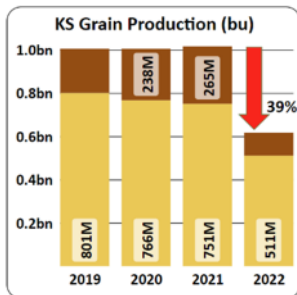


## May 2023 Newsletter

Spring is here and it is nice to finally see some moisture, although we certainly could use more. The challenges around grain continue. The combined Kansas corn and sorghum production for this crop year was 39% lower than the previous crop year. As a result, competition has been strong for the crop that was harvested. This has forced us to be more creative with our procurement program, including reaching out to new areas to source grain and being opportunistic with our purchases based on the regional market conditions that are reflective of the other end users in the region. Overall, I think that we have done pretty well so far, but we still have a few months to go before we reach the new crop harvest.










The unaudited financials for the second fiscal quarter of the year are included. For the first fiscal quarter, the average CME price for corn was \$6.58 per bushel with a high of \$6.85 and a low of \$6.19 per bushel. Comparatively, corn prices for the same three months of the previous fiscal year averaged \$6.73. Basis values for this crop year are averaging \$0.63 per bushel higher. Ethanol market values dropped in January and remained flat until early March when values started to push higher, which is a similar pattern for most years.

We continue to run at a reduced production rate as it has been tough to realize a positive margin with the inflated grain basis values. Ethanol net values for this fiscal quarter averaged 2 cents below the same quarter for the last fiscal year, while grain values were \$1.55 higher. The higher grain values have pushed distiller grain products higher. Wet distiller grain values averaged \$23/ton higher over the same period last year, and distiller oil values were down 1.7 cents. Overall, net sales were 34% lower for the second quarter of this fiscal year compared to the same quarter of the previous fiscal year, mainly due to the production rate cut.

Total grain expenses were down 25%, ingredient expenses were down 39%, and energy expenses were up 1%. Total costs of goods sold were down

**Board of Managers**

- **Jeff Torluemke**  
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Manager
- **Scott Foote**  
Manager
- **Brian Baalman**  
Manager

24%, and as you can see on the financial statements comprehensive net income was down significantly for this past quarter over the same period the previous year.

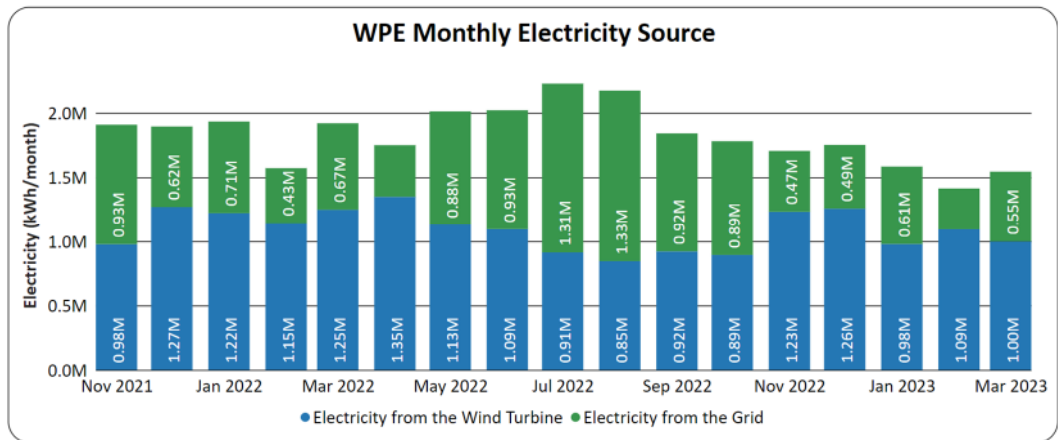
Margins are starting to improve as grain prices seem to have softened some and ethanol prices are slowly pushing upward. Gasoline demand has been relatively strong lately, which should help bolster demand for ethanol.

The work continues with the addition of the new grain storage silos. The concrete pour for the first silo is just finishing up, and the project remains on target to be able to utilize the storage for the new crop harvest. While this adds additional storage, we will also be decommissioning some of the older assets that are just too expensive to rehab up to current safety standards.



We are also currently working on another project that will replace the current ethanol dehydration system with newer, more efficient technology. Overall, the project is expected to significantly reduce our overall thermal energy requirements, creating a lower carbon intensity operation. The onsite construction for this project is expected to start late summer and to be finished in the first part of 2024.

The wind turbine project continues to perform well. The chart shows the amount of electricity provided by the wind turbine versus the amount used from the grid.



Thank you to everyone who attended our 2023 Annual Meeting of Members back in March. We had a good turnout, and we always appreciate the chance to interact with members in person.

Finally, I wanted to take the opportunity to remind everyone about AgStockTrade.com. This is a public website that provides a matching service for our membership units. Members can go to the website and post an offer to sell their units, and members and non-members can place an offer to purchase units. When a sell offer and a buy offer are matched, then the exchange of units is completed. To access, just visit <https://www.agstocktrade.com>. Then click on "Western Plains Energy, LLC" at the bottom of the list in the yellow box on the right side of the page.



# Employee Highlights

## Employee Work Anniversaries

Name	Position	Start Date	Years of Service
Greg Doll	Commodity Manager	4/25/05	18
Adam Janousek	Operations Supervisor	5/22/06	17
Trent Meier	Materials Operator	5/22/06	17
Giovani Caasi	Maintenance Technician	5/30/06	17
Tyler Tholen	Operations Supervisor	5/9/12	11
Justin Deges	Operations Supervisor	5/16/17	6
Jamie Speer	Materials Operator	4/15/19	4
Tawny Shaw	Laboratory Manager	5/2/22	1
Damian Melgoza	Front End Operator	6/27/22	1

*Thank you*

We want to thank these employees for their dedication and contributions to WPE. We sincerely appreciate all that they do.



## Employee Birthdays

Month	Employees
April	Jonathan Corbett, Eric Robben
May	Darin Honeyman, Rick Holaday, Barb Boldt, Shayne Cook, Megan Tuttle
June	Josh Brown, Cody Holzmeister, Tyler Tholen, Brandon Wilkinson, Kristin Brooks, Damian Melgoza

We also want to welcome our newest employees: Shanon Rice (WPT Driver) and Jeff Brittenham (IT Manager)