

NEWS

June 2008

Inside this issue...



Employees complete safety training

3



Wind power tour set for August 27

6



Office closed July 4
The office of McLeod Cooperative Power will be closed Friday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day.

Outages may be reported 24 hours a day to 1-800-927-5685.

Official publication of



www.mcleodcoop.com

Take action today

To prevent your energy bills from skyrocketing tomorrow!

Your electric bills are rising and so are the energy bills of consumers all across the U.S. Four things are contributing to this situation.

- We are running out of generation capacity.
- We need to build additional generation if we are to meet the needs of our members.
- The cost of steel, copper, and resources needed in our industry are skyrocketing due to demand by China, India and other developing countries.
- Climate change legislation that is being imposed upon us by our federal and state government, is making it difficult to provide a solution to meeting our members energy needs.

Although renewable energy and energy conservation are part of the solution, they meet only a small part of our need for affordable electricity. Our Cooperative is continually offering more and more programs and incentives for renewable energy and conservation but it does not solve the problem. There is no single, inexpensive solution.

The cost of climate change is expected to be significant. Pending federal legislation, commonly referred to as the Lieberman-Warner bill, would raise electric rates by as much as 150% in the long term. Other federal and state proposals could have a huge impact on electric utility costs. All the proposed mandates about carbon taxes and global warming carry a big price tag for you the consumer. We do not want to reach a situation where electricity becomes a luxury that the average American cannot afford.

So, what are we doing? McLeod Cooperative Power and hundreds of other cooperatives nationwide are working to get government officials to consider the impact climate change legislation will have on our members.

Today is when we need you to take action. A phone call or e-mail message to your Congressional legislators in June or early July is the best chance we have to try to curb the direction our energy prices are headed. Contact the three legislators (right) by phone, or go to their web site to send them a personal message. You may also access www.ourenergy.coop website and send all your legislators a prepared message at one time.

Ask your representative or senator in Congress to only support legislation that will be affordable for consumers. The health of our U.S. economy and affordability of electricity for our homes, farms and businesses need to be balanced with environmental goals when new laws are made. Also, ask them NOT to support the Lieberman-Warner bill or any bill that will make electricity and other energy too expensive for the general public to afford.

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Rep. Collin Peterson (representing McLeod, Renville & Sibley Counties)
Web site: www.collinpeterson.house.gov
Telephone: 202-225-2165

Rep. John Kline (representing Carver County)
Web site: www.kline.house.gov
Telephone: 202-225-2271
Local: 952-808-1213

Sen. Norm Coleman
Web site: www.coleman.senate.gov
Telephone: 202-224-5641
MN Office: 1-800-224-9043

Sen. Amy Klobuchar
Web site: www.klobuchar.senate.gov
Telephone: 202-224-3244
MN Office 1-800-224-9043

Change in Energy Prices Due to Proposed Legislation

(Lieberman-Warner Bill)

Sector	By Year 2020	By Year 2030
Electricity	31% to 39%	124% to 150%
Gasoline	21% to 67%	73% to 140%
Natural Gas	28% to 38%	109% to 153%

Error in quoted response time:

Shortly before 1:30 a.m. on June 1, there was an auto accident fatality near the Co-op's Hollywood Substation. The vehicle came to rest on a switching box outside of the substation. No power outage occurred.

The Carver County Sheriff was quoted by the media as saying that emergency crews had to wait more than two hours for employees from the power company to arrive to turn off power to the equipment before it was safe to extract him (the deceased man) from the vehicle. Time-verified records actually show that MCPA lineman arrived on the accident scene within one hour after our dispatch center received the call from authorities about the accident. It was true that MCPA crews arrived 2 hours after the accident occurred, but we want to clarify that our response time following notification was actually within one hour. Our Co-op linemen deserve credit not criticism – twenty minutes after getting awakened by an outage call, they were at the Glencoe shop and the truck was rolling out the door to the accident scene.

Employees complete annual safety training

The employees of McLeod Cooperative Power completed CPR and AED training in May. Both line workers and office employees complete the CPR training annually. This is the first time Cooperative employees have received hands-on training using an AED (automated external defibrillator).



