

## STAY SAFE THIS HARVEST SEASON

Harvest season brings hard work and can be an exhausting, but rushing the job to save time can be extremely dangerous (even deadly!) when working near overhead power lines. We urge farm operators and workers to keep the following safety tips in mind:



Use care when operating large machinery near power lines.



Inspect the height of equipment to determine clearance.



Always keep equipment at least 10 feet away (in all directions) from power lines.



Remember to lower extensions when moving loads.



If a power line is sagging or looks to be dangerously low, please call us immediately.





# CEO Report

**JEFF RUSTAD**  
CEO  
PKM Electric Co-op

Summer is almost gone, and I hope everyone has had a chance to enjoy some of the beautiful weather we have had. This past week I was at the MREA Energy Issues Summit, which is held annually. Many topics are around issues that will affect you and your electric cooperative. Impacts of cannabis, paid family leave, electric vehicles, and – no surprise – resource planning for how we get to carbon free by 2040. For our power generation and transmission provider, Minnkota Power Cooperative, this remains a priority for them and the membership. In this issue we have an article about Project Tundra. If this happens, it will go a long way to getting us to the goal made by our elected officials. And Minnkota already has enough wind and hydro generation to meet part of this goal. If you are interested in staying informed with the issues impacting your cooperative and others, make your voice heard by signing up as a Minnesota member of Voices for Cooperative Power. You will receive updates and notifications when there are state or national issues that may impact us as members. This grassroots effort will help influence elected officials who are making energy policy decisions that impact

you as PKM members. Very few of these elected officials understand what it takes to generate and transmit power at the transmission and distribution level, and they sometimes rely on people that do not have the expertise instead of the ones that do.

On another subject, PKM along with our neighboring co-ops are seeing more member-owned solar installed, or distributed generation (DG). If you are thinking about installing DG, make sure you contact the office. We can look at your existing service and make sure no upgrades or changes need to be made, which is an added cost if needed. Applications are done through the NOVA Portal on our website under Distributed Generation or Solar tab. Contractors need to be licensed and should be able to provide you with tax credit amounts, grants if available and payback numbers on any size system installed. PKM is required to pay the retail rate for systems interconnected 39.9 kW and under. PKM does have a fixed charge for being interconnected to our system that is currently \$3.73 for each kW over 3.5 kW and caps out at \$55 and is subject to change every time we do a cost-of-service study. This fixed charge is to help offset the subsidizing of the DG members by others. It will not cover it 100%, but this is what the state allows. The warranty would be another thing to look at, especially on the inverter

or micro invertors they are using. During the life of the system this will eventually need to be replaced, and you need to factor in the cost of that if the warranty does not cover it. By the time you receive this issue, PKM will have seven member-owned systems interconnected with a few more in the works. Costs of installations we have seen run anywhere from \$3,000 per kW up to \$7,600 per kW.

Crews are very busy plowing cable and doing maintenance. We still have contractors changing over to LED yard lights under the grant we received. The cost of materials is still high, sometimes as much as three times what we paid a couple of years ago. Lead times are better, but because of lead times all the cooperatives are carrying more material on hand than in previous years. We are still working on RF metering, adding Radium and Strandquist substations this year. Propane and off-peak prices are very close unless you have a heat pump. Rebates are available along with tax credits for some HVAC installs. Please call the office if you have questions.

PKM is bring back Pie Days, so mark your calendars for Tuesday, Oct. 17, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at the PKM office in Warren, and Wednesday, Oct. 18, from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. at the PKM warehouse in Hallock. Let's celebrate you, our members, and please remember to have a safe harvest.

