## WHY IS THERE AN ACCESS CHARGE ON MY BILL?

Ryan Nelson, CEO





KPC OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON JULY 4TH IN OBSERVANCE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY. One of the most common questions we get from our member-owners is, "What is the Access Charge on my bill?" It's a point of contention for some and can be difficult to explain and understand, so this month I will attempt to break it down.

### What is the Access Charge?

The Access Charge is a fixed monthly charge that appears on your electric bill, regardless of how much energy you use. It is not a tax or a hidden fee, but a fair and transparent way to cover a large portion of our fixed costs to provide reliable and affordable electricity to your home or business. Depending on your electric cooperative the Access Charge goes by many different names, like Service Availability Charge, Customer Charge, or Basic Service Charge.

## What are the fixed costs of the cooperative?

Fixed costs are the expenses that we incur every year to maintain and operate the electric distribution system and maintain infrastructure, such as poles, wires, transformers, meters, trucks, equipment, and personnel. These costs do not vary with the amount of energy you consume but are essential to keep the lights on and the power flowing. Fixed costs also include the fees that we pay to our power suppliers to have access to the electric grid and the energy sources that we need.

### What are the benefits of the Access Charge?

With the Access Charge, we can reduce the price of the energy you use and take away the uncertainty around electric usage. This means that you save more on the energy you need, and you are not punished for using less energy or going green with energy efficiency or renewable energy. The Access Charge also helps us to keep your cooperative financially healthy and stable by ensuring that we can cover our

fixed costs every year, regardless of weather, demand, or market fluctuations. The Access Charge also allows us to plan and budget for the future, and to invest in system upgrades and improvements that will enhance our safety, service quality, and reliability.

## How is the Access Charge fair and equitable?

The Access Charge is based on the average cost of serving each type of member, such as residential, commercial, or industrial. It reflects the size and capacity of the service connection and the level of investment and maintenance required to serve each member. The Access Charge ensures that every member pays their fair share of the fixed costs, and that no member-owner subsidizes another. For example, a large industrial member will pay a higher Access Charge than a small residential member because they require a larger and more complex service connection. The Access Charge also supports the cooperative principle of democratic member control by allowing you to have a voice in how we allocate our costs and revenues. As a member-owner of the cooperative, you have the right to elect your board of directors, who set the rates and policies of the cooperative, including the Access Charge.

I hope this has helped you to understand the Access Charge and how it benefits you as a member-owner of our cooperative. The Access Charge is not a new or hidden charge, but a transparent and fair way of allocating our fixed costs among all our members. By paying the Access Charge, you are contributing to the financial health and stability of your cooperative and ensuring that we can continue to serve you for years to come. Thank you for being part of Kandiyohi Power Cooperative.



## GET STUNG WITH THE FUN!

Member Appreciation Stingers Game July 10th





### MEMBERS ONLY AUCTION

Kandiyohi Power Cooperative is conducting sealed bid auctions of the items listed below. You must b Kandiyohi Power's office at 8605 47th St NE, Spicer MN, 56288 by noon on Friday, July 26, 2024. Iten

• June 24 from 9am to 12pm • June 25 from 1pm to 3pm • July 22 from 9am to 12pm • July Please call the office to schedule an appointment for inspection and to receive a bid sheet. The winn Bids received unsealed and/or without a current account number will not be accepted. All items solo



### 2016 FORD F150 CREW CAB PICKUP

VIN: 1FTEX1EP6GFA86192

• Mileage: 153,000 • Engine: 2.7L • Drivetrain: 4X4

MINIMUM BID: \$10,000.00



### CONTRACTOR PICKUP TOPPER

2014 ARE topper with built in tool boxes. Fits a 6.5 foot

**MINIMUM BID: \$750.00** 



To help members control fluctuating monthly bills, KPC offers a Budget Billing payment plan. The plan allows you to pay in equal monthly installments. Monthly payments will be equal to 1/12 plus a minimum of 10% of your estimated annual billings based on your usage history. July is catch-up month, where the balance of budget accounts are billed, due August 1st.

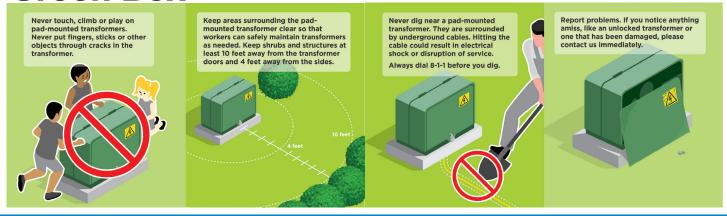
After 12 months on the plan, your account must be paid current (catch-up month) and a new budget amount will be calculated using your previous 12 months usage. The new budget amounts are shown on your July bill.

Budget Billing participants are required to pay their budget amount in full every month or we may remove them from Budget Billing. Outside of catch-up month we look at your Budget Billing account, about every six months, to see whether we need to adjust your monthly installment. Your monthly installment will then be adjusted automatically as needed.

