

The Outlet

JUNE 2023

A monthly publication for members of Riverland Energy Cooperative

Offices Closed July 4

Our offices will be closed on Tuesday, July 4 for the Fourth of July holiday. Outages can be reported 24/7 by calling 800-927-6206.

June is Dairy Month

In recognition of Dairy month, Riverland Energy Cooperative would like to take a moment to salute local dairy farmers and the entire dairy industry. The Cooperative appreciates the outstanding effort and vital contributions dairy farmers make to the area. The cooperative employees and directors thank you!

Call before you dig

Before you build a deck, install a fence, plant a tree or dig into any home improvement project, have utility lines marked. One call helps protect you from injury and expense. Call 811 three working days before you dig to have buried utility lines located. It's free.

Please don't post on utility poles

It may seem innocent to post signs on utility poles, but staples, nails, tacks, signs and other objects are a dangerous safety hazard for utility workers. Objects on poles can snag or puncture protective gear, gloves and clothing, making linemen vulnerable to slips, falls, cuts and even electrocution.

Electrical Safety Demonstrations Presented area Elementary Schools



Last month during National Electrical Safety Month, we shared the importance of respecting the power of electricity to over 2,400 elementary students. The line crew visited 22 schools and 49 classrooms throughout the month of May and presented a live demonstration where they learned the dangers associated with electricity and how to be safe around power lines.

Summer Shift: Curb energy use in June, July & August

When members save energy, they tend to save money. However, there is always something in our homes using electricity. Using electricity is inevitable, but how members choose to use it can be impactful.



The goal of the Summer Shift program is to shift non-essential electricity use weekdays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. during June, July and August.

Members who can shift or reduce their energy use during this timeframe can help the co-op save on wholesale power costs. It means smaller rate increases and/or less frequent rate increases in the future for the membership. It is as easy as delaying the dishwasher, shifting the start of laundry and setting your thermostat for air conditioning a few degrees higher.

This is the 12th year the co-op has committed to running a campaign encouraging members to shift electric use during the summer months.

From the CEO, Tim Holtan



Every day, many of our members travel the Great River Road (Hwy 35), which goes by Dairyland Power Cooperative's John P. Madgett (JPM) Generating Station in Alma, Wis. I've received several questions from members noticing two coal

piles at JPM and coal being transported between the two.

Dairyland – like other utilities – signs multi-year coal contracts based on how much JPM is expected to operate each year. When Dairyland's Genoa Station #3 (G-3) Generating Station closed in 2021, Dairyland was still in a coal contract for the plant so it rerouted coal deliveries from Genoa to JPM. This coal was stored on a second pile north of the primary coal pile at the JPM site. Having this additional coal worked out in Dairyland's favor because, in 2022, rail transportation constraints delayed coal deliveries to most coal units, including JPM. As a result, the coal on the north pile was consumed. Without this additional coal from G-3's contract, the coal supply at JPM would have been dangerously low and the plant would have reduced its availability to the regional grid operator – Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO). In this situation, Dairyland would have purchased the extra power it needed off the MISO market at a time when prices were higher than normal. Not only did the coal from G-3 help keep our wholesale electricity rates stable – preventing additional power cost adjustment charges – but it also ensured reliability for the entire region by providing power when we needed it. Coal deliveries picked up throughout 2022 and are back on schedule; the second coal pile will be replenished over the course of 2023.

Dairyland and its member cooperatives – including Riverland Energy – are committed to meeting your



electricity needs. This commitment is reflected in the planned outage underway through mid-June at JPM. Part of the multi-week outage included an entire overhaul of its generating turbine, as well as improvements to precipitator equipment that will more than double the amount of fly ash able to be collected. Dairyland markets the fly ash for beneficial reuse, where it is recycled as an additive to cement and concrete applications.

MISO recently released results of its seasonal capacity resource auction, which forecasts the grid's ability to keep the lights on during times of peak demand. In the north/central region where we are located, MISO is expected to have sufficient generation resources to meet the electricity needs of members and regional consumers for normal summer peak demand. MISO utilizes available wind and solar energy, but reliable electricity also hinges on baseload power plants, such as JPM, to be available when wind and solar production are low.

Thank you for your questions and your cooperation to conserve energy during times of peak demand. I want to wish everyone a fun and safe summer.



What is a power cost adjustment (PCA)?

The PCA is an optional rider to the rate schedule. It’s used when the actual costs to generate electricity are different from what was projected at the beginning of each rate year. Each month the amount and cost of power purchased and power sold are compared with the annual budget. Any variations in the actual versus projected power costs go into a formula that estimates what the PCA should be.

