

AUGUST 2021

# CIRCUITS

FOR DAKOTA ELECTRIC MEMBERS

## ENERGY TRANSFORMATION



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for Coal Creek Station  
plans carbon capture  
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## 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 Temporarily Closed

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

Bill Middlecamp | *Treasurer*  
Jim Sheldon  
Clay Van De Bogart | *GRE Director*

### DISTRICT 3

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

### DISTRICT 4

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



## Power supply transformation continues

### New ownership group for Coal Creek Station plans carbon capture and renewables

#### Great River Energy, Dakota Electric's wholesale power provider, reached an agreement to sell the Coal Creek Station power plant to Rainbow Energy Center, LLC.

The sale of Coal Creek Station averts the plant's closure, which was scheduled for the second half of 2022 unless a buyer was found. Rainbow Energy Center will continue to operate the 1,151-megawatt (MW) power plant using current plant employees they hire. Rainbow Energy Center also plans to develop carbon capture and storage at Coal Creek Station.

"We are excited for what the future holds for our North Dakota employees and the communities surrounding Coal Creek Station," said Great River Energy President and Chief Executive Officer David Saggau.

Nexus Line, LLC has reached an agreement to purchase from Great River Energy the high voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission system that extends between central North Dakota and Minnesota. Great River Energy will operate and maintain the HVDC system under a 10-year contract.

"Great River Energy's power supply changes deliver what our members want today and set us up for success for a very long time," said Dakota Electric President and Chief Executive Officer Greg Miller.

Rainbow Energy Center and Nexus Line are affiliates of Rainbow Energy Marketing Corp. of Bismarck, North Dakota.

"The successful implementation of carbon capture and storage is central to our plans at Coal Creek Station,"

said Rainbow Energy Marketing Corp. President Stacy L. Tschider. "As a privately held company, we are uniquely positioned to continue the successful legacy that Great River Energy and its employees have established in North Dakota."

Rainbow Energy Center plans to add incremental generation from renewables to fully utilize the capacity of the HVDC transmission system.

Following the sale of Coal Creek Station, Great River Energy will have a contract with Rainbow Energy Center. Great River Energy will purchase 1,050 megawatts of power from Rainbow Energy Center for approximately two years, followed by 300 megawatts for approximately eight years.

The power purchase agreement provides a cost-effective and appropriately sized resource to serve Great River Energy's member-owners that will serve as a reliable steppingstone as Great River Energy transitions its power supply. Great River Energy estimates the transactions will save member-owners \$130 million compared with shutting down the plant.

"We are building a power supply portfolio that will serve our member-owner cooperatives with clean, affordable and reliable energy for decades," said Saggau. The cooperative will add 900 MW of wind energy by 2023 and remains on track to meet Minnesota's 80% carbon dioxide reduction goal ahead of schedule.

The sale of Coal Creek Station and the HVDC system is expected to close later this year, after required approvals are obtained.



