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RURAL DELIGHT

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1

Generation facilities

Most electricity is made by turbine blades rotating at speeds high enough to produce electricity in a generator. The blades can be turned by water, steam or wind.



2

High-voltage switchyard

The electricity flows through metal conduction to a switchyard, where a transformer steps up voltage for transmission.

3

Transmission lines

Transmission lines can efficiently carry high-voltage electricity over long distance to substations.

4

Substations

At substations, electricity is stepped down so it can travel over smaller distribution lines to homes and businesses.

5

Distribution lines

Distribution lines carry electricity to neighborhoods.

6

Transformer

An electric-pole transformer reduces the voltage to a level that can be used in homes.

Energy vs. Demand

You may not think you need to have an understanding of energy, demand and purchasing, but do you ever look at your electric bill and wonder how it is derived? If your answer to that question is “yes”, then you might be interested to learn how the cooperative’s combined demand impacts your utility bill.

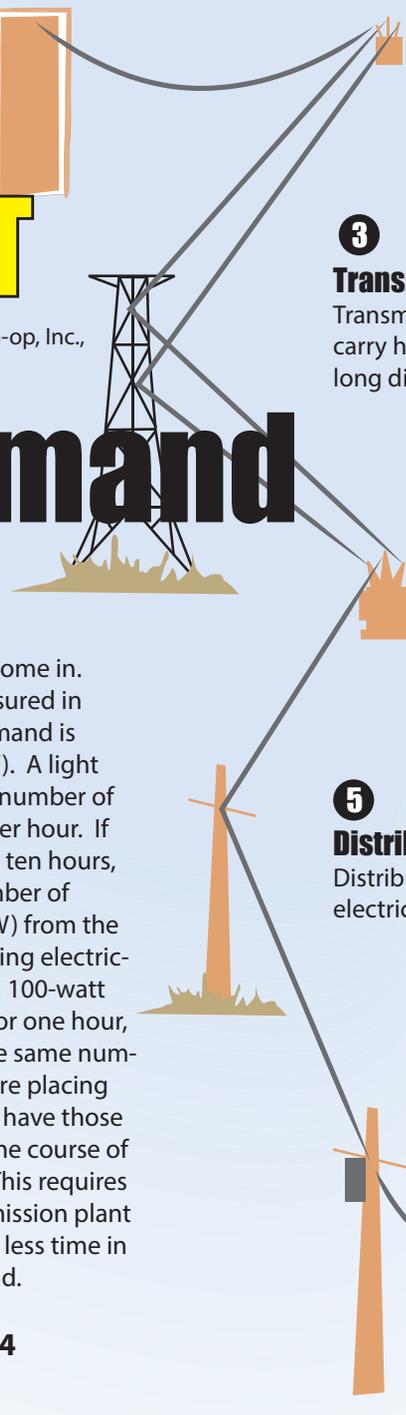
To start, it is important to understand how electricity is made and how it is delivered to your home. Before Wild Rice Electric Cooperative (WREC) can send electricity to your home, that electricity needs to be generated by a Generation and Transmission cooperative (G&T). Once the electricity has been generated, it travels over high-voltage transmission lines to substations, where the voltage is reduced to a safer level. The electricity then travels over distribution power lines and finds its way into your home. So, while you pay your bill to us – your electric distribution cooperative – we don’t actually generate the electricity you use. That is the job of the G&T. We do help to determine how much electricity our members need to power their homes and businesses, and you play a big part in determining how much electricity the G&T needs to create in order to keep the lights on

in our community. That is where the terms “consumption” and “demand” come in.

Consumption is measured in kilowatt-hours (kWh). Demand is measured in kilowatts (kW). A light bulb “consumes” a certain number of watts; let’s say 100 watts per hour. If that light bulb stays on for ten hours, it “demands” a certain number of kilowatts (in this case, 1 kW) from the generation station producing electricity. Now if you turn on ten 100-watt light bulbs in your home for one hour, you are still consuming the same number of kW. However, you are placing a demand on the utility to have those kW available to you over the course of one hour, instead of ten. This requires the generation and transmission plant to produce more power in less time in order to meet your demand.

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How does electricity get to your home?





OVER THE MANAGER'S DESK

AROUND THE CO-OP ...

