

KILOWATT

INSULATION -VS- COMMUNICATION

ARTICLE BY: SCOTT FROEMMING, CEO



Generally, when we think of insulation, we think of the Pink Panther pictured on a roll of pink insulation batts and the Pink Panther theme song playing in the background. Insulation is a great product that provides a thick barrier between the inside and the outside, keeping the cold out and warmth in our homes, this time of year. In fact, we encourage you to make sure your house is well insulated in order to make the most efficient use of your dollars spent on heating and cooling.

The kind of insulation I'm talking about here is the insulation that can occur between children and parents, businesses and customers and cooperatives and members. It's that thick barrier that gets established when two individuals or entities are coming from much different perspectives. My goal in writing this article is to make sure as we start into the new year that we don't let a barrier form between KPC and you the members. We try to prevent this by frequent, open, honest and sincere two-way communication. These communications include sending out this monthly newsletter, providing an up to date website, social media (Facebook),

our annual meeting, occasional surveys and staff always being available to talk by phone or in person. Your responsibility, as a member, is to use these tools and let us know how we are doing: What you would like to see changed? What we should be doing more of or less of? How can we serve you better? Maybe the most important part of communication is listening. We as a Cooperative staff have the responsibility to listen and respond to the comments and suggestions we get from our members. We can't comply with every member request or suggestion however my commitment to you is we will always give you a prompt, courteous, professional response and tell you why we can or can't do what you've requested. It will take a healthy two-way dialogue, along with good listening, to prevent insulation and maintain good communication between us.

I'd encourage you all to use this same philosophy in your personal lives. Let's not wrap ourselves in a thick comfortable barrier of self-righteousness insulating ourselves from each other- parents from

children, young from old, republican from democrat, etc. but rather let's genuinely communicate. Society is becoming so polarized these days that it's more important than ever to unwrap the insulation and have courteous respectful communication with one another. Remember, that means listening as much or more than talking. Let's at least try to understand another point of view before we dig in our heels on ours. Taking this approach, I think you'll generally find that we have a lot more in common, with each other, than differences. Where differences do remain let's talk about how we can narrow that gap now that we understand one another.

The responsibility for good communication is on all of us. Each one of us needs to speak out about things we aren't happy with, but we need to do it respectfully and courteously. Each one of us needs to genuinely and considerately listen to the other point of view. Let's make our 2019, our year to "communicate and not insulate.

Happy New Year!



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RETIREMENT

When you are employed at a place that has a small group of employees, you refer to each other as family, especially when you have spent the past 40 years working there. So, it is with mixed emotions that we say farewell to David Nelson, Manager of Engineering, as he begins his next journey called "Retirement". It is not easy having to say good-bye to someone you see and talk to every day.

We will miss Dave's positive attitude and sense of humor. He always has something to say during the day that makes you smile.

Dave's 40 years at KPC, which equals 14,830 days or 487 months, 6 days or 40 years, 7 months, 6 days according to him, has been filled with so many great memories over the years. His fellow employees have been a great bunch of people to work with and KPC is truly a special place to work. Dave most enjoyed the opportunities he had being involved with the NRECA International Program. The training he did in the Philippines and Guatemala was especially rewarding. Former KPC CEO, Dave George and Dave Nelson traveled to the Philippines 5 times and Guatemala 14 times. Every time they left Guatemala the people would ask when the Dave's were coming back. Dave also made life long friends in the Philippines. A memory that really sticks with Dave is in 1997 when they were in the Philippines with some of the KPC linemen who were training the Filipino linemen how to work on energized lines out of a bucket truck and while wearing the proper personal protective equipment. After one of the Filipino linemen did this, he told the lineman that was working with him "I am the first lineman at my coop to touch a live energized line". Up until this point in time any of his co-workers who encountered an energized line always died. This really drove home the importance of what we were trying to accomplish. Dave appreciates and thanks the KPC Board of Directors for their support and commitment of the NRECA International Program.

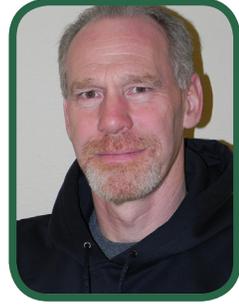
Dave is excited about retirement. He thinks his days will pretty much consist of driving his wife Gail crazy (not intentionally), golf 5 or 6 times a week as soon as the snow melts, clean the rafters in the garage so when he cleans the basement he can put the basement junk up there, doubts he will join AARP because he's too liberal, spend more time with his grandkids and family, ride his motorcycle, do more photography and maybe eventually take up a second career as a Wal-Mart Greeter. After all that he will get to bed around 11:00 p.m. and start all over again in the morning.

