purchase Agreements for more than 178.4 MW of operational wind in the state in addition to the 20-MW Johnson Corner Solar facility.

"Because consumer desire for renewable energy persists and PV technology continues to advance while costs become more competitive, solar is increasingly becoming a larger part of our resource portfolio," said Stuart Lowry, Sunflower's president and CEO. "Utility-scale solar provides a cost-effective method of delivering renewable energy to our Members and their consumer-members for many years to come."

The Sunflower Electric Solar @ Russell project was developed by Sunflower in partnership with National Renewables Cooperative Organization (NRCO). NRCO increases access and provides opportunities for cooperatives across the country to contract and develop cost effective renewable energy resources.

Information about the new solar project is available at sunflower.net.

SUNFLOWER ELECTRIC POWER CORPORATION
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Member Memo

. . . energy done right

ANNUAL MEETINGS

APRIL 12

VICTORY ELECTRIC
Western State Bank Expo
11333 Highway 283, Dodge City, Kan.

- 5:30 p.m. Registration
- 6:00 p.m. Meeting
- No meal will be provided.

APRIL 12

PRAIRIE LAND ELECTRIC
Prairie Land Headquarters
14935 U.S. Highway 36, Norton, Kan.

- Lunch served at noon
- Meeting starts at 12:45 p.m.

APRIL 27

WHEATLAND ELECTRIC
Great Bend Events Center
3111 10th St., Great Bend, Kan.

- 11 a.m. Registration
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- Meeting starts at noon
- *Meeting will be shown virtually at Wheatland Offices*

MAY 11

WESTERN COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC
Western Cooperative Electric
635 S. 13th St., WaKeeney, Kan.

- 11 a.m. Registration
- Lunch at noon
- 1 p.m. Meeting

JULY 19

LANE-SCOTT ELECTRIC
Lane County 4-H Building
Fairgrounds Rd., Dighton, Kan.

- 6:30 p.m. Dinner
- 7:30 p.m. Meeting

SEPT 15

PIONEER ELECTRIC
Grant County Civic Center Shop
1000 W. Patterson Ave., Ulysses, Kan.

- Dinner and Meeting TBA

SPOTLIGHT ON COOPERATIVE CAREERS

From the elevator in the stack, Justine Sullivan views condensation from the cooling towers at Holcomb Station.

Environmental Coordinators

The environmental compliance team at Holcomb Station, a modern, 349-megawatt coal-based generating unit, consists of seven employees. They serve Sunflower's generation units, transmission facilities and rights-of-way, ensuring compliance and environmental standards are upheld.

Environmental coordinators of water and waste management focus on ensuring compliance with federal, state, and local water, solid waste, and Kansas water-use requirements. They also focus on complying with the Endangered Species Act and the National Environmental Policy Act.

Environmental coordinators of air quality focus on leading regulatory air quality monitoring and emissions data reporting. They focus on reporting, permitting, records maintenance, and training, as well as conducting preventative maintenance, calibration, and testing on continuous emission monitoring systems (CEMS), analyzers, and associated equipment.

Sunflower's environmental compliance team is continuously expanding their knowledge of regulatory requirements and changes to compliance standards, while ensuring Sunflower continues to operate clean, compliant and safe facilities.

"I enjoy being challenged, and I am proud of the work I do to help my community and surroundings as well as being able to work in an environment with people I enjoy."

- Justine Sullivan, Environmental Coordinator/Air Quality

Our Members

Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Prairie Land Electric Cooperative, Inc.
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

The Victory Electric Cooperative Assoc., Inc.
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Western Cooperative Electric
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Wheatland Electric
Delivering Energy for Life
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

pioneer electric cooperative, inc.
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

SouthernPioneer Electric Company
A Not-For-Profit Utility

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