**GREAT  
RIVER  
ENERGY**

## POWER SUPPLY IN TRANSITION

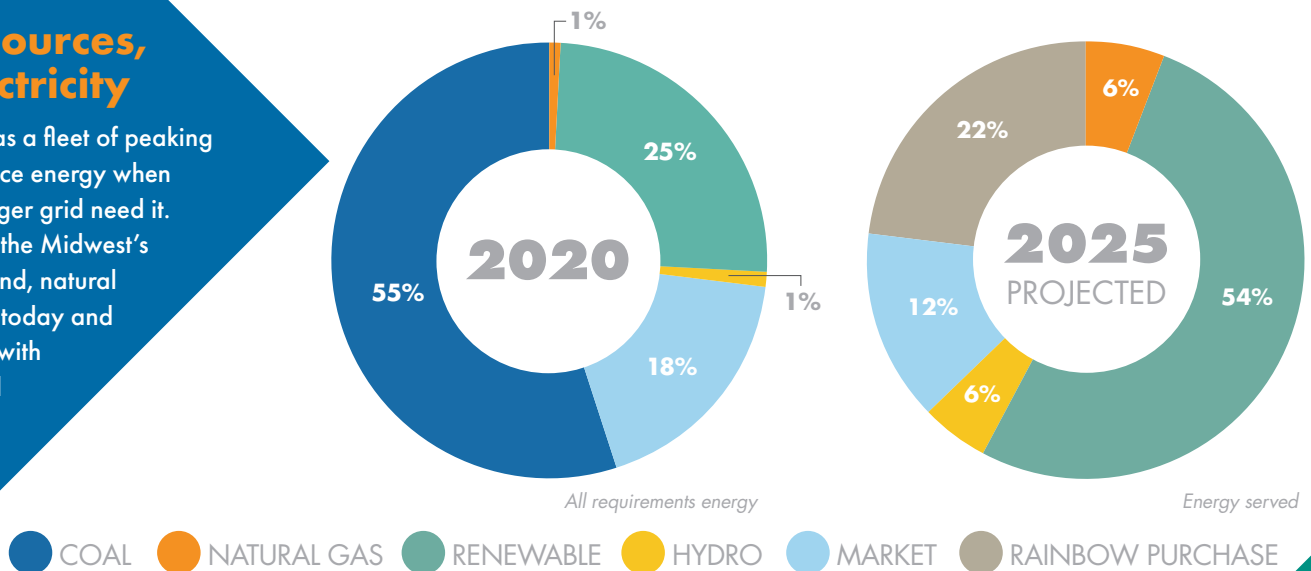
Great River Energy has surpassed state environmental goals years ahead of schedule, and has plans to achieve future emissions targets early. We have done this while maintaining our strong commitment to provide our member-owners with affordable, reliable and resilient power.

### Flexible resources, reliable electricity

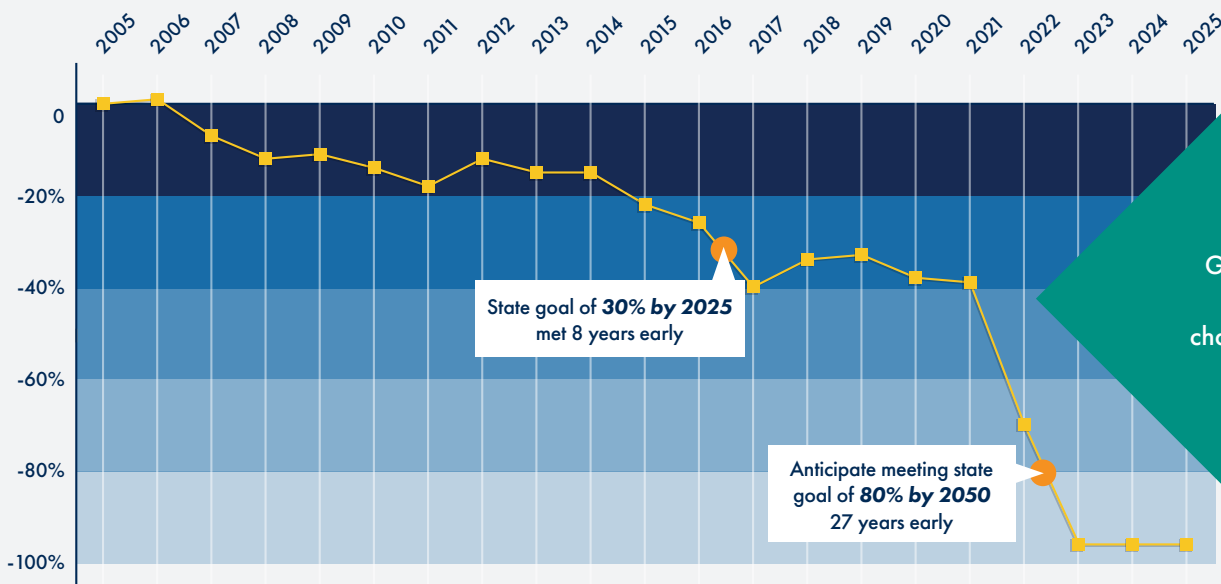
Great River Energy has a fleet of peaking plants ready to produce energy when its members or the larger grid need it. When combined with the Midwest's high availability of wind, natural gas provides stability today and flexibility for a future with new technologies and opportunities.

