

Questions on load control?

Check it out on the Internet. Visit North Star's website: www.northstarelectric.coop.

[Current Status](#) | [Today's Log](#) | [Yesterday's Log](#) | [Archive](#) | [LM Plans](#)

Last Transmission: 09-Dec-2013 07:07:48

Current Status / Last Switching Cycle

Load Group	DO 9	DO 10	DO 11	DO 12	DO 13	DO 14	DO 15	DO 16	DO 17	DO 18	DO 19	DO 20	DO 21	DO 22	DO 23	DO 24
1.01	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON
1.02	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON
2.01	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF
2.02	ON	ON	ON	OFF	OFF	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	OFF	OFF	ON	ON	ON	OFF
2.03	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON
2.04	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON
3.01	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON
3.06	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON
3.07	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON
3.09	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON
5.01	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON

(Click Load Group for Last Switching Cycle)

Load Group Categories:

- 1 - Short-Term Loads (water heaters)
- 2 - Intermediate-Term Loads (storage heat)
- 3 - Long-Term Loads (dual heating furnaces, backup generators)
- 6 - Summer-Only Loads (irrigation, cycled air conditioning)

Want to follow load control activity in your area? Go to www.northstarelectric.coop and click on "Off peak control information." This Web page contains the current status, today's control log, yesterday's control log, archives, load control plans and the last switching cycle

for each load group and double order number. On this site you can check the most current information on load control as well as past load control. Your specific load group information is on the lower left hand corner of your electric bill. Please remember this is Minnkota's current estimate for controlling load. Control

plans can and do change several times each hour.

Illustrated above is what Minnkota's website looks like for the current state of the load management system. All of load group 2.01 is controlled and double order 12, 13, 19, 20 and 24 of load group 2.02 are also controlled.

In this issue:

Board highlights/Always call before you dig	2
Manager's Report	3
2014 contractor training date set	4
Celebrate with Savings/The value is electric	5
Give a gift that helps loved ones save money	6
Fact or Fiction: Myths about electrical safety	7
Unclaimed capital credits donated to more organizations	8
Staff Report/Problems paying your bill	9
Happy Holidays from all of us at North Star	10

Merry
Christmas
and
Happy New Year!

North Star offices will be closed Tuesday, Dec. 24, and Wednesday, Dec. 25, for Christmas and Wednesday, Jan. 1, for New Year's Day.



DECEMBER 2013

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or 634-2603

e-mail us at nsec@wiktel.com
Visit our website at
www.northstarelectric.coop

Members' corner

We added a section called 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.



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.

Highlights from the BOARDROOM

These are the highlights from the board of directors' November meeting. All board members were in attendance. In addition to routine action, the board voted to establish a Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Committee and set the minimum loan request at \$50,000 as other area agencies provide support for smaller projects; to approve delegates and board committee membership for 2014; to approve the use of North Star's contributions to CFC's Integrity Fund to provide assistance beyond territorial issues, including regulatory, legislative or judicial issues impacting rural electric cooperative members; to set Oct. 3, 2014, as next year's annual meeting date; to approve a resolution recognizing the achievement of more than 500,000 hours worked without a lost-time accident by the North Star Electric employees, and to approve the July 31, 2013, audit report. The board also reviewed past expenses and set direction for the 2014 budget.

Staff reports included the financial report, the 2014 budget, the sales tax refund on contributions made by members to aid in construction or upgrade of their electrical service, the cooperative's Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant plan, an estimated 245 hours of off-peak load control expected this winter, load control equipment for the future, the installation of the solar

demonstration project to be erected at the Baudette headquarters office, Operation Round Up, the annual meeting, ENERGY STAR® rebates, finishing underground construction work, contract construction projects, the line move along Highway 11 near Loman, completion of the year's contracted right-of-way clearing and pole testing, recognition of line worker Ronnie Lee's years of dedicated service to the members, upcoming meetings and the city of Warroad agreement.

