

McLeod Cooperative Power NEWS

October 2013

In this issue...



Heartland is "the best company out there."5



Common Cup serves with Operation Round-up funds.7

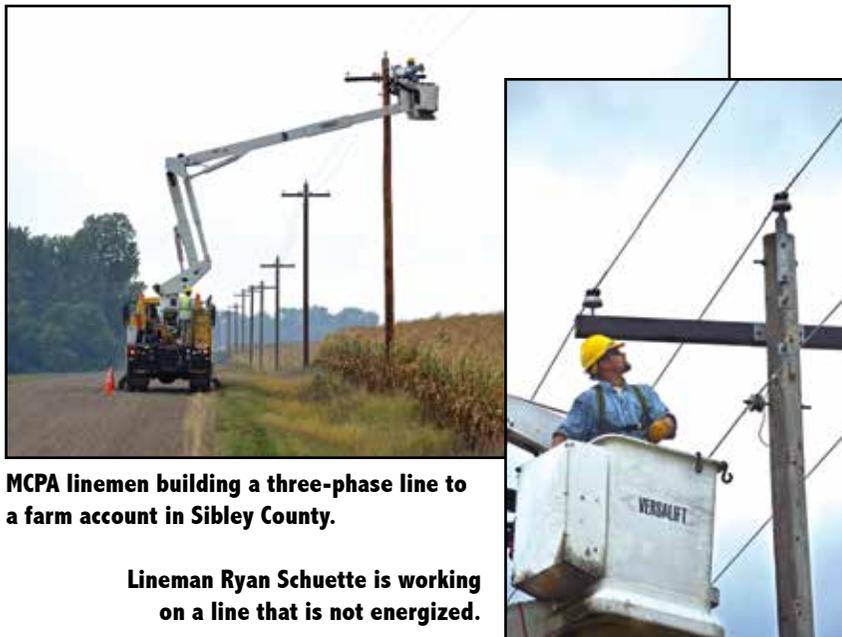
Official publication of



www.mcleodcoop.com



An upgrade is being done on a three-phase line from the Co-op's Winthrop substation to eight miles west of Highway 15. Moll's Utility Services, an electrical contractor, is replacing the line for McLeod Cooperative. They will be working on this project for about two months.



MCPA linemen building a three-phase line to a farm account in Sibley County.

Lineman Ryan Schuette is working on a line that is not energized.

ACTION ALERT: Urge EPA to Reconsider "All-But-One" Approach

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued new proposed rules limiting the carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions of new coal and natural gas based power plants. Because of this, the Administration has abandoned its "all-of-the-above" energy strategy and embraced an "all-but-one" approach that effectively prevents construction of new coal-based generation. This will increase your cost of electric power.

Your help is needed today! Urge the EPA to reconsider its "all-but-one" approach by going to www.Action.coop.

Electric cooperatives strongly oppose this shift and believe the proposed rule should be withdrawn. Co-ops support using a diverse fuel mix including renewables, natural gas, nuclear, and coal to generate electricity, and support using demand response and energy efficiency to use that energy wisely and keep costs affordable. Co-ops also continue to deploy new technologies and are researching even more cutting edge technologies to meet the energy needs of the future.

Please join our effort www.Action.coop and tell EPA to reconsider its "all-but-one" approach; to work with the electric cooperatives to find a common sense solution that balances energy needs and environmental concerns. Please share this information with your friends and family; ask them to visit www.Action.coop to learn more and send their message to the EPA. Messages will be sent to the EPA from Action.coop after the Federal Government agencies reopen for business.

- 1** **Voluntary and Open Membership**
Cooperatives are voluntary organizations, open to all person able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership.
- 2** **Democratic Member Control**
Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions.
- 3** **Members' Economic Participation**
Members contribute equitably to, and dramatically control, the capital of their cooperative.

The Seven Cooperative PRINCIPLES

- 4** **Autonomy and Independence**
Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members.

- 5** **Education, Training and Information**
Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperative.
- 6** **Cooperation Among Cooperatives**
Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together.
- 7** **Concern for Community**
While focusing on member needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities.

Electric Heating Sales Tax Exemption

Electricity sold for residential space heating, when used as the primary source of heat, is exempt from Minnesota sales tax for the usage months of November through April. To qualify, members must complete an exemption form, available from the Cooperative. If you have signed an exemption previously, you do not have to sign one again. We keep it on file. Heating systems monitored by load management or off-peak meters are also eligible and will not be taxed.

Call the office if you have any questions.



Going south for the winter

Please notify the Cooperative if you are heading south for the winter.