## ENERGY MIX PROGRESSION

Over the past several years, Great River Energy has begun to transition from an energy mix heavily reliant on coal to one that will be over half renewable energy sources by 2025.



## DIRECT CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS REDUCTION



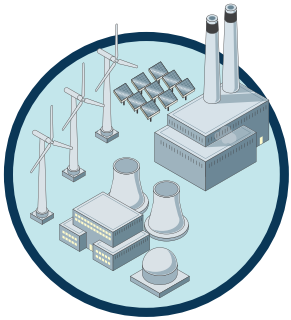
### Economic Benefits

Great River Energy projects upcoming power supply changes will produce billions of dollars of benefits to cooperative members.

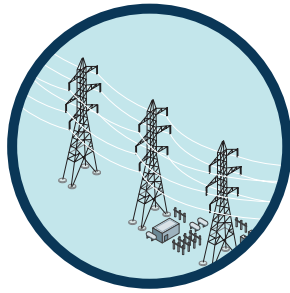
Source: Great River Energy 2021



# HOW ELECTRICITY WORKS



1. Generating sites produce electricity.



2. Transmission lines carry large amounts of electricity from a generating site to a substation.

## Generation (Great River Energy)

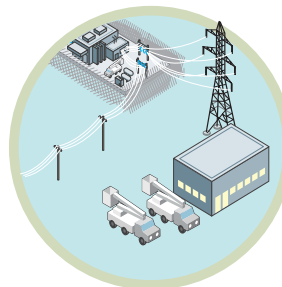
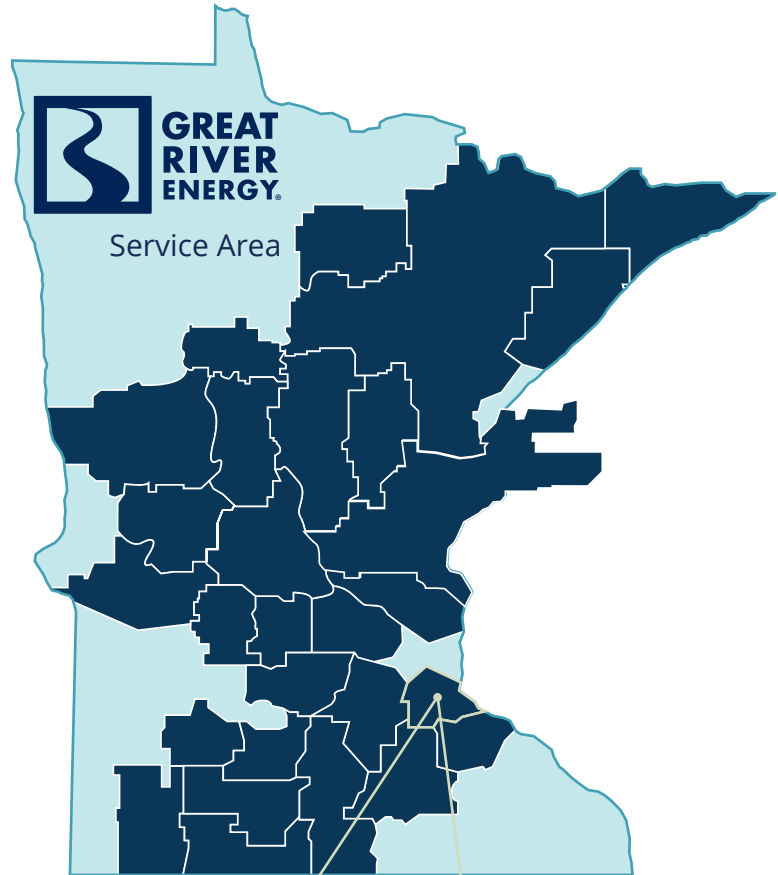
Electricity is produced with diverse energy sources and technologies at generation facilities. These facilities require the energy from fuels like coal, natural gas, hydroelectric energy and renewable energy such as solar and wind to produce electricity. Generation facilities are the first step in providing electricity to you.

## Transmission (Great River Energy)

Transmission is the “interstate highway” of electricity delivery. Transmission lines move electricity from large generating facilities over long distances to local service areas, such as your town or neighborhood. Transmission lines typically consist of large steel or wood structures and wires.