Reports were provided from the Minnkota Power Cooperative, Square Butte and MREA (Minnesota Rural Electric Association) board meetings. Director Hanson was recognized for his appointment to the advisory group of the International Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Board. Director Brzoznowski reported on Cooperative Network and the University of Minnesota NOVA load.

Special guests included Eide Bailly auditor Brian Jung, who provided the annual July 31 audit report, which included no adjusting entries.

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 placed on the agenda, please contact Manager Dan Hoskins at least two weeks in advance to be included on the agenda.

ALWAYS CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

One free, easy call gets your utility lines marked AND helps protect you from injury and expense. Safe digging is no accident: always call 811 before you dig. Visit call811.com for more information.





Dan Hoskins
General Manager

MANAGER'S REPORT

Hi folks; just thought I would sit down and give you a little recap of 2013. Did that ring a bell? Doesn't it seem like just yesterday we were preparing for all these huge disasters when the year 2000 was to roll in? Remember how the computers were going to jump ahead, open the dam gates, launch missiles and all computerized components in our cars were going to shut down and leave us all stranded? Well, I remember it because the electric cooperative I was at in North Dakota worked until 4 a.m. that morning to make sure that those so-called glitches didn't happen. Of course, after a fun-filled night in the office, nothing did happen and we went home. Darn, missed another New Year's Eve party!

Anyway, back to the report. January started off with the retirement of two North Star employees with a number of years of service: Steve Ellis, 34 years, and Allan Baumgartner, 37 years. I promoted two employees in the management department. Ann Ellis was promoted to assistant general manager and Marty Mollberg took over sole possession of the leadership role in our operations department as our operations manager. We also hired two linemen for the Baudette area, Jesse Huot and Darren Koschak. The board of directors began the year in the technology phase as iPads are now utilized for board meetings and the 2013 budget was approved by the board with no rate increase.

In February, high-use concerns by a number of our member-owners were up, but that was expected because of the mild winter we had in 2011-12, and the return to a more normal winter for 2012-13. The North Star Round Up board gave \$9,000 to 22 recipients. The operations department continued to work on renewal of 113 utility permits across DNR-controlled property.

March found some of us at the Capitol in St. Paul for Legislative Day and then to the MREA annual meeting, which was a success, as our Chairman Steve Arnesen was reelected to the MREA board of directors. I testified in front of the Senate committee about the renewal of our 113 utility permits, but to no avail. We still were billed \$27,094 for existing permits.

April showed us that the first-quarter budget numbers were good based on the cold winter. The operations department was geared up for construction and hired three temporary summer workers. The U.S. Senate passed a resolution proclaiming April 18 as National Lineman Appreciation Day. We also received word that Boise in International Falls would shut part of its operation down,

forcing 250-plus people away from their jobs. Not good! The legislature passed a bill that included a solar mandate, but cooperatives were exempt. Okay, but for how long?

May is the month that our operations folks got to play in the dirt; actually we call it construction season, and it was a busy one. Open houses in Littlefork and Baudette were attended very well by our membership. The Governor's address on Earth Day criticized Minnkota Power Cooperative, our wholesale energy provider, and made clear his agenda to rid the state of coal-fired energy! Really? And the President of the United States has an agenda to rid the U.S. of coal-fired energy! Again, really? Also in May were the negotiations with the city of Warroad concerning its annexation proceedings for the new casino load. The line school graduated 28 students this spring.

June came after a long, drawn-out spring and crews were building new services and gearing up for a couple of road moves. The North Star board approved the installation of a solar unit at the Baudette headquarters, which will be in service in summer 2014. This will allow us to monitor the generation of a solar unit in our area and give us up-to-the-day facts.

July and construction went well. We had to put up with Mother Nature a little bit, but after a few outages things were back to normal. July 19 was a very special milestone at North Star. The employee group hit 500,000 hours of no lost time, which meant we had worked without anyone getting injured to a point they couldn't come to work. The second-quarter financials showed the results of a normal winter and a long spring as our numbers were good. And on July 8 two good things happened; Toby Wahl joined our team here at North Star and, drum roll please ... my granddaughter Harper Marie was born.

