

For Immediate Release
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Vandalism Strikes the Power District

Vandalism struck Cuming County Public Power District over the weekend. Someone used a chainsaw to cut a power pole down to take the transformer attached. The pole was on a vacant farm place with no power, but the service had not yet been removed. It is located just east of the Stanton/Cuming County line South of Highway 32. The thieves most likely wanted the transformer due to the copper inside, however a transformer has only about \$10 worth of copper in it.

This vandalism to District property will cost our customers over \$1500: this type of transformer was worth around \$750, the pole around \$200 plus wiring. CCPPD has seen a few other incidents and other utilities, such as Nebraska Public Power District, have had problems with this in the Columbus, Norfolk and Stanton areas. This has also been an issue across the entire nation. Nebraska utilities are working with state legislation on a copper theft law to try to deter criminals.

This kind of stealing is obviously very dangerous. People have been fatally electrocuted while trying to take items from electrical poles. Police are still investigating this situation and hope to have more information soon. The District wants our customers and general public to be aware and informed so please give us a call if you have any questions or information.

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