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As the year draws to a close, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to each member-owner of our cooperative. Your commitment and engagement as member-owners has been the driving force behind our collective success. In a world that often focuses on individual transactions, your choice to be part of a cooperative, as active participants in our organization, is truly appreciated.

Throughout the year, your contributions have elevated our community, creating a sense of shared responsibility and purpose. Whether you're providing valuable feedback or simply being an advocate for our cooperative values, each action has strengthened the foundation upon which our organization stands.

This Christmas, we want to express our sincere thanks for your loyalty and trust. Your belief in the cooperative model empowers us to pursue initiatives that benefit every-

one involved. We are not just a business, we are a community, and your membership plays a vital role in shaping our shared future.

As we celebrate the holiday season, let's reflect on the spirit of cooperation that binds us together. May this festive time be filled with joy, gratitude, and the warmth of community. Here's to another year of shared success and collaboration. Thank you for being more than customers — thank you for being member-owners.

I would also like to express sincere gratitude to the employees at KPC. If you happen to see one of them out in public and have the opportunity, please consider doing the same. Every year has its challenges, but together, we overcame obstacles, achieved milestones, and grew stronger as a team. Let them know their hard work, dedication, and resilience have not gone unnoticed. As we take a well-deserved break, let's reflect on our

accomplishments and cherish the moments of collaboration and camaraderie. I am thankful for the privilege of working alongside such talented and committed individuals.



Ryan Nelson, CEO

Wishing you all a joyful and restful holiday season filled with warmth, laughter, and the company of loved ones. May the new year bring us continued success and exciting opportunities. Thank you for your outstanding efforts, and here's to an even better year ahead!



Kandiyohi Power Cooperative will be closed on December 25th and 26th and January 1st to observe the Christmas and New Year holidays. Please call 800-551-4951 to report an outage.



CAPITAL CREDIT REFUNDS: YOU WILL BE RECEIVING YOUR CAPITAL CREDIT AND G&T REFUNDS ON THIS MONTH'S ELECTRIC BILL. PLEASE REFER TO YOUR BILL FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR CREDIT.

#### MIDWEST ELECTRIC SYSTEM READY FOR WINTER WEATHER

# The region has sufficient resources for expected conditions and contingency plans for emergencies

The Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) recently released its annual winter outlook in which it outlines expectations for the winter season. MISO is expecting a mild winter for most of its territory. January is forecasted to have the highest winter peak demand in the range of 102 to 107 gigawatts, with generation supply availability expected to be 122 gigawatts.

"Great River Energy team members are ready to meet our responsibilities to our member owners and MISO by generating and delivering energy regardless of weather conditions." said Great River Energy Vice President and Chief Power Supply Officer Jon Brekke. "Great River Energy is continuing to invest in its generation and transmission assets to support grid reliability for the future."

Among other projects, Great River Energy and Minnesota Power are jointly developing the Northland Reliability Project, a 180-mile, 345-kilovolt electric transmission line from northern Minnesota to central Minnesota to ensure continued reliability into the future as the region transitions to greater levels of renewable energy.

MISO stresses the importance of reliability in all seasons, and particularly when entering winter and summer when demand for electricity peaks. Great River Energy's winter reliability plans received an important boost from a recent decision by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC).

The PUC unanimously approved the addition of dual fuel capability at Great River Energy's Cambridge Peaking Station, which will enable the plant to operate on fuel oil when its primary fuel – natural gas – is either unavailable or prohibitively expensive.

Natural gas peaking plants like Cambridge Peaking Station are an important part of overall reliability of the electric grid by providing generation at times of greatest system need. The addition of dual fuel capability will further enhance overall system reliability and help keep businesses operating and homes safe and warm.

"Electric cooperatives serving Minnesota must be prepared for extreme winter conditions that are normal for our region," said Great River Energy President and Chief Executive Officer David Saggau. "Dual fuel capability in Cambridge is a small but absolutely critical enhancement to meet the needs and expectations of our member-owners on the coldest nights of the year."

Dual fuel capability at Cambridge Peaking Station is expected to be operational in time for the winter of 2025-26.



#### **ACCESS FEE INCREASE FOR 2024**

The Board of Directors for KPC's wholesale power provider, Great River Energy, recently approved a 2024 wholesale rate increase to KPC. The effective increase to KPC's cost of power is 1.89% in 2024. This equates to an increase of nearly \$250K.

KPC is a not-for-profit electric cooperative. Our goal is to furnish the highest quality electric service at a price as close to cost as possible. The main goal of our rates is to provide sufficient revenue to assure the cooperative maintains a sound financial condition. Considering this, the KPC board of directors approved an Access Fee increase effective January 1, 2024. For members in the City of Kandiyohi, the Access Fee will increase \$1.00 and the rest of the membership will see an increase of \$0.50.