August had contractors working in our area doing some much-needed line replacement and new construction to improve our system, which helps us provide great service to you. Management looked at another service called MyMeter, which would allow you, the member, to get information from your meter on your computer or cell phone. Also there was new expansion information coming from the NOvA site over by Ash River Trail.

September was the month that the board approved a revenue neutral move on the kWh charge and the monthly Basic Service Fee. The kWh will go down from \$.113 to \$.11 and the Basic Service Fee will go from \$36 per month to \$38, an increase of \$2 per month. But with the reduction in the kWh charge, it should be pretty much neutral for all.

(continued on page 5)

2014 contractor training dates set



Minnkota and the associated systems will host contractor continuing education workshops again in 2014. This marks the 26th year of the successful program, which is aimed at providing area trade allies with the latest information in building and electrical practices.

Dates for the 2014 sessions are: Wednesday, Jan. 22, at the Hampton Inn, Bemidji, Minn.; Thursday, Jan. 23, at the Ramada Inn, Grand Forks, N.D.; Wednesday, Jan 29, at the Doublewood Inn, Fargo, N.D.; and Thursday, Jan 30, at the Bigwood Events Center, Fergus Falls, Minn.

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



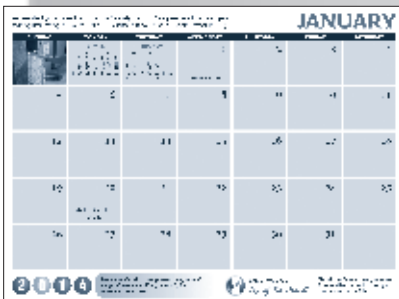
ENERGY EFFICIENCY Tip of the Month

Electric bills rise in the winter for lots of reasons – holiday parties, house guests and shorter days and longer nights. Take little measures to help control costs like turning down the thermostat, washing clothes in cold water, swapping out lightbulbs for high-efficiency versions, and using microwaves or toaster ovens to cook. Find out more ways to save at **TogetherWeSave.com**.

Source: TogetherWeSave.com



2015 North Star wall calendar



For several years North Star has given wall calendars to our membership at our annual meeting. Two years ago we went with the Minnkota Power Systems and the 11 co-ops that own Minnkota had pictures in the calendar. For the 2015 calendar we would like to create one with only pictures of the North Star service area. If you have any pictures that you would like to submit for the calendar, please email them to waynensec@wiktel.com with a short caption (maximum of four pictures). Any member who sends a picture that we use for our calendar will receive a \$50 credit on their energy bill. We would like pictures of the four seasons or members working or playing in our service area. If you have any questions, please give us a call at 888-634-2202 and ask for Wayne.

Off-peak heating and load management

Any permanently installed dual fuel system must be capable of being disconnected for extended periods of time. The alternate heating system must be automatic and capable of providing the total heating requirements during the control time. The alternate heating system may be fuel oil, propane, natural gas or Electric Thermal Storage (ETS). Wood, corn or any other system, not able to function as an unattended, long-term alternate heating system, is not permitted. Members experiencing problems with their backup heating system may choose to have North Star switch them to the short-term control/short-term rate until they have their backup heating system repaired. Members are also able to choose no load

control, but the cost of their electric heat will be charged at their regular rate and they will remain on the regular rate for one year (Roger Wilson, 673-25-020-03). If this account is Commercial or Large Power for either change, short-term or no control, they would also be charged their regular rate plus the demand charge (\$120.24/kW) that was waived when it was dual fuel. The member cannot switch back to the regular dual fuel rate until their alternate heating system is capable of providing the total heating requirement as determined by North Star.

If you have any questions about off-peak heating or load control, please feel free to give Wayne a call at 634-2202 or 888-634-2202.