**HAPPY Labor Day**

PKM Electric Cooperative's office will be closed Monday, Sept. 4, in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

In case of outages, call toll-free 1-800-552-7366

**Co-op PIE DAYS! Month**

*Pies from Maggie's Bakery*

**Tuesday, Oct. 17, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
PKM Electric Office in Warren

**Wednesday, Oct. 18, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**  
PKM Electric Warehouse in Hallock

*Celebrating Co-op Month!*

# Congratulations

## Class of 2023 PKM scholarship recipients!

Each year, PKM Electric Cooperative provides scholarships for graduating seniors at each of the high schools operating throughout the cooperative's service area. These scholarships are made possible by funding from Operation Round Up®. **Congratulations and best wishes to these scholarship recipients!**



**Aiden Anderson**  
Argyle  
Stephen-Argyle



**Lydia Floden**  
Euclid  
East Grand Forks



**Ethan Hanson**  
Hallock  
Kittson Central



**Aidra Johnson**  
Hallock  
Kittson Central



**Jaxon Klegstad**  
Halma  
Tri-County



**Claire McGlynn**  
Stephen  
Stephen-Argyle



**William McGlynn**  
Stephen  
Stephen-Argyle



**Paige Michalski**  
Warren  
Warren-Alvarado-Oslo



**Kylie Nelson**  
Warren  
Warren-Alvarado-Oslo



**Hayden Olsonawski**  
Hallock  
Kittson Central



**Isabel Pearson**  
Strandquist  
Tri-County



**Brandon Ristad**  
Hallock  
Kittson Central



**Nathan Sedlacek**  
Warren  
Warren-Alvarado-Oslo



**Austin Wittman**  
Warren  
Warren-Alvarado-Oslo



The Milton R. Young Station is well-positioned for the implementation of cutting-edge carbon capture technologies.

# PROJECT TUNDRA MOVES INTO FINAL DEVELOPMENT STAGE

**New relationships with TC Energy, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and Kiewit position the project for a final investment decision in early 2024**

By **Ben Fladhammer** /// Photography **Michael Hoeft** – *Minnkota Power Cooperative*

**M**innkota Power Cooperative, PKM's wholesale power provider, announced agreements on June 28 with TC Energy, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries America (MHIA), and Kiewit moving Project Tundra into its final stage of development. The joint effort combines decades of energy industry expertise and strengthens the strategic vision to

build one of the world's largest carbon capture projects in North Dakota.

Under the arrangements, Minnkota will continue to lead project development activities at the Milton R. Young Station power plant, as well as coordination with landowners and community members in the project area near Center, N.D.

"If our organizations are successful in making this historic project a reality, Minnkota will be one of the fastest decarbonizing utilities in the country while maintaining stable electric rates and a reliable, resilient power supply," said Mac McLennan, Minnkota President and CEO. "By working together, we aim to advance carbon capture technology in a way that can serve as a blueprint for our state, nation

and world to meet ambitious decarbonization goals."

TC Energy will lead commercialization activities, including qualifying for federal 45Q tax credits. Return on project construction and operation costs would be recouped through 45Q, which provides \$85 per ton of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) permanently stored underground.

In addition, the project participants submitted an application in May for a \$350 million grant through the U.S. Department of Energy's Carbon Capture Demonstration Projects Program. The project also has \$250 million in low-interest

loans approved through the state of North Dakota's Clean Sustainable Energy Authority (CSEA).

"Today's announcement is a powerful example of private industry and cooperative utilities collaborating to bring scaled change to the energy transition," said Corey Hessen, Executive Vice President and President, Power and Energy Solutions, at TC Energy. "With Minnkota, Mitsubishi and Kiewit we will combine our respective capabilities to deliver a de-risked commercial and technical solution. This ambitious carbon capture and sequestration project will enable the Young Station to provide power for

decades to come...safely, reliably and with a significantly lower emissions profile."

MHIA is the lead technology provider for the project and has successfully deployed more than a dozen commercial CO<sub>2</sub> capture projects globally since 1999. MHIA is committed to building an innovative solutions ecosystem to realize a carbon-neutral future and achieve its net-zero ambitions within its own operations by 2040. The project will adopt MHIA's CO<sub>2</sub> capture technology "Advanced KM CDR Process™" with new solvent "KS-21™." MHIA will collaborate on the CO<sub>2</sub> capture facility with Kiewit, who will construct the project.





"Project Tundra represents an important step in the scale up of carbon capture technology, which will play an important role in realizing a carbon neutral society," said Takajiro Ishikawa, President and CEO of Mitsubishi Heavy Industries America, Inc. "Partnerships between policy and business are critical to our success in decarbonizing and we are excited to be part of this group of energy leaders to bring Project Tundra to life."

