

# KILOWATT



## Focused on YOU.

Electric cooperatives were created to serve their members. Because we're a co-op, we're able to adapt to our community's unique needs. That's the power of co-op membership.

### **OCTOBER IS NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH**

### CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY

October is National Co-op Month, and at Kandiyohi Power Cooperative when we celebrate Co-op Month, we celebrate you! Our co-op would not exist without you, our member-owners.

Our mission is to safely provide our member-owners with reliable, sustainable and innovative energy solutions. Our vision is to improve the quality of life for those we serve. Within that vision lives one of our seven guiding principles, concern for community.



Ryan Nelson, CEO

Similar to our wires running through our service territory, our concern for the community is present in all the decisions we make – because being a co-op means being a responsible partner and good neighbor. We work to help our community thrive. Our member-elected board and our employees are your neighbors. We are a part of this community, and that helps us understand the unique needs and pushes us to meet them. We are invested.

With your help, we offer Operation Roundup to provide assistance to our community's most vulnerable. We support area food banks and charitable organizations such as United Community Action Partnership, 4-H, Rotary, YMCA, early childhood and youth development, and many other local clubs and events.

We have numerous energy-saving programs and rebates in place to help save you money as well. We want to empower you to manage energy use at your home. If you haven't already, I strongly encourage you to take a moment and download our app, SmartHub. It is incredibly easy to use and allows you to conveniently monitor and manage your energy use, pay your bill, or even report an outage. We are here to help, so please stop in or call if you need assistance or are curious about our load management programs and rebates.

### Stand-by Generator Safety

We have seen a recent uptick in member-owners installing stand-by generators. Some are large expensive units, and some are big-box store plug-and-play units. Both are concerning if not installed correctly.

Permanently installed generation for a home or business requires a transfer switch to isolate it from the grid. The main breaker in your electric panel does not qualify as a transfer switch. Transfer switches are critical for the safe operation of a generator. The main reason would be to prevent backflow of current across our distribution lines that could electrocute one of our lineworkers trying to restore power during an outage. The other would be to protect your investment from damage when electric service has been restored.

If you are thinking about installing a stand-by generator, that work should be done by a licensed electrician and must comply with the National Electric Safety Code. We are here to help. If you have questions, please stop in or give us a call. The first thing we would do is look at outage history for your service and you may discover you don't really need stand-by generation at all!

## ARE YOU READY FOR WINTER?

The cold weather and snow will be here soon! Here's your reminder to be prepared for all that comes with a Minnesota winter. If you are on our dual fuel program, as a reminder, your primary heating system can be controlled up to 12 hours per day and up to 400 hours per heating season. Control occurs on days of high electrical demand, high wholesale energy prices and/or system emergencies.



We anticipate increased control hours this heating season and we highly encourage dual fuel program participants to ensure you have adequate supplies of your secondary fuel source. To be eligible for the dual fuel program, your secondary heating system should be sized for the entire heating load of your home. Replenishing storage tanks now typically leads to cost savings versus filling up during peak winter heating months.

In addition to purchasing in the early fall, you can also save money if you:

1. Buy a bigger tank, which allows you to stock up when prices are low.
2. Shop around and then lock in low rates. The propane market is competitive, so research rates and consider additional perks such as free service calls, maintenance, buybacks, and bonuses. If rates are low, as they usually are in early fall, ask if the company will lock in the low rate for a period of time.
3. Ask about discounts. Oftentimes these are made available for veterans, seniors, employees of the state or major corporations, memberships in travel clubs or holder of credit cards. You never know where a discount may exist, so don't be afraid to ask.
4. Schedule deliveries carefully. Avoid holiday, weekend and other peak delivery times that may incur a fee.
5. Conserve propane by using less. Install a smart thermostat, keep appliances clean and well-serviced and choose energy-efficient models.

Should you have any questions, please call us at 800-551-4951 or email [contactus@kpcoop.com](mailto:contactus@kpcoop.com).

## Monitored smoke detectors make a difference.



**WHEN FIRE OR SMOKE HAPPENS, OUR RESPONSE CENTER IS NOTIFIED AND CONTACTS YOU OR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT RIGHT AWAY.**

You can't hear a smoke alarm go off if you're not home. As part of a monitored security system, smoke detectors alert you before it's too late.