MANAGER'S REPORT

(continued from page 3)

October also showed us that the cooperative was doing fine through yet another quarter – the third quarter. Also this was annual meeting month and we saw two board members, Bruce Polkinghorne and Lorraine Nygaard, retain their seats on the board. About 170 member-owners registered for the meeting. Grand prize winner of a \$500 bill credit was Earl Liberko. An agreement was reached with the city of Warroad on the new casino load and both parties were successful. We said goodbye to another 30-plus-year veteran as Ron Lee left the cooperative. We wish Ron all the best.

November is almost done as of writing this article and we are moving rapidly into the winter months. The numbers look good financially and we are poised to have a pretty good year. Preston Kennedy is the newest addition to the North Star team in the line department to fill the void left by Ron. The Minnkota board of directors voted to add 1 mill to the surcharge, making it \$0.004 rather than the previous \$0.003. This will go into effect April 1, 2014.

December is here, it's chilly and sales are up. Your cooperative is rolling right through December and into 2014.

I see lots of Christmas lights up and shining brightly, so get yours up and on. The December board meeting will see staff present the budget for 2014 to the board for review. I also can tell you that the Basic Service Fee will increase \$2 and will be on your January bill.

So there you have it, 2013 in a nutshell, well ok, on paper, but we had a number of things going on, and I couldn't list them all. Just remember your cooperative is run by a group of employees who have all of your best interests in mind and are guided by management that is directed by a group of seven directors who also have your best interests in mind. I would like to say "thank you" to all our employees and all of our directors for their hard work throughout the year and their dedication to the service and operation of our cooperative and to you, the member-owners.

On behalf of all of us here at North Star, we want to thank you for using this great product that we distribute, electricity. Without it, we wouldn't be much and we would have even less. So, ladies and gentlemen, as we approach the celebration of the birth of our Lord, please remember our health, the less fortunate, our humility and our unselfishness and pray for peace and harmony throughout the world. And from your board of directors and all our employees, we would like to wish all of you a blessed and Merry Christmas and a prosperous and healthy Happy New Year.

God bless you and our troops, Dan

Celebrate with savings

Buy energy efficient Christmas lights and decorations

How to apply:

1. Purchase LED Christmas plug-in (not battery operated) lights and decorations in 2013.
2. Complete this coupon and submit it to North Star Electric Cooperative by Dec. 31, 2013, with your original sales receipt and the LED packaging showing the ENERGY STAR* logo and number of lights per string.
3. Strings must be 100 or fewer lights.
4. \$3/string of lights, maximum of 5 strings per customer. Rebate cannot exceed price of LED string per package.



Name _____ City/Zip _____

Account # _____ Phone # _____

Address _____

Number of Strings	Rebate per string	Total Rebate

Mail to: North Star Electric Cooperative •
P.O. Box 719 • Baudette, MN 56623

THE VALUE IS ELECTRIC!

One tank of gas for your car

20 gallons at \$3.09/gallon = **\$61.80**

More than 18 days of electricity for your entire home = **\$61.80***

*Based on North Star Electric average residential usage of 875 kWh per month at the residential rate of \$.113/kWh + Minnkota surcharge of \$.003/kWh
(Does not include the \$36 basic service fee)

Give a gift that helps loved ones save money

While most might not immediately think about energy efficiency at gift-giving time, those who do are buying a gift that keeps on giving. An energy efficient gift will save the recipient cash over the lifetime of that gift. So this holiday season the Energy Education Council (EEC) recommends you show your loved ones you care by giving them energy efficient gifts. Bob Dickey, chair of EEC's Energy Efficiency Task Force says, "Energy efficient gifts run the gamut from practical and reasonably priced to the more extravagant and costly. Whichever category the gift falls into, you can rest assured the recipient will be saving money, and who doesn't like to save money?"



