OCTOBER 2026

KANSAS CITY BPU
THE POWER OF COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT

Prepared for:
Board of Directors,
Kansas City Board of Public Utilities



Celebrating the commissioning of the Ninnescah Flats Solar Project, an important step in BPU's commitment to a reliable, diverse energy future.

A Message to Our Community



October brought meaningful progress for the Kansas City Board of Public Utilities, reflecting the work our employees do every day to strengthen reliability, invest in essential infrastructure, and serve the people of Wyandotte County.

Across our electric and water operations, teams continued maintaining and improving the systems our customers depend on. From completing critical equipment repairs and water infrastructure improvements to supporting the commissioning of the Ninnescah Flats Solar Project, these efforts demonstrate our commitment to meeting today's needs while preparing for tomorrow's demands.

Just as important is our investment in people. Through technical training, leadership development, and community outreach, we are building the skills and relationships necessary to sustain a strong public utility for generations to come.

As Wyandotte County continues to explore new opportunities for economic development, BPU remains focused on responsible growth. Every major investment must be evaluated with long-term reliability, financial responsibility, and the interests of our existing customers in mind.

Our strength as a community-owned utility comes from the people who operate it, the customers who depend on it, and the responsibility we share for its future.

I want to thank our employees for their dedication and our Board of Directors for its continued leadership and support. Together, we are building a stronger, more resilient BPU for the community we are proud to serve.

Jeremy Ash

General Manager

Reliability & Infrastructure

ELECTRIC PRODUCTION & DISTRIBUTION

409 Megawatts
Peak electric demand serviced in October

3
Generating units with zero unexpected outages

Keeping Power Ready When Our Community Needs It

October was an important month for maintaining BPU's electric system.

Three generating units operated without outages, while scheduled maintenance helped prepare equipment for dependable service in the critical months ahead.

Reinforcing Reliability Through Repair

Following extensive repairs, BPU returned a generating unit to service in October, restoring an important source of electricity to help meet our community's energy needs.

Lineman's Rodeo: Skills that power our community

BPU lineworkers participated in this year's International Linemen's Rodeo, demonstrating the technical skills, safety practices, and teamwork essential to maintaining and restoring electric service.







2026 BPU Rodeo Team

Austin Feaster, Apprentice Lineman
Blake Meseke, Apprentice Lineman
Jon Lara, Apprentice Lineman
Johnny Lawrence, Apprentice Lineman
Stephen Royer, Apprentice Lineman

Water System Excellence

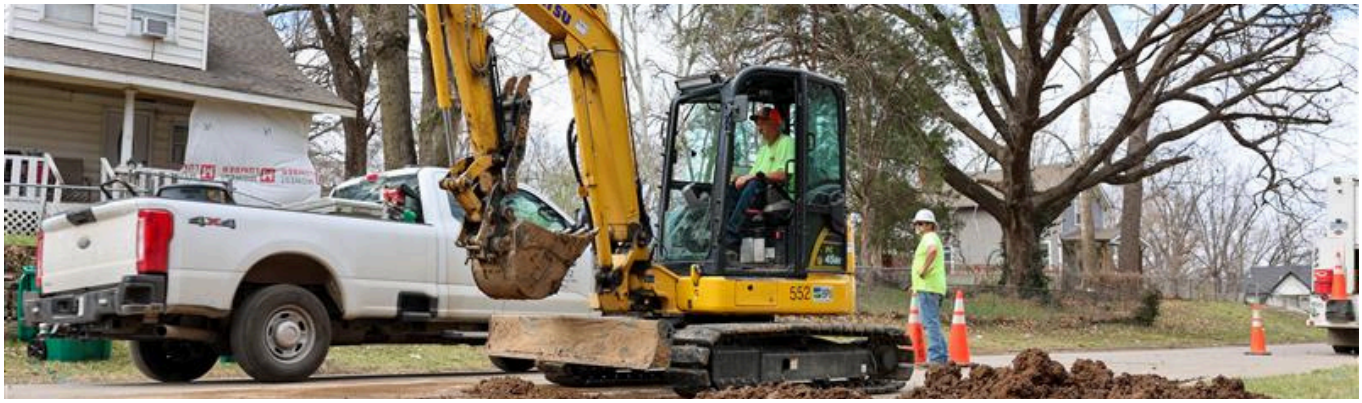
WATER TREATMENT & DISTRIBUTION

2700 ft.
Water main installed or replaced

23
Water main leaks repaired

1,120
Water service orders completed

18
Fire hydrants installed, replaced, or repaired



Investing in the Infrastructure Beneath Our Streets

BPU continued improving the water system throughout October, replacing about 1,700 feet of water main and completing another 1,000 feet across two projects. These improvements support dependable water service for homes, businesses, and neighborhoods throughout our community.

As part of the Southeast Area project, crews also transferred 40+ water services to the new replacement main.

Workforce & Stewardship

1,447
Employee training hours completed

1,630
Students reached at career events

Developing Tomorrow's Leaders

BPU's inaugural GRID Leadership Program (Growth, Resilience, Innovation, Development) is creating opportunities for employees to strengthen their leadership and critical thinking skills, directly contributing to the utility's future. This year's cohort has twenty-six participants.