## Distribution (Dakota Electric)

The transition from transmission to distribution happens in a substation. High voltage power from the transmission system is converted into voltage that distribution lines can deliver to homes and businesses. Distribution provides the power that turns on and runs the appliances we use every day to keep our food fresh, our clothes clean and our homes either cool or warm.



3. At a substation, electricity is converted from transmission power to distribution power.

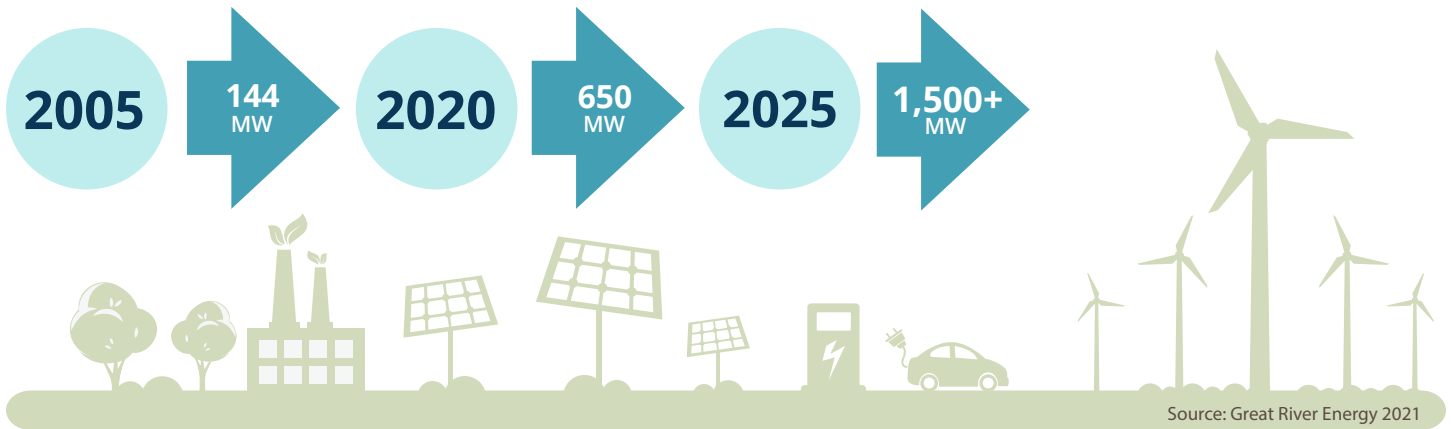


4. Distribution lines carry electricity to homes and businesses.

# CLEAN & CONVENIENT ELECTRICITY

## Growing Renewable Portfolio

Great River Energy's Renewable Development



As Great River Energy transforms its power supply portfolio to include more renewable resources, the electricity generated will get cleaner and cleaner. Additionally, participating in energy conservation and load management (off-peak) programs helps delay the need for further electricity generation by Great River Energy — saving Dakota Electric and its members money.

In 2020, Dakota Electric members helped save roughly 25,000,000 kilowatt hours of electricity by participating in conservation programs. Similarly, members who participate in Dakota Electric off-peak programs helped save over \$17 million in wholesale power costs. These savings are a direct result from both new and ongoing member participation in our programs. Thank you for taking part, your participation is a win-win for everyone!

## Ways to participate

Receive electricity at nearly half the regular rate by participating in one or more of the following Energy Wise® off-peak programs.\* Available for qualifying equipment:

- Cycled Air Conditioning®
- Electric Heat
- Electric Vehicles
- Electric Water Heaters
- Heat Pumps
- Hot Tubs and Swimming Pools

With rebates\* on everything from LED bulbs to ground-source heat pumps, it's easy and cost effective to make your home more energy efficient. Available for qualifying equipment:

- Appliances and Lighting
- Electric Vehicle Chargers
- Heating and Cooling
- Lawn Equipment
- Solar Installations
- Swimming Pools (Pumps/ASHP Heaters)



TO LEARN MORE, CONTACT THE ENERGY EXPERTS® AT 651-463-6243, EMAIL [ENERGYEXPERTS@DAKOTAELECTRIC.COM](mailto:ENERGYEXPERTS@DAKOTAELECTRIC.COM) OR VISIT: [WWW.DAKOTAELECTRIC.COM](http://WWW.DAKOTAELECTRIC.COM) > MEMBER SERVICES > PROGRAMS & REBATES > FOR YOUR HOME.