Some energy efficient gifts that fall into the more practical category:

- **Smart power strips** – These provide additional receptacles and increase efficiency by helping eliminate phantom power draw. By using a control unit, such as a television or computer, the smart strip detects when the control unit is off and shuts off power to peripherals, like DVD players and printers. Electronics that are turned off sometimes still draw what is called phantom power. Electronics that draw power when not in use can add 10 percent to your final energy bill.
- **A light-emitting diode (LED) bulb** – According to **Energy.gov**, LEDs can last 25,000 hours or more. That is about 25 times the life of an incandescent bulb. They also use about 80 percent less energy than an incandescent bulb and contain no mercury.
- **A compact fluorescent (CFL) bulb** – CFLs cost less than LED bulbs and use about 75 percent of the energy of incandescent bulbs. They come in all shapes, sizes and color temperatures.
- **Caulk and weather-stripping** – These are useful energy-saving gifts for home projects that are perfect at keeping the cold out in the winter and the heat out in the summer.
- **ENERGY STAR® qualified battery chargers** – They are great for items like video game controllers, digital cameras, shavers and power tools. Products that use Energy Star qualified chargers use 35 percent less energy compared to those with conventional chargers. As you replace your old battery chargers, remember to recycle them.

In the more extravagant category of gifts, there are:

- **Home electricity monitors** – There are a variety of options here, from devices that monitor one outlet at a time to a whole-home electricity monitor that tracks a home's electricity usage.
- **Solar-powered gadgets** – You can now find solar lights, cell phone chargers, and even solar-powered backpacks. What better way to teach kids about renewable energy than buying them a solar-powered toy?
- **Motion-detecting picture frames** – Digital picture frames have been on the market for some time. However, they were always on, even when no one was looking at them. These frames turn themselves off automatically after not detecting motion for a period of time, thus saving energy.

Dickey adds, "Keep in mind that larger appliances and TVs will have a bigger impact on the electricity bill, as they use more energy." Here are some tips from **Energy.gov** to keep in mind if you are purchasing a new television:

- Larger screens are one of the highest contributors to a television's power consumption.
- Plasma TVs typically consume the most electricity followed by LCDs, projection TVs and traditional CRTs.
- Some new inefficient televisions use more energy than your refrigerator!
- TVs with the Energy Forward button are the most energy-efficient TVs available.

Whether you are looking for a practical gift or one that leans more toward the extravagant, an energy efficient gift will help the recipient save money, and that is always a nice gift. For more information on energy efficiency, visit **EnergyEdCouncil.org**.

Current electrical inspectors.....

State law requires that every new electrical installation in any construction, remodeling, replacement or repair shall file a certificate for inspection and be inspected by a Minnesota electrical inspector. For more information go to Minnesota Department of Labor and Industries website (**dli.mn.gov**) and go to the electrical page.



• St. Louis and Koochiching counties:

Chip Jespersen
 Phone: (218) 327-5987
 Call to set up an appointment between
 7 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. (Mon. thru Fri.)

• Roseau and Lake of the Woods counties:

Scott Stenvik
 Phone: (218) 689-5406
 Call to set up an appointment between
 7 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. (Mon. thru Fri.)

FACT *or* FICTION

Myths about electrical safety

Sometimes conventional wisdom, even if it comes from a trusted source, can be deadly — especially if it pertains to electrical safety. This is one time that checking facts just might save your life.

Molly Hall, executive director of the Energy Education Council and its Safe Electricity program says, “Since you probably won’t be in a position to fact check in an emergency situation, now is the time to learn the difference between myth and reality when it comes to electrical safety, so that you can practice the proper procedures if and when the time comes.”

Here are some common electrical safety myths and the truth behind them:

- **MYTH** – A downed power line will be arcing and smoking if it still has power.
- **FACT** – Power lines do not automatically shut off when they fall and do not necessarily arc, flash, pop or smoke when they hit the ground. There is no way to know for sure if a line has potentially deadly current running through it unless it has been properly discharged by a utility crew, so stay away from all downed power lines and keep others away.
- **MYTH** – Household current cannot kill you.
- **FACT** – Household current can and does kill. Case-in-point, 10-year-old Caitlyn Mackenzie was killed by household current when she touched a lamp while still damp from a swimming pool. You can see Caitlyn’s story at SafeElectricity.org.
- **MYTH** – Power lines are insulated.
- **FACT** – The majority of outside power lines are not insulated. The coating you might see on the lines is just weatherproofing that will offer no protection from the electricity flowing through the lines.
- **MYTH** – Light digging in the yard won’t be deep enough to hit any wires or pipes.



