

Shawnee County Board of Commissioners  
*William D. Riphahn*, 1st District  
*Kevin J. Cook*, 2nd District  
*Aaron D. Mays*, 3rd District  
200 SE 7th St. Room B-11, Courthouse  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

2/15/2021

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

**The Southwest Power Pool has declared a level 3 Power Emergency**

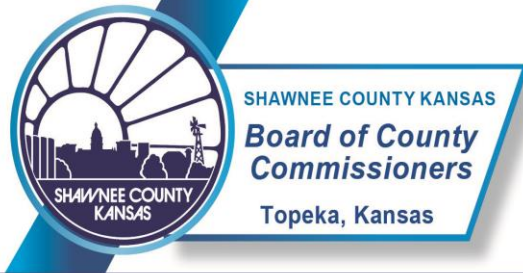
**Topeka, Kan.** – Rolling power outages will take place across all of Shawnee County, and there is an expected impact of about 60 minutes at a time as has been requested by the Southwest Power Pool due to high demand. We do not yet know how long these rolling outages will be needed. Please plan accordingly.

The full press release from Evergy can be found on their website titled [Southwest Power Pool Requests Emergency Electricity Reductions](#).

**Shawnee County residents can take steps to conserve energy by the following:**

- Turn thermostats a little cooler (65-68 degrees). Avoid the use of electric space heaters.
- Close blinds and shades to reduce the amount of heat lost through windows.
- Change or clean filters on furnaces.
- Turn off unnecessary lights and appliances
- When possible, delay non-essential uses of energy washing drying clothes, washing dishes and bathing to non-peak hours, between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m.
- Use low-temperature cooking methods and avoid opening the oven door if it's on.

**Tips from SNCO Emergency Management to stay safe during power outages in cold weather:**



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- Stay indoors and away from doors and windows.
- Do not use gas stoves to heat your home.
- Try to keep everyone in a central room of the home.
- Close off unused or empty rooms.
- Use flashlights in lieu of candles to avoid a fire and burn hazards.
- Close window curtains to help insulate and potentially hold more heat in the house.
- Have emergency and preparedness kits stocked and at the ready.
- Do not call 911 to report your power being out.
- Check on neighbors and the elderly.
- Protect pets from the weather by bringing them inside.

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