

FEBRUARY 2020

CIRCUITS

FOR DAKOTA ELECTRIC MEMBERS

2020 ENERGY EFFICIENCY REBATES



Contact Us

Member Service & Drive-Up Window

7 a.m. – 7 p.m. Monday – Friday
651-463-6212 or 1-800-874-3409
Minnesota Relay Service 711

Lobby 7 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday
4300 220th Street West, Farmington, MN 55024

24-Hour Outage & Emergency Service
651-463-6201 or 1-800-430-9722

Underground Cable Locations
Gopher State One Call 811 or 651-454-0002
or 1-800-252-1166

Tree Trimming & Street Lights
651-463-6287

Dakota Electric is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer

Dakotaelectric.com
customerservice@dakotaelectric.com

Dakota Electric Association® and Dakota Electric® are registered service marks of the cooperative.

All programs and rebates are subject to change without notice. Funds are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Dakota Electric Association BOARD of Directors

DISTRICT 1

John (Jack) DeYoe
David Jones
Gerald F. Pittman | *Chair*

DISTRICT 2

Janet L. Lekson | *MREA Director*
Jim Sheldon | *Treasurer*
Clay Van De Bogart | *GRE Director*

DISTRICT 3

Kenneth H. Danner
William F. Holton | *Secretary*
Margaret D. Schreiner | *GRE Director*

DISTRICT 4

Paul Bakken | *Vice Chair*
Judy H. Kimmes
Stacy Miller



Great news!

Pictured: Board members Margaret Schreiner and Clay Van De Bogart represent Dakota Electric on the board of directors at Great River Energy.

Dakota Electric Association's wholesale power supplier, Great River Energy, finished 2019 with great news related to refunds, rates and environmental stewardship.

Refunds & Rates

Savings from controlling costs and strong electricity sales led Great River Energy's board of directors to approve a year-end refund of \$5 million to its 28 member cooperatives. Dakota Electric received more than \$880,000 allowing the co-op to offset some costs that make up the monthly Resource and Tax Adjustment on members' bills (page 7). Great River Energy's board also approved the 2020 budget and a 10-year budget projection plan showing flat or minimal increases for the next decade.

Additionally, Great River Energy is continuing to give cash back to its member cooperatives in the form of capital credits. Dakota Electric received \$1.2 million in 2019 and will receive nearly \$500,000 in 2020. This credit is included in the capital credit payout to Dakota Electric members. A credit of \$3.5 million is expected to be returned to members in 2020.

Environmental Stewardship

Great River Energy is committed to more renewable energy and lowering emissions. Over the last five years, Great River Energy eliminated three power plants from its generation portfolio, increasing its amount of renewable energy and reducing its carbon emissions significantly. More wind energy is also being added to its diverse energy mix over the next few years.

Today, Great River Energy has over 30% renewables in its mix of energy sources and is working toward 50% by 2030. The organization is committed to Minnesota's legislative goal of 80% carbon-free by 2050.

Dakota Electric is proud of the work Great River Energy is accomplishing and pleased that two of its board directors represent the Dakota Electric's membership on Great River Energy's board.



2020 ENERGY WISE® REBATES

For your home

More info and
rebate forms at
dakotaelectric.com

Heating & Cooling

Heat Pump Systems	Tuneup	\$25
	Ductless air-source heat pump	\$300-\$500
	Air-source heat pump SEER 14.5-16+	\$480 to \$630
	Ground-source heat pump	\$400 / ton
Central Air Conditioner	Tuneup	\$25
	Central air conditioner SEER 15-16+	\$280 to \$330
Cycled Air Conditioning®	Summer bill credit for participating central air conditioners	\$39
Electric Thermal Storage Heating System	Installed on Energy Wise® storage program	\$50 / kw
ECM Furnace Motor	Purchase new furnace with ECM motor or add it to existing furnace	\$50