Armando Morones, Information Technology Analyst
Austin Hackworth, Water Service-Construction
Chad Newbill, Sr. Maintenance Engineer
Chad Renne, Power Plant Trainer
Chance Thoman, Water Service - Inspector
Charles Thomason, Sr. Security Analyst-Energy Control
Christopher Freeby, Power Plant Mechanic
Dylan Karr, Information Technology Desktop Support
Elise Kerr, Power Plant Lead Clerk
John Oropeza, Electric Troubleman
Justin McDonald, Electric Distribution Superintendent
Kimberly Wilson, Customer Care Representative
Kurt Hafner, Purchasing Manager
Lourens Fourie, Information Technology Systems Analyst III
Mark Masloski, Customer Service Analytics - Supervisor
Marko Cvetkovic, Supervisor/Trainer - Energy Control
Meghan Miller, Power Plant Maintenance Scheduler
Nathan Wilkie, Overhead Lineman
Nick Hayes, Water Operations Lead
Samantha Finley, Building Services Supervisor
Scott Lampson, Foreman of Electric Crews - Underground
Terry Wright, Power Plant Shift Supervisor
Tierra Johnson, Customer Care-Cash Operations Supervisor
Tracey Smith, Power Plant Supervisor
Tyler Banes, Environmental Scientist - Water
Tyler Montgomery, Environmental Scientist - Water

Introducing Students to Utility Careers

BPU connected with more than 1,600 students through two Kansas City, Kansas Community College / high school career events, highlighting internship and career opportunities in the utility industry.



Customers & Community

5,997
Customer Care calls handled

102
In-person appointments completed

Assisting Customers When They Need It Most

More than 960 payment arrangements, extensions, and assistance cases were completed in October, helping customers navigate financial challenges by identifying options to maintain essential utility services.

Big Trucks. Little Learners.

BPU participated in Piper School's Touch-a-Truck event, giving pre-K and kindergarten students an up-close look at utility vehicles and introducing them to the employees who help to keep their community running.





National Recognition for BPU Communications

BPU received an Award of Merit from the American Public Power Association for its 2025 Annual Community Impact Report, recognizing the utility's commitment to transparency and communicating community impacts.

Not All Utilities Are Built the Same

Who owns your utility, who makes the decisions, and who benefits?

Understanding the difference between public and investor-owned utilities - and why it matters for the future of Wyandotte County

By Amber Oetting
BPU Director of Communications & Marketing

Every time you flip a switch, turn on a faucet, or pay your utility bill, you rely on an extensive network of infrastructure, employees, and investments that keeps our community running.

But there's something most people don't think about when they're paying their bill:
Who actually owns the utility providing those services, and why should it matter?

It's a simple question with an important answer, particularly as Wyandotte County considers new economic development opportunities, infrastructure investments, and the future of our community.

Who Owns Your Utility?
The answer depends on where you live and who provides your service.

In Kansas City, Kansas, the community owns BPU. That means our electric and water infrastructure, including power plants, substations, water treatment facilities, and distribution systems, are publicly owned assets that serve our customers.

No private investors or outside shareholders own BPU. Instead, the community owns the utility, and it manages its resources for the benefit of the people and businesses that depend on them.

Investor-owned utilities (IOUs) are different. They are privately owned companies held by shareholders, including individuals and institutional investors who buy the company's stock.

Those shareholders have a financial interest in the utility's performance and may receive returns through dividends or increases in their investments' value.

Both types of utilities provide essential services, maintain infrastructure, and invest in meeting customer needs.

The difference is who owns those assets and who has a financial stake in the utility's success.

At BPU, that stake belongs to the community we serve.

Who Makes the Decisions?
When a utility considers building a substation, expanding water infrastructure, or serving a major development, those decisions can affect customers for decades.

At BPU, a locally elected Board of Directors guides decisions about rates, investments, and long-term priorities. Investor-owned utilities operate under corporate governance, with state regulators overseeing regulated rates and service obligations.

For BPU customers, that means local public governance makes decisions about our community-owned utility.



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What Does Cost of Service Mean for Your Bill?

Here's something every utility customer should understand: Your bill pays for more than the electricity or water you use.

It helps cover the people, equipment, infrastructure, and around-the-clock operations required to deliver those services.

That's the foundation of cost of service: determining what it actually costs to provide reliable utility service and how those costs are properly shared among customers.

Both public power and investor-owned utilities use cost-of-service principles. The important distinction is that investor-owned utilities' regulated rates generally include an authorized return on shareholder investment. BPU's rates do not include a return for private shareholders.

That doesn't mean rates never increase. It means BPU's rates are designed to recover the costs of serving customers, maintaining financial stability, and investing back into the system our community owns.

Why Does This Matter When Our Community Grows?

New businesses and major developments can bring jobs, investment, and additional utility revenue. But they can also require expensive new infrastructure.

That's why responsible growth requires asking the right questions.

Can our electric and water systems support the additional demand? What infrastructure will be needed? Will new customers contribute their appropriate share of those costs? And how will those decisions affect the customers already here?

For BPU, growth should strengthen the utility, not create unreasonable financial burdens for existing customers. When planned responsibly, new development can better use existing infrastructure, support future investments, and create lasting value for Wyandotte County.

The Power of Community Ownership

Public power and water doesn't eliminate the challenges of operating a utility. Infrastructure still ages, costs change, and difficult investment decisions remain.

But it establishes something important: BPU's decisions are guided by a responsibility to the community that owns it.

At BPU, our community isn't just who we serve. It's who owns us.
And that's a responsibility worth protecting for generations to come.



KANSAS CITY BPU

THE POWER OF COMMUNITY

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Schedule a speaker at your next community function by emailing us:

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BPU In-Person Lobby Appointments

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Skip the long lines