SECURITY AUTOMATION VIDEO MEDICAL ALERTS  
888.264.6380 [heartlandss.com](http://heartlandss.com)

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY REBATE PROGRAM HAS ENDED FOR 2022

We are no longer accepting rebate submissions.

Thank you for your participation!

We will resume the rebate program in 2023.



**September's \$25 Auto Pay Winner: Mark Nelson**

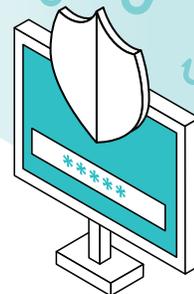
Enroll in our Auto Pay program to be entered into a monthly drawing for a \$25.00 bill credit. Save time and money! Must be on Auto Pay to be eligible to win. You can also select email as your only delivery option. You will then receive an email instead of a paper bill when your bill is ready for payment.

## See Yourself in Cyber.

October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month

Improve your cyber hygiene by doing these four things:

1. Enable multi-factor authentication
2. Use strong passwords and a password manager
3. Update software regularly
4. Recognize and report phishing attacks



## HOW ELECTRICITY GETS TO YOU

Whenever you flip a switch, charge your smart phone or store food in the freezer, you're relying on the grid to bring you reliable electricity.

At a basic level, the electric grid is a set of interconnected wires connecting places where energy is produced to where it is used. Over time, the grid has become smarter, more dynamic, and increasingly interconnected due to advancements in technology along with additional wind and solar energy resources.

Great River Energy is the wholesale power supplier to Kandiyohi Power Cooperative and uses the grid to move energy and information to ensure reliable electric service and quick response times when there is an issue on the electric system.

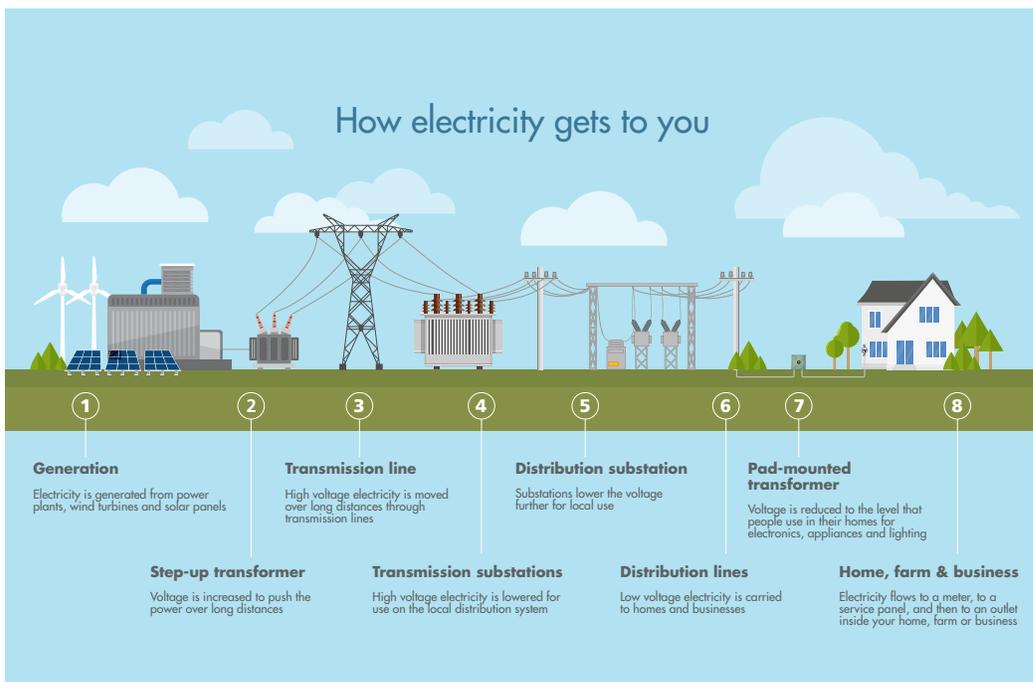
### But how does the grid work?

Electricity is made by huge spinning turbines at generating stations using coal, wind, natural gas or water. Electricity from these generators, located at places like power plants and wind farms, is pushed along high voltage transmission lines to substations where the voltage can be "stepped down" to lower, more usable levels. Then, it is sent along smaller distribution lines, like those owned by Kandiyohi Power Cooperative, to be delivered to neighborhoods.

From there, smaller transformers reduce the voltage again to make the power safe to use in homes, schools, farms and small businesses. These smaller transformers may be mounted on poles or sitting on the ground (they're the big green boxes called pad-mounted transformers).