Cooperative employees practice their resuscitation skills during Red Cross CPR training.



Employee Bob Senst (left) presses the AED unit for instructions while General Manager Kris Ingenthron practices CPR skills.

Some of the CPR manikins used by the McLeod County Red Cross during training were recently purchased with funds from MCPA's Operation Round Up donation.

Peregrine falcons are back

For the second year in a row, a pair of peregrine falcons has chosen the nesting box atop Great River Energy's Elk River Station to settle down and raise a family. Brenda Hoskyns, administrative assistant at Elk River Station, first noticed the return of a female falcon on March 19. By April 24 there were four eggs being incubated by the falcons, with an expected hatch date of May 25 or 26. Great River Energy is McLeod Cooperative's wholesale power provider.

With last year's peregrine family, bird watchers were able to witness the eyases (baby peregrines) progress from their initial hatching to their take-off in June with Great River Energy's online bird cam. To further involve the community this year, Hoskyns called upon Bob Anderson of the Raptor Resource Project. Together the two put together a peregrine presentation for area sixth grade science classes at Vandenberg Middle School in Elk River, Minn. Hoskyns prepared a slide show with pictures taken of last year's peregrine family. The students were even given the opportunity to view a peregrine up close as Anderson brought in his own trained peregrine, Cocoa. Since the presentation in February, the science classes have been eagerly tracking the falcons' progress, keeping their eye on the bird cam in class. The students will help in the naming of the four falcons once they have hatched, and arrangements have been made for students to take part in the banding which will occur mid-June.

The nest box was built in 2006 by local Boy Scout Daniel Sundberg for his Eagle Scout project. The nest box is perched 110 feet in the air on the scrubber tower at Elk River Station,



The female falcon keeps close watch over her new home in the nest box above Great River Energy's Elk River Station.

located near the banks of the Mississippi River. The falcons first made their debut in Elk River in March 2007. Anderson is confident that peregrines will return to the nest box for years to come, as he explains that once the nest box is initially occupied, peregrines will return every year. This pair is one of an estimated 1,650 breeding pairs in the United States and Canada. Cooperative members, as well as the general public, can check on the nesting family anytime. New this year, www.greatriverenergy.com offers bird watchers an online live streaming video and audio. Great River Energy installed a bird cam in the falcon nest last year to increase awareness of conservation efforts and provide the public with opportunities to watch the peregrine falcons and their growing family.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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MCLEOD COOPERATIVE POWER ASSOCIATION NEWS

The McLeod Cooperative Power Association News is published monthly by McLeod Cooperative Power Association
PO Box 70
1231 Ford Ave.
Glencoe, MN 55336

General Manager: Kris Ingenthron
Editor: Sue Pawelk

The McLeod Cooperative Power Association News is the official member publication of McLeod Cooperative Power Association and focuses on our members, programs and events. All member story ideas and comments are welcome. Send to Sue Pawelk, editor, at the above address.

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday
7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Phone: 320-864-3148
1-800-494-6272

24-hour outage: 1-800-927-5685
Fax: 320-864-4850

Web site: www.mcleodcoop.com

Gopher State One Call 1-800-252-1166

Policy changes you should know about

The Management and Board of Directors of McLeod Cooperative Power revised two policies at the May Board meeting. Those policies address Payment of Accounts and Member Deposits. It is important that policies be regularly updated to make sure the assets of the membership are protected, and that the wording is updated to reflect current legal, safety and financial requirements. These changes will directly affect new members paying deposits, renters, landlords, members who pay their electric bill with a credit or debit card, and members who are disconnected for non-payment. New wording is shown in bold print.

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

In order to insure prompt payment of accounts for electrical service, and to be equitable to all members, the following rules will apply concerning payment of accounts.

I. Member will be charged the net amount shown on the electric bill if payment is received on or before the 28th day of the month in which the bill was rendered.

