



We are offering all North Star Electric members an exceptional summer opportunity that's fun for all ages. This year's power plant tour spans three days, which will make the trip more relaxing.

The tour is scheduled for Monday through Wednesday, June 28 – 30. The first day, we will have a relaxing trip with several stops along the way to stretch your legs. We will arrive at the beautiful Seven Seas Hotel and Waterpark in Mandan, N.D., at about 5:30 that evening.



On the second day, we will visit the Milton R. Young Station near Center, N.D., where most of our electricity is generated. This will include a tour of the open pit mines where machines strip the coal and reclaim the land so it can once again be used for agriculture. This is where we will see the huge electric dragline Liberty, with

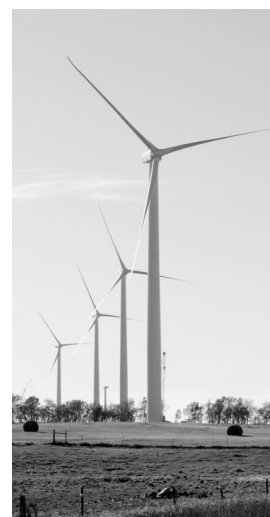
its 355-foot boom and 77-cubic-yard bucket, which is used to remove the overburden soil from the coal. Then, it's off to see Fort Mandan and the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center. We will end our day by staying at the beautiful Gladstone Inn & Suites in Jamestown, N.D.

On the third day, we will visit the Ashtabula Wind Energy Center by Lake Ashtabula, where some of our energy is generated. The wind towers are 260-feet tall with 120-foot blades.

Tour includes a visit to the new Ashtabula Wind Energy Center!

After that, we're off to Grand Forks to tour Minnkota's control center, diesel plant and print shop. We will be back in Baudette by Wednesday afternoon.

The cost to members is just \$100 per person or \$175 per couple, which covers your cost of the bus, hotels, tours and meals. Members who have not been on this trip in the past are encouraged to go.



Plan now to join us for our annual Power plant tour

For further details, contact Wayne Haukaas at 634-2202 or 1-888-634-2202.

June 28, 29 and 30

Please print names of participants the way you would like them to appear on your name tags. Your deposit will be refunded if the tour is cancelled or if you should find that you cannot make the trip. We will send further details prior to departure. Return with check for \$100 per person or \$175 per couple to:

North Star Electric Co-op
P.O. Box 719 • Baudette, MN 56623

Name _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone No. _____

Room Preference: ☐ Smoking ☐ Non-smoking

Have you enjoyed this trip in the past? No/Yes If yes, what year? _____

JANUARY 2010

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or 634-2603

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www.northstarelectric.coop

North Star Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Mission Statement

*To improve the lives of our
member-owners and community
by responsibly providing electric
energy and other beneficial services
while maintaining the very highest
standards of performance.*

Members' corner

We are adding a section called the members' corner. What we would like is for members to send in questions about your electric Cooperative, and we will answer them for you. Please give us your name and a phone number in case we need to clarify the question, and send them to North Star Electric, PO Box 719, Baudette, MN, 56623, Attn: Wayne.

Highlights from the BOARDROOM

These are the highlights from the board of directors meeting held December 2, 2009. The board acted upon usual, routine business and voted to change the March, April and May board meetings to the second Wednesday of the month, to restate the Section 125 plan for periodic compliance reasons, to acknowledge the retirement of 31-year employee Betty Jo Berg, to approve the updated policy 4.13 regarding line extensions and conversions and to approve the increase of the fixed charge to \$35 for seasonal accounts effective in conjunction with their annual billing in December with the intent to increase the monthly billed fixed charge to \$35 effective in March with the general rate increase.

Staff reports included the financial report, the AMR (automated meter reading) project, using the AMR system to identify off-peak loads not shedding during peak time, the Minnesota CIP (conservation improvement program), load control, Operation Round Up, the annual power plant tour, the city of Baudette annexation plans, the wholesale power contract, the board policy regarding mailing board minutes, the

reduction of staff in the Baudette office and a detailed review of the 2010 Operating Budget. Sales are expected to drop 7 percent, a 7.5 percent wholesale rate increase is expected in March in addition to the half-cent surcharge already added to the wholesale bill beginning in October. Expenses have been cut, plans are to freeze wages in 2010, and proceeds from the sale of the DirecTV business will end in mid-2011. A retail rate increase of 8.7 percent in March will be needed to cover the increased wholesale power costs and help cover remaining local fixed costs of delivery, normally offset with growing kilowatt-hour (kWh) sales.