"Six years ago, Kiewit and MHIA worked together on the first commercial-scale postcombustion carbon capture project in the U.S.; which was delivered on time and on budget. Today, we have the opportunity to build on that legacy and deliver one of the largest carbon capture projects in the world," said Dave Claggett, senior vice president at Kiewit Energy Group, Inc. "We are proud to be a part of Project Tundra and to support North Dakota's decarbonization efforts."

Project Tundra is designed to capture up to 4 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> annually from the coal-based Young Station. The CO<sub>2</sub> will be safely and permanently stored more than a mile underground in deep geologic formations. Minnkota currently has the largest fully permitted CO<sub>2</sub> storage facility in the United States and is pursuing additional CO<sub>2</sub> storage opportunities near the Young Station.

"Our industry-leading team has guided this project through a

global pandemic, record inflation and unprecedented supply chain constraints," McLennan said. "Through those challenges, we have received outstanding support from the community of Center, Oliver County, and the state of North Dakota. None of this would be possible without their commitment and vision."

Throughout the research and development phases of Project Tundra, both state and federal leaders have played a crucial role in supporting and guiding the project.

"Bringing together the considerable expertise and resources of these industry leaders is a huge momentum boost for the project and bodes well for its future," North Dakota Gov. Doug Burgum said. "The pursuit of innovation over regulation continues to be a catalyst for capital investment in North Dakota. This project is a shining example of how industries can reduce emissions while investing in baseload generation to preserve reliable, low-cost energy for consumers. It also supports our state's industries, which provide thousands of good-paying jobs and economic development that generates billions in tax revenue for our state and local governments."

"Minnkota's project is leading the nation and world in developing a major carbon capture and storage project on a traditional coal-fired power plant," said Sen. John Hoeven. "We've led the way in

reducing SOx, NOx and mercury emissions, and now we're leading the technology development on carbon capture. We have put in place research and development funding, loan guarantees and the 45Q tax credit so the company can move forward and make sure the next generation of coal-fired power is here today and for future generations."

"Today's announcement from Minnkota on Project Tundra is another exciting step toward scaling up carbon capture in North Dakota," said Sen. Kevin Cramer. "Congratulations to Minnkota, TC Energy, Mitsubishi, Kiewit, and its affiliate team on their partnership and moving to the final stage of development. I look forward to North Dakota's historic and continued leadership in CCUS technology."

"North Dakota is at the forefront of carbon capture technology," said Rep. Kelly Armstrong. "It's hard to think of a project that's a better example of this than Project Tundra. I'm glad to see it move forward in our goal of making sure our state's abundant resources continue to be utilized for generations to come."

Closing on financing and the notice to move forward with construction of Project Tundra are anticipated in early 2024. The project remains subject to closing on financing and a final investment decision by each of the project entities in the consortium.



We're a team of 7,000+ energy problem solvers working to move, generate and store the energy North America relies on. Today, we're taking action to make that energy more sustainable and more secure. We're innovating and modernizing to reduce emissions from our business. And, we're delivering new energy solutions – from natural gas and renewables to carbon capture and hydrogen – to help other businesses and industries decarbonize, too. Along the way, we invest in communities and partner with our neighbors, customers and governments to build the energy system of the future. TC Energy's common shares trade on the Toronto (TSX) and New York (NYSE) stock exchanges under the symbol TRP. To learn more, visit us at [TCEnergy.com](https://www.tcenenergy.com).



Mitsubishi Heavy Industries America (MHIA) is one of the world's leading industrial groups, spanning energy, smart infrastructure, industrial machinery, aerospace and defense. MHIA combines cutting-edge technology with deep experience to deliver innovative, integrated solutions that help to realize a carbon neutral world, improve the quality of life and ensure a safer world. For more information, please visit [www.mhi.com](https://www.mhi.com) or follow our insights and stories on [spectra.mhi.com](https://spectra.mhi.com).