STEVE HAAVEN, CEO



Local Democracy Passes

Notice was provided in the August issue of the Rural Delight that a public forum was scheduled for Tuesday August 29th to discuss and address questions concerning an upcoming decision by the board of directors to "opt-in" for governing the cooperative's distributed generation program. The board of directors later passed a resolution to assume the authority as granted by the Minnesota Legislature earlier this year confirming that cooperatives could elect to adopt rules and regulations guiding members interested in distributed generation.

The rules approved and accepted address definitions, purposes, reporting and filing requirements, conditions of service, electric code compliance, responsibility for apparatus, types of power offered, emergency conditions, rates for qualifying facilities, forms, contracts and agreements, member notification and dispute resolution including mediation. The rules and regulations were developed and will be administered in accordance with state guidelines and the board resolution was provided to the Minnesota Public Utility Commission for future reference. The cooperative's approved rules, regulations and standard agreement forms are posted on the cooperative website at www.wildriceelectric.com. In addition we encourage members to contact us with questions on distributed generation projects they may be considering.

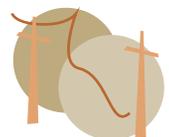


Winter Season Rates

A reminder to seasonal accounts, (aeration, grain drying and irrigation, as well as large power and industrial loads with generator back-up) that the winter

season begins December 18th. The rate for electricity used for grain drying increases from the summer rate of 8.5 cents to 12.2 cents per kilowatt hour. Accounts using generators to control loads during demand control periods should make certain their generators are in running order and have fuel tanks filled. The impact should loads not control during peak billing periods can become costly. Should industrial load generators not run during any of the nine hours used for winter billing purposes the cost could be substantial. Based upon present demand rates the cost for 500 kW of demand not dropping off would result in a monthly demand charge of \$5,078 per month, or \$60,936 annually, for the next billing period from April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019.

Inadvertent demand insurance is available to loads over 50 kW controlled by a generator to offset possible financial losses caused by the malfunction of load management facilities during billing periods. The program can mitigate the impact of large unanticipated inadvertent demand billings on accounts which are metered with recording demand meters. The cost of the coverage for the winter season of 2017-2018 is \$3.05 per kW of coverage selected. For example if 500 kW of demand was elected the cost for coverage would be \$1,525. If the qualified load failed to be controlled two-thirds of the demand cost impact would be credited back resulting in added cost for one-third of the financial impact from the load not being controlled.



Downed Power Lines

Devastating weather events in recent months in Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico remind us of the importance of keeping safety in mind and preparing should storms strike. This serves as a good reminder that severe winter weather conditions which can bring ice and blizzard conditions are just around the corner.

Some hazards are obvious; however there are hidden electricity dangers in

every severe weather event. Standing water can be electrically charged due to fallen power lines that are submerged or those lines underground that can still be energized. Remember downed power lines lying on or near the ground and motionless without sparks can still be live. Stay fifty feet away from any downed line or anything it be in contact with. Contaminated flood waters, including flooded basements, can create serious hazards if electrical wiring and equipment have been submerged in water and there may be hidden hazards. Before clean-up have a qualified electrician check the wiring. Do not touch a circuit breaker or replace a fuse with wet hands or while standing on a wet surface.

While operating a vehicle do not drive over downed lines. If a power line falls onto the vehicle, do not attempt to drive away or exit the vehicle. If you have access to a phone call 911 and stay in the vehicle until utility crews give the all clear. If immediate danger like fire makes it necessary to exit the vehicle, the proper action is to jump completely clear of the vehicle. Do not allow any part of your body to touch the vehicle and ground at the same time. Continue to jump away keeping both feet together until you are away from the vehicle.