Minnkota Delegate Arnesen reported on its board meeting.

Detailed minutes are available at the cooperative for member review. Regular board meetings are generally held the first Wednesday of every month. If you wish to speak with the board, or have an item that you would like to have placed on the agenda, please contact Manager Dan Hoskins at least one week in advance to be included on the agenda.

Current electrical inspectors

State law requires that every new electrical installation in any construction, remodeling, replacement or repair shall file a certificate for inspection with the State Board of Electricity and be inspected by a Minnesota electrical inspector.

• St. Louis and Koochiching counties:

Bob Orgon
10111 Roosevelt Rd. S.E.
Bemidji, MN 56601
Phone: (218) 556-3829
Fax: (218) 333-0451
7 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. (Mon. thru Fri.)

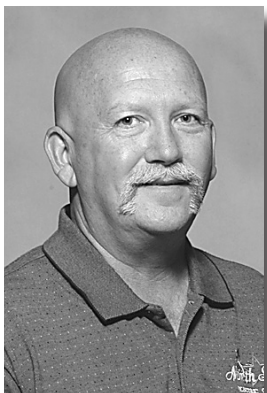
• Roseau and Lake of the Woods counties:

Scott Stenvik
16409 State Hwy 1 N.W.
Thief River Falls, MN 56701
Phone: (218) 689-5406
7 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. (Mon. thru Fri.)

Statement of Nondiscrimination

North Star Electric Cooperative, Incorporated is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The USDA prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's nondiscrimination compliance efforts is Ann Ellis, Finance Manager. Any individual, or specific class of individuals, who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination may obtain further information about the statutes and regulations listed above from and/or file a written complaint with this organization; or write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call toll free (866)632-9992 (voice) or (800)877-8339 (TDD) or (866)377-8642 (relay voice users). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the discrimination. Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible.



Dan Hoskins
General Manager

With the rising cost of electricity most of you are asking the same question: where is this going to end?

Save on your power bills

As mentioned previously in our monthly *Enlightener*, our rates will be changing in March 2010. They will be going up. Over the past years we have shared a number of articles with you concerning the political arena, both statewide and federal, and how it will be changing our lives due to the laws they pass affecting the product we sell or how it is produced.

A large percentage of you have responded to our requests to contact our political figures with your concerns, and it has made a difference. For that, we thank you and would like for your continued support in the current battles. So, log onto **www.OurEnergyMN.coop** or **www.OurEnergy.coop** for more information and add your voice. Contact your elected officials and ask them to consider the cost before they vote yes.

With the rising cost of electricity most of you are asking the same question: where is this going to end? Well, if I was that far advanced with knowledge, I would probably be sitting in D.C., somewhere trying to point some of those folks in the right direction. Unfortunately, I don't have an answer for you. And for the next few years, I don't see the end!

What I do see is a number of you looking to save on your power bills, and I don't blame you. These tough times call for conservation, but there are a couple of things that concern me. One of my concerns is the growing number of folks who "think" they are saving money by purchasing the "magical" space heaters for a mere \$400. They say they can save you up to 50 percent on your heating costs. All you have to do is turn down the thermostat to 50 degrees, shut off all the rooms that you are not using, and then carry your portable heater to whatever room you are sitting in. Really! These heaters are usually 1,500-watt heaters, and you can purchase a regular space heater for about 50 bucks and it will

heat the same amount. Plus, when you plug this unit into a wall socket, you will be using this on the regular electric rate rather than the low-cost North Star off-peak rate. This will also cost all of us more in the long run because these types of units hit our demand. When you hit our demand, this raises our demand, which in turn, raises our/your costs!