Kiewit is one of North America's largest and most respected construction and engineering organizations. With its roots dating back to 1884, the employee-owned organization operates through a network of subsidiaries in the United States, Canada and Mexico. Kiewit offers construction and engineering services in a variety of markets including transportation; oil, gas and chemical; power; building; water; industrial; and mining. Kiewit had 2022 revenues of \$13.7 billion and employs 25,700 staff and craft employees.



# DOES SOLAR SUIT YOUR ENERGY GOALS?

It's not unusual to see advertisements for solar panel installation, some of which promise to slash your expenses and reduce your dependence on the electric grid. Although PKM Electric Cooperative supports renewable generation as part of an all-of-the-above power mix, we want members to be aware that solar energy ownership requires a lot of forethought, and it may take decades to realize many of the benefits. We have broken down the top four distributed energy resource (DER) goals we hear from our members and have assessed if grid-interconnected solar would help meet these goals.



Before you contact a solar vendor, please call your co-op to discuss the interconnection process and weigh the benefits and financial impacts. We have energy experts on staff to help you assess this big decision and provide information on your unique circumstances.

*Will installing solar panels help me:*

## SHRINK MY ELECTRIC BILL?

In generating your own supplemental power from a solar array, you will decrease the amount of electricity you take from the distribution grid. That lowers the amount of power you purchase from the cooperative. However, the upfront costs of installing a solar PV system can be quite large (\$30,000-\$40,000 average for a 10-kW system), and it may take 15-30 years to break even financially, even with current federal tax credit offerings. You must also take into account that a monthly Grid Access Fee will be charged to your bill once your system is interconnected. Since you will be purchasing less energy from your utility, this charge helps ensure you are paying your fair share for the poles, wires and other fixed-cost infrastructure still needed when your solar array is not producing energy.

## REDUCE MY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT?

Although your co-op's power capacity is already 42% carbon-free (with potential to become more carbon-free with proposed carbon capture technology), solar panels are a great way to produce emission-free electricity. However, the cost to install solar panels at your home/business can be high, and you may not have the right conditions for optimal energy production (sturdy roof, south-facing slant, minimal shade). If you want to integrate more renewable energy without the large investment, you may be interested in our Infinity Renewable Energy program. By enrolling, you can choose a designated number of kilowatt-hours or percentage of electricity used that you would like to be derived from your co-op's portfolio of renewable resources.

## MAKE MONEY BY SELLING POWER?

Although your cooperative will purchase the excess energy that is distributed back to the grid, your best investment would be a solar array that doesn't produce much more energy than your home or business needs. For example, if you install a 15-kW system when your home only needs 11-kW, the upfront cost of that extra 4-kW worth of panels will be much more expensive than the amount of reimbursement you will receive for excess energy over MANY years. Additionally, selling significant excess power may require distribution power system upgrades that would be your responsibility. Ultimately, it would be incredibly difficult to make a profit by selling power to your cooperative.

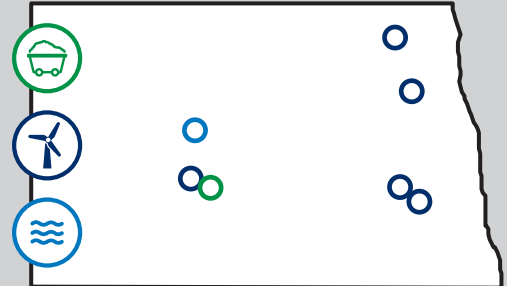
## BECOME LESS DEPENDENT ON THE GRID?

Unless you install a standalone solar panel system sized to meet your exact energy needs (which is incredibly expensive) or a large-scale battery for storing excess energy (also expensive), your solar panels will rely on your co-op's power grid to function. If the power goes out due to a storm or other issue, your home will still lose power if you have grid-connected solar panels. You will also continue to need grid electricity for the times your solar panels aren't meeting your home's power demand.