Member will be charged the gross amount shown on the electric bill if paid after the 28th day of the month, in which the bill was rendered. The gross amount due is determined by adding a late payment charge, an interest charge based on the outstanding balance due, and the net amount of the bill.

When a member leaves the system and no longer receives electrical service, all amounts owed for service shall become due and payable immediately upon termination of service.

2. A member may request and begin receiving service at any time of a month, and also terminate service at any time of a month. Billings for first and last periods of service may vary in time lengths in order to get on the Cooperative's normal billing cycle. The Cooperative's monthly fixed charge will be applied to all billing periods including the first and last, and will not be pro-rated because of a shorter or longer time period.

3. Failure to receive a bill does not exempt a member from these procedures.

4. All members whose bills remain unpaid approximately 30 days after the bill has been mailed to members will receive a disconnection notice on their regular bill the following month. If the balance forward amount is not paid by the disconnection date shown on the monthly bill, electrical service will be subject to disconnection. From October 15 through April 15th (the cold weather months). Disconnection of service will be done following Policy No. 4-4A, Disconnection of Service During Cold Weather Months.

5. In the event it becomes necessary for the Association to call on the member to make collection of a delinquent account, member shall be required to pay delinquent amounts due on their account, plus an additional charge shall be added to help defray the cost of the collection call.

6. A charge shall be made for reconnection of service **that was** discontinued for non-payment,

plus a deposit will be required before reconnection, as listed in Policy 4-5 Member Deposits.

7. In the event of an electric disconnect, McLeod Cooperative Power must receive all late payments and other charges due before 2:00 p.m. in the Co-op office for power to be reconnected the same day, Monday through Friday. Payments can be made by debit, credit and prepaid cards over the telephone, or by all of these methods including cash, cashier's check, bank order or certified funds at its Glencoe office. No personal or business checks will be accepted. When payments are made after 2:00 p.m., power will only be reconnected the next business day.

8. If the same rental property has had renters leave the Cooperative with uncollectible bills two times, the Cooperative will only reconnect the account in the name of the property owner. If the owner does not have acceptable credit history with the Cooperative, a deposit of at least \$200 will be required.

9. If payment is made with a major credit card, the maximum payment amount accepted per month is \$500. The Cooperative reserves the right to charge a fee for each credit card transaction.

MEMBER DEPOSITS

I. In an effort to insure payment of accounts, the Cooperative may require members to make a deposit with the Cooperative.

II. Deposits will be required from members in the following situations:

A. A new member applying for service who has not previously established a satisfactory credit rating with this Cooperative.

B. Any member who has been receiving electrical service, and who has electrical service discontinued for non payment of a bill, will be required to make a deposit prior to having service restored. **This deposit will be equal to two times the average bill from the previous 12 month period. This deposit may be in addition to any deposits already held by the Cooperative.**

III. Additional guidelines concerning deposits include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following items:

A. The amount of the deposit will be equal to approximately two times the members average monthly bill from the previous 12 months, but not less than **\$200**.

I. In the case of a new Farm or Residential member without a previous history, the deposit will be **\$200**.

2. In the case of a new member other than Farm or Residential, a deposit equal to two times the account's estimated average monthly bill will be required.

3. If a member has more than one account and it has been determined that a deposit is required, the amount of the deposit shall be sufficient to cover approximately two times the average bill from the previous 12 months for all accounts.

4. Cooperative management may choose to require a deposit greater than two times average monthly bill for commercial or industrial accounts or large farm accounts which may be a high credit risk for the Cooperative.

B. The Cooperative will pay the member **interest at a rate set annually by the Minnesota Dept. of Commerce**, for any money held in deposit. All interest payable will be applied as a credit to the member's account.

C. The Cooperative will retain a member's deposit for a 12 month period.

I. If the member maintains a satisfactory credit rating during a twelve month consecutive period, the entire deposit will be applied as a credit to the members account.