If you really are conscious about saving energy and cutting back on your electric bill, check over your home for needed insulation in the attic or walls, caulking, weatherstripping around doors or windows, and maybe temporary plastic over your windows. Check your furnace system out; has the filter been changed and are the open registers not blocked by rugs and furniture? There are also a number of small things you can do. Make sure you have CFL bulbs where possible, and better yet, LED bulbs. Then make a conscious effort to turn off the lights when not needed and unplug unused chargers, TVs, radios and electronic devices. These are small users of electricity when they are off, but if you have enough of them, they add up. If you have ideas or would like ideas on where to save and what to do, contact our member service

department and Wayne or Kevin would be glad to help you. Also, if you go to **www.energystar.gov/taxcredits** you can get information on possible tax credits for some of these improvements to your home, such as new windows, doors, water heaters and heating equipment.

One last thing before I call it a day. When it gets really cold and we suspect a billing peak, we will have the radio in your area make a "Beat the Peak" radio announcement. This will tell you that we may be in for some peak demand situations, and we ask that you not use your large appliances and refrain from washing and drying or using things that would need a lot of energy. If we can beat the peak, our peak demand at a lower level would save you and me money. So remember, listen to the radio and let's all, "BEAT THE PEAK!"

Again, we know these are very turbulent times in the electric industry and things are changing rapidly. On behalf of our directors and employees, we thank you for your patience, understanding, and most of all, for you being our member-owners and utilizing your/our product.

God Bless You and Our Troops,
Dan

Census 2010: Everyone Counts

In March, every household in Minnesota will receive a 2010 Census form. There are only 10 basic questions asked. Your answers are protected and completing the form is required by law. The 2010 Census tabulation will determine how more than \$400 billion in federal funds are distributed to the states each year and will help ensure that Minnesota gets its fair share of representation in the U.S.

House of Representatives.

Snowbirds please take note! Please answer the census questionnaire that is delivered to your Minnesota residence. By answering the questionnaire using your Minnesota address, you benefit your home state of Minnesota.

The post office will not forward census questionnaires, but you can request one from the Census Bureau at **www.mn2010census.org** or by calling 651-201-2473.



Frosty windows

Do frosty windows need replacement?

We've all seen it: condensation gathered on our windows, dripping onto the window frame and sill. If it is cold enough outside, it can quickly turn to a frosty, icy scene. It may be pretty, but it can cause serious damage to window components, walls and insulation. Time to replace those windows, right? Not necessarily.

Window condensation problems can have several causes, but the primary reason is fairly simple: there is more moisture than the air can hold at the cold surface of a window. Just like rain, fog or snow, when the air temperature gets low enough, the water has to condense somewhere – and your frosty window is the result. But is the window frozen because it is leaky and cold, or is there too much moisture in the air?

There are three basic things to do before spending money on new windows: control moisture production, tighten and insulate, and ventilate.

Control moisture production

The easiest (and most inexpensive) way to address frosty windows is by evaluating your indoor humidity levels. For about \$30 you can get a simple hygrometer that can tell you the humidity levels in your house. (130-05-005-07 Gary Hokanson) The proper indoor air humidity for winter is somewhere between 15 percent and 40 percent, depending on the outside air temperature – the warmer it is outside, the higher it can be. Anything over 45 percent indicates excess moisture in the house.

There are many origins for high inside humidity and they can add up to significant quantities in combination. Among the sources are:

- Human activities, including cooking, showering, washing and drying clothes, inside firewood storage, humidifier usage, numerous houseplants and simply breathing.
- Faulty appliances or equipment, such as unvented heaters or clothes dryers, blocked chimneys, insufficient combustion air for furnaces or water heaters, plumbing leaks, or inadequate or improperly installed kitchen or bathroom vent fans.
- Improperly adjusted systems, such as humidifiers set too high.
- Moisture infiltration, through ground water seepage, poor foundation drainage or leaks in roofs or walls.



There are three basic things to do before spending money on new windows: control moisture production, tighten and insulate, and ventilate.

Seal air leaks and insulate

Although a little more expensive than reducing moisture production, tightening up your home can reduce window condensation problems and can pay real dividends in lower energy bills.