\*Off-peak programs and rebates are subject to change or cancellation without notice.



# HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

## Estimating electricity use and cost

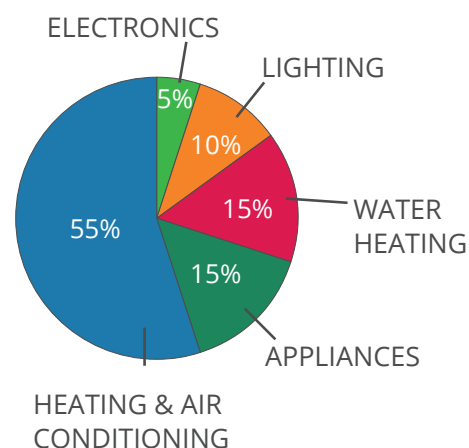
**Step 1:** Your electric bill is determined by the number of kilowatt-hours (kWh) used during a billing period. Your average kWh cost equals the dollar amount of the energy portions of your electric bill, divided by kWh used.  **$\$96 \div 750 \text{ kWh} = 12.8\text{¢ per kWh}$** .

**Step 2:** Wattage determines electrical use per hour and can be found on the serial plate of the appliance. Electric load may also be expressed in volts and amps, rather than watts. If so, multiply volts times amperes to determine the wattage.  **$120 \text{ volts} \times 12.1 \text{ amps} = 1,452 \text{ watts}$** .

**Step 3:** Use the formula shown in the following example to estimate use and cost. A light uses 100 watts and is left on for 15 hours. How many kWh are used and what does it cost you?  **$\text{kWh used} = (100 \text{ watts} \times 15 \text{ hours}) \div 1,000 \text{ watts} = 1.5 \text{ kWh}$** .  **$\text{Your cost} = 1.5 \text{ kWh} \times 12.8\text{¢} = 19.2\text{¢}$** .

### AVERAGE HOME ENERGY USE

Minnesota Department of Commerce  
2021 Home Energy Guide



Figures are based on the average use of an appliance in good working condition.

Actual use will vary based on the number of hours used and the age and condition of equipment.



CONTACT THE **ENERGY EXPERTS®** AT 651-463-6243 FOR INFORMATION ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS AND REBATES OR VISIT: [WWW.DAKOTAELECTRIC.COM](http://WWW.DAKOTAELECTRIC.COM) > **MEMBER SERVICES > PROGRAMS & REBATES**

ELECTRIC APPLIANCE	TYPICAL ENERGY USAGE	AVG. MONTHLY COST AT 12.8¢/KWH
Refrigerator - ENERGY STAR	34 kWh/mo	\$4.35
Dishwasher	30 kWh/mo	\$3.84
Oven	45 kWh/mo	\$5.76
Chest Freezer (16.5 cubic feet) ENERGY STAR	29 kWh/mo	\$3.71
Coffee Maker	10 kWh/mo	\$1.28
Clothes Washer	8 kWh/mo	\$1.02
Clothes Dryer	83 kWh/mo	\$10.62
Furnace Fan (Automatic)	100-200 kWh/mo	\$12.80 - \$25.60
Furnace Fan (Constant)	250-500 kWh/mo	\$32 - \$64
*Central A/C (3000 watts)	500 kWh/mo	\$64
1,500 Watt Portable Heater	280-1080 kWh/mo	\$35.84 - \$138.24
Water Heater	400 kWh/mo	\$51.20
Dehumidifier	81-690 kWh/mo	\$10.37 - \$88.32
**Plug-In Space Heater (1500 Watts)	360 kWh/mo	\$46.08
Hot Tub	200-500 kWh/mo	\$25.60 - \$64
Video Game System	3.4 kWh/mo	\$0.44
Cell Phone	1-3 kWh/mo	\$.13 - \$0.38
Computer	20 kWh/mo	\$2.56

\*Calculations based on average cooling hours (500) per cooling season.

\*\* Run time of eight hours per day.