Dave will miss seeing his co-workers every day. "How can you not miss the people you spend 8 hours or more a day for 40 years with?" He will miss work to the extent that there are several projects that he has been working on for quite awhile and would enjoy seeing how they turn out. He plans to stop in now and then to visit and catch up on everything. Dave would like to leave these words with his co-workers... "Don't ever loose sight of what a great place KPC is to work for. There are a lot of people out there who dread going to work every day. Don't take your job for granted. Appreciate what you have, both at work and at home. Sometimes we get picky about the small stuff. Take it in stride and have a good attitude about it. We are all human and as such we make mistakes. Get over it and move on. We can't control our past, but we can control our future. Make the most of it. And remember to always respect and support one another."

David – our wish is that your retirement will be all that you hope it will be.



TODD LOUDON RETIRES FROM KPC...



Todd retired the same day as Dave Nelson, and Todd having the big heart he has he wanted the attention to be focused on Dave because he was much more deserving because of his 40 years of service. But Todd is also deserving of our appreciation and thanks for the past 6 years of service to KPC.

Todd joined the KPC family 6 years ago after moving back to Willmar from Alaska where he served in the Air Force for several years. He came home to Willmar for a visit and decided to stay which led him to the KPC Warehouse Coordinator Specialist. This past summer he decided he needed to retire, because if he didn't, he would never get his old pickup truck restored, a project he's been working on for quite some time.

Todd and his wife Lynn enjoy traveling, so hopefully retirement will include somewhere warmer during the winter months. His perfect picture would be Lynn and himself riding their motorcycle into a desert sunset. Todd's daughter lives in Alaska, so I'm sure there will be several plans to visit her.

As with Dave, it is hard to say good-bye to someone you are used to seeing every day. We will miss Todd's sense of humor, his logical thinking, and words of wisdom. He is very thankful for having had the opportunity to work at KPC for the past six years and will miss his co-workers as much as we will miss him.

We wish Todd an amazing journey into retirement. May his days be filled with new adventures and a lot of excitement and happy moments. Thanks, Todd for your dedication to KPC!

KPC WELCOMES BACK LOEL LARSON...



Loel first joined Kandiyohi Power in 2000 as the Propane Manager and left in 2017 as part of the sale of the Propane Division. When he heard of the Warehouse position opening due to Todd's retirement, he inquired, and the rest is history. Welcome Loel!

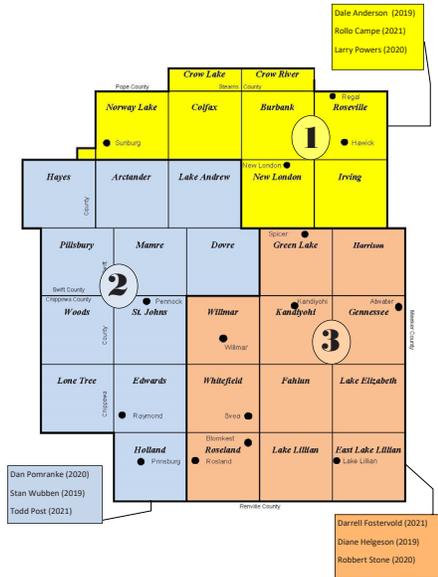
ANNUAL COGENERATION NOTIFICATION TO MEMBERSHIP

Kandiyohi Power Cooperative has adopted rules relating to cogeneration and small power production. Kandiyohi Power Cooperative will interconnect with and purchase electricity from cogenerators and small power producers whom satisfy the conditions as a qualifying facility. Kandiyohi Power Cooperative will provide interested members rates and interconnection requirements, which can be found at www.kpcoop.com/content/distributed-generation. All interconnections require an application and approval to become a qualifying facility. Any dispute over interconnections, sales, and purchases are subject to resolution by the Kandiyohi Power Cooperative. Interested members should contact:

Dan Tepfer
Kandiyohi Power Cooperative
8605 47th ST NE • Spicer, MN. 56288
1-800-551-4951



BOARD MEMBER DISTRICTS 2019



DIRECTOR FILINGS NOW OPEN FOR DISTRICTS #1, #2, & #3

Would you like to serve as a Director on the Kandiyohi Power Cooperative Board for your District? Please call Robin at 796-0987, email rryks@kpcoop.com or stop by our office and request a Director packet. These packets contain the cooperative's bylaws as well as the qualifications to become a Director. As a Board Director you will serve a 3-year term and must reside within the District you are filing in. Filings are due to the office by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, February 25, 2019. Election results will be announced at KPC's Annual Meeting, April 23, 2019.