- **FACT** – Unless you call 811 and have a professional come to your home and locate the utilities, you can never be sure where lines and pipes are buried. Even if you are just planting flowers or a shrub, you might come into contact with power lines that could kill you. Keep in mind that the locations are approximate, so if you are digging near one of the marked lines, do so with caution. Find out how dangerous underground digging can be by watching Tom’s story at SafeElectricity.org.

- **MYTH** – Tires insulate my car from electrical dangers.

- **FACT** – If a wire falls on your car while you are in it, the tires are not keeping you from being injured by the electricity. You are not being hurt because you are not a path to ground for the electricity — as long as you stay in the car. Once you step out of the car, you become that path to ground and can be seriously injured or killed. If you find yourself in a situation where your car has hit a utility pole or has

a power line come down on it, the best place for you to be is in the car. Call for help, and keep others away until a utility crew can kill the wires. If you must exit the car, it is critical for you to make sure not to touch the ground and the car at the same time. Jump out of the car, keeping your feet together. Then bunny-hop away. Find out more by watching Safety Expert Kyle Finley’s Live Line Demonstration at www.youtube.com/SafeElectricity.

These are just some of the myths that can get you killed. When it comes to electricity, you cannot take chances (Jeremy Battles, 121-14-004-03). You have to be prepared and make sure that your family and friends know how to work and live safely around electricity.

To find out how to keep your family safe from electrical hazards, go to SafeElectricity.org.



Unclaimed capital credits donated to more local nonprofit organizations



Indus School Principal Michael Underwood receives a check from Mike Hanson, board member from District 4.



Mike Hanson, board member from District 4, presents a check to Ward Merrill, executive director for the Backus Community Center.



Assistant director of the Fall Hunger Coalition Brittany Rognerud and board chair Sue Hamily accept a check from Mike Hanson, board member from District 4.



Mike Hanson, board member from District 4, presents a check to Marlys Hirst, director for the Lake of the Woods Museum.



Fire Chief Robyn Hasbargen of the Birchdale Fire Department accepts a check from Mike Hanson, board member from District 4.



Mike Hanson, board member from District 4, presents a check to Edgar Oerichbaur, director for Koochiching Historical Society.

Extremely cold temperatures will affect the operation of your rented security light

If you notice a problem with your security light this winter, such as intermittent failure or it remains dimmer than normal, you're not alone. Severe cold weather, specifically -10 degrees or colder, may seriously affect the operation of security lights.

The problem involves the formation of a gas in the bulb, which can be hampered by the cold (Bronte Jornod, 303-36-006-05). Usually, when the weather warms up, the lights will return to normal operation and will not have to be replaced.

If your security light is owned by North Star, we would appreciate it if you could bear with us during the coldest spells. If the light does not return to normal operation when the weather warms up, please notify our office and we will repair it for you (Baudette 634-2202, Littlefork 278-6658).



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[www.facebook.com/
NorthStarElectric](http://www.facebook.com/NorthStarElectric)





Marty Mollberg
Manager of Operations

STAFF REPORT

From a wet, cool spring to a wet, cool fall, the weather has made construction season a challenge. It has been a busy summer with new services, service upgrades and system work plan upgrades. All of the major work plan upgrades have been completed with the last of them being the Loman area 4.5-mile line relocation for the remaining Highway 11 road rebuild from Loman to Pelland Junction. If you have any questions or concerns about any of these projects in your area, feel free to contact us.

The early freezing this fall was beneficial in helping us to get the last of our underground system improvements completed as well as the fall rush requests for new underground services.