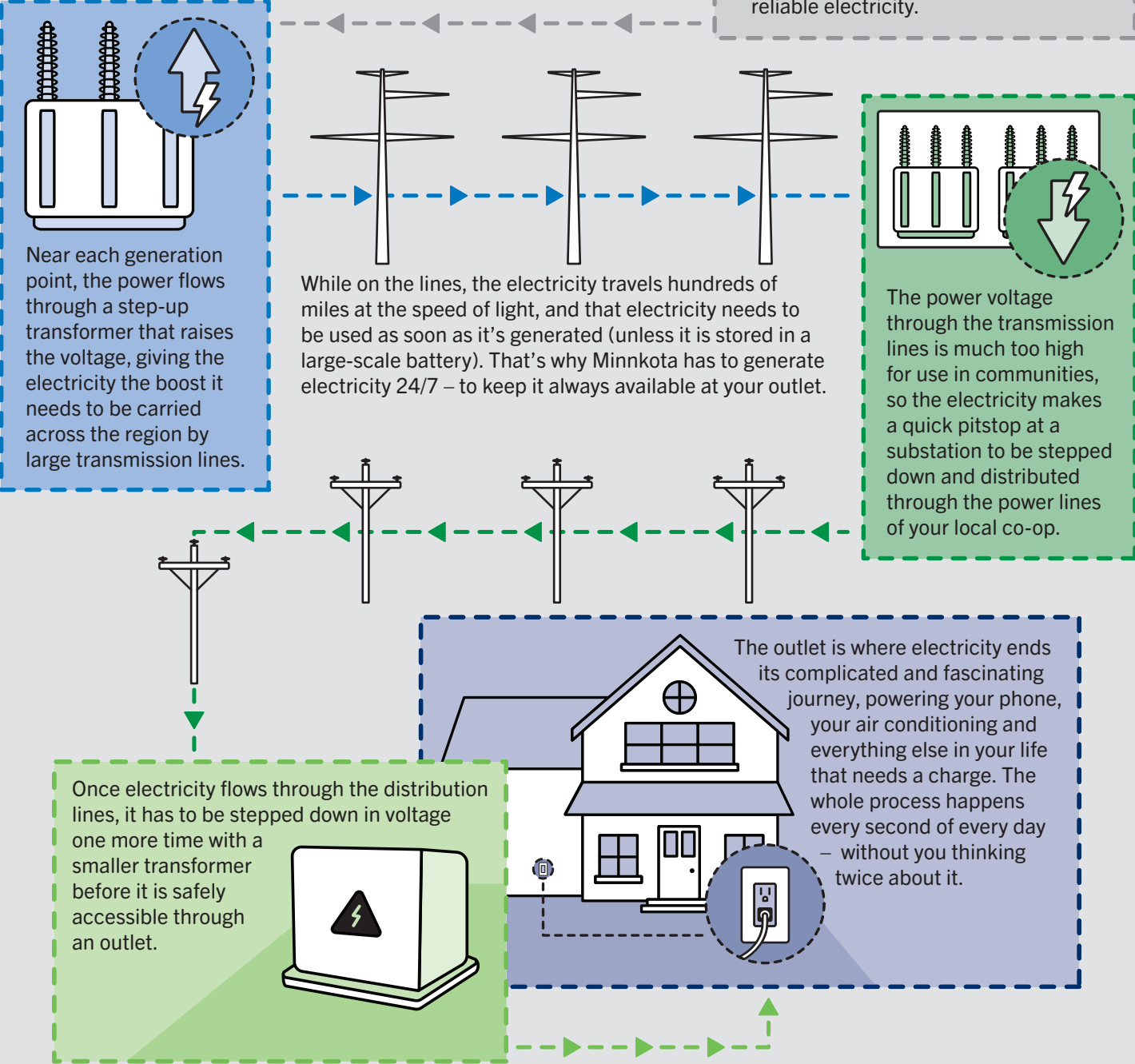
# BEHIND THE OUTLET

Only a trained electrician should be peeking behind the outlets in your home, but have you ever been curious about what's back there? It turns out, it's much more than wires and currents. It's an advanced journey of science and engineering that stretches hundreds of miles – and it's traveled in an **INSTANT**.

Want to take a look at what happens when you plug in an appliance? Let's start at the beginning...



The path of your co-op electricity starts at several points around North Dakota – a coal-based power plant, a hydroelectric dam and dozens of wind turbines. These diverse resources are what Minnkota Power Cooperative (our power provider) uses to generate reliable electricity.