2. A member who is issued two or more delinquent notices or has service discontinued for non-payment of a bill within a 12 month period will be considered to have an unacceptable credit history. **The deposit will be held by the Cooperative until acceptable credit history within a 12 month period is attained.**

D. A member may obtain a credit statement from another utility and present it to the Cooperative; and upon acceptance by this Cooperative, the deposit will be refunded to the member **or waived for a new member except in the case of rental property. Renters will pay a deposit equal to two times the average bill from the previous 12 month period, but not less than \$200.**

E. If the same rental property has had renters leave the Cooperative with uncollectible bills two times, the Cooperative will only reconnect the account in the name of the property owner. If the owner does not have acceptable credit history with the Cooperative, a deposit of at least \$200 will be required.

F. The Cooperative will follow its normal delinquent, collection, and disconnect procedures, not withstanding the status of a member's deposit under the terms of this policy.

IV. Cooperative management is given the authority and responsibility to carry out the provisions of this policy.

Central air conditioner VS. air source heat pump



It's a knock-out — an ASHP wins hands down.

- **100% efficient when new; efficiencies decrease with the age of the air conditioner**
- **Used only during the summer**

In a hard-hitting match-up, an air source heat pump is the clear winner. It's energy-efficient design uses a heat transfer system, rather than letting heating and cooling elements do all the work. That saves energy, which is money in your pocket. By saving energy, a heat pump is kinder to the environment.

Best of all, a heat pump does the work of two appliances. You can't say that about an air conditioner.

Talk to your Cooperative and see how an air source heat pump can help you save.

- **180-300% efficient**
- **Used year-round (cools in the summer and provides efficient heat in the winter)**
- **Vital part of a money-saving dual-fuel heating system**
- **Substantial rebates are available from your Cooperative**

Calling 811 is the quick, easy way to access Gopher State One Call

One easy phone call to 811 starts the process to get your underground utility lines marked for free. When you call 811 from anywhere in the country, your call will be routed to your local One Call Center. Local One Call Center operators will ask you for the location of your digging job and route your call to affected utility companies. Your utility companies will then send a professional locator to your location to mark your lines within a few days. Once your underground lines have been marked, you will know the approximate location of your utility lines and can dig safely, because knowing what's below protects you and your family.

Always call 811 before starting any digging project!

**ALWAYS
CALL
BEFORE YOU
DIG**

One free, easy call gets your utility lines marked AND helps protect you from injury and expense.

**Safe Digging Is No Accident:
Always Call 811 Before You Dig**

Know what's below. Always call 811 before you dig.
Visit call811.com for more information.

Tips to handle a summer storm outage easily and safely

The following safety tips will help you to be prepared for the inconveniences that power outages can bring for you and your family:

Be prepared...

- Put together an emergency kit including:
 - Battery powered radio
 - A flashlight
 - Additional batteries
 - Bottled water and canned food
 - Candles and matches
 - First-Aid kit
- Prepare an emergency telephone list to contact the police, fire department, hospital, electric company, and local emergency management office. Include your address and telephone number on this list. **REMEMBER...** cordless phones don't work without power.
- Protect your belongings. If you are at home and your area is under a weather alert for severe storms, shut off or unplug any sensitive electronic equipment such as TVs and computers to protect them from power surges.
- Verify if you are the only one in your neighborhood without power. If that's the case check your breaker box to make sure all breakers are in the ON position. If you still don't have power, call your electric Cooperative to report the outage. Don't assume the Cooperative knows you are out of power. Be sure to have your location number handy for quicker service.
- Make sure to turn off all appliances — especially any heat-producing electric equipment such as electric stoves, toaster ovens, irons or hair curlers. Leave one light fixture on so you'll know when power is restored.
- Keep candles away from furniture, curtains, or any other flammable material. Never leave children alone in a room with a burning candle or open flame.
- Never try to use gas stoves, charcoal or briquette grills or camp stoves inside your home. They are designed to be used only outdoors where there is enough ventilation due to the amount of toxic fumes they produce. If you use them indoors you will rapidly eliminate the amount of oxygen in your house and increase the carbon monoxide inside your home. Carbon monoxide causes serious intoxication problems and even death.
- Stay away from any downed lines including power, telephone or cable. Do not touch any object that is in contact with downed power lines and can transmit electricity such as water, metal, etc. Never drive your car over power lines. If a power line falls over your car while you are driving, stay inside your car until you receive appropriate help.