#### ON YOUR BILL: ACCESS FEE

The Access Fee is a fixed fee and is on all member bills, regardless of how much or how little energy is used each month. The Access Fee is the cost to deliver energy to your location. This fee recovers a portion of the cost to maintain the electrical service at your home or location, including poles, meters, lines, substations, equipment, plant improvements, operations, maintenance, and administration. It's like the costs you pay to own your car, even when you aren't driving it.

### Items needed to keep a vehicle ready for the road:



- insurance
- taxes
- auto loan
- driver's license
- maintenance
- fuel

## Items needed to make electric service available to you:

- · safety equipment and training
- bucket trucks, poles, meters
- · wire and line equipment
- system improvements
- right of way maintenance
- insurance, taxes
- employees, office building
- · computer systems and software
- billing services
- storm repair
- 24/7 service





#### BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

NOVEMBER 20, 2023

The Kandiyohi Power Cooperative Board of Directors held their regular monthly meeting. There were eight directors present. Chairman, Dale Anderson called the meeting to order.

Additions made to the regular agenda:

Operation Round-Up Gift cards

The following reports were given:

- CEO Report
- IIJA Consortium, Topic 3: Innovative Regional Grid and New ERA Grant Update
- KPC Bylaw Review Update.
- The Land Event Band powered by Ford Lightning.
- WACAG EV Event.
- City of Spicer Electric Franchise Ordinance.
- Guatemala 2024.
- Member Services/Communications
- Energy Assistance applications available.
- Smarthub redesign, planned launch 12/4.
- Annual solar inspection/maintenance.
- Treats for members in lobby for the first part of December.
- EDC Ag and Renewable Energy Committee.
- KPC Trunk & Treat Event Recap.
- Insights and Analytics
- Auto Pay Metrics
- Engineering ReportSixty-three new services connected;
- twelve retired; eight renewables to date.
- Safety and services update
- Update on current projects
- Safety Committee Updates
- All equipment operational.
- Finance Report
- Notice of Capital Credit Allocation
- Service Fees on outstanding capital credit checks prior to reissue/escheatment.
- Requests for Audit Bids.
- 2024 budget update.
- Sales Tax Refund & Storm Aid Update.
- IT/Maintenance
- MIC Conference.
- New GIS/Mapping server implemented.
- Upcoming projects review.
- IT statistics and graphs.
- Recent maintenance projects review.

Operation Round Up Update by Director Dan Pomranke Great River Energy Upcoming Special Meeting

Great River Energy (GRE) Director's Report by Chair Anderson

Motions made and approved by the Board:

- Regular Agenda
- Consent Agenda
- November write-offs
- Five-year, Brady Martz audit contract
- Capital Credits Retirement: KPC's- \$700,000 FIFO method; GRE's- \$435,000 FIFO method
- NRECA Voting Delegates
- Vote In Favor Of approving GRE's amendments to Article's and Bylaws at Special Meeting
- Appoint Chair Anderson as Voting Delegate and CEO Nelson as alternate for GRE Special Meeting
- Adjourn meeting

Meeting Adjourned Next regular board meeting is December 27, 2023.



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Phone: 1-800-551-4951 Fax: 320-796-0620 **Tom McCormick** 

Electric Inspector: 320-221-2809

Drop boxes available for your convenience at Cash Wise and our headquarters building near flag pole.

Ryan Nelson, CEO 320-796-1160

Michele Scheffler,

Member/Communications 320-796-0982

Brent Hatlestad,

Line Superintendent 320-796-1163 Patrick Krueger, CFO 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 - 320-894-7113 2 Todd Post, VC - 320-212-1119 2 Stan Wubben, Secretary - 320-905-8325 2 Kelly Erickson - 320-894-2930 3 Diane Helgeson - 320-220-3745 3 3 Darrell Fostervold - 320-212-4824

#### KILOWATT STAFF:

Michele Scheffler, Editor

Equal opportunity provider and employer.

**ACCEPT** 













www.gopherstateonecall.org 1-800-252-1166





# **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

The Cooperative will attempt to furnish continuous service but will not guarantee uninterrupted service.



#### November's \$25 Winner: Ray and Karen Evenson

Enroll in our Auto Pay program to be entered into a monthly drawing for a \$25.00 bill credit. Save time and money!

Must be on Auto Pay to be eligible to win. You can also select email as your only delivery option. You will then receive an email instead of a paper bill when your bill is ready for payment.



# **OPERATION ROUNDUP (ORU) BOARD OPFNING**

ORU is a volunteer community support program. It is designed to provide financial assistance to worthwhile projects and charities throughout our area. It's people helping people. The ORU Board Members review grant applications at a quarterly meeting to determine grant award amounts. This nine-member board has an open seat! If you are interested in serving a term and helping your local community, please email

contactus@kpcoop.com or

call 800-551-4951 for more information.