Although the Turtle will send us your meter reading, we still need to know what payment arrangements you prefer.

Options are:

- You can pay in advance.
- Have the post office forward your mail.
- You can sign up for auto pay and have the payment automatically deducted from your checking or savings account.
- You can call us with a credit card payment.

Be sure to make arrangements before you leave by calling 1-800-494-6272.

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All member story ideas and comments are welcome.
Send to Sue Pawelk at the address shown.

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24-hour outage: 1-800-927-5685

Fax: 320-864-4850

Web site: www.mcleodcoop.com

Gopher State One Call 1-800-252-1166

Late Night FREE Zone only for exede customers

Exede customers using the Co-op's high-speed internet service, can download files, music and movies from midnight to 5 AM any day of the month without using up any of their bandwidth for the month. It is called exede's Late Night FREE Zone.

This Late Night FREE Zone makes it possible for people working from home to download larger

quantities of files or data overnight for work. It could be great for a night owl who wants to download a movie that would not normally be possible with the customer's lower level bandwidth package.

If you have questions, or want to sign up for the faster rural internet service called exede, give the Co-op a call at 1-800-494-6272.



(Photo By: iStockphoto)

Keep elderly parents safe while they live alone

Do you worry about your parents getting older?

Do you worry about mom or dad living alone?

The First Alert emergency pendant from McLeod Co-op

Power may be just the thing they need to help you worry

less while they live on their own. One press of the button will call the 24-hour medical dispatch center, which will send a family member, neighbor or police over to help.

The pendant allows them to work outside in the garden or go to the mailbox, and still summon help if they need it. Emergency pendants are reasonably priced and give mom or dad greater independence. Call McLeod Co-op Power at 1-800-494-MCPA for more information.



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Farm Households Seeing Red Ink

By Steven Johnson | ECT Staff Writer
Published: September 3rd, 2013

Net farm income in the United States will grow at a robust rate in 2013, but farm households are likely to take a hit in the pocketbook.

While overall farm income is up, the average farm is a money-losing venture, USDA reports.

That's the mixed conclusion from the Department of Agriculture's 2013 Farm Income Sector Forecast.

The analysis, released Aug. 27, said the average farm is losing money, even though total net income for all farms is expected to rise 6 percent to \$120.6 billion this year.

However, median farm income is expected to fall to minus \$2,300. It was minus \$1,435 in 2012, the department said. "Given the broad USDA definition of a farm, many farms are not profitable even in the best farm income years," according to the forecast.

Farm households will make up the balance by taking nonfarm jobs, USDA said. Median off-farm income is projected to increase by 1.8 percent in 2013, to \$60,659.

"Most farm households earn all of their income from off-farm sources," the department added.

Costs associated with rent, labor and feed are expected to increase in 2013, and contribute to record levels of production expenses. Total farm expenses are likely to top \$354 billion this year, USDA said.

However, crop production is likely to be strong, and even after expenses, will help to boost net overall farm income to its second highest level since 1973, adjusted for inflation.

Also, the department anticipates that increases in farm asset value will exceed increases in farm debt. That will keep farm debt-to-asset and debt-to-equity ratios at historic lows.

In a statement accompanying the report, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack urged Congress to pass a five-year farm bill this fall to provide more certainty for U.S. farmers.

"I am confident that our farmers and ranchers will continue to show the determination and innovation that has been the hallmark of American agriculture for generations," he said.

Help us update our Critical Load list

Electricity is a lifeline for members with medical equipment. Please notify the Cooperative office if you rely on medical equipment such as:

- Respirators, • Oxygen concentrators, • Home dialysis
- Other equipment supporting life-threatening medical conditions

The Cooperative maintains a Critical Load list. In the event of a prolonged outage, we try to contact these members and alert them that they may need to move to a place with power if their battery back-up is insufficient. It does not mean that we can restore power to their location first.

The Cooperative also tries to contact Critical Load members in advance of a planned power outage. The notification allows members to make alternative arrangements before the outage, if necessary.

If you or someone in your home relies on life support equipment, and you have not yet notified the Cooperative, please complete the coupon and return with your next payment, or you can call the Co-op with the information. Please notify the Co-op if the person with the medical condition moves off the system, no longer needs life support or passes away, so that we can keep our list current.

REA Critical Load List

___ Yes, medical life-support equipment is in use

Type of medical equipment or medical condition _____

Battery Backup? ___ Yes ___ No

If yes, how long will the batteries last? _____

Acct #.....

Name.....

Address.....

City/State/Zip.....

Home Phone.....

