

# CURRENT

LES' CUSTOMER NEWSLETTER



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AUGUST 2024

## Nebraska's oldest operating wind turbines removed

Driving past Lincoln on Interstate 80 looks different these days. Not to the south of the interstate, where you see Lincoln's historic skyline, but to the north, where LES' two wind turbines stood for the past 25 years.

Last month, LES decommissioned these turbines, the oldest operating wind generators in Nebraska. Wind Turbine #1 (East) sat on the proposed Nebraska Department of Correctional Services site, while Wind Turbine #2 (West) was reaching its full maturity this year.

Both turbines were felled on July 2 via small explosions that sent the 290-foot-tall turbines tumbling to the ground. Many components of the turbines were recycled, including

the turbine blades and clean metals. Only minimal parts were disposed of in an environmentally compliant landfill facility.

The first turbine was funded by the generosity of those who believed in the importance of renewable energy. Customers bought units of power to be added to their monthly electric bill. It only took 36 days for customers to commit to enough units to raise \$1,000,000 for the turbine to be constructed, and by December 1998, it was powering homes. The second turbine began operating less than one year later.

"Even 25 years ago, our community was passionate about renewable energy," said Scott Benson,

LES manager of Resource & Transmission Planning. "These two wind turbines will always represent an important stepping stone in our community's path toward a greener energy future."

Today, LES' nameplate wind resource portfolio is approximately 300 MW, located in high-wind areas of Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma. Our two wind turbines had a total capacity of 1.3 MW, so their removal doesn't impact LES' renewable energy resources meaningfully.

View more information on the decommissioning project at [LES.com](https://www.les.com) and on LES' social media channels.

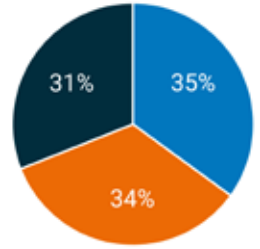


LES is proud to be powering you with help from our robust portfolio of renewable energy, which includes 300 MW of wind produced in Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma, pictured above.

# A balanced generation mix

LES has a variety of generation resources in our portfolio. Utilizing power from different sources in different places puts us on the map with one of the best portfolios in the industry! LES' nameplate resource portfolio – the full capacity of our generation fleet – is diversified over several categories:

- Natural Gas, 35%
- Renewables, 34%
- Coal, 31%



Our mix of power resources provides us with flexibility, adaptability and stability in an ever-changing energy landscape, contributing to the reliable and affordable power that you expect. Read more about our generation portfolio at [LES.com/Generation](https://www.les.com/Generation).

## What a meter technician wants you to know about your electric meter

Your home has something in common with every other home in our service territory: it's serviced by an LES meter! An electric meter ensures customers are accurately billed for their electricity usage. We asked Jacob Kreikemeier, a supervisor of meter technologies at LES, what he wants you to know about your electric meter.

### How you can read your meter

"Your meter tracks how much power you use over time in kilowatt-hours," said Jacob. "All you need to do is subtract the current reading from a previous reading to determine the amount of power used in that time period."

Most residential LES meters are gray and round, with a digital screen displaying numbers. They're typically attached to a wall on the exterior of your home, usually in the backyard or on the side of the house.

To estimate your monthly bill's amount, read your meter on the

same day each month and subtract the reading from last month from the current reading to find your monthly usage. Then, multiply the kilowatt-hours used (kWh) by the residential service rate. The residential summer rate is \$0.0719 per kWh. Additional fees might be added to your bill. Learn more about these fees at [LES.com/Rates](https://www.les.com/Rates).

### How LES reads your meter

Every weekday morning, LES meter data technicians gather a list of approximately 8,000 meters needed to satisfy reads for that day's bills. The techs then drive around our service area, getting close to the 8,000 meters to log the day's readings using a side-looker antenna. That data is then sent to our billing department to create monthly customer bills.

"If you see an LES vehicle driving through your neighborhood that isn't making equipment repairs, it's likely reading your meter," said Jacob.



### How you can help LES meter technicians

Always check that your meter is accessible. Ensure a clear path to your meter so a technician can easily and safely reach it. Never plant bushes, shrubs or trees within five feet of a meter so technicians have adequate room to work.

Jacob's biggest tip for ensuring the safety of our meter techs is to keep pets clear of the area. If you see LES working near your home, please consider bringing your pet inside or restricting them to an area safely away from the LES team.



"I believe what makes LES a great place to work is I not only get to do my job to the best of my ability, but employees are also allowed the

opportunity to volunteer and participate in many of the LES-organized activities, which give back to our community."

—Manny, Building Maintenance

## Power your purpose

To best serve our customers, LES needs great employees. We work hard to keep our great employees at LES by offering benefits that help retain top talent in a competitive market, including generous leave and holidays, flexible scheduling options, employee engagement opportunities and financial security.

Scan the QR code or visit [LES.com/Careers](https://www.les.com/Careers) to learn more about what a career at LES can offer you!