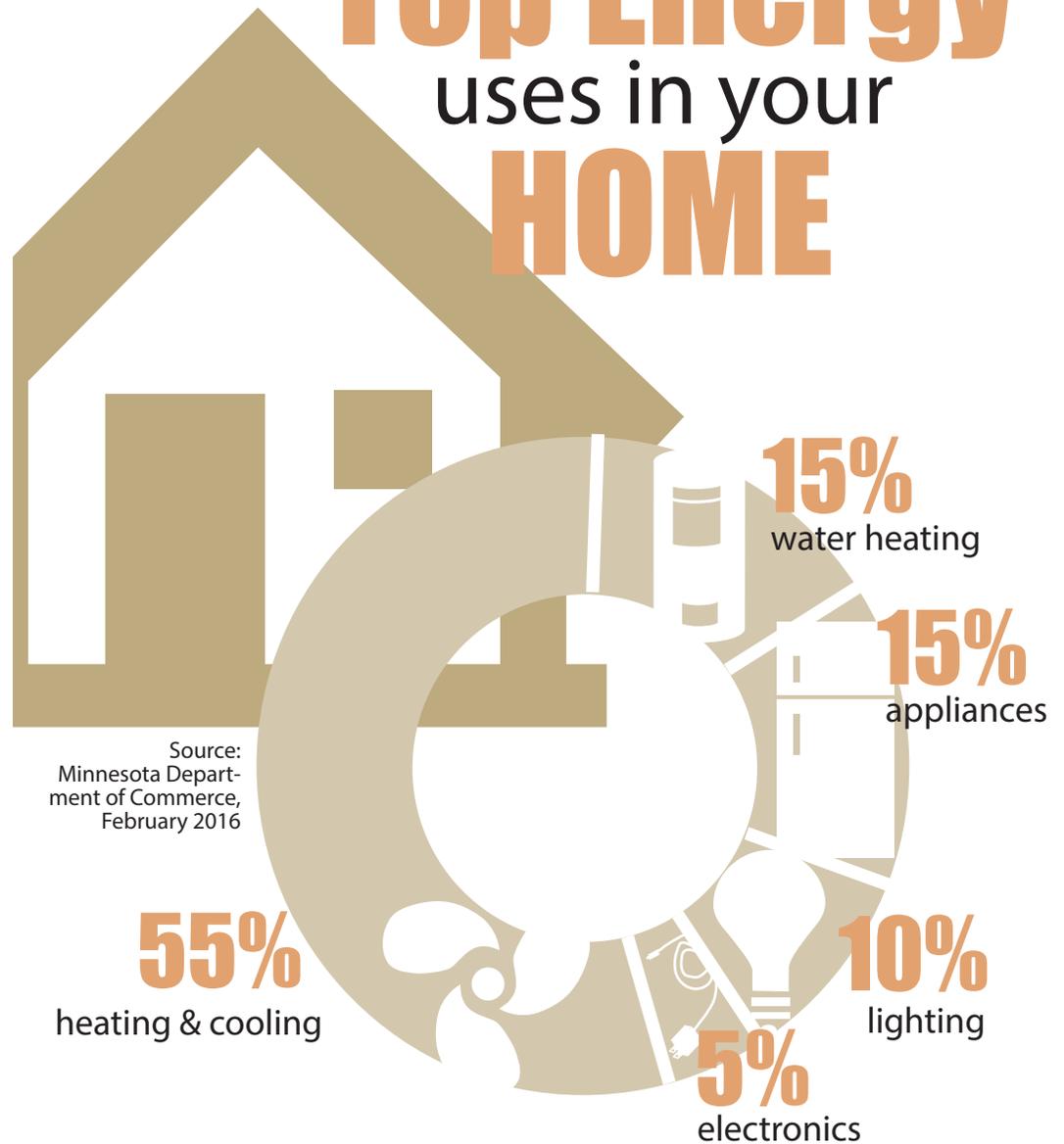


Prepare for Cold Weather

Living in Minnesota it is inevitable that when the calendar hits November cold weather is just ahead. Now is the time to prepare for those cold temperatures and long winter nights. Wild Rice members have nearly 6,500 controllable electric heating systems benefiting from off peak programs. Many of those require that an alternative system be in place and working to keep buildings warm when the off peak electric is being controlled. Therefore we

Continued on Page 3

Top Energy uses in your HOME



Source:
Minnesota Department of Commerce,
February 2016

Yard Light Agreement Form

With daylight savings time causing for an earlier sunset, Wild Rice Electric reminds consumers that we can help shed some light.

For only **\$8.75/month**, Wild Rice Electric can mount a yard light on our existing poles for you. If interested, visit our website at wildriceelectric.com and click on the Yard Light Agreement Form link on the home page or call our office at **218-935-2517**.

Over the Manager's Desk continued from the Page 2 ...

remind you to check those back-up system filters and make sure they are in good working condition prior to being controlled. Also check your tanks to make sure fuel is available. The wrong time to do this is when control starts.

The reality is in Minnesota it costs to heat homes and businesses. We encourage you to take steps to become more efficient and be more comfortable. Check to make sure areas are air-sealed and insulated properly and that heating systems are ad-

equately sized. Taking steps to seal doors and windows by filling gaps with caulk and replacing weather stripping can make a big difference. If you have a forced air system check duct work for leaks, holes or for poorly connected ducts. Installing programmable thermostats to automatically control temperature settings when you are away or when sleeping can save money.