Cell Phone.....

Please return to: McLeod Co-op Power
P.O. Box 70, Glencoe MN 55336

Great River Energy partners with company to market DryFining™ technology in China



Great River Energy recently completed negotiations for and executed a DryFining License and Technology Transfer Agreement with Tangshan Shenzhou Manufacturing (TSM) Company to make the DryFining technology available to utilities in China.

“This is a significant milestone in the future use of our DryFining technology,” said Greg Ridderbusch, Great River Energy vice president of business development and strategy. “China is a world leader in the use of coal, about two and one-half times the usage here in the United States. This agreement gives Great River Energy a significant opportunity to transfer our innovative DryFining technologies to power plants in China.”

The license agreement gives TSM, a coal processing equipment provider that serves mines and utilities in China, exclusivity to sell DryFining technology in China via a 10-year deal. Through the agreement, Great River Energy will serve as technical consultants for TSM. When a utility decides to purchase the technology from TSM, Great River Energy will assist with the design and integration of the DryFining technology at power plants in China.

The marketing efforts will include a trailer-mounted fluidized bed dryer that will be transported to power plants throughout China for use as a demonstration model. Great River Energy will design the dryer and TSM will build, operate and maintain the dryer.

The DryFining technology has a record of proven efficiency improvements and emissions reductions since it was successfully implemented at Great River Energy’s Coal Creek Station in December 2009. Since the technology was implemented at the power plant, it has increased overall plant efficiency by 4 percent and has resulted in reduced emissions; 40 percent for sulfur dioxide and mercury, 20 percent for nitrogen oxide, and 4 percent for carbon dioxide.

Great River Energy developed the DryFining technology in partnership with the U.S. Department of Energy, through its Clean Coal Power Initiative in 2003. It is one of a limited number of DOE projects that are now fully commercialized. Opportunities to market the DryFining technology in the United States are currently limited due to regulatory uncertainty.

Limestone Injection Cuts Emissions

By Derrill Holly | *Electric Co-op Today*

NRECA-backed research shows using micronized limestone can reduce emissions from coal-based power plants, improve plant efficiency and reduce boiler down time.

These positive results occurred during five days of injection tests conducted in August at Maple Grove, Minn.-based Great River Energy’s 188-megawatt Stanton Station Plant, in Stanton, N.D. “Injecting limestone into the boilers caused an immediate drop in sulfur dioxide levels,” said Dale Bradshaw, technical liaison for generation and environmental control technologies for NRECA’s Cooperative Research Network and an NRECA consultant.

“We also saw visible evidence that the injection of micronized limestone was reducing ash deposits in the boiler.”

Boilers require periodic shutdown for removal of ash and slag accumulations to maintain efficiency. The August tests were limited to four of 12 burners in one of the plant’s units. While much of the flue gas was treated, the slurry did not appear to be uniformly dispersed said Bradshaw, adding that more efficient mixing could ultimately remove 70 to 90 percent of sulfur dioxide.

Equipment needed for the process was installed in relatively small penetrations in or near the unit’s boiler and burners. The micronized limestone was also injected into the corners of the boilers.

“We noted some mechanical improvements that can be made to the micronized reagent introduction system,” said Shuman Moore, CEO of ClearChem Development LLC, the provider of the micronized limestone injection technology. “That

will allow improved acid gas capture rates.”

The limestone injection was the latest in a series of multiple pollutant control tests conducted by CRN and nine member generation and transmission cooperatives. The group, with the support of the Tennessee Valley Authority and an investor-owned utility with operations in Canada, is examining emerging or commercial technologies for existing coal-based power plants.

Test results will be discussed at a Sept. 26

meeting of the National Rural Electric Environmental Association at NRECA’s Arlington, Va., headquarters.

Other NRECA research projects have been aimed at reducing carbon emissions. Those include investigating technologies that can convert carbon back into liquid

fuels and chemicals, enhancing development of salable by-products from fly ash, improving plant efficiency and lengthening the life cycle of coal-based plants at reasonable costs.

“NRECA members and staff continue work on innovative solutions which will reduce technology costs for controlling emissions from the existing coal-based fleet,” said Ted Cromwell, NRECA’s senior principal for environmental policy.

“Some of these technologies are new, while others improve upon technologies that had previously underperformed or were not economical,” added Cromwell. “With the added threat of carbon regulation, cooperatives working together to find cost-effective solutions is increasingly critical to the economic viability of the coal fleet.”