Appliances

Dehumidifier	Must be ENERGY STAR® rated	\$25
Refrigerator	Must be ENERGY STAR rated. Requires recycling of the replaced unit	\$75
Freezer	Must be ENERGY STAR rated. Requires recycling of the replaced unit	\$75
Working Refrigerator/Freezer Harvest (recycling only)	Does not require purchase of a new ENERGY STAR appliance; must be in working order.	\$75
ENERGY STAR Electric Dryer	Must be ENERGY STAR rated	\$25

Water Heaters

Heat Pump Water Heater	Must be ENERGY STAR rated	\$500
Electric Thermal Storage (ETS) Water Heating	New construction installation: high-efficient, large capacity electric water heater controlled on Energy Wise off-peak program.	\$400
	Replacement of non-controlled electric water heater with high-efficient, large capacity electric water heater controlled on Energy Wise off-peak program.	\$400
Interruptible Electric Water Heating	Installed on Energy Wise interruptible program	\$100

Lighting

LED Bulbs	ENERGY STAR rated (encouraged)	Up to \$2 / bulb
LED Yard Light (member-owned)	LED light fixture	\$30

Misc.

Pool Pump Variable Speed Motor	Must be ENERGY STAR rated	\$200
Heat Pump Pool Heater	Coefficient of Performance (COP) of 5.0	\$400
Electric Vehicle Charger Installation	Level 1 and 2 chargers. Must meet installation requirements.	Up to \$500
Solar Installation	Monthly payment based on kilowatt-hour (kWh) production as recorded by Dakota Electric's production meter.	\$0.50/watt of installed solar, not to exceed \$4,000

To qualify for any of these programs, you must live in Dakota Electric's® service territory and meet the specific requirements set for each rebate offer. Funds are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis and are subject to change without notice.



Cut it out and hang it up somewhere!

FAQS

2020 Energy Wise® Rebates



What paperwork do I need to submit to get my rebate?

You must complete the rebate form and include a copy of the dated receipt with the model numbers, SKUs and/or work performed.

Check the rebate form for additional requirements.

1

Can I send in a copy of my receipt, rather than the original?

Yes, you can send in a copy of your receipt or a printed invoice.

2

How long will it take for me to get my rebate?

It can take approximately 8-12 weeks to get your rebate. During busy times of the year, it can take a little longer.

3

Will my rebate be issued as a credit on my electric bill or as a check?

Rebates under \$400 will be issued as a credit on your electric bill. Rebates over \$400 are typically issued as a check in the mail.

4

Why didn't I get the full \$2 per bulb LED rebate?

If you spend less than \$2 per bulb, you will not get the full rebate. Instead, you will get your purchase price (excluding tax or discounts) rounded up to the nearest 50 cents.

5

If I buy a multi-pack of LED bulbs, will each bulb qualify for the rebate?

Yes; however, you will only get the maximum \$2 per bulb rebate if you spent \$2 per bulb for each of those bulbs in the multi-pack. Example: If you buy a 4-pack of bulbs for \$6, you will be rebated \$6. If you buy a 4-pack of bulbs for \$10, you will be rebated \$8.

6

Can I use any HVAC contractor to install my new air conditioner, heat pump or furnace?

In order to qualify for the rebate, you must use a contractor listed on the Qualified Contractor List, which is posted on our website, or you can call our office to confirm they are on the list.

7

Do all furnaces, air conditioners or air-source heat pumps qualify for a Dakota Electric rebate?

No, to qualify they must meet the standards below:

Furnace Motor:

Electronically Commutated Motor/variable stage, multi-speed or ECM.

Central Air Conditioner
Must be 15.0-16.0+ SEER rated

Air-Source Heat Pump:
Must be 14.5-16.0 SEER rated

8



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR ENERGY WISE PROGRAMS & REBATES AND DOWNLOAD REBATE FORMS, VISIT:
DAKOTAELECTRIC.COM/PROGRAMS-REBATES/

Questions? Call 651-463-6243 or email energyexperts@dakotaelectric.com for more information.

