

# KILOWATT



*Thanksgiving is a time of reflection for all our blessings. A time to be thankful and a time to remember and embrace those who have enriched our lives. We thank you, our members for your patronage over the past year and wish for you many treasured moments with family and friends during this Thanksgiving season.*

Kandiyohi Power Cooperative offices will be closed November 25 and 26 in observance of Thanksgiving. You may pay your bill on-line during this time and if an emergency, call 1-800-551-4951.



## COOK UP ENERGY SAVINGS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

- Clean oven burners regularly.
- Match the pan size to the burner you're using.
- Use small appliances like slow cookers and toaster ovens when possible.

From our table to yours,  
Happy Thanksgiving!

We are in the middle of budget season here at Kandiyohi Power Cooperative. As we plan for next year, there is one glaring trend, everything is more expensive and lead times are getting worse. This is an issue I would bet everyone has dealt with in the last year and a half. You'll hear it at the gas station, coffee shop, supermarket, or wherever people are chatting. The cost of goods, if you can get them, is going up. Oil prices have hit seven-year highs, natural gas is roughly 75% higher than it was last year, and propane costs have taken dramatic jumps as well. There was one item in our 2022 Budget though that is not showing a dramatic increase from 2021, our largest annual expense, the cost of power.

Ryan Nelson,  
CEO



Great River Energy, KPC's power provider, is holding its wholesale rates relatively flat into 2022 and projecting rate stability into the future. "We spent over a decade transitioning to a portfolio of power supply and transmission resources to efficiently serve our member-owner cooperatives," said Great River Energy President and Chief Executive Officer David Saggau. "The benefits of those decisions are now being felt. Wholesale rate stability is incredibly important to our member systems in greater Minnesota that are seeing sharp increases in other costs."

Just this week, Xcel Energy proposed an electricity rate increase to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission of over 21% over the next three years. More than half of that increase would occur in 2022. A spokesperson for Xcel stated that the rate case was needed to support the poles and wires side of the business, meaning infrastructure improvements.

Kandiyohi Power Cooperative has continually made wise investments in our infrastructure year-after-year since inception. We do not have a small group of shareholders' pockets to satisfy. Our member-owners are our shareholders and make up our Board of Directors. Great River Energy is also a cooperative owned by 28 retail distribution cooperatives, including Kandiyohi Power Cooperative. "These economic challenges underscore the value of cooperatives," said Great River Energy Vice President and Chief Corporate and Member Services Officer Mark Fagan. "Cooperatives are not-for-profit, member-owned businesses that can adapt to changing member needs or unexpected economic trends. Our member-owners are clear about what they want from Great River Energy: affordable rates, reliable service and environmental stewardship," Fagan added.

This cooperative relationship, from Generation all the way down to consumption, will provide rate stability well into the future.

## IT'S A MATTER OF (CO-OP!) PRINCIPLES – PART TWO

For KPC, this is a time of year for reflection, and topping the list of things we're grateful for is our wonderful community. The employees at Kandiyohi Power Cooperative are thankful to be in such an incredible place. We are fortunate to live in the same place where we work, which makes our ties to this community that much stronger. You may recall that last month, we touched on the first three Cooperative Principles, so this month, we'd like to tell you about the remaining four principles. The Cooperative Principles are essential to the co-op business model and benefit all members of the co-op.

### Autonomy and Independence

The fourth principal, Autonomy, and Independence, means that the co-op operates in an autonomous way that is solely directed and guided by its members, reflecting the values and needs of our local community. This means the co-op is not being influenced by leaders or shareholders several states away. Instead, the co-op is led by the local members it serves.

### Education and Training

The fifth principle, Education and Training, focuses on enhancing the knowledge of co-op employees and board members, which enables them to contribute to the development of the co-op.

By investing in continuous learning for our employees and board members, our co-op is making a commitment not just to individual professional and personal growth, but to the future of the co-op and the high quality of service our members expect and deserve. It's a win-win situation.

We also strive to inform our members (that's you!) and the public about the mission and operations of the co-op. In fact, that's why you receive this newsletter every month, so we can share the latest co-op news and updates, as well as energy efficiency and safety tips.

### Cooperation Among Cooperatives

Cooperation among cooperatives is the sixth principle and fosters the way that co-ops work together to address bigger challenges. While this principle applies to

all types of cooperatives, it is especially relevant in the energy industry. In our case, we put this principle in action after major storms and disasters that cause widespread power outages. When this happens, we call on nearby co-ops to come to our aid and assist with restoration efforts—and we of course extend the same help to them when they need us. I can't think of a better example of cooperation among cooperatives.

In addition, because we are part of the national electric co-op network, we can connect and collaborate with other electric co-ops to tackle industry-related challenges, like cybersecurity and an ever-changing energy landscape.