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Caption: ClearChem Development’s Steve Wolsiffer checks a limestone injection head at Great River Energy’s Stanton Station Power Plant. (Photo By: Dale Bradshaw/NRECA)



**Know what’s below.
Call before you dig.**

Irrational climate plan threatens America

Letter to the editor:

A casualty of President Obama's irrational climate plan promises to be the U.S. coal industry and the jobs and cheap electricity coal provides (53 percent of Minnesota's power is from coal). The president's climate policies threaten to damage America financially, making it difficult for the U.S. to continue in its role as the free world's primary defender. That's something we in Canada cannot afford to see happen. Obama's approach to climate change makes no sense.

We don't know the future of climate; the science is too immature. Consequently, it is better to help people adapt to climate change than to vainly try to control it. Even if it was true our emissions were causing climate problems, U.S. actions would have no measurable impact as long as developing countries continued to expand at breakneck speed, mostly using coal-fired electricity. If we really were headed for climate problems then Obama should be boosting coal to cope with these hazards. After all, inexpensive electricity would be needed to handle greater demands for air conditioning and heating. More power would be required to irrigate lands, build dikes, strengthen public infrastructure and relocate populations living on flood plains or at risk of tornadoes and hurricanes.

Yet the president promotes wind and solar power, the least reliable and most expensive options available. Moving away from coal to wind and solar power because of weather extremes makes about as much sense as a ship captain ordering the crew into lifeboats when a severe storm is approaching. It would be suicide to abandon ship exactly when the protection of a sturdy vessel was most needed. It will also be suicide for America to attempt to replace coal and other base-load energy sources with flimsy alternatives. For all our sakes, please don't do it, U.S.!

Signed: Tom Harris, executive director of the International Climate Science Coalition, Ottawa, Ontario

~Duluth News Tribune

Twelve rural electric co-ops purchase Alliant Energy customers in southern Minn.

Twelve Minnesota electric cooperatives are collaborating to acquire Alliant Energy's electric distribution business in the southern part of the state. Under the deal, the co-ops established the Southern Minnesota Energy Cooperative to complete the acquisition, which will involve the transfer of about 43,000 accounts to the existing 12 co-ops. The parties announced the \$125-million deal on Sept. 3, which includes a 10-year agreement for Alliant to provide the co-ops with wholesale power and for the co-ops to offer Alliant employees jobs. Congrats to our co-op neighbors for expanding the reach of the co-op network.

~North Dakota Rural Electric Cooperative Association



Roger's son, Mak; Roger, holding granddaughter Zoey; and daughter Samantha, Zoey's mom.

Grove City businessman believes Heartland Security is "the best company out there."

Roger Rusch of Roger's Liquors, Grove City, has owned his "mom-and-pop" store since purchasing it from the City in 1996.

"The Grove City store had been losing money and the city council decided to sell it. At that time, I had been employed for 11 years at Shopko and had begun thinking that I might like to get out of there and buy a bar. That's when I saw a tiny, 10-word ad in the Meeker County Advertiser selling the Grove City store, which was even better than a bar, so I checked into it and bought it."

It became clear that security might be an issue when, at the closing, he was handed a grocery bag full of keys. There were different keys to all the entrances, various equipment and the ice freezer.

The first thing Roger did was to change the locks. The next thing was to hire someone to install a security system. As might be expected, a sleepy town like Grove City didn't experience a lot of burglary. That ended on July 4, 2008 when Roger's daughter Samantha was working in the store alone.

"A guy came in with a bandana over his face and robbed the store and other stores in the area," Roger said. The man was eventually caught, but since then, Roger's Liquors became the target of other attempted burglaries during the night hours, breaking windows and doors to gain access.

"I had heard about Heartland Security from the Co-op 101 Member Education sessions at the Co-op, and I had them come out to take a look at our system," Roger explained. "As a way to save a few bucks, they used some of the wiring and equipment that was already there, but gave us a new key pad in a better location. In hind-sight, I should have had them install a new Heartland system from the get-go."

"The way the first security company installed the motion sensors, there were a number of dead spots where the motion sensors couldn't detect movement in the store. We had a break-in by someone who apparently was familiar with the layout of the security system. They knew where we were vulnerable — where our 'dead spots' were and crawled their way through those dead spots to the back of the store."

Roger called Meeker Co-op CEO Tim Mergen. The next day, Heartland General Manager Guy Adams came to investigate.

"We forgot that we had put tape over one of the motion sensors by the front door because it kept setting off the alarm whenever the morning sun hit it," Roger said. "So the original security tech suggested we put a piece of tape over the motion sensor to prevent that. When Guy came, he told us that no security technician should ever suggest putting tape over a motion sensor to fix the problem. Someone could get through the door and well into the store before the motion sensor would pick up the motion and trip the alarm."