REMEMBER...

You are not alone. Personnel are available 24/7 to assist you. All we ask is your patience while our crews work quickly and safely to restore your power.

INDUSTRY

News

Quietly, wind farms spread footprint in U.S.

Last year, a record 3,100 turbines were installed across 34 U.S. states and another 2,000 turbines are now under construction from California to Massachusetts. In all, there are more than 25,000 U.S. turbines in operation, an investment of \$15 billion. On May 12, the U.S. Energy Department said wind power could provide 20 percent of U.S. electricity by 2030, or 304 gigawatts, up from the current 16.8 gigawatts. Achieving that will require that wind turbine installations rise to almost 7,000 a year by 2017, the department said.

Increasingly, states are mandating that utilities obtain a portion of their power through such renewable sources. Wind energy is also benefiting from a Production Tax Credit federal subsidy of 2 cents per kilowatt hour of electricity produced. According to the American Wind Energy Association, this amounts to \$4.5 billion over 10 years.

Thomson Reuters

Energy efficiency may be the biggest success story in reducing energy demand in the U.S.

Energy efficiency may be the farthest-reaching, least-polluting, and fastest-growing energy success story of the last 50 years, states a report by the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE). However, the ACEEE reports in *The Size of the U.S. Energy Efficiency Market: Generating a More Complete Picture*, concludes that "...our nation is not aware of the role that energy efficiency has played in satisfying our growing energy-service demands...the contributions of efficiency often go unrecognized."

The report also notes that although efficiency is a proven resource, it remains underdeveloped.

"In short, the evidence suggests that efficiency can make an even larger contribution towards stabilizing energy prices and reducing greenhouse gas emissions — should we choose to fully develop it."

Source: Energy Central News

Earth Day Community Forum June 28 in Glencoe

A forum discussing electricity, energy efficiency and fuel options by 2020 will be presented Saturday, June 28, beginning at 3 p.m. at Orchard Estates Retirement Living Community located at 1900 Ford Avenue North in Glencoe.

The public is invited to this free forum, estimated to be about 90 minutes in length. Local stakeholders and energy experts will present information on energy initiatives in the MN Legislature, energy from solar, wind, methane landfill and other renewable sources, and current transmission line projects. Building and appliance efficiency will also be discussed.

One-Day Tour of Prairie Star Wind Farm & Pleasant Valley Peaking Plant



Members of McLeod Cooperative Power are invited to participate in a one-day tour of the Prairie Star Wind Farm and Pleasant Valley Peaking Plant, both located about 25 miles southwest of Rochester, Minnesota. The tour will be Wed., Aug. 27. Cost is \$25 per person. It includes lunch and motor coach transportation.

Call McLeod's office to sign up for the tour. The Co-op reserves the right to cancel the tour if a minimal number of persons sign up to attend. If this would happen, all members signed up would be notified in advance and receive a full refund. However, we doubt that we will have any trouble filling the bus, as so many MCPA members have requested a wind power tour in recent years.



Emergency pendants for mom or dad

You do not need to wait for a special occasion to give an emergency medical pendant from McLeod Cooperative Power. Although they make a perfect gift for the older person who already has everything, sometimes the need requires immediate action.

If you are ready to worry less about elderly parents or grandparents living alone, then this is the time for an emergency pendant. With just one push of a button, your loved ones can get immediate emergency help.

Emergency telephone and pendant systems cost under \$30 a month (plus an initial installation fee). These systems provide 24-hour monitoring by a professional dispatch center. The system will summon help for the subscriber whether they are in their home, garage, or yard. It is an excellent safety device for older persons living alone.

Call the Cooperative at 1-800-494-6272 to request an information brochure and pricing.



Appliance rebates

Members of McLeod Cooperative Power may receive a \$25 Energy Star rebate for purchase of a new dehumidifier, refrigerator, freezer, or clothes washer. Window air conditioners and mini-split systems that do several rooms are a \$35 rebate.