# Energy Assistance Resources Available

Dakota Electric has resumed collection activity, including disconnections and late fees, based on account status. Members with past-due accounts were mailed disconnection notices on June 1, and are subject to disconnection as soon as August 2.

We want to help our members find energy assistance resources that can help bring their account current. **Minnesota's Energy Assistance Program (EAP) expanded its eligibility requirements and significantly increased the amount of funding available** to help members pay costs associated with heat and electricity. Funding is available on a first-come, first-served basis, so it is crucial to contact an energy assistance agency as soon as possible.

If you or someone you know needs more time to pay the amount owed, we will work with you to establish a payment plan for your account. You can

contact us Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at 651-463-6212 or 1-800-874-3409, or email [customerservice@dakotaelectric.com](mailto:customerservice@dakotaelectric.com).

As utility scams become increasingly more sophisticated, it may be hard for members to differentiate between scams and legitimate messages. If you're ever unsure of who contacted you, hang up immediately and call Dakota Electric to verify your account status. **DO NOT use the phone number given to you.**

**Apply for the Energy Assistance Program today!**

**mn** COMMERCE DEPARTMENT

## How to apply for energy assistance

To request an application or find your local service provider:

- Call 800-657-3710 and press one.
- Visit [mn.gov/commerce/consumers/consumer-assistance/energy-assistance/eap-provider.jsp](https://mn.gov/commerce/consumers/consumer-assistance/energy-assistance/eap-provider.jsp).
- Contact one of the local services providers listed to the right.

If you need help to complete the application, please call: 1-800-657-3710

Yog tias koj xav tau kev pab los mus ua daim ntawv thov, thov hu rau: 1-800-657-3710

Haddii aad u baahan tahay caawimaad si aad u buuxiso arjigaga, fadlan wac: 1-800-657-3710

Si necesita ayuda para completar la solicitud, llame al 1-800-657-3710

Nếu quý vị cần giúp đỡ để hoàn thành đơn xin, vui lòng gọi: 1-800-657-3710

## Local service providers

### Scott-Carver-Dakota CAP Agency

651-322-3500 | 2496 145th St. W., Rosemount, MN 55068

### 360 Communities

952-985-5300 | 501 East Highway 13, Suite 112, Burnsville, MN 55337

### Dakota County Emergency Assistance

651-554-5611 | 1 Mendota Road W., Suite 100, West St. Paul, MN 55118

### Goodhue County Health & Human Services

651-385-3200 | 426 West Ave., Red Wing, MN 55066

### Three Rivers Community Action, Inc.

507-316-0610 | 1414 North Star Dr., Zumbrota, MN 55992

### Rice County Social Services

507-332-6115 | 320 3rd St. NW., Faribault, MN 55021

### Scott County Human Services

952-445-7751 | 200 4th Ave. W., Shakopee, MN 55379



Your Touchstone Energy®  
Cooperative

4300 220th Street West  
Farmington, MN 55024

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Board Meeting**  
Aug. 26, 8:30 a.m.
- **Save The Date:**  
**Energy Trends Expo**  
Sept. 30, 5-7 p.m.  
Eagan Community Center

[dakotaelectric.com/event-calendar](http://dakotaelectric.com/event-calendar)

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[DAKOTAELECTRIC.COM](http://DAKOTAELECTRIC.COM)

## An important message from the Minnesota Department of Commerce

You or someone you know – a family, friend or neighbor –  
may qualify for **Minnesota's Energy Assistance Program**.

Help for renters and homeowners:

- Up to \$1,600 to pay your energy bills
- Up to an additional \$1,200 for past-due energy bills
- You may also qualify for the Weatherization Assistance Program for free home improvements to permanently reduce your energy bills
- Free energy efficiency home upgrades



**More households than ever before are eligible - apply today!**

To learn more about Minnesota's Energy Assistance Program,  
connect with your local service provider:

Call 1-800-657-3710  
[mn.gov/commerce/eap.jsp](http://mn.gov/commerce/eap.jsp)  
or search "Minnesota Energy Assistance" in your  
internet browser

**MORE  
INFORMATION  
ON PAGE 7!**

inside August 2021  
**CIRCUITS**

For Dakota Electric Members



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