If there is not enough attic insulation, or if there are air leaks around plumbing or electrical wires entering the attic (attic air leaks), heat can flow out through the top of the house, drawing cold air in at the lower levels, even through windows and doors that may be relatively airtight. Gaps around window panes, poor or missing weatherstripping or inadequate caulking can all lead to window and door units that permit cold outside air to leak air in or out, cooling them sufficiently to permit condensation to form. Air leaking through the top of the house may also be drawing moisture up from the basement.

After the attic is adequately insulated and attic air leaks are sealed, windows and doors can then be sealed with new caulking, weatherstripping or by applying shrink-wrap on the interior side or heavier plastic on the exterior. If windows need more repair, there are refurbishing options (like insulated sash replacements) that are somewhat less expensive than complete window replacement.

Provide proper ventilation

After reducing the sources of moisture, sealing air leaks and insulating, you may still have condensation or frost on your windows. Homes that have been well-insulated and tightened up have fewer places for air to move freely from the inside to the outside. This is good for controlling heat loss, but it also traps moisture inside the house, increases indoor air pollution concerns and contributes to those iced-up window panes.

Ventilating the living space may be the next project to tackle. Bathrooms and kitchens usually have vent fans to remove moisture and indoor pollutants, but unless you have a source for fresh air to balance what was exhausted, air can be sucked down chimneys, interfering with the safe operation of your furnace or water heater. Vent fans should not be run for more than 15 minutes or so; after that they are removing mostly heated air.

So, if you are experiencing wet or frosty windows, try reducing your indoor moisture levels, insulating and sealing your attic, sealing up the windows you already have, or installing ventilation systems. You may not need new windows to take care of your icy winter panes.

For more information, go to the Energy Info Center link at the Minnesota Department of Commerce Web site: www.energy.mn.gov or call 800-657-3710 or Twin Cities, 651-296-5175.



Question: Why are we having load control when we are paying a half-cent surcharge because there is an excess of electricity on the market?

Answer: *It's all about timing, plus the Minnesota legislative mandate requiring us to have 25 percent of our power come from new, renewable sources, such as wind.*

Timing

The wind blows the most in the middle of the night, not when our demand for electricity is high. It also blows more in the spring and fall, not when our demand for heating and cooling is high. If the wind is not blowing and there is not reasonably priced energy on the open market during our peak times, off-peak loads are controlled. For example, during the Dec. 15, 2009, billing peak, Minnkota was receiving only 18 megawatts (MW) of wind power per hour. If the wind turbines would have been at full production, we would have been receiving 395 MW per hour. Eighteen MW divided by 395 MW shows that wind only contributed 5 percent of its full potential during peak time, when we needed it most. So you can see wind energy is nice when it is there, but it is not something you can count on. That is why we still need our coal-fired baseload power plants, which are online 92 to 97 percent of the time. In addition, during extreme weather when other utilities are also looking to buy excess power, the market price can be very expensive. So when market prices are high and we are not receiving enough wind energy to serve our own loads, Minnkota controls off-peak electric heat loads.

Legislative mandate and excess electricity

Wind energy is twice the price of our coal-fired electricity. Minnkota's contract with the wind producer requires Minnkota to purchase all energy that the wind turbines generate, regardless if we need it. The excess power is sold on the open market. With the economy in a slump and the overall demand for electricity reduced across the nation, the market price for wind when the turbines are really spinning (not during peak time) has been half the purchase price that Minnkota is obligated to pay for the wind power. The half-cent Temporary Wind Energy Surcharge is a result of these losses over the last year.



Plant outage

Young 2, our power plant at Center, N.D., experienced an unplanned outage in mid-December. Young 1 and the Coyote plant were at full capacity. (362-29-009-01 Fredrick Rudd) The wind turbines helped at times during the day but often were not producing electricity during morning and evening peaks.

Other reasons

Plant outages, certification periods, lack of reasonably priced power on the market and setting billing peaks have been the reasons for load control in the past, but with uncontrollable wind energy now in the mix, there are some new twists.

NOTICE TO COGENERATORS

In compliance with Minnesota Adopted Rules Relating to Cogeneration and small Power Production, chapter 7835, North Star Electric Cooperative is required to interconnect with and purchase electricity from cogenerators and small power producers that satisfy the conditions of a Qualifying Facility.

