



By Tim Stewart, CEO/Manager

RISK OF ROLLING BLACKOUTS THIS SUMMER

MISO projects risk of insufficient firm generation resources to cover peak load in summer months

Clark Electric Cooperative receives transmission and generation services from Dairyland Power Cooperative. Did you know that Dairyland Power Cooperative is part of a larger, regional grid that is operated by the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO)? MISO is an independent, not-for-profit organization responsible for operating the power grid across 15 U.S. states and Manitoba, Canada. The MISO footprint extends from Manitoba, through the central part of the country down to Louisiana. MISO is projecting the summer peak of 124 GW (gigawatts) with 119 GW of projected regularly available generation within MISO footprint. According to JT Smith, executive director – market operations at MISO, “We are at increased risk of temporary, controlled outages to preserve the integrity of the bulk electric system.”

There are a number of factors contributing to this risk:

- 1) There is increase in electric demand in the region
- 2) NOAA is forecasting warmer seasonal temperatures for the summer season
- 3) The transmission needs to be more robust so power can be moved from generation to load sources more easily. There are currently wind-rich resources that are constrained due to lack of transmission, and

- 4) the retirement of coal and nuclear generation is faster than the pace of new energy resources being added. Primarily the new resources coming on-line are intermittent wind and solar, which are not always available when needed.

If the power grid is nearing capacity you will hear a “Peak Alert” notice on the radio urging conservation to reduce demand. We also will utilize our load management program to help take pressure off the grid to help keep the lights on. If demand continues to build, Clark Electric Cooperative has an emergency load reduction plan in place to help eliminate generation capacity shortage that will be implemented if we need to. This would result in systematic rolling blackouts where load would be reduced and rotated throughout the area.

Individuals who rely on electrically powered oxygen or other medical equipment should always have their own personal backup plan for coping with power outages and other potential emergencies. While we work hard to provide reliable electric service, we cannot guarantee the power will never fail. If your life or the life of a loved one depends on electricity, you need to develop a personal emergency response plan.

How Can You Help

First of all, don’t panic. This is a projection of what may happen, not necessarily what will happen. MISO, as well as all the utilities in MISO, have plans and procedures in place to mitigate load and generation shortfalls. If in fact comes to emergency load reduction, we are prepared for it. You can help as well.

Do the Summer Shift

As temperatures rise, so does the demand for electricity. The goal of the summer shift program is to shift non-essential electricity use to before 11 a.m. or after 7 p.m., June through August. These are the times when electricity use is not at its peak and therefore less expensive, but it also helps keep the grid from taxing generation resources during peak conditions. The best part is that everyone can participate. Here are a few ideas:

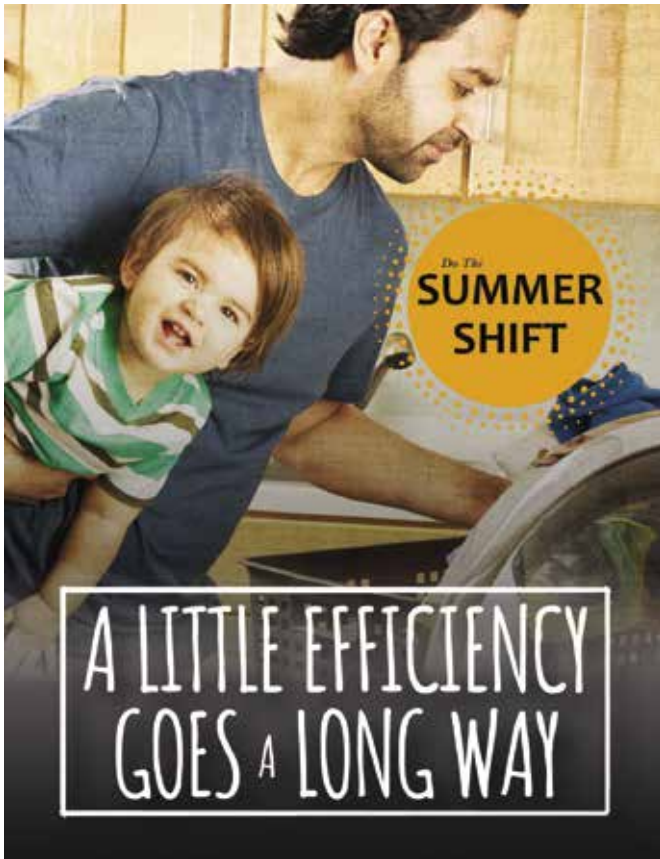
- Program the summer shift hours into your smart thermostat or increase the setting by a few degrees; 78 degrees is recommended during the summer.

