

- BPU Fast Facts -

• **General Utility Information**

- 100+ years of service to Wyandotte County, serving 63,000 electric and 50,000 water customers.
 - 158,000 residents
- Revenue Source
 - 85% electric
 - 15% water
- One of the top public utilities in the nation.
- BPU is a publicly owned administrative agency of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, and is self-governed by an elected six-member Board of Directors.
- As a municipal utility, BPU is non-profit, which means it answers to Main Street not Wall Street.
- All Board meetings, hearings, etc. are open to the public.
- BPU's mission is to focus on the needs of its customers, to improve the quality of life in the community while promoting safe, reliable and sustainable utilities.
- The Utility serves 127.5 square miles of Wyandotte County. Electric services are provided within the Kansas City, Kansas (KCK), area and water is supplied to KCK, as well as portions of suburban Wyandotte, Leavenworth and Johnson counties.

• **KCK Demographics**

- 43% White
- 25% African American
- 27% Hispanic
 - Language other than English spoken at home = 23.6%
- 21.3% live below the poverty line
- 8.8% unemployment rate
- 14,000 annual payment arrangements
- 6,000 monthly accounts eligible for disconnection

• **A Community-Owned Asset**

- BPU is recognized as one of top municipal utilities in the nation.
 - One of only 83 of the more than 2,000 public utility companies to receive the Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3) award from American Public Power Association (APPA).
 - One of only seven public utilities in the country to receive the "Gold" award for its water system from American Water Works Association (AWWA).
 - Only utility in KC Metro area and Kansas to receive the National Partnership for Safe Water Award developed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
 - BPU was voted as having the Best Tasting Water in the State of Kansas in 2010.
- BPU employs 600+ Wyandotte County residents that live, work, shop, and eat in our community every day, contributing to the county's tax base and our local economy.

• **Supporting Our Community**

- BPU and its associates provide extensive volunteer, civic, financial, and philanthropic support to Wyandotte County, donating thousands of dollars and hours of community service to United Way and other organizations.
- Annual BPU golf tournament has raised more than \$400,000 for children's organizations, including the Turner House, El Centro, Boys & Girls Club, YMCA, the Children's Museum etc.
- BPU Employee Foundation activities include; hosting an Easter Egg Hunt for seniors, back-to-school supply funding for schools, Christmas in the City for children in public housing, adopting families for the holidays, etc.
- Supports downtown holiday lighting ceremony, community gardens and local summer youth programs.
- BPU works with businesses, the UG, and non-profits to attract new retail, commercial, and industrial businesses to our community.

- ***An Environmental Steward***
 - BPU operations are managed in an environmentally efficient and responsible manner, working to comply with all applicable local, state, and federal regulations and laws.
 - One of first utilities in Kansas to purchase wind energy, signing 20-year purchase agreement for 25 MW from Smoky Hill Wind Farm near Salina.
 - 16% of BPU's energy comes from renewable energy
 - Federal Hydro = 44 MW
 - Wind Energy = 25 MW
 - Hydroelectric Energy = 7 MW from Bowersock Mills
 - Land Fill Gas = 1.5 MW
 - Conducts energy efficiency workshops in the community.
 - BPU maintains its own water testing lab to ensure water quality.
- ***Customer Service Focus***
 - Only utility in area with customer service lobby.
 - 12,500 walk-in transactions a month (625 a day) in customer service lobby.
 - 19,000 customer calls a month (950 a day).
 - Payment kiosks throughout county and free on-line/phone bill pay options for easier access.
- ***Meeting Wyandotte County's Utility Needs***
 - Electric system includes two active power stations, 29 substations, and 3,000 miles of electrical lines.
 - BPU responsible for county's 9,000 traffic signal heads, 6,000 fire hydrants, 19,000 street lights and radio system for first responders: fire, police, ambulance and sheriff.
 - State-of-the-art water treatment plant, 4 pump stations, and 1,000 miles of water pipes over 150 sq. mile area.
 - Water quality consistently exceeds all federal and state standards.
 - Two of the nation's largest horizontal collector wells deep below Missouri river ensure safe and consistent BPU drinking water at all times.
 - BPU is working to meet the long-term utility needs of our growing community, while maintaining and servicing an aging utility infrastructure.
 - Nearman power plant is 25 years old, while Quindaro is more than 40 years old, requiring costly maintenance and frequent overhauls on both.
 - BPU recently purchased 17% ownership in Dogwood, a combined cycle natural gas plant.