Guy sent out another tech to install all new Heartland Security motion sensors.

"The tech was great," Roger said. "He installed motion sensors in such a way that we no longer have any dead spots in the store. He explained everything so well that I feel like I could install a security system."

Roger is pleased with his new security system.

"Heartland is the best company out there," he said. "They did exactly what I wanted, and found little things that were done incorrectly that really matter in security. I also like the fact that it's a Minnesota company, and that I can call my Co-op when I have any issues. I feel more confident now than I ever did."

Notice to Members who are behind in your bill payments

The Cold Weather Rule may not protect you!

Make plans now to pay your bill to avoid being without electricity this winter.

McLeod Cooperative Power regularly disconnects the electrical supply of members who do not pay for the electricity they use. While we dislike disconnecting members, it would not be fair to our other members if we allow certain members to use electricity for free while our other members pay.

The Cold Weather Rule was adopted to protect some people from having their primary source of electric heat disconnected between October 15 and April 15. However, this law doesn't mean there won't be disconnections. The law says that a person must be making regular payments or have set up a payment plan and be honoring those arrangements to avoid being disconnected. If you are behind in your payments and are counting on the Cold Weather Rule to protect

you from making any payments during the winter, think again. McLeod Cooperative Power will be doing disconnections this winter in accordance with the law.

Please read the full Cold Weather Rule summary below. The list of agencies who can provide assistance to qualifying residents having trouble paying their bill is on this page and is also listed on the back of any electric bill with a delinquent balance.

It is up to the member to make payment arrangements or seek assistance to avoid disconnection. Please do not wait. The sooner you contact us, the greater the chance you will have electricity all winter long. Call today at 320-864-3148 or 1-800-494-6272 for details about applying for shut-off protection or to make a reasonable payment arrangement.

Cold Weather Rule Summary

The Cold Weather Rule, which is part of the Public Utilities Act, prohibits utilities from disconnecting a residential customer for nonpayment during the coldest months of the year if the customer has met the requirements under item 1 below. Your Cooperative strictly adheres to that law and offers sources of help for those unable to pay their bill. The law reads as follows:

1 An electric cooperative must not disconnect and must reconnect the utility service of a home between October 15 and April 15 if the disconnection affects the primary heat source for the residential unit and all of the following conditions are met:

- You declare an inability to pay.
- Your total household income is less than 50 percent of the State Median Income.
- Your account is current for the billing period immediately prior to Oct. 15, or if you have entered into a payment schedule and are reasonably current with your scheduled payments.
- You have contacted MCPA and have set up a payment arrangement.

If all of these items are not satisfied the electricity may be shut off due to non-payment.

2 Before disconnecting service to a residential customer during the cold weather months, the Cooperative will provide the following information to the customer:

- Notice of the proposed disconnection.
- A statement of the customer's rights and responsibilities.
- A list of local energy assistance providers.
- A statement explaining available time payment plans and other options to secure continued utility service.

3 Any residential customer whose service is disconnected on Oct. 15 may be reconnected if:

- The outstanding balance is paid.
- A mutually acceptable payment schedule is arranged.
- Our members are important to McLeod Cooperative Power. We would rather work with you to set up a plan to pay your bill than disconnect your service.

4 The Cooperative will not disconnect service to a residential customer who has not responded to a disconnection notice without first investigating whether the dwelling is actually unoccupied. This investigation shall include a

personal visit to the dwelling. If the unit is found to be occupied, the Cooperative will immediately inform the occupant of his or her rights under this policy.

5 If an involuntary disconnection is to occur between Oct. 15 and April 15, then the disconnection will not occur on a Friday or on the day before a holiday.

6 Any disputes over a residential customer's inability to pay for service, income eligibility, reasonableness of payment schedule or any other issue which a customer could raise under the Cold Weather Rule shall be referred for hearing, after reasonable notice, to the Cooperative's Board of Directors. The Cooperative and the customer shall have the right to present evidence and be heard in person at that hearing. The Cooperative's Board of Directors shall issue a written decision within 10 days after the hearing. No disconnection shall occur while a dispute is pending.

7 The Cooperative will notify all members, prior to Oct. 15, of its Cold Weather Rule. Names and contact numbers for energy assistance providers are listed on this page.

