

Frequently Asked Questions

2026 GENERAL RATE INCREASE

We invite Members to review these Frequently Asked Questions for more information.

How much is the overall rate increase for 2026?

After reviewing our current budget and financial forecasts, McLeod Cooperative Power needs to increase overall revenue by about 3%.

When will the new rates take effect?

The updated rates are expected to take effect January 1, 2026, and will appear on members' monthly billing statements in February 2026.

Why is the rate increase necessary?

The cost of providing electricity continues to rise. A major factor is the cost of purchasing power from our wholesale energy provider, Great River Energy, which accounts for roughly 60% of our budget. We're also facing rising costs for materials, fuel, and other operational expenses.

How will the increase affect my bill?

Changes vary by rate class. Rates 2, 5, and 18, which previously did not have a demand charge, will see the new Time of Day Demand charge as well as a **lower kWh energy rate**. The other rate classes, which already have a demand charge, will see a slight increase to the energy rate.

Flip over for more specific Time of Day Demand Rate questions →



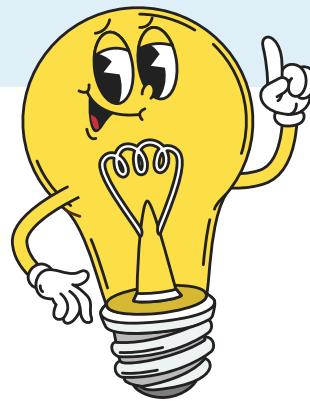
QUESTIONS ABOUT LOWERING YOUR ELECTRICITY DEMAND?

Visit mcleodcoop.com/about/2026-general-rate-increase, scan the QR code on the right, or reach out to our office. Our team is happy to help provide you with more information.



More About The Time Of Day Demand Charge

(Rates 2, 5, and 18):



SPREAD OUT
YOUR USAGE 

OFF PEAK HOURS:
12 AM - 5 PM

ON PEAK HOURS: 5-9 PM

OFF PEAK HOURS:
9 PM - 12 AM

Why is the Time of Day Demand (TODD) charge being implemented?

Demand charges are a significant cost to the monthly bill that we pay to Great River Energy. As such, every member is being asked to share in this expense by paying a charge for the monthly electrical demand that they generate.

How does this benefit members?

Previously, the demand costs were hidden within the kilowatt-hour charge. TODD changes that by separating demand into its own piece. Previously, the only way to lower your bill is to use less electricity overall. Now you'll also have the chance to save by shifting some usage away from high-demand times.

The energy rates (kWh) for Rates 2, 5, & 18 have decreased for 2026 with the new TODD charge.

What is electrical demand?

Demand (kW) is the amount of power needed to supply everything running off of electricity in your home at a specific point in time. That means all the appliances and equipment that are running simultaneously at any time.

How is the Time of Day Demand (TODD) charge calculated?

The demand charge is based on the account's single highest demand interval recorded on a weekday between 5-9 PM. That one peak in the month — the highest of all days — is used to calculate the account's monthly TODD charge (demand in kW multiplied by \$5.00).

Why does our system peak from 5-9 PM on weekdays?

This is the time of the day when members are using the most electricity, increasing the costs to purchase power for our members.

Are weekends and holidays excluded from the TODD charge?

Yes. Demand is not measured on weekends or holidays, including New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day.

Does the TODD charge apply to load management programs (Rate 3)?

No. The new TODD charge only applies to the primary meter (Rates 2, 5, and 18).

How can I reduce my Time of Day Demand charge?

When possible, shift electricity use outside of On Peak hours. Strategies include running your dishwasher before 5 PM or after 9 PM on weekdays or doing laundry on weekends. You can also avoid running multiple appliances at the same time. Participating in load management programs that shift electricity use, like water heating and EV charging, during Off Peak times is another great option.

We encourage members to contact us if they'd like guidance on reducing demand.

CALL US AT 320.864.3148