# IS YOUR WATER HEATER SAVING YOU MONEY?

## Here's how your co-op's off-peak program works:

- 1** Member-consumers voluntarily sign up to join the off-peak program.
- 2** Your electric water heater is then set up on an off-peak meter and draws heat energy during lower-demand times of the day – especially night.
- 3** When there are energy constraints on the grid, your co-op can temporarily turn off your electric water heater. Your water remains hot until control ceases, leaving no gap in your hot water access.
- 4** Participants in the off-peak program are eligible for a reduced energy rate, which is typically around half of the standard electric rate. PLUS, you may qualify for up to \$500 in rebates!

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Fall is the perfect time to schedule a tune-up for your heating system. No matter what kind of system you have, you can save energy and money by regularly maintaining your equipment. – Source: Dept. of Energy

### Electrical Inspectors

#### Marshall and Kittson Counties

Ronald Ditsch: 218-779-6758

#### Polk County

George Stage: 218-284-1083

## Minnkota Power Cooperative transmission line inspections scheduled for fall

Minnkota Power Cooperative, PKM's wholesale power provider, will be inspecting its transmission lines in preparation for vegetation maintenance activities in 2024. This inspection will allow Minnkota to evaluate vegetation growth around electrical infrastructure and within the right of way. The purpose of these inspections is to ensure that electricity can be delivered safely and reliably to your area, as well as prioritize project work. Davey Resource Group will be assisting Minnkota personnel in the patrols. If you have questions, please visit [Minnkota.com](http://Minnkota.com) or call 701-795-4000.



## PKM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE POLITICAL LEADERS

### Federal Legislators

**President Joe Biden**  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500  
[www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov)  
202-456-1111

**Senator Amy Klobuchar**  
425 Dirksen Senate Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
[www.klobuchar.senate.gov](http://www.klobuchar.senate.gov)  
202-224-3244; Fax: 202-228-2186

**Senator Tina Smith**  
720 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
[www.smith.senate.gov](http://www.smith.senate.gov)  
Phone: 202-224-5641

**Congresswoman Michelle Fischbach, U.S. House (7th District)**  
1004 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
[www.fischbach.house.gov](http://www.fischbach.house.gov)  
202-225-2165; Fax: 202-225-1593

### State of Minnesota Legislators

**Governor Tim Walz**  
130 State Capitol  
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-201-3400  
800-657-3717  
[www.mn.gov/governor](http://www.mn.gov/governor)

**Minority Leader Senator Mark Johnson (01, R)**  
2401 Minnesota Senate Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-5782  
[sen.mark.johnson@senate.mn](mailto:sen.mark.johnson@senate.mn)  
[www.senate.mn/members](http://www.senate.mn/members)

**Representative John Burkel (01A, R)**  
309 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-9635  
[rep.john.burkel@house.mn.gov](mailto:rep.john.burkel@house.mn.gov)

**Representative Deb Kiel (01B, R)**  
203 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-5091  
800-339-9041  
[rep.deb.kiel@house.mn.gov](mailto:rep.deb.kiel@house.mn.gov)

## Board meeting highlights May, June and July

### A regular meeting of the board was held Tuesday, May 30, 2023.

Mark Hatton, president who presided, asked for roll call. Upon calling the roll, the secretary reported that all directors were present. Director Woinarowicz and Director Aakre gave their reports on Minnkota and Square Butte.

Line Superintendent Joe Marcotte presented the monthly safety and operations report, indicating no accidents and no lost time. MREA was here with the topic of pole top and bucket rescue. The linemen have been busy fixing lines, as tractors have been hitting the poles, getting wrapped up in the line and tearing down overhead wires. They will have a very busy season again; we have started plowing cable in the ground. We hired back two of our summer help from last year and they will start in June. We have a confirmed delivery date of July 21 for chassis on the new digger truck #69. Everything else is built for the truck and we are hoping to do a pre-paint in September with delivery in October or November.