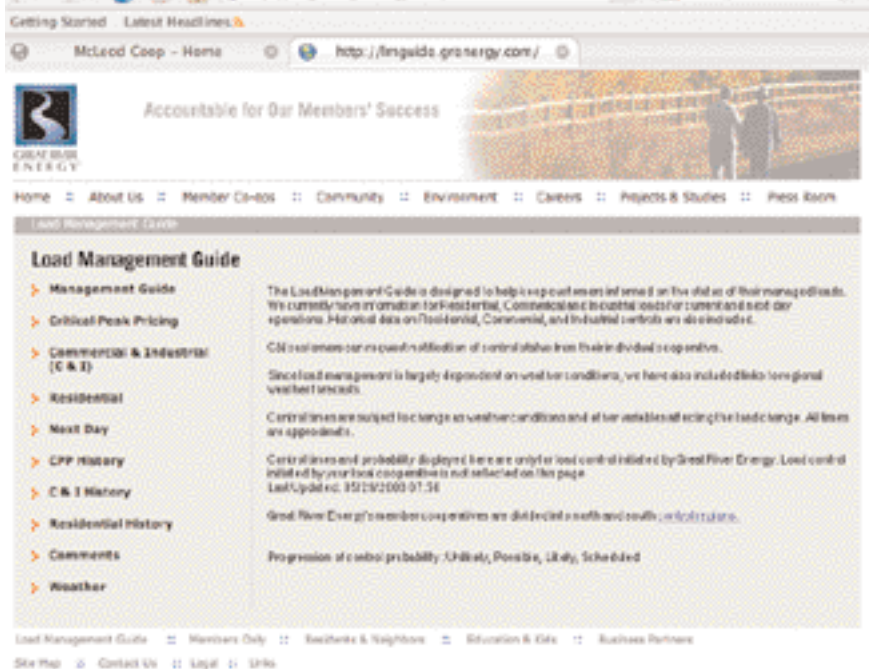
Members may also receive a rebate for each Energy Star central air conditioner or heat pump that has a SEER rating of 13 or higher and is installed on co-op lines by a contractor that is certified to do "quality installations." Contractors that have achieved the quality installation certification are listed on MCPA's web site at www.mcleodcoop.com on the Partners page. Just click on the qualified contractor title.



Call the energy experts at MCPA for details at 1-800-494-6272.

Rebates	Central Air Conditioners	Air Source Heat Pumps
SEER 13	\$30	\$30 - \$180
SEER 14	\$180	\$180 - \$330
SEER 15	\$280	\$280 - \$430
SEER 16 or higher	\$330	\$330 - \$480
Additional rebate of \$150 for any air source heat pump connected to the Dual Fuel and Cycled Cooling Programs.		

Summer load control



Cooperative members participating in off-peak programs like Hot Water Storage, Cycled Air Conditioning or Peak-Shave Water Heating, may go to the Co-op's web site to find out if control is likely for that day. The same web site link also provides the history of times and dates that various load management appliances were controlled in the past. Just go to www.mcleodcoop.com and click on "Is today a Load Management Control Day?" It should take you to the Load Management page at our power supplier's web site. If you have any difficulty, you can also get there by going directly to www.greatriverenergy.com and clicking on Load Management.

Summer load control plans

Cycled Air Conditioning:

The expectation is that GRE will likely cycle air conditioners during most hot days. A rough rule might be to expect load control when the Twin City temps are forecasted to be in the 90's.

Peak Shave Water Heating:

GRE intends to begin an automated control strategy for peak shave water heaters during the months of June, July and August - similar to what was done last summer. Beginning Monday, June 4 and ending Thursday, August 30, GRE will control Peak Shave Water Heaters Monday, June 2 through Friday, August 29. Hours are Mon-Thurs 4-10 p.m. for eight-hour water heaters and 4-8 p.m. for four-hour water heaters.