Should you be looking to upgrade or change heating systems please consider off peak electric heating options. Information is available on rates, rebates and options on the cooperative's website at www.wildriceelectric.com or by contacting our member services department for details.



Happy and Safe Holiday

The upcoming Holiday Seasons remind us that we have much to celebrate and be thankful for. I encourage you to keep safety in mind during all of the decorating, cooking and special lighting projects. Check electrical equipment for proper ratings, cords for cracking, don't overload circuits or plug adapters and replace ornaments in poor condition. When buying lighting, consider LED lights for cost of operation and longevity. Have a nice Holiday Season.

Ads

For Sale

Free standing corral panels, hay feeders & skid steer attachments, 701-261-2574.

1977 Polaris 440TX, \$225. 1976 Polaris 250 Colt SS, \$175. 1971 MF 350SS, \$125. 295-1 Kohler Engine, \$100. Polaris 398 Engine, \$150. 218-473-2461 leave message.

Mixed Alfalfa hay in 5x5 big round bales, \$35 bale, 218-935-5727 or 218-902-0344.

Snow blower new tires walk behind. Rider mower (both as is), VHS tapes, 218-584-4603.

Approx. 50 pcs 2x6 & 2x4 7 1/2' & longer. 60 pcs - 2x6 & 2x4 - shorter. 30 pcs 3'x4' all clean & straight lumber, some used & new, \$250, 218-584-5587.

Purebred Shih Tzu puppies starting at \$400, 218-935-5757.

Teak table/six chairs two leafs \$150 obo, 218-847-6484 after 5.

1974 Jeep J-20, drive train & body good. \$2,195/offer. 360 motor, tran & transfer case w/ shaft & many extra parts, \$995/offer, 218-356-8626.

4-LT 265/70 R 17 M&S tires 75% tread, \$100, 218-431-0442.

1995 Cadillac Seville 4 door, spotless, 130,000 miles, \$3,000 obo take in guns trade, 701-293-1295.

6 cord Hardwood, \$810 or \$135 cord. Poplar, \$100 cord, 218-935-5576 leave message.

Small square wheat straw bales stored in a shed. 218-473-2359. 2000 International loader will fit 300-656 tractor asking \$1,400, 218-945-6225.

Alfalfa mix hay in 5' x 5' round bales, \$35.00 per bale, 218-902-0344.

2006 Buick Lacrosse CXL 3.8 engine, 120,000 miles \$5750. Nice car, runs well, 218-532-2771, leave mes-

sage. Collectible tractors available: Farmall 560D, nice tin, good TA, runs well. Farmall 400D, not running, restorers dream, Cockshutt 30, wide front, restored, beautiful, Farmall H, new rear tire, runs well. 701-371-7010.

Topper for 2005 Dodge Dakota \$300.00 OBO, 218-935-2247.

Nice Deer Rifles, 30-06 Remington semi auto w/scope \$500, 308 Remington 760 w/scope \$540, 300 Savage 77, 308 model 77 w/scope \$760, 7.62 x 39 China \$440, 218-841-7927.

Tennessee walker mare. Don't know too much about her, but has been rode, lifts feet has been shod, guessing about 10 yrs old, and about 15.2 hands high, all black. \$500 obo just doesn't get used and I don't need to feed her if she just runs around the pasture. 218-849-2670.

2006 Buick Lacrosse CXL 3.8 engine, 120,000 miles \$5750. Nice car, runs well, 218-532-2771, leave message.

2006 Buick Lacrosse CXL 3.8 engine, 120,000 miles \$5750. Nice car, runs well, 218-532-2771, leave message. One horse buggy, mostly original. The seat needs repair. \$800. Also cutter, not vintage other than runners. \$35. 218-734-2228

Firewood, dry mixed hardwood make offer, 218-935-2471.

Ithaca model 37 feather light 20 gauge shotgun. 26" vent rib improved choke barrel. Serial #371380199. Shot very little, one owner 4 1/2 boxes of shell, \$550, 218-435-1255.

Foldable cherry picker \$150, old engine stand \$65, service box trailer \$500.00, steel fence posts \$2.00 each and used lawn mower parts. 218-325-4885.

Oak sofa table & end table to match w/ glass top inserts, excellent, \$75, 218-945-6847.

Wanted

Wood chipper to chop up branches etc. not a big commercial one. Would like to buy or even rent, 218-230-5180.

Tires 235 75 R"15", 218-584-4603.

Reiten reset moldboard plow, any condition 701-238-0108.

