

June 2026

# Circuits

For Dakota Electric members



## Careers

### BE A PART OF OUR ENERGY

www.dakotaelectric.com/careers  
HRResources@dakotaelectric.com  
651-463-6301

## Contact Us

### Member Service & Drive-Up Window

7 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Monday – Friday  
651-463-6212 or 1-800-874-3409  
Minnesota Relay Service 711  
customerservice@dakotaelectric.com

### 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  
www.gopherstateonecall.org

### New Construction & Rebuild Existing Services

651-463-6247

*Dakota Electric is an equal opportunity/  
affirmative action employer.*

*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.*

## Board of Directors

### DISTRICT 1

John (Jack) DeYoe  
David Jones | MREA Director  
Gerald F. Pittman | Vice Chair

### DISTRICT 2

Bill Middlecamp | GRE Director  
Clay Van De Bogart  
Terry Donnelly | Secretary

### DISTRICT 3

Kenneth H. Danner  
Cyndee Fields | Treasurer  
Margaret D. Schreiner | GRE Director

### DISTRICT 4

Paul Bakken | Chair  
Stacy Miller Mooradian  
Jenny Hoeft

# Dakota Electric hosts 88<sup>th</sup> annual meeting

Dakota Electric held its 88th Annual Meeting on April 23 at its headquarters in Farmington. Members and guests gathered to hear updates from the cooperative's leadership and Board of Directors on key topics including electric rates, system planning, reliability, future growth, and member service.

Board Chair Paul Bakken, Treasurer Cyndee Fields, and CEO Ryan Hentges shared updates on Dakota Electric's financial health, infrastructure investments, and long-term planning efforts to help meet growing energy demands while maintaining reliable and affordable service.

Leadership highlighted the cooperative's continued investment in reliability and system improvements, including substation upgrades, underground cable replacement projects, vegetation management efforts and ongoing infrastructure planning. Bakken also shared updates on construction progress for Dakota Electric's new Energy Center in Lakeville, which will provide additional space for operations, equipment, and staff to support the cooperative's growing membership.

During his remarks, Hentges addressed the increasing cost pressures facing the utility industry, including inflation and rising material costs, as well as Dakota Electric's recent rate case approved by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. He emphasized the cooperative's continued focus on financial responsibility, cost containment, and maintaining reliable service for members despite industry-wide challenges.

Hentges also discussed future load

growth and increasing interest in large-scale data centers within Dakota Electric's service area. He emphasized that Dakota Electric is proactively planning for future growth while protecting reliability and safeguarding existing members from infrastructure costs related to serving new large loads. For more information, visit [www.dakotaelectric.com/large-loads/](http://www.dakotaelectric.com/large-loads/).

Additional updates included the launch of MyDEA, Dakota Electric's new member portal and billing system, which gives members expanded account management tools, outage reporting capabilities, and additional communication options.

The meeting also highlighted Dakota Electric's continued commitment to safety, member programs, and community involvement. Leadership shared updates on energy-efficiency and load management programs, electric vehicle participation, scholarships, charitable giving efforts, and the cooperative's ongoing focus on employee and public safety.

Members were reminded that Dakota Electric's annual Member Appreciation Event will take place Tuesday, July 21, at the Minnesota Zoo and is free for members and their immediate families.

For those unable to attend, you can view the reports on our YouTube channel or visit [www.dakotaelectric.com/about-us/annual-meeting-election](http://www.dakotaelectric.com/about-us/annual-meeting-election).



# Being **prepared** for power **outages**

Summer storms, often bringing high winds and lightning, are a leading cause of power outages. While outages can be inconvenient and sometimes dangerous, a little preparation can go a long way.

## Make sure your contact information is up to date

Dakota Electric uses the phone number on your account to help identify your location during an outage. Keep your contact information current by calling 651-463-6212 or updating it through your account in MyDEA.

## Report your outage

If your power goes out, report it using one of these options:

- Call 651-463-6212
- Report online at [www.dakotaelectric.com](http://www.dakotaelectric.com)
- Use MyDEA to quickly report and monitor outages from your phone or computer

Submitting a report helps crews respond more quickly and accurately.

## Stay informed

Monitor local weather updates and follow Dakota Electric on social media for general outage information and restoration updates. During major storm events, call volumes may be higher than normal, so online tools can be especially helpful.

## How restoration works

On average, members experience infrequent outages, but restoration times can vary depending on the cause and severity of the damage. Crews work to restore service safely and efficiently, prioritizing repairs that bring the most members back online as quickly as possible.

## After the storm

Crews may need to clear trees and branches to restore power. In these situations, debris is typically left on-site. Members are responsible for cleanup following emergency repairs or routine vegetation maintenance.

## Stay safe

Always assume a downed power line is energized and dangerous. Stay away and call 911 immediately if you see one.

## Thank you for your patience

Power outages can be frustrating, and Dakota Electric crews work as quickly and safely as possible to restore service. Your patience is appreciated.



Members can now use **MyDEA** to update their contact information and report and monitor outages all in one place.

Visit [www.mydea.dakotaelectric.com](http://www.mydea.dakotaelectric.com) or scan the QR code.

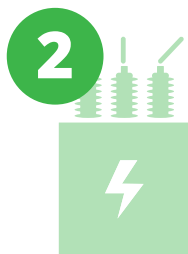


# Top four **unplanned outage causes** in 2025

Not all outages are caused by severe weather. Take a look at the most common reasons power interruptions occur across Dakota Electric's system.