North Star Electric has available and will provide free information to all interested members regarding rates and interconnection requirements. An application for interconnection is required for a Qualifying Facility to interconnect and operate in parallel with the cooperative's distribution system and is subject to approval by the cooperative.

Any disputes over interconnections, sales and purchases are subject to resolution by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. For more information, please call Wayne Haukaas at 218-634-2202.

Listen to what your mother told you:

*If it sounds too good
to be true, it probably
isn't true!*

You have probably heard radio ads or have seen ads in newspapers and magazines that claim they can cut your heating bill by up to 50 percent by just buying their electric space heater. With the high price of heating in northern Minnesota, who wouldn't like to do that; I know I would, but the key wording in these ads is up to. There is a lot of difference between 50 percent and *up to* 50 percent. The ad that I read explaining the way you could do this was to turn the heat down in your house to as low as 50 degrees and move the space heater into the room which was occupied. The savings are not in the heater; it is the fact that you turned the heat in your house down to 50 degrees. They claim the space heater will not reduce humidity or oxygen, which is true, but it is also true that the space heater you buy at the local hardware store doesn't either. There are 3,413 Btus for each kilowatt-hour, and the only way to get more is with heat pump technology. I haven't seen nor heard of anything like that with portable electric heaters. In northern Minnesota, during the winter, one plug-in space heater is not going to heat a 1,000-square-foot home. My advice is that if you have a cold spot in your house and \$500 burning a hole in your pocket, go to your local hardware store, buy a space heater for \$50, and use the other \$450 to reinsulate your home or give it to your favorite charity.

Get involved in the energy debate!



Now is the time to have a candid conversation
with your elected officials. Start the conversation
today at www.ourenergy.coop.

Our Energy, Our Future
A Dialogue With America

*I would like North Star Electric to e-mail my elected officials
and ask them the following four questions:*



Capacity

Experts say that our nation's growing electricity needs will soon go well beyond what renewables, conservation and efficiency can provide. What is your plan to make sure we have the electricity we'll need in the future?



Affordability

Balancing electricity needs and environmental goals will be difficult. How much is all this going to increase my electric bill and what will you do to make it affordable?



Technology

What are you doing to fully fund the research required to make emissions-free electric plants an affordable reality?



Jobs

How will you keep existing jobs and attract new businesses to Minnesota if our electric rates are higher than those in neighboring states?

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Account number _____

NORTH STAR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE POLITICAL LEADERS

Federal legislators

Senator Al Franken
320 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
www.franken.senate.gov
202-224-5641
Fax: 202-224-0044

Senator Amy Klobuchar
302 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
www.klobuchar.senate.gov
202-224-3244
1-888-224-9043 (Minnesota office)
Fax: 202-228-2186

Congressman James Oberstar
2365 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
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Fax: 202-225-0699

Congressman Collin Peterson
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202-225-2165
Fax: 202-225-1593

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Senator Tom Bakk
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Jr. Blvd.
Capitol Building, Room 226
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606
651-296-8881
sen.tom.bakk@senate.mn

Senator Tom Saxhaug
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King
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Senator LeRoy Stumpf
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Representative Tom Rukavina
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100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King
Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155
651-296-0170
888-682-3205
rep.tom.rukavina@house.mn

Staff Report

Work plan

We had a good year improving our system with our 2009 work plan. We upgraded our power lines in the areas of Baudette, Birchdale, Frontier, Swift and Roosevelt, in addition to the Lake Kabetogama and Ash River Trail areas on the east end. Excessive load on old #6 CWC conductors, two-way feeds and the rebuilding of Highway 11, were all factors for our work plan jobs. We also got 3½ miles of three-phase underground installed and energized at 7,200 volts into the Axis Nova Detector Site located on the Ash River Trail. Our crews installed a 500 kVA transformer for construction purposes of the new underground lab. We still have some work to do this summer to get our system converted to 14,400 volts for the final three-phase service to supply power to it. Baudette crews will once again be involved with the rebuilding of Highway 11 and relocating some of our power lines this summer.