Electricity then runs underground from the transformer to your house and passes through a meter that measures how much each home or business uses. Then, it goes to a service panel where breakers or fuses protect the wires inside your house from being overloaded. Electricity then travels through wires inside the walls to the outlets and switches that we use every day in homes and businesses.

That's how reliable power gets to you in our increasingly power-dependent world.



## BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

September 28, 2022

The Kandiyohi Power Cooperative Board of Directors held their regular monthly meeting. There were nine directors present. Chairman, Dale Anderson called the meeting to order.

Additions made to the agenda:

- Operation Round Up

The following reports were given:

- CEO Report
  - F-150 Lightning
  - Leadership Training
  - DSM Rates
  - Development in Spicer
- Member Services/Communications
  - Energy Assistance Program
  - Rates 23 and 34 Revisions
  - Board Policy 612 Discussion
  - GRE End Use Survey
  - Air Source Heat Pump Promo
  - Cold Weather Rule
  - Facebook Analytics & Autopay Metrics
- Engineering Report
  - Safety and services update
  - Update on current projects
- IT / Maintenance Report
  - UCAP building inspection review
- Finance Report
  - Federated Renewal
  - Tax Filings 2021 Complete
  - Employee Retention Tax Credit (ERTC)
  - CoBank Sharing Success
  - Parcel 8 Property
  - August Write-Offs
  - Review of August financials
- Policy Review
- Operation Round Up

Motions made and approved by the Board:

- Regular Agenda
- Consent Agenda
- Revisions to Rates 23,34 EV, and 34 ST & CL
- August Write-Offs
- Pursue ERTC
- Approval of policies 104 revisions, 109 & 112

Great River Energy (GRE) Director's Report by Chair Anderson

Meeting Adjourned – Next regular board meeting is October 26, 2022



**KANDIYOHI POWER  
COOPERATIVE**

8605 47th Street NE, Spicer, MN 56288  
www.kpcoop.com

**Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7:30am – 4pm**  
**Phone: 1-800-551-4951**  
**Fax: 320-796-0620**

**Tom McCormick**  
**Electric Inspector: 320-221-2809**

Drop boxes available for your convenience  
at Cash Wise and our headquarters  
building near flag pole.

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Ryan Nelson, CEO                            | 320-796-1160 |
| Michele Scheffler,<br>Member/Communications | 320-796-0982 |
| Brent Hatlestad,<br>Line Superintendent     | 320-796-1163 |
| Patrick Krueger, CFO                        | 320-796-0991 |

|                                       |                 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>BOARD OF DIRECTORS:</b>            | <b>District</b> |
| Dale Anderson, Chair - 320-894-1687   | 1               |
| Rollo Campe - 320-894-1601            | 1               |
| Larry Powers - 320-212-7960           | 1               |
| Dan Pomranke - 320-894-7113           | 2               |
| Todd Post, VC - 320-212-1119          | 2               |
| Stan Wubben, Secretary - 320-905-8325 | 2               |
| Kelly Erickson - 320-894-2930         | 3               |
| Diane Helgeson - 320-220-3745         | 3               |
| Robbert Stone - 320-894-8867          | 3               |

**KILOWATT STAFF:**  
Michele Scheffler, Editor



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www.gopherstateonecall.org  
**1-800-252-1166**




**24-HOUR  
OUTAGE  
NUMBER**

When your lights go out, so do we.

Call us if your power goes out even if you think your neighbors  
already did. Leave one light on so you know when power has  
been restored and make sure you have an emergency kit ready.

**1-800-551-4951**

The Cooperative will attempt to furnish continuous  
service but will not guarantee uninterrupted service.

# TRUNK OR TREAT

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 31ST, 3-5PM**  
**KPC'S PARKING LOT**

**BOO!**

Join us for  
Trunk or  
Treat!



© NRECA

**KPC** **KANDIYOHI POWER  
COOPERATIVE**

## Join us for our Annual Trunk or Treat event!

We invite all mini-members to join us for cookies, juice and lots of candy!

**On Monday, October 31st, from 3-5 p.m.**

in our parking lot located at 8605 47th St NE, Spicer.

If you would like to participate and hand out candy,  
bring your vehicle and lots of candy, park in our parking lot and  
hand out candy to all the trick or treaters!

Call 800-551-4951 if you have any questions.



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