The manager of member services shared activities within his department. He has been working with Allegiant to get the meter change outs for the Radium and Strandquist substations. Allegiant should be done in a week or two. The gateway is all wired inside the substation and relay up on the 50' pole. Minnkota finished up the winter demand, and now they are looking at doing four seasons for MISO. There have been plenty of underground faults, but the new locator purchase by PKM works awesome.

The CFO opened her report with an office update referencing her written report. She shared that PKM gave out 14 scholarships with a total of 442 scholarships. With the cold weather rule expiring on April 30, we have resumed collections and disconnects for non-payment.

The CEO referenced his submitted written report outlining the recent meetings. He shared an update on solar, with three in the works and one more that we are waiting on paperwork for. He is working with Eaton to extract more meter data from Yukon software into NISC software and for interactive mapping. He also shared highlights from his recent meetings. Upon presentation of the reports from the management staff and CEO, questions and comments from the board of directors concerning their reports were addressed.

The CEO stated, according to the bylaws, the board of directors need a separate resolution for the quarterly review of the financials. Having had the March financial review, a motion was made that the board of directors receive the first quarter financials.

With the directors' new vice president position, RUS requires the following updated forms 595 and 675 to be filed reflecting names of the management and officers authorized to sign RUS forms.

At this point in the meeting, Matt Laughlin of Brady Martz and Associates presented the 2022 Audit Report to the board.

Upon hearing a clean and unmodified opinion from the auditors, the president stated it would be necessary for the board of directors to accept the 2022 Audit of the Cooperative as presented.

The CEO mentioned CFC's Integrity Fund was once again soliciting contributions. The CEO refreshed the directors to their previous sizable contribution with previous litigation and asked the board of directors as to their desire for contributions in 2022.

The CEO asked directors if they would like to update the

director committees being they have a new board member. After discussion the directors decided to put Jerred Copp in the committees of Retail Rates, Vehicles/Equipment and Policy Review to replace Michael Beaudry. All other committee members stayed the same.

Financials were provided for Carr's Tree Service. A listing of the 2023 scholarship recipients was shared with the directors, along with information on CRC Voting Ballot and the CoBank Nominating Committee.

### A special meeting of the board was held Monday, June 26, 2023.

Mark Hatton, president who presided, asked for roll call. Upon calling the roll, the secretary reported that all directors were present.

Director Woinarowicz and Director Aakre gave their reports on Minnkota and Square Butte.

Line Superintendent Joe Marcotte presented the monthly safety and operations report, indicating no accidents and no lost time. Marcotte attended a District 1 meeting with area line superintendents. He informed the board that everyone is in the same boat as lead times continue to be pushed out on trucks 24-32 months. Kickin Up Country voltage was better this year, we upgraded some line and fed off a different substation this year.

The Manager of Member Services Danny Schmidt provided his report. He gave the directors an update on solar arrays. Allegiant has finished up with the Radium substation. We will need to go back and clean up all the missed off-peak meters Allegiant couldn't find. Schmidt attended his District 1 meeting. We have had a lot of questions on heat pumps and mini splits, along with a lot of rebates for them.

The CFO reported to the directors on recent activity within the office. We are hosting a District 1 meeting at PKM on billing. We were able to collect a larger amount of past due balances and get some of these other amounts taken care of before fall is upon us.

The CEO shared highlights from the meetings attended this month. He shared that the Marshall County Historical Society will have a display with old items from PKM. He met with DEED in Bagley at the park last week. The CEO also referenced several additional items in his written report. Upon presentation of the reports from the management staff and CEO, questions and comments from the board of directors concerning their reports were addressed.

The CEO informed the directors that we needed to update our CoBank permissions for the changes being made to the vice president and title of the CFO.

The CEO shared miscellaneous information with the directors including RESCO director election and year-to-date workers' compensation totals. Financials were provided for Carr's Tree Service.

### A regular meeting of the board was held Tuesday, July 25, 2023.

Mark Hatton, president who presided, asked for roll call. Upon calling the roll, the secretary reported that all directors were present except for Director Aakre. Director Woinarowicz gave his report on Minnkota. Director Aakre was not present so there was no report for Square Butte. President and CEO shared highlights from the MREA meeting at Minnkota.

