



# Power projects will help save energy

Two separate projects at the Wayne Electric Production site will help save the city energy and meet federal requirements.

Two heat exchangers will be installed at the site on the south end of Main Street to heat and cool water at the facility. The water is used to cool the electricity-producing engines at the power plant.

"The current system needs to have the water heated in the winter so it doesn't freeze. It was installed in 1978 and is not energy efficient," said Gene Hansen, electric production superintendent.

Estimates are that the cost of operating the current system is \$70,000 per year.

"We looked at how many years it will take to pay for the project in terms of savings and looked at our contract with Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) and came to the conclusion that we will be able to pay for the upgrade in 10 years," Hansen said.

With the help of a \$250,000 grant from the Nebraska Department of Energy, the project will involve locating a new tower on the same site as a system used by the city in the 1930's.

The work on the heat exchangers is scheduled to be completed by Aug. 1 of this year. It is estimated that the cooling towers should have a life expectancy of at least 40 years.

The total cost of the project is approximately \$700,000.

The city is also in the process of installing seven catalytic converters at the power plant to comply with the Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engine (RICE) Rules.

The federal government is requiring all such engines to reduce emission of carbon monoxide (CO) into the atmosphere and reduce the noise caused by these engines.

The installation of these catalytic converters will allow the city to generate electricity sale to NPPD. **From Page 1A**

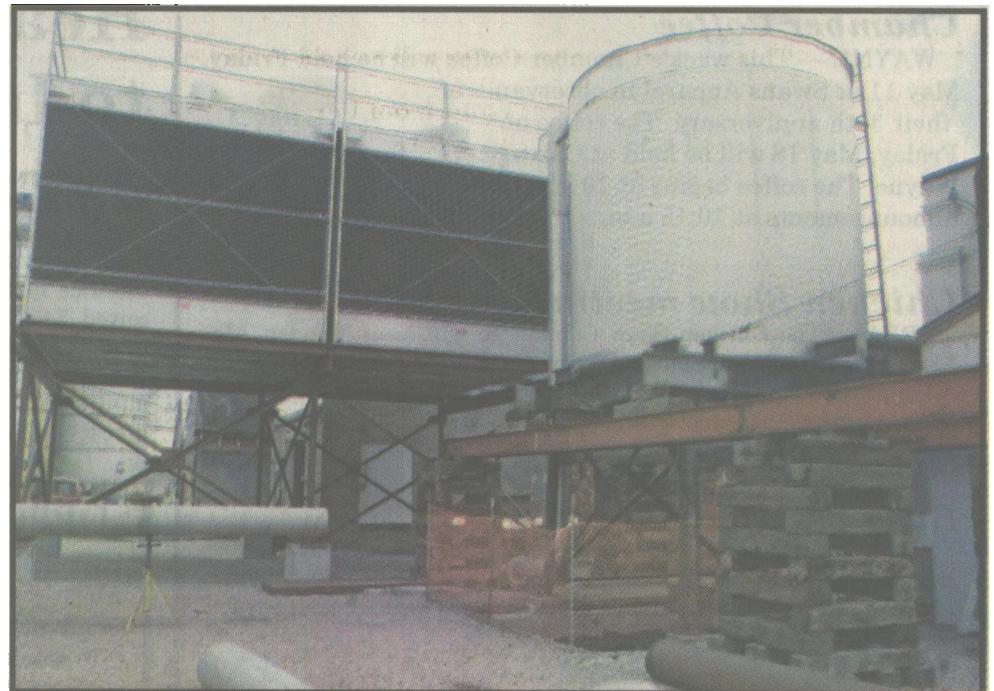
The city currently has a lease agreement with NPPD to generate electricity which brings in approximately \$650,000 per year.

"Without these upgrades we would only be allowed to generate

electricity for 50 hours per year. This equipment needs to be installed by May of 2013," Hansen said.

Involved in the installation of the catalytic converters are Woehler Construction, which is doing the cement work, Mid States Erectors of Lincoln and Olsson Associates, who are doing the engineering for the project.

Wayne has the second largest diesel generator plant in the state of Nebraska and the installation of the new equipment will allow an unlimited number of hours of use of these engines.



(Photo by Clara Osten)

**Two separate projects at the Wayne Electric Production facility have been built, thanks to a grant from the Nebraska Department of Energy. Because of them, city will continue to generate electricity for NPPD.**