Line maintenance

The Baudette crews are changing out the rejected poles in the Warroad area this winter. Our pole testers, American Energy Company, will test our Littlefork substation area this summer, which has the most poles in it on the east side of our system. Central Applicators will be applying EPA-approved herbicide to the re-growth brush under our power lines from the west side of Birchdale, east to the Browns Corner area this summer. Both the Baudette and Littlefork crews

Allan Baumgartner
Supervisor operations -
East end



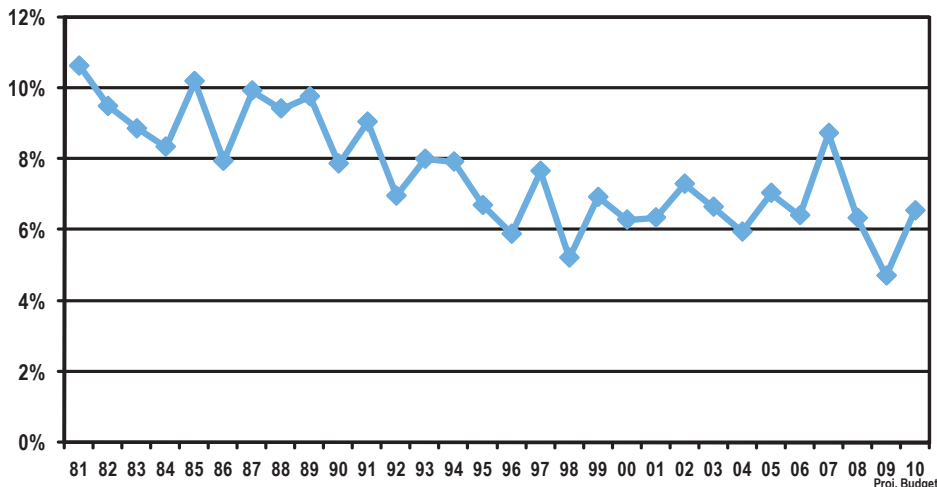
have been mowing brush along our rights of way this fall/winter. We will continue to work on this until the snow gets too deep or the road limits go into effect.

Outages and line loss

We had a good year with low line losses and a low number of outages. As of Dec. 4, 2009, our entire system from Warroad to Ash Lake had 215 outages for the year. Well over half of them were individual outages caused by birds or squirrels. (556-22-001-01 Ronald Pickar) On the line loss subject (electricity purchased, but not sold), it's looking like we will come in somewhere between 5-6 percent for 2009. During the 1980s, we were always between 8-10 percent for yearly line losses. Improving right of way and upgrading electric plants has made a difference. Two percent may not seem like much, but we bought 131,035,237 kWh from Minnkota in the last 12 months, and the 2 percent difference in yearly line loss equals to 2,620,705 kWh – a savings of more than \$100,000. In comparison, we sold 4,868,562 kWh through our Big Falls substation in the last 12 months, so a 2 percent improvement in line loss makes a big difference and is a good thing for the co-op.

Stay safe!

Line Loss



Problems paying your electric bill?

Energy assistance may be available!

If you are receiving a low income or suffering from a temporary financial shortfall, the following agencies may be able to assist you with your electric bill. We urge you to contact them immediately to avoid disconnection if you feel you are eligible for aid.

Lake of the Woods County Community Services

P.O. Box G-0200
Baudette, MN 56623
634-2642

Northwest Community Action Council

P.O. Box 67
Badger, MN 56714-0067
800-568-5329

Koochiching County Community Services

1000 5th St.
International Falls, MN 56649
283-7000

Kootasca Community Action, Inc.

2232 2nd Ave. E.
P.O. Box 44
International Falls, MN 56649
283-9491 or 800-559-9491

Kootasca Community Action, Inc.

1213 SE 2nd Ave.
Grand Rapids, MN 55744-3984
800-422-0312

Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency

702 3rd Ave. S.
Virginia, MN 55792-2797
800-662-5711



Keep your Valentine safe this year Mylar balloons create electrical hazards on Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day is a special day for sweethearts and families to celebrate love each year. People flock to their local grocery and party stores to buy candy and balloons for the people they care about. However, the cute heart shaped metallic balloons that are so popular every year could have costly and even deadly side effects. As part of the "Teach Learn Care" TLC campaign, Safe Electricity urges consumers to understand the proper safety steps that must be taken.