Line Superintendent Joe Marcotte presented the monthly safety

and operations report, indicating no accidents and no lost time. Highlights from his report included Curt from MREA doing crew observations with a very good report. He shared with the directors that they have started a work plan project by Karlstad Olson Underground who is doing the underground plowing and boring. The linemen are plugging away at service improvements, system improvements, cable replacements and everyday maintenance.

The manager of member services shared activities within his department. He has been working on getting the RF meters to read in. We are working on changing out 150 main meters that Allegiant missed. There have been plenty of underground faults this summer.

The CFO provided her report via call to order as she was unable to attend due to the NRECA TFACC conference.

The CEO shared the Operating and Financial report for the cooperative. June revenue and expenses are over budget. Summer is always a rough time of the year financially as we typically see reduced revenue and increased expenses.

The CEO referenced his written report outlining recent meetings he has attended, and highlighted information on the John Reitmeier project, 4H2 Inc., solar and CHS in Kennedy transformer replacement. He has a meeting Thursday with Minnkota staff and 4H2, Inc. Upon presentation of the reports from the management staff and CEO, questions and comments from the board of directors concerning their reports were addressed.

Second quarter financials were reviewed by the board of directors and found to be an accurate representation of the first half financial transactions.

The CEO referenced the 2022 KRTA Executive Summary included in the board packet. The report is also available in its entirety by request. He noted that the average customers per mile is a big factor when comparing reported cooperative totals.

The CEO shared miscellaneous information with the directors including presenting the KRTA's and discussion on the PKM's fixed charge. The CEO shared information discussed at the Carr's board meeting in July at their Dodge Center Facility. Financials for June were not available yet.

**October is National Co-op Month!**

**Enter to win a PRIZE!**

### Co-op Month prizes include:

\$250 energy credit | \$100 energy credit | \$50 energy credit

### RETURN ENTRY BY NOV. 15, 2023.

Mail or drop off entry blanks.

**\* Look for an additional registration form for the Co-op Month giveaway in your October billing statement.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_



## Cold Weather Rule Shutoff Protection

Minnesota's Cold Weather Rule (CWR) is a state law that protects residential utility customers from having electric or natural gas service shut off between **October 1 and April 30**. To protect your service from disconnection you must make and keep a payment plan that you and your utility agree on. The utility must offer a payment plan that is reasonable for your household's financial circumstances. You can set up a CWR payment plan any time during the CWR season.

You are eligible for CWR protection even if you rent – the electricity or gas must be the primary heat source and the utility account must be in your name.

You and your utility must agree to a payment plan that is reasonable for your household. You can set up a CWR payment plan any time during the CWR season.

All natural gas and electric utilities must offer CWR protection. CWR does not apply to delivered fuels; oil and propane or wood. If you use delivered fuels, and your furnace is run by electricity, you should apply for CWR protection with your electric company.

Call your natural gas, electric, municipal utility or electric cooperative for more information, or contact the Commission's Consumer Affairs Office at [consumer.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:consumer.puc@state.mn.us) or 651-296-0406, 1-800-657-3782.

## Problems paying your electric bill?

*Energy assistance may be available!*

If you are receiving a low income or suffering from a temporary financial shortfall, these agencies may be able to assist you with your electric bill. We urge you to contact them immediately to avoid disconnection if you feel you are eligible for aid.



### Northwest Community Action

PO Box 67  
Badger, MN 56714-0067  
(218) 528-3258 or  
800-568-5329  
[northwestcap.org](http://northwestcap.org)

### Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc.

1407 Erskine Street  
Crookston, MN 56716  
(218) 281-9080  
Toll Free (866) 264-3729

## Back to School

### ELECTRICAL SAFETY TIPS



Check if outlets are loose or hot to the touch when something is plugged in – this could be a fire hazard.



If an extension cord is needed in the dorm, unplug it when not in use and consider purchasing a power strip with an overcurrent protector.



Avoid low-quality charging cords for your phone or gaming devices, and focus on cords certified by your device's manufacturer.



Encourage students to choose LED light bulbs, and remind them to flip the switch OFF before attempting a replacement.



Damaged electronics can cause pose shock hazards. Don't risk it. Either repair or replace them.

