

# NORTH PLAINS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

P.O. Box 1008 • Perryton, TX 79070 • Phone (806) 435-5482

## Don't Get Zapped! Protect Your Home and Business From Power Surges With Power Quality Plus

Ask anyone who's ever had a power surge—it's a nightmare. Suffer through one lightning strike or a surge caused by disturbances on power, phone or cable lines, and you can kiss your expensive television goodbye. In fact, you might also have to replace your satellite dish, VCR, stereo, computer, refrigerator ... the list goes on.



### What's the Big Concern?

It's smaller, faster chips and a growing number of microprocessors.

A few years ago computer chips had about 2,000 transistors per 3/8 square inch. Today's Pentium-type chips have over 10,000,000! Spaces between components are so compressed that arcing damage can easily occur above 5 to 10 volts. Damage can also result from lightning, even when it strikes miles away from your home. Almost all new home appliances and office equipment contain microprocessors.

Backed by a reliable, hassle-free warranty, Power Quality Plus has a complete line of components designed to give you the protection you need. Whether it's whole house protection or simply a device to protect your computer, entertainment center or single-phase water well, NPEC has a solution for you. A full line of commercial protectors is also available. Uninterruptible Power Supplies (UPS) complement the plug strips and meter base surge protectors.

### Strike Back With Power Quality Plus!

Now there is an easy and affordable way to protect your electronic equipment and appliances from power surges: Power Quality Plus, a new program offered by North Plains Electric Cooperative.

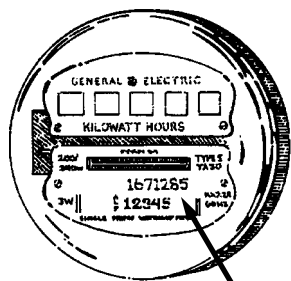
Investing in high-quality surge suppression equipment with proven effectiveness and reliability is smart. Failure to take protective measures puts your electronic investments at risk. Purchasing a cheap surge suppressor promotes a false sense of security. REMEMBER: "A cheap surge protector is the most expensive piece of electronic equipment you can buy."

"We chose the Power Quality Plus program for our members for many reasons, including its comprehensive warranty program and the fact it is a customizable program," said Bill Carson, member service specialist.

According to Carson, co-op members can buy the equipment at 10 percent over wholesale cost starting at about \$14. Members with approved credit can purchase products and pay out the balance over three months without interest.

For a free estimate on a protection program for your home or business or for more information, call Bill Carson at (806) 435-4582 or 1-800-272-5482.

## When Reporting an Outage:



Giving us the meter number helps us locate you faster and better than directions.

**For service call:**  
**(806) 435-5482**  
**or 1-800-272-5482**

# Message From the Manager Your Electric Cooperative



*Randy  
Mahannah*

July and August were exceptionally eventful months for the cooperative this year. North Plains had the misfortune of losing two substation transformers this summer. The Briscoe Substation transformer was damaged by lightning in July, and the Waka Substation transformer failed in August due to vandalism. We have reported to you about both transformer problems in recent issues of *Texas Co-op Power* and the local newspapers so it is a good time to give an update.

The transformer damaged by lightning at the Briscoe Substation should be repaired and ready for service by the end of October. It is our plan to leave the backup transformer in Briscoe and install the repaired transformer at the Perryton Substation. There has been some load growth on the feeders out of the Perryton Sub so we are going to take this opportunity to increase its capacity. We will downsize the transformer capacity at Sub "A," which is south and east of Spearman, by installing the transformers taken out of Perryton Substation at Sub "A." North Plains will make these changes late during sleeping hours so that those of you served by these stations will notice the least amount of inconvenience. We will then move the 7,500-kva transformer taken out of Sub "A" into the yard as a backup.

It looks like the damage from a .22 caliber bullet that eventually caused an internal arc in the power transformer at Waka Substation is less than initially expected, and the transformer should be back in service after minor repairs. North Plains was very fortunate that Tri-County Electric at Hooker let us borrow their backup while repairs were being made to this unit. North Plains is indebted to the good people in the Oklahoma Panhandle, and we say thank you again.

The irrigation wells that are under contract in the

Load Control Program had to be shut off for two brief periods in July. This is the first time since the program was implemented that load had to be reduced using this program. The wells were remotely de-energized for about four hours each time when circumstances forced Golden Spread Electric, our wholesale supplier, to reduce its system demand. The equipment worked properly, and we tried to let all those affected know before the wells were interrupted and also when load reduction had ended so the irrigators could restart their motors and continue watering. Our members who are participating in the load reduction program understand the value of the program and showed a great deal of patience. If you are irrigating using electricity and are not participating in this load reduction program, it may be a way to reduce your annual irrigation cost without crop stress or much inconvenience. Bill Carson, our member services specialist, can explain the program to you if you are interested, and we need to get you signed up for the 2003 irrigation season soon if this program would fit your irrigation method.

KWh costs up to now have continued to be stable and about one cent per kilowatt-hour less than last year. The savings are due to stable fuel prices nationally and the efficiency of Mustang Station, our generation plant and major power source. We hope that fuel cost will continue to be reasonable throughout the winter so that North Plains can continue to pass on these savings to you, our members. Your complete satisfaction is our goal, and we continue to work in an effort to meet your expectations and standards.



Workers load damaged transformer that was shot by vandals on August 7.



NPEC employees work to install a substitute transformer in the Waka Substation after vandals shot it on August 7. The substitute was loaned from Tri-County EC in Hooker, OK.



Damaged transformer from Waka Substation being sent for repairs. The transformer was shot by vandals on August 7.