**1**  
Trees /  
vegetation



**2**  
Equipment  
failures



**3**  
Contractor  
dig-ins



**4**  
Cable  
failures

# Summer **rates** & energy **savings**

*Dakota Electric's summer rates are designed to account for the higher cost of wholesale electricity during periods of increased energy use and demand, which are typically seen during the summer months. Summer rates go into effect every June, July, and August.*

## Air conditioning

Take control of your energy use with Dakota Electric's smart, money-saving options. Sign up for our **free** Cycled Air Conditioning® program and receive a \$39 summer bill credit — all while helping reduce demand during peak times.

You can also receive a \$25 rebate for having your AC tuned up by a licensed contractor of your choice. Plus, if you've made the switch to battery-powered yard tools, we offer rebates on those too!

Call our Energy Experts® at 651-463-6243 or visit [www.dakotaelectric.com/member-services/programs-rebates](http://www.dakotaelectric.com/member-services/programs-rebates) to learn more.

## Battery-powered yard tools

Dakota Electric has rebates ranging from \$25-\$50 for qualifying battery-powered yard tools. Today's battery-powered yard tools can handle most yard work, are reliable and easy to operate and maintain. Visit [www.dakotaelectric.com/member-services/programs-rebates](http://www.dakotaelectric.com/member-services/programs-rebates) for more information.



Members can now conveniently use **MyDEA** to submit rebate applications!

Visit [www.mydea.dakotaelectric.com](http://www.mydea.dakotaelectric.com) or scan the QR code.



# Summer **energy-saving** tips

*Costs associated with cooling your home can make up a large portion of your summer electric bills. Stay cool and save money with these energy efficiency tips!*



Close blinds and drapes during the day to keep the heat out.



Replace disposable air filters once a month or follow manufacturer's guidelines to maximize efficiency.



Turn off lights and ceiling fans when you leave a room. Fans cool people, not rooms.



Install a programmable thermostat to easily adjust the temperature when you are sleeping or away from home.



Schedule regular maintenance for your cooling equipment to maximize efficiency.



Seal cracks and openings to prevent warm air from leaking into your home.



Use solar lights to brighten up your outdoor space.



On hot days, avoid using the oven. Cook on the stove, microwave or grill outside.

# Board election **results**

Dakota Electric announced the 2026 Board of Directors election results at its annual meeting. One incumbent from each district was re-elected to a three-year term:

- **District 1:** John (Jack) DeYoe (3,058 votes or 48.5% of the total vote)
- **District 2:** Bill Middlecamp (3,624 votes or 57.3% of the total vote)
- **District 3:** Margaret D. Schreiner (5,596 votes or 100% of the total vote)
- **District 4:** Paul Bakken (5,626 votes or 100% of the total vote)

Survey & Ballot Systems, an independent third party, managed and certified the election process to ensure accuracy and integrity.

Dakota Electric thanks all the candidates and members who participated in this year's election. For complete election details, visit [www.dakotaelectric.com](http://www.dakotaelectric.com).



Members re-elected four incumbent directors this year. (L-R) John (Jack) DeYoe, Bill Middlecamp, Paul Bakken, and Margaret D. Schreiner.

# Rate case update

On June 1, 2026, Dakota Electric implemented new rates and terms of service. These changes were approved by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission on January 16, 2026. These new rates will replace the interim rate charge that had been on bills since March 2025. The final approved rates will replace, not add to, the current interim rates, so members should not expect a significant change to their monthly bill. The implementation of new rates also means that the Advanced Meter Recovery Fee line item related to our AGI Project is discontinued.

# Summer pole **inspections**

Utili-Tech, a pole inspection contractor hired by Dakota Electric, is conducting annual pole inspections in Burnsville and Apple Valley from May 1 through June 30. The inspector will attempt to contact each member before performing inspections and might need to walk through backyards and private properties. The use of an ATV may be required to access certain pole locations.

Please contact Dakota Electric at 651-463-6265 if you have questions or concerns about pole inspections.

# Disconnection **process updates**

Dakota Electric recently received provisional approval from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission to update its service disconnection process for unpaid bills.

A final order is pending, but the changes include allowing remote disconnections because of employee safety concerns and temporarily reconnecting service during periods of extreme heat or poor air quality (Air Quality Index greater than 150).

Key information for members:

- There will be no changes to Dakota Electric's disconnection process this summer.
- Remote disconnections will not begin until May 1, 2027. Dakota Electric will work with stakeholders on reasonable member protections and will make a filing with the Minnesota PUC later this year.
- Beginning June 1, 2026, members disconnected for non-payment may qualify for temporary reconnection during extreme heat or poor air quality events.
- Members must provide consent to receive notifications, so it is important to keep contact information up to date.

Members having trouble paying their electric bill are encouraged to contact Dakota Electric to discuss payment arrangements and available energy assistance programs.



4300 220th Street West  
Farmington, MN 55024

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### Upcoming Events

- **Board Meeting**  
No meeting in June
- **Music in the Park**  
June 19, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.  
Bogarts Entertainment  
Center, Apple Valley
- **Twins Clinic**  
June 28, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Dodge Middle School,  
Farmington

Connect with us!



# SAVE THE DATE

## DAKOTA ELECTRIC'S **MEMBER APPRECIATION EVENT**

Tuesday, July 21 | 4-8 p.m.  
Minnesota Zoo

**Registration opens July 1.**  
Watch for registration information in  
the July edition of *Circuits*.  
We hope to see you there!



MINNESOTA ZOO®