Tuesday General Session

Water/Agriculture Nexus:

Groundwater Quality & Quantity Issues
Related to Agriculture
Energy!
Water + Air Quality!
Water Quantity!
Ag!  Endangered Species!
• All PUBLIC POWER in Nebraska
• West-Central Nebraska power plant
• Coal fired, 1,365 megawatts
• Power Plant Installed ~25 high capacity irrigation wells in 2005
  • Sustain water levels in 3000 acre lake used as cooling water
  • help power plant meet temperature discharge limits
Wells installed PRIOR to Moratorium on well drilling

Restrictions on Groundwater Irrigation

Green areas do NOT have well drilling restrictions
~107,000+ Irrigation Wells, many electric powered
Electric Irrigation Well supplying gated pipe irrigation
The Pallid Sturgeon

Endangered Species!
New Air Quality regulations (Hg + other toxics) may require scrubbers on coal fired power plants,

Up to 3900 ac-ft/yr water consumptive use

{as much as 1.76 gpm/megawatt (~2400 gpm)}

Costing ~ $1 Billion (for two), including retrofit costs

AND ~$28M/yr O&M

AND ~$700K/yr Outage Costs
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Didn’t cover Love or Romance, but that’s about all I missed ....
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