To learn more about Budget Billing and find out if you are eligible for the plan, call 800-551-4951 or email contactus@kpcoop.com today!

# **Avoid the Big Green Box**

Please stay away from pad-mounted transformers (the big green box). While safe, they are not meant for touching, climbing or playing. Pad-mounted transformers carry high voltages of electricity that serve many homes in our communities.



e a current KPC member to be eligible to bid. Sealed bids must be received at ns will be available for inspection at the following times:

### y 23 from 1pm to 3pm

box.

ing bidders will be notified by phone on or before Monday, July 29. I as is, no warranty.



### 2008 FORD F450 – DUMP TRUCK

VIN: 1FDXF47R88ED99680

• Mileage: 143,000 • Engine: Power Stroke V8 • Drivetrain: 4X4

MINIMUM BID: \$4,000.00



UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION WITH US!

Having current contact information on your account helps us send messages about planned outages and power emergencies. It also allows us to contact you regarding billing questions and makes it easy for you to report an outage. To update your contact information, please contact our office at 800-551-4951 or log in to your SmartHub account and update My Information.

### **ELECTRIC VEHICLE TIME OF USE RATE**

Are you aware of our Electric Vehicle (EV) Time of Use (TOU) Pilot program? This voluntary TOU rate is designed to incentivize EV owners to charge their vehicles during times of lower electricity demand. Participants will be charged \$0.074 per kWh during off-peak hours and \$0.334 per kWh during peak hours.

For those interested in discovering more about the EV TOU pilot, including program details and how to enroll, please reach out to us at 800-551-4951 or via email at contactus@kpcoop.com.



### May's \$25 Winner: Allen and Jodi Tepfer

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.



## BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

May 22, 2024

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

Additions made to the regular agenda:

- Neer Park summer event update & Strategic Planning meeting dates.

The following reports were given:

- CEO Report
- IIJA Consortium, Topic 3 Update.
- Recent Federated Insurance visit review.
- Heartland Security Quarterly Board Meeting recap.
- MRET Grant Safety Training recap.
- GRE MMG update.
- Ballot counting system update.
- Neer Park summer event series update.
- Member Services/Communications
- Annual meeting numbers.
- Stingers member appreciation game.
- ASHP promotion advertised.
- Upcoming training.
- Insights & Analytics.
- Autopay metrics.
- Engineering Report
- Safety and services update.
- Update on current projects.
- Employee safety training update.
- Finance Report
- Review of financials for April.
- Form 990/990-T submitted.
- Heartland Security & New ERA update.
- IS/Maintenance Report
- Lobby security.
- Al update.
- Offsite servers needed.
- Office ergonomics & IS meeting updates.
- New radiator needed for office generator.
- Current and old office building updates.

Upcoming Meetings & Conferences Board Policies

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

Motions made and approved by the Board:

- Regular Agenda.
- May Meeting Minutes with addition.
- Resolution to appoint Patrick Krueger as the USDA Signature Representative.
- CFC Forum & Annual Meeting attendee: Wubben.
- MREA District 3 Meeting attendees: Erickson, Helgeson, Fostervold, Powers, Pomranke, Campe, and Wubben.
- Approval of revisions to Policy 107.
- Adjourn meeting.

Meeting Adjourned- Next regular board meeting is June 26, 2024.



8605 47th Street NE, Spicer, MN 56288

www.kpcoop.com

Email: contactus@kpcoop.com

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7:30am – 4pm

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

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 - 320-905-832	25 2
Kelly Erickson - 320-894-2930	3
Diane Helgeson - 320-220-3745	3
Darrell Fostervold - 320-212-4824	3

### KILOWATT STAFF:

Michele Scheffler, Editor

Equal opportunity provider and employer.













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.

### • YOUR SOURCE FOR ENERGY-EFFICIENT HEATING AND COOLING.

## **ASHP** Rebate **Promotional Special**

Take advantage of these hot promo rebates when you install a qualifying, energy-saving air source heat pump!



Air source heat pumps are a high efficiency heating system. By switching to air source heat pumps, you can reduce your energy bills as you'll be using the outside air for your heating and cooling needs. If you are considering installing an air source heat pump, take advantage of these rebates!

Equipment must be purchased and installed in May, June, July or August 2024.

Ducted ASHP	Promotional Rebate
≥ 14.3 SEER2 & ≥7.5 HSPF2	\$600.00
≥ 15.2 SEER2 & ≥ 8.1 HSPF2	\$900.00
*≤ 5 ton & Quality installation required	

Ductless ASHP	Promotional Rebate
Delivered Fuels	\$400.00
Electric Heat	\$600.00
Efficency Requirments: >1 ton & > 14 3 SEER2 & >7 5 HSDE2	

Limited funds are available and awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Rebate amounts and programs are subject to change without notice.