Energy Assistance Providers

Kandiyohi, McLeod & Meeker Counties

Heartland Community Action Agency

PO Box 1359, 200 4th St. SW
Willmar, MN 56201

218 Main St. S., Suite 108,
Hutchinson MN 55350

Toll free: 800-992-1710

McLeod: 800-829-2132

McLeod County area

McLeod County Social Service Center

1805 Ford Avenue North
Glencoe, MN 55336

(320) 864-3144

(320) 484-4330 (Hutchinson

Toll-Free)

1-800-247-1756 (Toll Free)

Renville County area

Renville County Energy Assistance Program

105 S. 5th Street, Suite 203H,
Olivia, MN 56277

320-523-2202

1-800-363-2533

Sibley County area

Sibley County Public

Health & Human Services

111 8th Street

Gaylord, MN 55334

(507) 237-4000

MN Valley Action Council

110 6th Street, P.O. Box 87
Gaylord, MN 55334

(507) 237-2981

706 N. Victory Dr.

Mankato, MN 56001

(507) 345-6822

1-800-767-7139 (Toll Free)

Carver County area

Scott-Carver-Dakota

Community Action Agency

712 Canterbury Road South
Shakopee, MN 55379

(952) 960-9700

Wright County area

Wright County

Community Action

130 West Division Street

Maple Lake, MN 55358

(320) 963-6500

Focus on Operation Round Up recipient

Common Cup



A group of residents from Green Castle Condominiums in Hutchinson help Common Cup by packaging food and volunteering service to the organization.

Common Cup was a recipient of a \$500 donation from McLeod Co-op Power's Operation RoundUp® Program in 2013. Common Cup used the funds to serve 2nd and 3rd grade students in Hutchinson and Glencoe with a weekend "Backpack Program." It was designed to send a backpack with food for the weekend home with children who qualified for free or reduced lunches at school. In 2012 the program was serving 89 students but an eventual goal is to serve all qualified participants in grades K-11 grade. This fall they are serving 200 students. Last year Common Cup provided services to over 2,000 individuals in our area. Local students help pack the meals and volunteer at Common Cup.

As a member of the Co-op, you may choose to round up your electric bill each month to the nearest dollar and have that change donated to Operation RoundUp. If you do not already participate, just fill out the coupon on this page and mail it to the Co-op or include it with your next electric payment.

Youth from the community volunteer at Common Cup. They assist with stocking shelves, filling backpacks, and helping with a variety of useful tasks.



Members helping members and members helping their community = Operation Round Up

Yes, sign me up for Operation Round Up. I understand that my bills will be rounded up to the next dollar amount and the proceeds will be used for local charitable programs.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Account #: _____

Signature: _____

August Outage Summary

During the month of August the Cooperative had a total of 19 outages, affecting 52 consumers.

A storm on the evening of August 31 caused 15 consumers to be out of power due to lightning and a tree in the lines. Members were out from one hour to one hour and 45 minutes in areas north of Winthrop and Gaylord.

The second largest outage was caused by a tree hanging into a power line on August 28. It affected 11 members near Buffalo Lake. Most outages affect only one or two members. They are frequently caused by small animals, trees in the line, equipment failure, or motor vehicle/machinery accidents. Larger outages affecting hundreds of members at a time are usually caused by transmission outages, storms, equipment failure to substation equipment, or accidents.

Restoration time on weekend and evening outages, when line crews are called out from home, usually take a little longer to get back on than outages when crews are already out working on the project.

Summer load control recap

Thousands of residential members participate in off-peak programs. Over the summer many members received credits or reduced price kilowatts for cooling or water heating on interruptible programs. A recap of the number of times, dates and duration of control for the cycled cooling and peak shave water heating programs is shown here.

Farmers, small businesses and industrial customers may participate in the interruptible program if they qualify and either have a generator backup system or are able to shut down most of their electrical load during peak times. The summer control times for these accounts are shown under the C&I (Commercial and Industrial) list.