With the pole testing completed, we will begin changing out the rejected poles in the Pitt and Wheeler's Point area on the west end of the system and along Highway 11 in the Pelland Junction area on the east end.

We will also continue with our right-of-way cutting and maintenance while conditions are good.

We have a couple of new hires. Toby Wahl has been with North Star since July 8 of this year. Toby grew up in Lewiston, Mont., graduated from line worker school in Bismarck, N.D., and was previously employed by Sheridan Electric Cooperative in northeast Montana. Toby is the son of Michael and Gloria Wahl. Our latest hire is Preston Kennedy. Preston grew up in Littlefork, Minn., graduated from Wadena line worker school and was previously employed by Beltrami Electric in Bemidji. Preston is the son of Kevin Kennedy and Debbie Jonson.

On a parting note, all of us at North Star Electric would like to take the time to thank Ronnie Lee for his 31 years of outstanding dedication to the North Star Electric Cooperative members. His integrity, accountability and commitment will be sorely missed. Thank you Ron! We wish you the best in your retirement.

Until next time, stay warm and safe!



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 Social Services

206 8th Ave. SE, Suite 200
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.

Grand Rapids, MN 55744-3984
Toll free 1-877-687-1163
Direct 1-218-999-0800
Fax 218-999-0220

Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency

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

NORTH STAR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE POLITICAL LEADERS

Federal legislators

President Barack Obama

The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20500
www.whitehouse.gov
president@whitehouse.gov
202-456-1111

Senator Al Franken

320 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
www.alfranken.com
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 Rick Nolan

2447 Rayburn House Office Building
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Congressman Collin Peterson

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State of Minnesota legislators

Governor Mark Dayton

75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Capitol Building, Room 130
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606
800-657-3717
mark.dayton@state.mn.us

Senator Tom Bakk

75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Capitol Building, Room 226
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606
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Senator Rod Skoe

75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
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651-296-4196
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Senator LeRoy Stumpf

75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Capitol Building, Room 122
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651-296-8660
Email: Use mail form

Representative David Dill

571 State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
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Representative Roger Erickson

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Representative Dan Fabian

307 State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155
651-296-9635
888-727-0979
rep.dan.fabian@house.mn

Happy HOLIDAYS

from all of us
at North Star

Board Members

Steve Arnesen, President
Bruce Polkinghorne, Vice President
Mike Hanson, Secretary-Treasurer
Julian Brzoznowski
Mike Trueman
Lorraine Nygaard
Randy Bergan

District 1
District 5
District 4
District 7
District 2
District 6
District 3

Compliance & Member Services

Wayne Haukaas

Manager of Compliance
& Member Services (B)

Kevin Holen
Jim Kuehl

Member Service Electrician (B)
Part-time Groundskeeper/Handyman (B)

Line Crew

Marty Mollberg
Bruce Petersen
Tim Pelach
Todd Higgins
Todd Thydean
Rich Grotberg
Glen Marcotte
Brad Dolinski
Darren Koschak
Jesse Huot
Preston Kennedy
Toby Wahl

Operations Manager (B)
Line Foreman (L)
Line Foreman (B)
Line Sub-Foreman (B)
Line Crew Chief (L)
Journeyman Lineman (L)
Journeyman Lineman (L)
Purchasing Agent/CAD Draftsman (B)
Line Crew Chief (B)
Journeyman Lineman (B)
Journeyman Lineman (L)
Apprentice Lineman (B)

General Manager

Dan Hoskins

General Manager

Office Personnel

Ann Ellis	Assistant General Manager/Finance Manager (B)
Patsy Olson	Billing Coordinator (B)
Kathy Senti	Work Order Clerk (B)
Susan Williams	District Office Supervisor (L)
Robyn Sonstegard	Bookkeeper/Assistant Office Manager (B)
Tessa Pepera	CSR/Billing Clerk (B)

(B) signifies Baudette and (L) signifies Littlefork

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!