CHANGES TO

Dual Fuel Program

For nearly thirty years, the Cooperative has been offering to its members low-cost Dual Fuel energy because we had excess base load capacity at our power plant that we could sell to members at a discounted price. This was good for the Co-op and a great deal for members.

In the past two years, Dual Fuel sales have grown very fast, as members no longer wanted to pay the price of fuel oil or propane and they chose to switch to a Dual Fuel system. The time has come when our power supplier no longer has excess capacity to sell at a discounted rate. And no additional base load is on the drawing board at this time, since Minnesota's political environment has made it nearly impossible to build new generation with coal or nuclear or any other cost-effective base load plants.

Don't fear if you recently installed Dual Fuel. The program will not go away for those already participating. It is likely that the Dual Fuel Program will even be around for future participants. However, we know that a few things will change. Exact details will be known within the next month or two, but what we know at this time is that:

- The Dual Fuel rate will be going up but we are not yet sure how much. (Even if Dual Fuel rates were to increase a cent or two per kWh, we believe they would still be more reasonable than current fuel oil and propane prices for heating).
- No more pole barns, shops or non-conditioned living spaces will be allowed on Dual Fuel. No new garage heaters will be allowed on Dual Fuel. A storage heating system under the floor will be available as a good alternative system.
- Dual Fuel control times will be for more hours per year than we have historically seen, but will continue to be below our published 400-hour per season maximum hours. The control times will possibly shift to hours other than 5-9 p.m. We promise you more details as soon as they become available.

Be ready for a phone call on an EXTREME PEAK DAY



If the temperature hits 95 degrees and it is humid or if we have several consecutive days in the high 90's, we could experience an EXTREME PEAK DAY. That

is a day when the demand for energy is so high that we will ask our members to conserve energy. Whether you take action to conserve is totally voluntary. On such a day, the Cooperative will use an automated recording system to call your home and notify you that it is an EXTREME PEAK DAY. If you are home, please listen to the recorded message. It will provide the announcement that it is an EXTREME PEAK DAY. It will also tell you the hours of requested conservation and provide a list of ways you can conserve. If you are not home and you have an answering machine, we will leave you the same message. If you do not answer, the system will try to call you back later in the day.

By conserving energy for a few hours, you can help the Cooperative avoid expensive peak day demand and energy charges. This helps manage electric rates for all of our members. Our power supplier, Great River

Energy, is able to supply us with plenty of energy to meet the power needs of all of our members, even on an EXTREME PEAK DAY. However, the price we may have to pay to deliver that energy during peak hours of the hottest summer days may be very high. It is the goal of McLeod Cooperative Power to keep rates as low as possible. We greatly appreciate any effort our members can make to conserve on these days.

On EXTREME PEAK DAYS we will ask you to:

- Do laundry early in the day or after 10 p.m.
- Wait until after 10 p.m. to start the dishwasher.
- Go out for dinner, cook in the microwave or on the grill, instead of using the stove or oven.
- Turn off or unplug the dehumidifier, computer equipment that is not being used, unnecessary lighting or rechargeable appliances until after 10 p.m.
- Turn your thermostat up a degree or two during the peak hours so your air conditioner run time is reduced.

Doing some or all of these conservation practices will keep your house cooler on hot summer days. Doing activities that add heat or humidity to your home on an extremely hot day requires your air conditioner to run longer and use more energy.

Announcing the 2008 air conditioning tune-up program.

Just schedule a tune-up of your central air conditioner or air source heat pump (unit must be at least 5 years old and in working condition to qualify) and when your licensed professional HVAC contractor performs the service work, have them complete the rebate coupon below. Send the completed rebate form to the Cooperative with a copy of the contractor's invoice. His tune up must include the items on the coupon. After the Co-op receives your documentation, we will credit your electric bill \$25 within 4-6 weeks.



