



## **ESSENTIAL STORM SAFETY: DOWNED POWER LINES & CLEANUP**

Severe weather often leaves behind damage that can be dangerous if not handled carefully. Your KPC team recently worked to restore power and clean up after storms caused outages at the end of July, here is a timely reminder for our community about the importance of power line safety and why to always avoid power lines.

Downed power lines may look harmless but can be deadly—even if they're not sparking. Always assume every downed wire is energized up to 7,200 volts! Electricity can travel through the ground and objects like fences or even puddles, so keep at least 35 feet away and never attempt to cross wire by foot or in a vehicle. Warn others and keep children and pets clear of the area.



James Pachan, Engineering & Operations

Our system contains protective equipment, similar to a breaker in your home, that we install and maintain and it's meant to keep our personnel and the general public safe. However, we cannot guarantee these devices will always act and open as they were designed or even tested in the controlled test environment. In a case where our equipment doesn't open as designed, the device isn't tripped, or if a line becomes energized by a different source of power, power lines that appear to be dead may not be. Always treat power lines as energized and dangerous, stay away! Non-standard conditions like snowstorms, ice storms, windstorms, thunderstorms, or even tornadoes may cause our overhead lines to be knocked down, tipped over, fall off the top of the pole, or even a broken pole may cause the overhead lines to hit the ground.

- Downed lines should be treated as energized, stay away at least 35 feet.
- Never attempt to cross a downed line or even approach a puddle or water way that is in contact with the line.
- If you see a downed line, notify authorities with the exact location.
- Never try to move a downed power line.

In some cases, a downed line could come in contact with a vehicle or ag equipment.

Most vehicle's rubber tires isolate it from the ground, so the vehicle could be energized and our protective equipment may not open.

- Do not attempt to move the vehicle, the power line, or the utility pole.
- Call 911 for an emergency, notify the power company.
- Stay in the vehicle unless there's a fire. Ensure that help knows to stay clear of the vehicle and downed lines.
- If you need to exit the vehicle, jump clear with both feet together and shuffle away without touching the vehicle and ground at the same time.

Before starting any storm cleanup, inspect your area carefully:

- Look for downed lines or damaged electrical gear—debris may hide these risks.
- Do not attempt repairs—leave it to trained utility crews.
- Wear protective gear: gloves, sturdy shoes, and safety glasses.
- Avoid using metal tools or ladders near wires.
- Steer clear of wet or flooded areas where shock risk is higher.

Using a portable generator? Keep these precautions in mind:

- Operate outdoors only, away from windows and doors—prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Never plug into home outlets—this can send power back into the utility lines and pose an electrocution risk to line workers. Connect appliances directly to the generator.
- Protect it from rain to avoid electrical hazards.

Look out for your community after a storm, safety is a team effort:

- Report dangers to your electric cooperative promptly.
- Educate family and neighbors—especially children—about electrical hazards.
- Check on elderly or vulnerable neighbors when it's safe to do so.
- Stay informed via local news or cooperative updates on restoration efforts.

Your safety is our top priority. By following these essential steps, you're helping protect yourself, your loved ones, and your community. If you have questions or need to report a hazard, contact KPC at 800-551-4951.

#### SAVING ENERGY DURING PEAK TIMES BENEFITS ALL

Conserving electricity during peak energy use times not only lowers your monthly bill—it can benefit our entire community.

"Peak times" refer to periods of the day when the demand for electricity is highest. Think early mornings when people are getting ready for work or school and evenings when families return home, cook dinner and unwind with electronics. When everyone uses energy at once, it adds pressure on the electric grid.

Kandiyohi Power Cooperative works around the clock to ensure that electricity flows to your home whenever you need it. Behind the scenes, an enormous and intricate system is at work—one of the most complex machines in the world: the U.S. power grid. The grid is made up of three major interconnections that span the country, each managing supply and demand through regional authorities to keep the lights on and our economy running smoothly.

Electricity comes from a diverse mix of sources—hydropower, natural gas, coal, solar, wind and more. Some power plants can respond quickly to spikes in demand, while others are less flexible. Once energy is generated, it travels through high-voltage transmission lines to local utilities, like Kandiyohi Power Cooperative, which then delivers it to your home or business through distribution power lines.

When electricity demand surges during peak times, it's more expensive to generate or purchase power. If supply can't keep up, the risk of outages increases. That's why using less energy during peak hours is more important than ever. It not only eases strain on the grid but also helps you save money.