"Many people are unaware that metallic balloons, called Mylar balloons, are actually powerful conductors of electricity," Kyle Finley, owner of Live Line Demo Inc., said. "In fact, each Mylar balloon carries a warning label which states that it can conduct electricity, it should not be released outdoors, near overhead power lines, and misuse may cause personal injury. Buying Mylar balloons is so commonplace, people just completely overlook the warning and never realize that they're creating an electrical hazard for themselves and their loved ones."

Metallic balloons that are not secured properly can float up into power lines or come down into electrical substations. The consequences can lead to substantial problems ranging from power outages to extensive equipment damage. The cost of these issues can amount to thousands and even millions of dollars.

Finley states other risks include injury or even death.

"As parents, we often tie balloons to our children's wrists to keep them from floating away," Finley said. "If we tie a metallic ribbon to a Mylar balloon and then attach it to our child, we have actu-

ally created a potential path to ground for electricity. The results can be deadly."

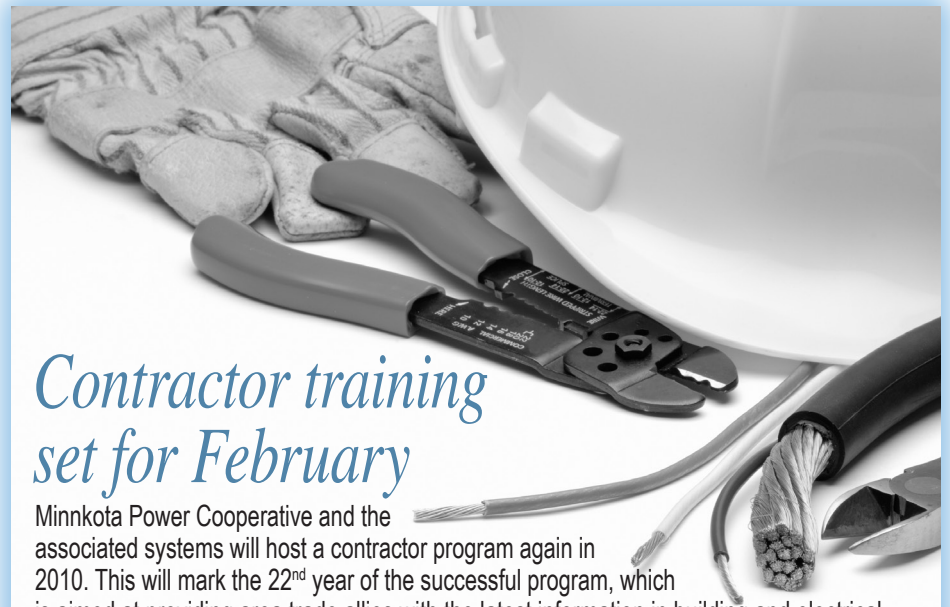
For example, if the balloon is carried outside near equipment like the electrical service connection or if it happens to touch an exposed wire indoors, it could potentially cause electric shock injury or kill the person holding it.

Safe Electricity wants everyone to enjoy their Valentine's Day with their special someone. However, when the celebration is over, please remember to puncture the balloons and throw them away to keep them safely away from

power lines and electrical equipment.

To see a live line power demonstration and to learn more about the risks posed by Mylar balloons and other electrical safety hazards, visit **www.SafeElectricity.org**.

Keeping you safe all year is the goal of the Safe Electricity "Teach Learn Care" TLC campaign, an electrical safety public awareness program created and supported by a coalition of hundreds of organizations, including electric utilities, educators and other entities committed to promoting electrical safety.



Contractor training set for February

Minnkota Power Cooperative and the associated systems will host a contractor program again in 2010. This will mark the 22nd year of the successful program, which is aimed at providing area trade allies with the latest information in building and electrical practices.

The program begins Tuesday, Feb. 2, at the Doublewood Inn, Fargo, N.D. The training then moves to the Hampton Inn, Bemidji, Minn., on Wednesday, Feb. 10, and concludes at the Ramada Inn, Grand Forks, N.D., on Thursday, Feb. 11.

For more information about the program, contact Sue Black, Minnkota communications/member services specialist, at (701-795-4292) or e-mail questions to sblack@minnkota.com.