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Available power generation within the regional grid is being closely monitored. Members may be asked to reduce non-essential electricity use. We will post updates as we learn more.



MISO footprint
www.misoenergy.org



Risks of Rolling Blackouts

Continued from following page

- Do laundry after 7 p.m. and use cold water, if possible. You could get a load or two of clothes washed and hung up to dry overnight before going to bed. Vacuum during the off hours.
- Open the dishwasher after the wash cycle to let dishes air dry.
- Shut off lights. Longer days have arrived, so utilize the extra daylight to delay turning on lights around the house.
- Use the grill or plan a picnic for dinner. It's a great way to save energy and eliminate unwanted heat from cooking indoors.
- Set the water heater to 120 degrees.
- Avoid using multiple large appliances simultaneously.
- Turn off the TV.

Peak Alert

There will be times this summer when you hear of a PEAK ALERT on the radio. The Peak Alert will be issued due to high demand for electricity on the regional grid. We will be asking you to conserve energy between 2 and 6 p.m. Please take this notice seriously and do your part to help prevent the potential of excess demand being placed on the grid.

HELP KEEP RATES DOWN

Watch & listen for peak alerts

There may be days when you hear of a PEAK ALERT on the radio. When this happens, please shift your flexible electricity usage to after 6 p.m.

The Peak Alert will be issued due to high demand for electricity on the regional grid. Clark Electric Cooperative, along with other local

Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, will be calling for extra electricity conservation efforts between 2 and 6 p.m. Elevated peak demand leads to higher power costs.

Here are a few things you can do: Please avoid using multiple large appliances at the same time, and wait until after 6 p.m. to run your dishwasher or washing machine. Use your grill to cook dinner outside and have a family picnic in the yard.

As a cooperative member, you are part of something bigger. Every little effort you make benefits all the members of Clark Electric Cooperative and helps to keep your electricity rates stable and affordable.

When you hear PEAK ALERT please remember to shift flexible electricity use to 6 p.m. or later.

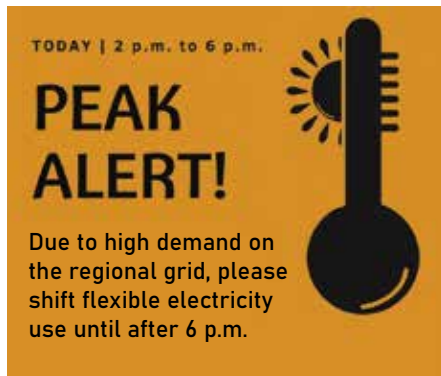


Some of our members have been contacted by telephone from someone claiming to be representing the cooperative and demanding payment to be made through an app.

Don't fall for this scam!

Clark Electric Cooperative does not contact members by phone to demand a payment.

If you receive such a call, please contact our office to report it.





ALL DIRECTORS EARN DIRECTOR GOLD CERTIFICATION

For electric cooperatives to thrive in this time of change and uncertainty, it is vital that directors have a solid understanding of the electric cooperative business model. They must have a diverse set of knowledge and skills, up-to-date knowledge of industry changes, and a commitment to learn throughout their service on the board of directors.

The National Rural Electric

This is the first time in cooperative history that the complete board has achieved this milestone.