Cream Cheese Cinnamon Roll Bars

- Ingredients**
- 2 pkgs. Refrigerated Crescent Rolls
 - 1 ½ pkgs. Cream Cheese
 - 1 ½ cups Sugar
 - 2 tsp. Vanilla
 - 1 Stick Butter (melted)
 - 1 Tbsp. Cinnamon



Directions

Unroll and spread one package of crescent rolls on bottom of ungreased 9x13-inch pan. Beat cream cheese, vanilla and one cup of sugar until smooth. Spread mixture over crescent roll layer. Unroll and layer second package of rolls on top of cream cheese mixture. Pour melted butter over top. Mix remaining half cup of sugar and cinnamon together and sprinkle on top. Bake 40 minutes at 350 degrees.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Laundry Tip: Dry towels and heavier cottons separately from lighter-weight clothing. You'll spend less time running the dryer for lighter-weight items, which saves energy.

Source: energy.gov



KILOWATT CREDIT SCORECARD

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Account numbers used are 9 digits, as appearing on your monthly bill. If you find your account number in this KILOWATT, please notify us by the 4th to claim your credit.

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Kandiyohi Power Cooperative

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Fax: 320-796-0620

Tom McCormick

Electric Inspector: 320-221-2809

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

MANAGEMENT STAFF

Scott Froemming, CEO

Anthony Stern, CFO

Diane Maurice, Marketing/Customer Service

Ryan Nelson, Engineering

Scott Luberts, Line Superintendent

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Todd Post- 320-212-1119

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Darrell Fostervold, VC- 320-212-4824

Diane Helgeson- 320-220-3745

Robbert Stone- 320-894-8867

District

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KILOWATT STAFF:

Robin Ryks, Editor



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Space Heater Safety Tips

Space heaters are a great way to warm specific rooms in your home without having to crank up the thermostat, but using space heaters doesn't come without risk! Use the tips below to keep your home safe.

DO: Plug your space heater directly into the wall outlet.

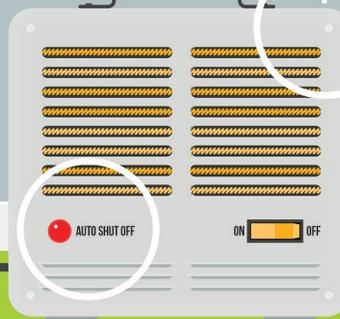


DO: Keep your space heater in low-moisture rooms.

DO: Keep your space heater at a safe distance (at least 3 feet) from kids, pets and flammable items.



DO: Buy a unit with an automatic shutoff in case the unit tips over, or you forget to shut it off.



DO: Always follow the directions and take a broken space heater to a qualified appliance service center.



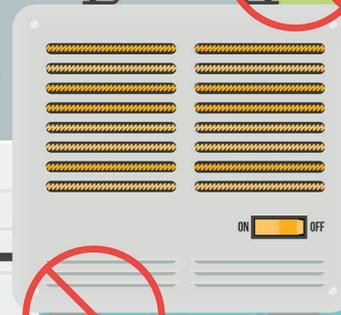
DON'T: Leave your space heater unattended. Always unplug it before you leave the house or go to bed.



DON'T: Place your space heater near curtains, clothing, furniture or bedding.



DON'T: Use an extension cord to plug in your space heater. It can cause the heater to over-heat, and can be a tripping hazard.



DON'T: Try to repair a broken space heater yourself.



AMERICA'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

DON'T: Put your space heater in your bathroom. The moisture can damage the unit, which could cause it to malfunction.

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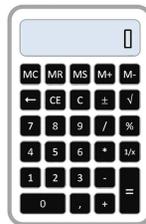
HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO OPERATE A 1500-WATT SPACE HEATER?

$Watts \times hours \text{ of use} / 1,000 \times \text{cost per kilowatt-hour} = \text{Cost of Operation}$

If a 1500-watt heater runs 24-hours a day at 10 cents per kilowatt-hour, the cost would be \$3.60.

$(1500 \times 24 / 1000 \times .10)$.

For a month, that would amount to \$108.



Thermostat Reminder

Your heating system works harder when the outdoor temp drops. Adjust your thermostat to the lowest comfortable setting.