So how can you "beat the peak"? Start by adjusting your thermostat a few degrees during peak hours. Smart thermostats can automate this for you. Delay using energy-hungry appliances like ovens, clothes washers and dishwashers until later in the evening. Charging your electric vehicle overnight instead of right after you get home can also help.

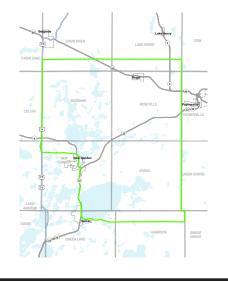
Small actions taken by many households can lead to big results. When we all work together to reduce energy use during peak times, we protect our power grid, help control costs and ensure reliable electricity for our communities.



#### **POLE INSPECTIONS**

EXO our pole inspection contractor, is starting pole inspections in the area marked in green on the map. Their vehicles will be marked with their logo. Please contact us if you have any questions at 800-551-4951 or contactus@kpcoop.com.







# July's \$25 Auto Pay Winner: Alicia & Andrew Glimsda

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.



#### MEMBER NOTICE

This summer, KPC has contractors working on load management equipment in various locations throughout our service territory. These efforts are part of our ongoing commitment to improving and



maintaining reliable service for you. You may notice activity in your area, but we're working to minimize any inconvenience. Thank you for your understanding as we continue to serve you better. For any concerns, feel free to reach out to our Member Services team.





### BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

July 23, 2025

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: MREA District Meeting recap and virtual meeting attendance discussion.

The following reports were given:

- CEO Report
- Mid-Year Reviews completed.
- CBA Language update.
- MN SCF Funding update to timeline.
- Write-offs for rentals update.
- Heartland Security recap.
- MMG & Strategic Planning meeting summary.
- Member Services/Communications
- ASHP Promo ongoing.
- Budget Billing update.
- Completed the 7610 Electric Utility Annual Report.
- Auto pay metrics.
- Insights and analytics.
- Load control information & talking points.
- Member dispute update.
- Engineering Report
- Twenty-two new services; four retired YTD.
- Grants update.
- Willmar substation SCADA update.
- Prairie Woods Substation transformer order in progress.
  - Outage breakdown YTD.
  - Compliance and safety update for July.
  - Lake Norway planned outage information.
- Finance Report
- Review of financials for June.
- Vender Check Register questions and discussion.
- Four write-offs this month.
- GRE update and discussion.
- KRTAs review.
- Form 990 submitted to Brady Martz.
- E3 Loan review and opinion.
- Quarterly director expenses recap.

Governance Training Videos

Regular Agenda

Consent Agenda:

- June 2025 Meeting Minutes
- July Write-offs

PSE Presentation – Ben Bratrud

E3 Loan Presentation – Justin Anderson

Staff Update

Annual Meeting Proposed Date - Confirmed: 4/28/26

Great River Energy (GRE)

- -Director's Report by Chair Anderson
- -GRE NextERA Energy Resources
- -Amended Terms for Dodge County Wind Energy Purchase

Motions made and approved by the Board:

- Regular Agenda with additions.
- Consent Agenda.
- E3 Loan, contingent on a cosigner and credit report.
- NextEra Energy Resources Approval of Amended Terms listed above.
  - Adjourn meeting.

Meeting Adjourned- Next regular board meeting is August 27, 2025.



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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: 612-246-8017

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

320-796-1160 Ryan Nelson, CEO

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:	District
Dale Anderson, Chair - 320-894-1687	1
Rollo Campe, Secretary - 320-894-1603	1 1
Larry Powers - 320-212-7960	1
Dan Pomranke - 320-894-7113	2
Todd Post, VC - 320-212-1119	2
Ken Warner - 320-212-8700	2
Kelly Erickson - 320-894-2930	3
Robert Moller - 320-295-1362	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 2025.

Ducted ASHP	Promotional Rebate	
High Efficiency	\$600.00	
Premium Efficiency	\$900.00	
≤ 5 ton & Quality Installation required. Efficiency based on AHRI directory certificate provided by HVAC Quality Installer.		

Ductless ASHP	Promotional Rebate	
Primary Heat Source is Delivered Fuels	\$400.00	
Primary Heat Source is Electric Heat	\$600.00	
High Efficiency Requirements: >1 ton & > 14 3 SEER2 & >7 5 HSPE2		

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



Know when the kids comes home, check on your pet, or see who's dropping off a delivery with the addition of video to your home security system!

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