ENERGY WISE®

Load Management Programs

SAVE EVEN MORE! Receive electricity at nearly half the regular rate by participating in one or more of the following load management programs. Learn more at www.dakotaelectric.com. To enroll, contact the Energy Experts® at 651-463-6243 or energyexperts@dakotaelectric.com.

Storage Programs

Available for electric water heaters, electric thermal storage heaters and slab storage floor heating systems.

- The storage unit is charged at night, when energy costs are lower, storing all of the energy needed for the next day's use.
- The storage heater releases the heat throughout the day.
- Least expensive electric heating plan available.



Interruptible Programs

Available for electric water heaters, electric heaters, heat pumps, swimming pools and hot tubs.

- Dakota Electric interrupts power to your equipment only during periods of high electricity demand, when wholesale energy costs are exceptionally high, usually on the hottest and coldest days of the year.



Cycled Air Conditioning®

Available only for central air conditioners.

- Receive a \$39 summer bill credit or a reduced price on the electricity your central air conditioner uses. Only available for central air conditioners.
- On days when energy use is high and purchasing wholesale electricity is more expensive, Dakota Electric will cycle your air conditioner condenser on and off in 15-minute increments by sending a signal to your load control receiver.
- Your furnace fan will continue to run.
- Interruptions usually occur only on the hottest days of the year when air conditioners must work harder to keep people comfortable.



ChargeWise Electric Vehicle Charging

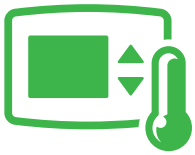
- **STORAGE:** Dakota Electric's storage rate offers members the lowest-cost off-peak electricity for charging an electric vehicle (EV), but the hours available are the most restrictive (11 p.m. – 7 a.m.).
- **TIME-OF-USE:** A charger installed on Dakota Electric's time-of-use rate will always receive electricity, so you can charge your vehicle whenever needed; a special meter is installed that allows the rate to fluctuate based on the time of day you charge your EV.



Energy Efficiency

TIPS FOR RENTERS

Although your landlord or management company is ultimately responsible for your building's energy efficiency, you can reduce energy use in your apartment with the energy tips below:



Set back your thermostat 7-10 degrees at night or when you are away from home.



Install low-flow shower heads and faucet aerators.



Purchase energy efficient products and use any efficiency related settings.



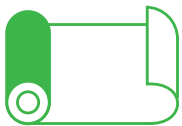
Replace your most used light bulbs with LEDs*.



Turn lights off when not in use.



Turn off the heat-dry setting on your dishwasher.



Apply plastic window kits to your windows to combat air leaks.



During the summer, close drapes during the day to keep the sun's heat out.



During the winter, open drapes during the day to utilize the sun's heat and close them at night to keep the cold out.

**Take advantage of our \$2 per bulb rebate!*



CHECK OUT THE PROGRAMS AND REBATES WE OFFER BY VISITING:
DAKOTAELECTRIC.COM/PROGRAMS-REBATES/

Dakota Electric Association is partnering with Minnesota Energy Resources to bring joint electric and gas savings to multifamily buildings in our shared service territory.

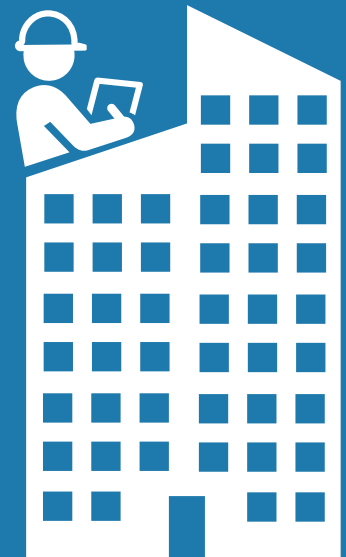
The Multifamily Direct Install program, operated by the Center for Energy and Environment (CEE), will go unit-by-unit in participating apartment/condo buildings to install energy-saving measures such as LED bulbs, efficient shower heads and faucet aerators.