RES History from 06/01/2013 to 09/03/2013

Date	Program Type	Start	Stop	Hours
08/30/2013	Interruptible Water Heating	14:00	18:00	4
08/29/2013	Interruptible Water Heating	14:00	18:00	4
08/28/2013	Cycled Air Conditioning	14:30	19:30	5
08/28/2013	Interruptible Water Heating	14:30	21:00	6.5
08/27/2013	Cycled Air Conditioning	14:30	20:30	6
08/27/2013	Interruptible Water Heating	14:30	21:30	7
08/26/2013	Interruptible Water Heating	15:00	22:00	7
08/26/2013	Cycled Air Conditioning	15:30	21:00	5.5
08/25/2013	Interruptible Water Heating	15:00	21:00	6
08/21/2013	Interruptible Water Heating	15:00	21:00	6
08/20/2013	Cycled Air Conditioning	15:30	20:30	5
08/20/2013	Interruptible Water Heating	15:30	21:00	5.5
07/18/2013	Interruptible Water Heating	14:30	21:00	6.5
07/18/2013	Cycled Air Conditioning	14:30	19:30	5
07/17/2013	Interruptible Water Heating	14:30	21:00	6.5
07/17/2013	Cycled Air Conditioning	14:30	19:30	5
07/16/2013	Cycled Air Conditioning	14:30	19:30	5
07/16/2013	Interruptible Water Heating	14:30	21:00	6.5
07/15/2013	Cycled Air Conditioning	16:00	19:00	3
07/15/2013	Interruptible Water Heating	15:30	20:00	4.5
07/08/2013	Interruptible Water Heating	15:30	20:00	4.5
07/08/2013	Cycled Air Conditioning	16:00	19:00	3
06/26/2013	Interruptible Water Heating	15:30	20:00	4.5
06/26/2013	Cycled Air Conditioning	16:00	19:00	3
06/25/2013	Cycled Air Conditioning	16:00	19:00	3
06/25/2013	Interruptible Water Heating	15:30	19:30	4

06/24/2013	Interruptible Water Heating	15:30	20:00	4.5
06/24/2013	Cycled Air Conditioning	16:00	19:00	3

CI History from 06/01/2013 to 09/03/2013

Date	Program Type	Start	Stop	Hours
08/27/2013	Interruptible Irrigation	15:00	19:00	4
08/27/2013	Interruptible Metered C&I	14:00	19:30	5.5
08/27/2013	C&I with GenSet	14:00	19:30	5.5
08/26/2013	Interruptible Metered C&I	14:30	19:30	5
08/26/2013	Interruptible Irrigation	16:00	20:00	4
08/26/2013	C&I with GenSet	14:30	19:30	5
08/20/2013	Interruptible Irrigation	16:00	20:00	4
08/20/2013	Interruptible Metered C&I	15:00	19:30	4.5
08/20/2013	C&I with GenSet	15:00	19:30	4.5
07/18/2013	C&I with GenSet	14:00	20:00	6
07/18/2013	Interruptible Metered C&I	14:00	20:00	6
07/18/2013	Interruptible Irrigation	15:00	19:00	4
07/17/2013	C&I with GenSet	14:00	20:00	6
07/17/2013	Interruptible Metered C&I	14:00	20:00	6
07/17/2013	Interruptible Irrigation	15:00	19:00	4
07/16/2013	Interruptible Irrigation	16:00	20:00	4
07/16/2013	Interruptible Metered C&I	14:00	20:00	6
07/16/2013	C&I with GenSet	14:00	20:00	6
07/08/2013	Interruptible Irrigation	16:00	20:00	4
06/26/2013	Interruptible Irrigation	16:00	20:00	4
06/25/2013	Interruptible Irrigation	16:00	20:00	4
06/24/2013	Interruptible Irrigation	16:00	20:00	4

Rep. Ernie Leidiger reflects on trip to USS Minnesota commissioning ceremony



The USS Minnesota was christened in October of 2012. Photo courtesy of ussminnesotassn783.com.

On September 7, 2013, the U.S. Navy received a new vessel into its fleet, the USS Minnesota SSN 783, the country's most advanced fast attack, nuclear-powered submarine.

Just as every state in the nation has its own independence, character and energy representative of its people, so does each naval ship and its crew.

That is why earlier this month a delegation of Minnesotans, including 24 state legislators, two U.S. Senators, a U.S. Congresswoman, the Minnesota Secretary of State, and over 100 citizens, traveled from the Midwest to Norfolk, Virginia, to embed our state's essence to the crew as the boat was commissioned into service.

For three days we built relationships with the crew. We heard their stories, why they were serving, where they hailed from, and what made them tick. We shared with them our knowledge, our sense of purpose, our sense of esprit de corps, and ultimately our fighting spirit. We came away knowing these men and women are America's best, and that the ship and those who operate it had become an extension of our state, a living, breathing piece of Minnesota.

Those of us in attendance felt so truly honored just to be there and observe the traditions, pomp, and ceremony leading up to and surrounding the event. We each had our own reason to be there. Either a family member had served or we ourselves had previous experience, or some of us had no experience and felt like this was the chance of a lifetime. What mattered was our presence and what it meant

to the crew, believing that imprinting our state's essence onto them was as important as anything we could ever do in our lives.