Tune up your cooling unit and receive a \$25 credit

Air Conditioner/Heat Pump Check List

Owner _____
 Acct. # _____
 Address _____ Loc
 ation # _____
 Phone # _____
 Company doing Tune-Up _____
 Technician's Name _____
 Company Phone # _____

CHECK LIST

Brand Name _____
 Model # _____
 Serial # _____
 Tons/BTU Rating _____ SEER Rating _____

- Clean Outdoor Unit
- Clean and Inspect "A" Coil
- Check Blower Belt
- Compressor Motor Amp Reading Check
- Compressor Amp Reading Check
- Blower & Oil
- Blower Motor Amp Reading Check
- Check Filter
- Check Refrigerant Level & Pressure
- Blow Out Drain Line
- Visual Inspection of Cooling System

Recommendations _____

Technician Signature _____
 Date _____

Power Cost Adjustment to increase July 1

The power cost adjustment (PCA) will increase July 1 from \$.0093 to \$.0121. The first electric bill to include the larger PCA will be the bill you receive in mid-August for July energy use. This translates into an additional \$2.80 a month for each 1,000 kWh used.

The Cooperative usually adjusts the PCA annually, at the beginning of the year. The Board of Directors made the decision to adjust our PCA in mid-year because the monthly power cost adjustments from Great River Energy (GRE) have been much larger than anticipated the first four months of this year. Colder than average temperatures January through April resulted in members from the 28 distribution Co-ops served by GRE buying about 267 million more kilowatt-hours than planned. This energy had to be purchased for our members in the energy marketplace at costs greater than GRE's average cost to generate at Coal Creek Station. The cost to purchase additional energy to supply electric home heating, portable space heaters, tank heaters, and all the other additional appliances in use on the system, as well as purchasing during a ten-day unplanned outage at one of the Coal Creek generating units, was passed through to the Cooperatives and their members through GRE's monthly PCA.

We believe that passing along this additional cost for power over the last six months of the year will be less painful for our members than getting hit with the entire PCA for 2008 on next year's bills. The energy markets are currently full of unpredictable and sometimes unpleasant surprises. Our Cooperative believes it is not in the best interest of our members to wait until the end of the year and surprise you with a huge PCA assessment.



a brighter idea

FREE and CONVENIENT CFL recycling at **MENARDS**[®]

Please drop off your used CFLs at the Service Desk.

Only CFLs from residential customers will be accepted. No tubes or other mercury-containing items accepted.

Because of the presence of mercury, CFLs must be recycled. In Minnesota, it is illegal to place them directly in the garbage.



Using CFLs is as easy as 1-2-3!

1. REPLACE old incandescent light bulbs with Compact Fluorescent Lights (CFLs). Be sure to match the right CFL to the right kind of fixture to ensure that it will perform properly.
2. REDUCE energy costs by up to \$30 per bulb over its lifetime and use 75% less energy. CFLs last up to 10 times longer and generate 70% less heat than standard incandescent light bulbs.
3. RECYCLE burned out or broken CFLs to prevent the release of mercury. Great River Energy, in partnership with our 28 member cooperatives is excited to bring you FREE and CONVENIENT recycling at all Menards stores in the state of Minnesota. In addition to Menards, you can bring CFLs to your local recycling center or your community's hazardous waste drop off for proper disposal. For more information on your recycling options, visit www.minnesotacfl.org or www.pcastrtr.com




In Partnership with our 28 Member Cooperatives:
 Agate Electric Cooperative • Arrowhead Electric Cooperative • BECCO Electric • Boone County Rural Electric Association • Cornhusker Energy • Cooperative Light & Power Association • Cow Wing Power • Dakota Electric Association • East Central Energy • Federated Rural Electric Association • Goodwin County Cooperative Electric Association • Itasca-Morris County Electric Association • Kandiyohi Power Cooperative • Lake Country Power • Lake Region Electric Cooperative • Mound Cooperative Power Association • Mueller Cooperative • Mills Lake Energy Cooperative • Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative • North Dakota Electric • North Star Electric Cooperative • Redwood Electric Cooperative • Rude Lake Electric Association • South Central Electric Association • Stevens Electric Association • Stone-Wisconsin Cooperative Electric • Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative • Wright Township Cooperative Electric Association