Program Benefits

- A customized energy report with recommendations.
- Follow up assistance with high-value upgrades, including connecting you with qualified contractors and quality assurance inspections.
- Rebate incentives for energy efficiency measures.

For eligibility contact the Energy Experts® at 651-463-6243 or email energyexperts@dakotaelectric.com.

This program does not serve homeless shelters, prisons and jails, hospitals, nursing homes, rehabilitation centers and congregate care facilities, hotels and motels.



New Meter Update

Advanced Meter Recovery fee

Dakota Electric is making investments to improve our electric grid. We are replacing old meters with advanced meters, similar to what other cooperatives and utilities around the country have already done.

The advanced meter recovery fee is a separate line item on your monthly bill to recover costs associated with installing advanced or “smart” meters and communication equipment. This fee is applied to each meter at a premise and will be adjusted annually depending on ongoing project costs. This fee will eventually be eliminated once these costs are covered in base rates.

Benefits of new meters:

- Replacement of aging infrastructure
- Increased system efficiencies
- Improved outage notification & restoration
- More energy information for members



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ADVANCED METER RECOVERY FEE, EMAIL METERS@DAKOTAELECTRIC.COM OR CHECK OUT OUR FAQ: DAKOTAELECTRIC.COM/METERS/

Rate case update

Dakota Electric submitted a general rate case petition to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) on Sept. 19, 2019, requesting an overall annual revenue increase of about \$8.7 million or 4.3%.

The rate case continues to move through the regulatory review process, with state agencies submitting written comments. Two meetings were held on January 13 to receive public comments.



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE RATE CASE, EMAIL RATES@DAKOTAELECTRIC.COM OR VISIT: DAKOTAELECTRIC.COM/MEMBER-SERVICES/BILLING-PAYMENT/RATE-CASE/

2020 Resource & Tax Adjustment

The Resource and Tax Adjustment (RTA) charge will increase on most members' bills in 2020.

How much is the increase?

For residential members, the 2020 RTA charge will be \$0.0036 per kilowatt-hour, which is \$0.0011 higher than December 2019. This will increase the average residential member's bill by less than 80 cents per month. Commercial accounts should contact an account representative to discuss the RTA charge for their rate class.

What is the RTA?

Dakota Electric uses the RTA to adjust prices according to changes in wholesale power cost, property and real estate taxes and conservation spending. The charge is a direct pass-through of costs and is reviewed by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE RTA, VISIT: DAKOTAELECTRIC.COM/MEMBER-SERVICES/BILLING-PAYMENT/ELECTRIC-RATES-RIGHTS/

Notice to cogenerators

In compliance with Minnesota Rules Relating to Cogeneration and Small Power Production, Chapter 7835, Dakota Electric Association is required to interconnect with and purchase electricity from cogenerators and small power producers that satisfy the conditions of a qualifying facility.

Dakota Electric will provide free information to all interested members regarding rates and interconnection requirements. An interconnection application is required and subject to approval from the cooperative before a qualifying facility interconnects and operates in parallel with the cooperative's distribution system.

Any disputes over interconnections, sales and purchases are subject to resolution by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CONNECTING YOUR OWN RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEM, VISIT: DAKOTAELECTRIC.COM/RENEWABLE-ENERGY/CONNECT-YOUR-OWN-SYSTEM/



4300 220th Street West
Farmington, MN 55024

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Board Meeting**
Feb. 27 8:30 a.m.
- **Youth Tour Application
Deadline**
Feb. 21

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
DAKOTA ELECTRIC
ASSOCIATION

CONNECT WITH US!



Dakotaelectric.com/event-calendar

DAKOTAELECTRIC.COM

14th Annual CROPS DAY

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4
9 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
Dakota Electric Association

Full agenda and registration details at
www.dakotaelectric.com/event-calendar.

Sponsored by Dakota Electric Association, the Southeast Irrigators Association and the University of Minnesota Extension, Dakota County.

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CIRCUITS

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