Pontoon lift w/ canopy for 22 foot pontoon, 701-793-6771.

Give away

Free kittens. 701-293-6612.

Home Brew Equipment complete kit with 100 bottles, carboy, bottle capper and wort cooler, 701 566 4857.

Americana/ Rhode Island Red Cross Rooster, 218-847-1292.

And the
Winner
is ...
James Weaver Jr
from Waubun was
our lucky winner
of the Electric Table
Top Grill.



Thanks to everyone
who stopped in to
help us celebrate
Cooperative Month.

Our Ad Policy

- All ads must be 30 words or less.
- Ads will be abbreviated at the coop's discretion.
- No real estate or commercial ads will be accepted.
- Ads are published for members at no charge as space permits on a first-come, first served basis. Unpublished ads will not be carried over.
- Ads are due by the 10th of the month prior to publication.
- Members may submit only one ad per issue.
- Ads must be resubmitted to run an additional month.
- Ads must be typed or in clear readable print. Editor reserves the right to edit or reject any ad.
- You can submit your ad by mail, email, fax or drop off in office. Phone ads will not be accepted.
- Fax ads to . . . 218-935-2519
- Email ads to . . . info@wildriceelectric.com
- Mail ads to . . . Wild Rice Electric P.O. Box 438 Mahnomon, MN 56557

Energy vs. Demand continued from the front . . .

WREC purchases kilowatt-hours from our G&T Minnkota Power Cooperative based on the average combined demand of our members. Peak demand refers to the time of day when the demand for electricity is the highest. This is typically during the evening when families return home from work or school, when they cook and use appliances the most. Using electricity during this peak demand period often costs more to both WREC and to our members. Rates are dictated by the cooperative's cost of

wholesale power from our G&T with demand being one of the major factoring components.

Generating and distributing power can be a tricky and complicated business. Rest assured that Wild Rice Electric works hard each and every day to meet the necessary demands to provide safe, reliable and affordable electricity to you and your family. To learn more on how to use energy wisely and save money on your electric bill, visit www.wildriceelectric.com.

From all of us at **Wild Rice Electric,**
Happy Thanksgiving



Our office will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 23 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

May your hearts and homes be lit with laughter and happiness this holiday season.

Celebrate with savings



To apply

Purchase LED Christmas plug-in (not battery operated) lights and decorations in 2017.

Complete rebate form and submit it to Wild Rice Electric by Dec. 31, 2017, with a copy of your sales receipt. Energy Star LEDs recommended.



Number of Strings	Rebate per String	Total Rebate
<input type="text"/>	Less than 99 lights	\$3
<input type="text"/>	100-199 lights	\$6
<input type="text"/>	200-299 lights	\$9
<input type="text"/>	Greater than 300 lights	\$12

Rebate cannot exceed 50 percent of the cost. Maximum of 5 strings per consumer.

Name _____

Account # _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

Mail to: Wild Rice Electric Cooperative ● PO BOX 438 ● Mahnomen, MN 56557

Energy Assistance Providers

Becker or Mahnomen County

Mahube Community Council

PO Box 747
 Detroit Lakes, MN 56502
 218-847-1385

Mahube Community Council

PO Box 76
 Mahnomen, MN 56557
 218-935-5022

Energy Assistance Program

3303 US Hwy 59
 Waubun, MN 56589
 218-473-2711

Becker County Social Services

712 MN Ave
 Detroit Lakes MN 56501
 218-847-5628

Mahnomen County

Social Services

311 North Main
 PO Box 460
 Mahnomen, MN 56557
 218-935-2568

East Polk County

Inter County Community Council

PO Box 189
 Oklee, MN 56742
 Phone: 218-796-5144 or
 1-888-778-4008

Polk County Social Services

612 N Broadway, RM 302
 Crookston, MN 56716
 218-281-3127

Clearwater County

Clearwater Social Services

PO Box X
 Bagley, MN 56621
 218-694-6164

West Polk or Norman County

Tri-Valley Opportunity Council

1407 Erskine St
 Crookston, MN 56716
 Phone: 1-866-264-3729 or
 218-281-9080

Norman County Social Services

15 2nd Ave E
 Ada, MN 56510
 218-784-5400

If you are a White Earth Tribal Member

White Earth Nation

Financial Services

PO Box 100
 Naytahwaush, MN 56566
 844-282-6580 or 218-935-2359



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Monday- Friday

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www.wildriceelectric.com

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877-885-7968

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pay your bill and more.

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