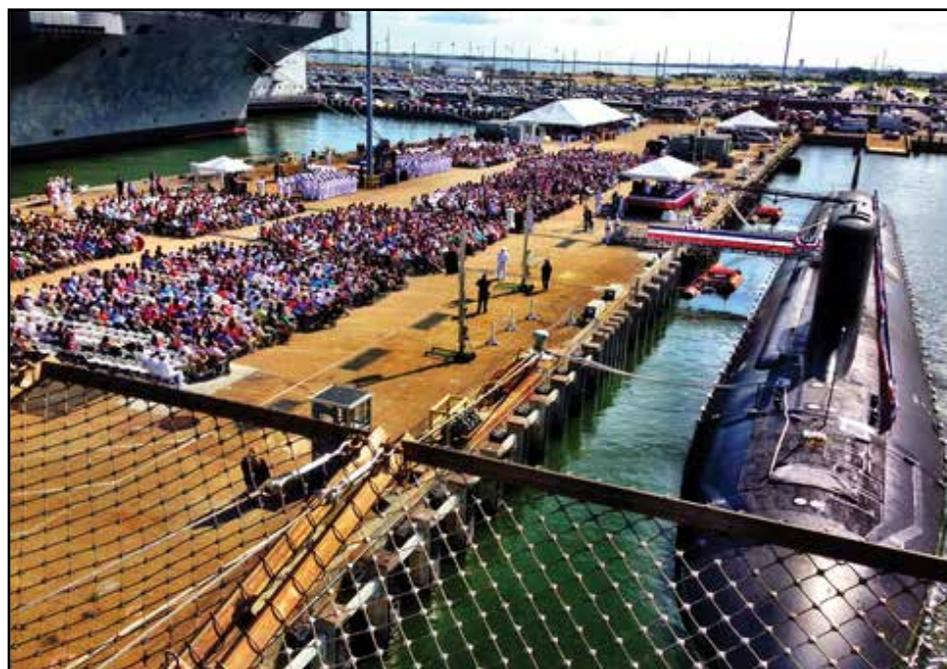
The commissioning of the USS Minnesota was the third time in the nation's history that a naval ship was named after the state. The first was a Civil War wooden steamship built in 1855, followed later by a World War I battleship that was part of President Theodore Roosevelt's Great White Fleet.



Captain Daniel Grieco and Rep. Ernie Leidiger at the USS Theodore Roosevelt. Rep. Leidiger is a member of McLeod Coop Power. Photo courtesy of Rep. Joe McDonald.

In the beginning of the last century, battleships were thought to be the capital ships within the fleet, and they were named after states. Now, after our aircraft carriers, it's the submarine that is a capital ship and again named after states.

Incredibly, the past 40 years has seen a major reduction in the number of U.S. Navy ships, from about 600 to less than 300. Some say it's a time of revolution in sea power due to technological advancements. Our nation continually wrestles with the idea and plan that retired ships being replaced by much more sophisticated



On September 7, 2013, the U.S. Navy received a new vessel into its fleet, the USS Minnesota SSN 783, the country's most advanced fast attack, nuclear-powered submarine. This photo was taken on the day of her commissioning ceremony by Rep. Joe McDonald of Delano.



Bob and Kristi Frey of Norwood Young America presented the Diving Division of the USS Minnesota with a DIVER license plate from their vehicle. Bob was editor of the Minnesota Diver newsletter for the University of MN SCUBA Dive Club.

capable platforms will adequately offset numbers.

The current USS Minnesota is capable of carrying and firing many long-range missiles that can deliver warheads hundreds of miles over land to its target, from unseen locations around the world. This is a whole new dimension of warfighting capability that, when combined with Air Force innovations in stealth technology and ground troop insertion innovations, keeps the United States very strong.

Building a capital ship like the USS Minnesota is expensive, almost \$3 billion worth of hardware and crew training investment. It requires a special person, technologically adaptable, and morally and physically strong, to operate this machine. A crew of 135 can deliver potentially as much fire power as an entire World War II battle group with pinpoint accuracy that makes actual

comparisons difficult.

Today, one of our Navy's capital ships, a fast attack submarine, named after a most important unit within our Republic state - is at sea. Minnesotans can be proud that the U.S. Navy's most advanced vessel is patrolling the seas with the essence of our state aboard.

For the next 35 years I and others will support the crew by maintaining a relationship with the brave men and women who sacrifice their all for our nation. I encourage you to join me in this journey.

Thanks are also in order for the Navy League of the United States - Twin Cities Council for its instrumental role in organizing the trip. (Please note that no state funds were used for the trip, and all attendees covered their own transportation and lodging costs for the occasion.)