The PCA helps mitigate the impact to members by spreading the wholesale price variations over the projected kilowatt-hour sales that remain in the year. Calculated monthly, the PCA can be zero, positive or negative.




POOL SAFETY REMINDER

Never bring corded, electrical items near the swimming pool.
Use battery-powered items instead.

ENERGY ASSISTANCE

- Need help with your electric bill?
Contact your local agency:
- Trempealeau Co. Social Services:**
715-538-2311
- Western Wisconsin E.O.C.:**
715-985-2391
- Buffalo County Human Services:** 608-685-4412
- La Crosse Co. Human Services:** 608-784-4357
- Energy Services, Inc.:**
800-506-5596
energyandhousing.wi.gov
- WI Help for Homeowners:**
855-246-6394
homeownershelp.wi.gov

OPERATING STATISTICS



Kristina Marsolek,
Manager
of Finance

	Monthly		Year-to-date	
	April 2022	April 2023	2022	2023
KWHS PURCHASED	22,076,595	21,633,357	104,530,719	99,499,848
KWHS SOLD	21,207,641	20,807,846	100,405,270	95,902,047
REVENUE	2,986,913	2,772,043	13,442,121	13,437,914
COST OF PURCHASED POWER	1,640,100	1,676,905	8,042,092	7,659,916
OTHER EXPENSES	1,501,049	1,442,334	5,155,138	5,458,565
OPERATING MARGINS	(154,236)	(347,196)	244,891	319,433
NON-OPERATING MARGINS	205,804	7,454	228,887	43,588
CAPITAL CREDITS-ASSOC. ORGANIZATIONS	56,898	54,372	281,989	251,380
TOTAL MARGINS	108,466	(285,370)	755,767	614,401

DID YOU KNOW? In 2023, the Burj Khalifa in Dubai stands as the tallest structure in the world. Do you know what the tallest structure was in 1885, until it was surpassed by the Eiffel Tower in 1895? The Washington Monument in Washington, DC.

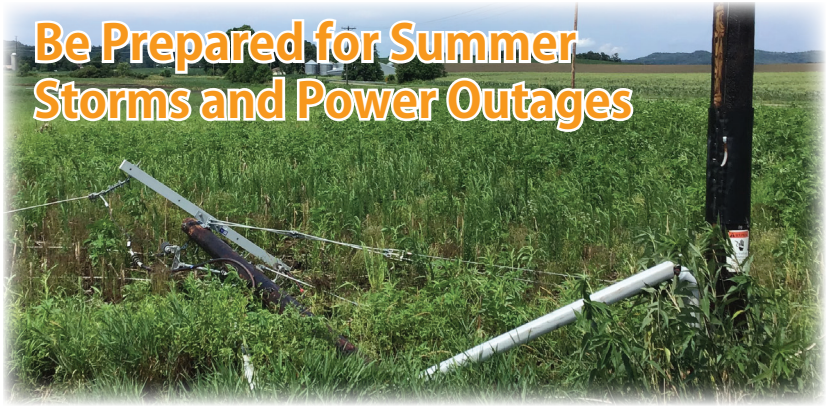
Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Looking for additional ways to save energy this summer? Your laundry room is a great place to start. Wash clothes with cold water, which can cut one load's energy use by more than half. Your washing machine will use the same amount of energy no matter the size of the clothes load, so fill it up when you can. When drying clothes, separate the heavier cottons. Loads will dry faster and more evenly if you separate heavier cottons like linens and towels from your lightweight clothing.

Source: Dept. of Energy



Be Prepared for Summer Storms and Power Outages



Summer storms are always a threat. If you experience an outage, check to see that the power issue is not on your side of the electric meter. Check fuses and circuit breakers in your home.

When calling in an outage, please have this information available:

- Your account number
- Name on the electric account
- Service address where outage is occurring
- Phone number on the account
- Cause of outage if known

If you call after business hours or during a widespread outage our call center, Cooperative Response Center (CRC) will answer and assist you. During widespread outages, power is resorted systematically. Attention is given first to substations and main feeder lines, followed by individual members.

There are three ways to report an outage:

- **Call** 800-927-6206. After hours: Press #1 to report it via automatic phone recorder; or press #3 to talk to someone.
- **Text** in your outage at 55050. (Must be signed up for outage texting)
- **Online** through SmartHub. Login and follow the prompts for outage reporting and the information will automatically be sent to the dispatch team

You can view current outages on our live outage map online at riverlandenergy.com.



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® Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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Outages & Emergencies
Call 800-927-6206,
24 hours a day

www.riverlandenergy.com