Cooperative Association's Director Certificate Programs are specifically designed to help electric cooperative directors understand

the complexity of a very challenging industry. The certification requirements consist of three parts:

Credentialed Cooperative Director Certification (CCD) – The CCD is a set of five courses that focus on basic governance knowledge and the essential skills required of cooperative directors. The CCD prepares directors to fulfill their fiduciary duty as elected officials serving on behalf of their membership.



Left to right: Allen Jicinsky, James Hager, Charles Lindner, Scott Johnson, Herman Seebandt, Marvin Verkuilen, and Thomas Odeen.

Board Leadership Certification (BLC) – After completing the CCD, and as directors continue their board service, they need to stay current on industry issues and evolving expectations for governance. The BLC courses have been grouped into specialty areas such as power supply, finance, risk management, technology, and governance.

Director Gold Certification (DGC) – This credential recognizes directors who have earned their CCD and BLC creden-

tials and are committed to continuing their education throughout their service on the board. To earn the DGC, a director must hold the CCD and BLC and earn additional credits from the Board Leadership Certificate series of courses.

Congratulations to the Clark Electric Cooperative Board of Directors on earning the DGC certification. This is the first time in cooperative history that the complete board has achieved this milestone.



Logan Dix, left, and Matt Sockness

WELCOME, SUMMER HELP EMPLOYEES

Clark Electric Cooperative welcomes two new summer help employees to our operations department.

Logan Dix, apprentice lineman, is from the Stratford area. He graduated from Northcentral Technical College in Wausau with a technical degree in Electrical Power Distribution in the spring of 2022.

Logan enjoys hunting, fishing, farming, and building in his spare time.

Matt Sockness, apprentice lineman, is from Unity. He graduated from the Electrical Power Distribution program at Northcentral Technical College in Wausau in the spring of 2022.

In his spare time Matt enjoys hunting and fishing.

Please extend a warm welcome if you see them in your neighborhood working hard to ensure your power is on when you flip the switch.

DAIRY FARM REWIRING LOAN AND GRANT PROGRAM

Many agricultural facilities are aging, and reinvestment in them has been made more difficult due to low milk prices. Wisconsin's electric cooperatives have created a farm re-wiring financial assistance program for dairy producers.



Dairy farmers who are members of electric cooperatives can apply to their local co-op for a cost-sharing package to re-wire their existing agricultural facilities to meet current electrical code standards. (New construction is not eligible.)

This process involves a pre-program inspection performed by a state-certified electrical inspector (which is provided by your cooperative), and an application to the cooperative for up to \$6,000 (or 20 percent) in grant funds and up to \$24,000 (or 80 percent) in low-interest loan funds. Farmers have five years to repay the loans.

The work must be completed by a master electrician licensed by the State of Wisconsin. Before final payment is made for the re-wiring project, the work must pass a final electrical inspection performed by the provided state-certified electrical inspector.

Wisconsin electric cooperatives are offering this financial assistance in order to protect the safety of their members and help preserve and extend the life of farmers' important assets. Clark Electric encourages its members with operating dairy farms to participate in the Safety First Wiring Program. Please contact our Operations Department for additional information on this program.



Clark Electric Cooperative will be closed Monday, July 4. Have a safe and happy holiday!

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Did you know the combined use of large appliances like dishwashers, clothes dryers and washing machines account for the largest percentage of electricity use in the average U.S. home? Take small steps to save energy when using these appliances.

Only run full loads in the dishwasher, and thoroughly scrape food from dishes before loading. Dry towels and heavier cottons separate from lighter-weight clothing, and clean the lint screen after every use. Wash clothing in cold water to save energy used to heat water.

Source: EIA and DOE

CALL 811 BEFORE YOU DIG

Safe Electricity.org

Save the Date!

MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY

Saturday, September 24

Pancake Breakfast & Fun Activities For All!

Tim Stewart, CEO/Manager

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Clark Electric Cooperative
 Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.