



Nebraska Energy

ASSISTANCE NETWORK

NEAN Meeting Notice

Thursday, August 9, 2007
11 AM – 2:30 PM
Loup Power District
2404 15th St.
Columbus, NE
Rick's Office #: 402-564-3171, Ext. 221

Please RSVP: Lunch is provided, courtesy of Loup Power District. Please **RSVP by Tuesday, August 7th; call (402) 221-2159** (Sheila Nelson) or e-mail **Sheila.nelson@aquila.com**. Meeting minutes from NEAN & Energy Assistance July 12th meetings and the July 30 NEAN Executive Team meeting are attached. The meeting will begin promptly at 11 a. m. and conclude by 2:30 p.m. and will be held in the Mural Conference Room.

MAJOR AGENDA ITEMS INCLUDE:

- Symposium/survey discussion by Jerry Deichert
- Heartland Walk for Warmth – encouraging other towns/cities to become to set up something in their own areas
- Grant application- Energy Education Committee
- Protocol for data collection
- Recognition of new member

CONFERENCE CALL INFORMATION: Dial-in #: 1-800-391-1709;
Access Code: 404469.

NOTE FOR ENERGY EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Energy Education Committee will meet at 9:30 a.m., prior to the NEAN meeting.

NOTE FOR ENERGY ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE: Energy Assistance Committee will meet at 9:30 a.m., prior to the NEAN meeting..

PARKING: Free parking available around the building.

Judi Martin, NEAN Chair
Omaha Public Power District
444 S. 16th Street
Omaha, NE 68102
(402)636-3654

Interested parties are invited to join us and learn how we can work together to meet the mission of the Nebraska Energy Assistance Network: To assist Nebraskans meet energy needs through education, collaboration and advocacy.

**NEAN Meeting Notes – Columbus
August 9, 2007**

Attendance:

Rick Cheloha	Loup Power District
Laura Demman	Nebraska Public Service Commission
Cory Fuehrer	Nebraska Public Power District
Krista Heineman	Goldenrod Hills
Rick Hemphill	Elkhorn Rural, Stanton Co. & Cedar-Knox PPD
Ardith Hoins	BVCA Partnership
Ronda Jaeschke	SourceGas (formerly known as Kinder Morgan)
Judi Martin	Omaha Public Power District
Mari Matulka	Metropolitan Utilities District
Misty McDowell	Metropolitan Utilities District
Sheila Nelson	Aquila
Shirley Niemeyer	University of NE – Lincoln Extension
Char Reiman	SourceGas (formerly known as Kinder Morgan)
Sam Reinke	Southern Power District
Tom Schik	Catholic Social Services
Julie Thacker (Call-in)	Metropolitan Utilities District

Next NEAN Committee Meeting: Thursday, September 13, 2007 – 11 a.m. to 2:30 pm

NPPD

907 West 25 St.
York, NE
Off: 402-362-7390
Cory's Cell: 402-340-2455

- I.** Meeting called to order by Judi Martin
- II.** Introductions
- III.** Minutes accepted from July 12 meeting
- IV.** Surveys/Energy Burden Study – Jerry Deichert, UNO
 - a. Energy Burden Study
 - i. Study is getting underway – Jerry clarified the surveys
 - ii. 300 surveys outside Omaha area
 - iii. 500 in Omaha region
 - b. Discussed survey results from Energy Forums
 - c. Forum survey information should remain within NEAN until released at symposium
 - d. Energy Forum Kits
 - i. Usage or perceived value of kit items (See attachments)
 - ii. Recommend 1 kit for renters & one for home owners

- V. Executive Committee Report
 - a. Treasurer's Report
 - b. New NEAN member: Central NE Community Services
 - c. Judi will represent NEAN and talk to Congressman Lee about NEAN and need for funds to help need families in Nebraskan pay utility bills
 - d. Data collection – EA write a policy regarding release of information
 - e. Heartland Walk for Warmth (Omaha) on Feb. 1
 - i. Encourage NEAN members to promote in their towns throughout Nebraska
 - ii. Mayor Fahey is honorary Chair
 - iii. Bellevue and Blair participating
 - iv. September 15 – website up and running
 - v. Cox & KFAB will be sponsors
 - vi. Media kits available
 - f. Recognition of organizations funding grants
 - i. If not anonymous, how might we recognize organization providing funds?
 - ii. May encourage future funding
 - 1. UNL recognizes funding for publications on back of document
 - 2. Put flyer/written acknowledgement
 - 3. Recognition from Executive Director thanking them
 - 4. Recognition at symposium – plaque, certificate, sign?
 - iii. Executive Committee will come up with a plan and present it to the rest of the group

Lunch: Thank you Loup Power District for hosting and providing lunch!

