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**Chadrad Communications, Inc.**  
226 Bordeaux St - Chadron, NE 69337  
308-432-5545 fax 308-432-5601  
E-mail: [kcsr@chadrad.com](mailto:kcsr@chadrad.com)

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#### **(Neb.)-NPPD Considers Higher Electric Rates In Nebraska**

By: Dennis and Kathi Brown Posted at: 09/23/2012 12:06 PM

KEARNEY, Nebraska (AP) - Many Nebraskans could be paying more for electricity next year if the NPPD board approves a rate increase.

The Nebraska Public Power District board will decide in November whether to approve the roughly 4 percent increase. The change would take effect in January.

NPPD spokesman Mark Becker says customers who use 1,000 kilowatt-hours per month would see a \$9 increase in their monthly bills. The average Nebraska home uses about 1,200 kilowatt-hours per month.

The size of rate increase customers would see depends on what they use electricity for. Residential customers could see rate hikes as high as 6 percent while irrigation and lighting users could see smaller increases.

Becker says the rate increase is needed to cover NPPD's costs.