### Concern for Community

The seventh principle, Concern for Community, is essential to who we are as cooperatives. We serve our community

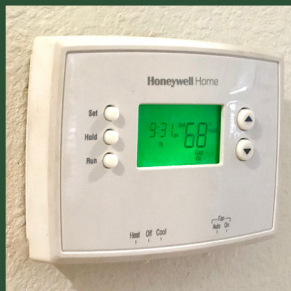


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## 3 Easy Ways to Save Energy This Fall

1

Set your thermostat  
to 68 degrees or cooler  
to give your heating  
system a break.



2

Replace your HVAC  
filter regularly. Check  
it monthly to make  
sure it's not too dirty.







not only by being an essential service, but by helping to power our local economy. Whether through economic development, volunteerism, or donations to local causes, we invest in this community because it's our home too. We think you'll find that most cooperatives bring good people together to make good things happen in the community. We hope you feel that way about KPC, your local electric co-op.

## GETTING CHARGED UP ABOUT ELECTRIC VEHICLES...

EV charging infrastructure is currently being built across the country. You may not see them in your area yet, but they are coming, so get charged up about EV's.



1. Batteries come in different sizes that provide different mileage ranges.
2. The EV' will tell you how many miles are remaining before a charge is needed.
3. Level 1 charger – simply plug into a regular electrical outlet. This is the slowest option for charging.
4. Level 2 – Most common type of charging because it operates on 240 -volt power. Can provide 100 miles of charge in several hours.
5. Level 3 - DC Fast chargers – require much more current and are not installed in homes. Typically seen at EV charging stations. They can charge in less than 20 minutes.
6. There are already 1/3 as many EV charging stations in the US as there are gas stations. And that doesn't even count the refueling stations found in the electrical outlets of every home in America. Currently there are about 50,000 EVV charging sites in the U.S.
7. The range of electrics already exceed how far most people drive in a day. 90% of Americans drive less than 45 miles a day. The average range for EV's is 250 miles.
8. Good for the environment, lower maintenance costs, and you wake up every morning with a full tank.
9. Cooperatives are looking at what they can do to support public charging to meet the needs of their members.
10. Serious about purchasing an EV? Focus on your personal daily driving needs, your budget, reviews programs, and rates from your trusted Cooperative.

## ON FACEBOOK

[/KANDIOHIPOWERCOOPERATIVE](https://www.facebook.com/KANDIOHIPOWERCOOPERATIVE)



Open blinds and other window coverings to let natural light in to warm your home.



**\$25**  
**WIN A \$25.00**  
**BILL CREDIT!!!**

Instead of finding your account number in the Kilowatt for a \$5.00 bill credit, you now could win a \$25.00 bill credit. All you need to do is enroll in our Auto Pay program & you will be entered into a monthly drawing for a \$25.00 bill credit. Members who are already saving time and money with Auto Pay will be automatically entered in the contest. We have had 79 new Auto Pay sign-ups and 86 more members signing up for paperless billing since September 2021. Sign up and you could be our next WINNER!

**WINNER!**

**Doug Studanski, is this month's \$25 bill credit winner for signing Up for Auto Pay.**



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**Tom McCormick**  
**Electric Inspector: 320-221-2809**

Drop boxes available for your convenience  
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building near flag pole.

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Member/Communications/HR	320-796-0982
Brent Hatlestad,	
Line Superintendent	320-796-1163
Patrick Krueger,	
Finance Manager	320-796-0991

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:	District
Dale Anderson, Chair- 320-894-1687	1
Rollo Campe- 320-894-1601	1
Larry Powers- 320-212-7960	1
Dan Pomranke, VC- 320-894-7113	2
Todd Post- 320-212-1119	2
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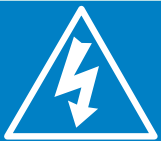


**THANKS TO OUR TRUNK OR TREATERS  
WHO JOINED IN ON ALL THE FUN AT  
KPC. IT WAS A GREAT AFTERNOON  
WITH FRIENDS, FAMILY, COSTUMES,  
TREATS, COOKIES, AND JUICE.**



## Operation Round Up 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Donations

Aim of West Central Minnesota	\$500.00
ACGC School	\$659.00
Carris Health Foundation	\$1500.00
Dream Technical Academy	\$300.00
Faith Promise of Kandiyohi County	\$1800.00
NLS FFA Alumni	\$500.00
Prairie Woods Elementary	\$800.00
PWELC - YES	\$500.00
The Link	\$2500.00
Willmar Area Woman's Fund	\$1800.00
Willmar High School Supermileage	\$500.00
Willmar High School Robotics	\$500.00
Community Christian School	\$250.00
Lakes Area First Responders	\$1000.00
Blomkest First Responders	\$1000.00
Kandiyohi First responders	\$1000.00
Sunburg First Responders	\$1000.00
<b>TOTAL DONATIONS</b>	<b>\$16,109.00</b>



## 24-HOUR OUTAGE NUMBER

When your lights go out, so do we.

Call us if your power goes out even if you think your neighbors  
already did. Leave one light on so you know when power has  
been restored and make sure you have an emergency kit ready.

**1-800-551-4951**