- VI. Committee Reports
 - a. Energy Assistance Committee
 - i. Working with Jerry Deichert to find what funding is available
 - ii. Data Collection
 - 1. Determine disconnects and relationship to low income accounts and those benefited by LIHEAP
 - 2. Participation is not limited to NEAN utility members
 - 3. Data will be provided electronically in a consistent format and sent directly to a third party using the agreed upon reporting protocol
 - 4. UNL Extension (Shirley Niemeyer) may be able to be the third party for collecting, compiling and analysis – needs to do some checking
 - 5. Suggest use “blind data” by codes
 - 6. Reporting would go from July to June for future reporting purposes
 - 7. Need to develop a template for data and design software to “dump” data

8. Need utilities to meet to agree on definitions – will do outside regular NEAN meeting (mid-September?); Judi will send something to utilities
 9. Will be on a monthly basis and will start on January 1, 2008
 - a. Aquila – Can identify disconnects – need to check with Jan on LiHEAP information
 - b. SourceGas – Hard to pull together by state, but will provide if they can
 - c. Southern Power District – Need to find out
 - d. Loup - ?
 - e. Elkhorn Rural – Don't keep track of where they get assistance; can do disconnect tracking
- b. Energy Education Committee
- i. Planning additional forums
 - ii. \$2,400 grant from Nebraska Environmental Trust (for materials in Spanish)
 - iii. NPPD will provide funding for 1000 energy kits for upcoming forums
 - \$14/kit - \$15 w/booklet
 - 1-15 watt CFL
 - 1-23 watt CFL
 - 1-LED Nightlight with Photocell
 - 1-Low Flo Showerhead
 - 1-Hot Water Temperature Gauge Card
 - 1-Refrigerator/Freezer Thermometer Card
 - 1-Switch/Outlet Insulator Packet
 - iv. NPPD grant will help with survey process to continue with data but may modify survey regarding demographics
 - v. Cory and Rick made presentation to HeadStart
 1. Receptive regarding partnership with NEAN for training (Train the Trainer) and distribution of kits
 2. May be willing to become a member
 3. Possibilities
 - a. DVD presentation – U.S. Dept of Energy Audit?
 - b. 1 on 1 training or groups? – HeadStart would decide
 - c. Focus only on energy efficiency?
 - d. Suggest kits contain items that are more portable for renters
 - e. Action oriented education
 - f. Must be in home at least two years
 - g. Do weatherization organizations (NEAN members) have materials?
 - h. Checklist important – how to manage utility costs
 - i. NFFN – “Owning is Just the Beginning, Learning to Budget the Utility Costs of Your New Home”
 - j. “Pay Down Debt

- vi. Received information from the “Guide to Finding An Energy Efficient Home” workshop held during the Joint Low Income Energy conference in Nashville in June. NEAN agreed to review the data and:
 - 1. Suggest checklist format
 - 2. Some issues may not be energy related but related to utility costs
 - 3. Would need to break down and simplify: rent, apartment, buying home
 - 4. Will provide a plan of how this information will be reviewed and formatted for Judi to take back to NFFN
 - 5. NEAN wants to be recognized for their efforts with this
- c. Resource Clearing House Committee
 - i. Mari will take over administration and loading materials to website; she will also make minor organizational modifications
- d. Administrative Committee
 - i. Jan will not be able to get to by-laws for at least two weeks
- e. NEAN Membership
 - i. A suggestion was made to include individuals as a category of membership
 - ii. Discussion regarding membership of utilities that are represented by a consultant
 - 1. Determined membership fees of utilities should be graduated and based on count of residential meters

a. 0-5000	\$100
b. 5001 – 10,000	\$200
c. Over 10,000	\$300
 - 2. Waiving of fees is to be determined by Executive Committee

VII. NEAN presentation review

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.