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Mark Your Calendar

Apr 15 Electric Bills Due

Apr 18 Office Closed
(Good Friday)

Apr 29 Board Meeting



Find Your Account Number & Win!

TEC has hidden an account number in this newsletter. If you find your account number, notify us by May 1st and you will get a **\$10 bill credit**.



Load Management at Traverse Electric Cooperative

JEREMY HUHNSTOCK
General Manager

Traverse Electric is moving forward with the next generation of energy or load management. We are in the process of replacing our outdated load management devices. Our old load management devices are past their useful lifespan. These load controls were powerline carrier models, meaning the signals were transmitted through the power lines. The new load management devices that we are going with are cellular devices, that have two-way signal; meaning, we will know if the controller is controlling the load.

If you have a load management device in your home or another location, Traverse Electric will notify you to set up a time to changeout your receiver. Currently, we are trying to replace the load controllers in South Dakota, as the "Mother" receiver located in our Victor Substation will be removed in 2026, when the substation is revamped.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What is load management and why do we do it?

A: Load management is a system that allows the utility to limit energy usage during peak times when energy is most expensive, thus saving our member money. By reducing load to grain bin fans, irrigation, and water heaters, we are greatly reducing the wholesale purchase power cost, which was almost 62% of our cost in 2024.

Q: Why is Traverse Electric installing new load management receivers?

A: We have been operating on the same load management technology since the mid 1980's. This equipment is at its end-of-life. The new devices are required for the software that we will be using.

Q: How is the new device different from the old one?

A: The existing load control devices use signals on the power lines to communicate with the devices. The new devices will utilize wireless technology.

Q: What are the benefits of the new devices?

A: It allows the cooperative to continue performing load management that saves the members money. The new devices will also provide two-way communication, so we can be proactive in resolving any issues. Our current receivers don't operate with two-way communication, so we don't know if they are actually controlling the load or having issues.

Q: Do I need the new device:

A: A new device is necessary to continue your participation in the load management programs and to continue to receive any applicable rebates, rates or incentives.

Q: Will there be a cost to me or will it affect my billing?

A: No. There is no charge for the installation of the new device. There will also be no change to your billing, unless you choose to not participate in the load management program.

Q: I don't want the technology. Can I have my receiver removed?

A: Yes. If a member chooses not to participate, they will no longer be eligible for any related benefits from the load management program. Please contact the office, so we can remove the load management receiver from your residence.



2025 Annual Meeting



Thank you to our members for attending our 85th annual meeting on Thursday, March 20. It was good to see all of you. Congratulations to all of our prize winners!

2025 Annual Meeting Prize Winners

1. **\$100 credit:** Larry Lee
2. **\$50 credit:** Gordy Rittenour
3. **\$50 credit:** Betty Beal
4. **\$25 credit:** John Zettel
5. **\$25 credit:** Adelle Magnuson
6. **\$25 credit:** Tom Zych
7. **\$25 credit:** Lavonne McCleerey
8. **Wind Chime:** Dennis Sumerfelt
9. **Insulated Koozie Bag Cooler:** Jerome & Nina Borgen
10. **Electric Heater:** Waldo Johnson
11. **2 Pack Surge Protector Power Strips:** Mark Pistorius
12. **Pickleball Set:** Kathy Hoppe
13. **Paper shredder:** Eddie & Diann Madsen
14. **Dustbuster cordless vacuum:** Jennifer Wanek
15. **Plant:** Ray Fiedler
16. **Plant:** Duane Wilts
17. **Plant:** Mark Pearson
18. **Plant:** Bonita Mesenbrink
19. **East River Lunch Box Cooler:** Tim Braun
20. **Surge Protector:** Charles Kostboth
21. **Milwaukee Leaf Blower:** Paul Meyer
22. **Weber Charcoal Grill:** Judy Otto

watt matters

2024 CAPITAL CREDIT CHECKS INVALID ADDRESS LIST

Name	Address	Yrs in Service
Barbara Gail	Fergus Falls MN	2008
James Hennen	Wheaton MN	1973-2018
Craig & Sally Johnson	St Cloud MN	2008-2012
Terry Kraemer	Elk River MN	2005-2012
Carolynne Pederson Messler	Sious Falls SD	2008-2013
Randy Remer	Richfield MN	1999-2018
Vertical Solutions	Ortonville MN	2003-2014
Roderick & Joyce Stave Trust	Hillsboro OR	1973-2007
Garth & Jeannie Whiddon	Webster SD	2003-2020

Air Conditioning Load Management Update

At the February Board Meeting, the Board of Directors voted to discontinue the AC load management program. This decision was made for multiple reasons, stated below.

- ▶ Modern AC units are more efficient, resulting in less energy usage
- ▶ Startup & Shutdown causes wear & tear on your AC unit
- ▶ Better insulation in your homes
- ▶ Too much control time during the summer
- ▶ Control it yourself through your thermostat
- ▶ AC units are only controlled part of the year vs a water heater that can be controlled year round

All KWH will be billed at normal rate from May thru September.

If you have any questions or would like your load management control removed, feel free to call the office at (800)927-5443. ▶

NOTICE: Idle Services

An idle service location is a disconnected location where the owner is no longer paying the minimum monthly facility fee, but Traverse Electric still has equipment installed including transformers, poles, and wire. #2236

After attempts to notify the property owners regarding the idle services on their property by mail with no response from the property owners, Traverse Electric will remove its equipment feeding the inactive service to include poles, wire, and the transformer if the property

owner does not contact our office to establish electric service again and pay the monthly minimum fee. If the equipment is removed, the property owner will be responsible to pay applicable line construction costs if a request is made to bring electric service back to that location in the future.

Per Board Policy 300: Idle Services:

The Cooperative may, at its discretion, retire any electrical distribution line or service that has been disconnected for two years or more, providing:

a). The last connected consumer or known owner has been notified by

mail and a list to be published in the Cooperative Connections of the Cooperative's intention to retire the service.

Once the list below is published in this newsletter, the property owner has until **May 1, 2025** to contact our office to energize the service or pay an idle service fee equal to the monthly facility fee to keep the distribution line and equipment in place. Below is the list of known property owners and locations of the services that Traverse Electric plans to retire any time after May 1, 2025 without further notice. 📌

Property Owner Name	Last Known Mailing Address	Map Location	County	Township	Sec	Qtr	Idle Date
Dell & Lori Fossum	45157 SD Hwy 25, Veblen, SD	53-21-2	Roberts	Norway	21	NE	10/29/13
Greg & Rachel Ward	1012 Lake Ave, Graceville, MN	14-06-2	Big Stone	Graceville	6	NE	1/14/15
Linda Umlauf Trust	27736 180th St, Fergus Falls, MN	5A-6-2	Grant	Elbow Lake	6	NE	5/28/15
Lyle Pederson Trust	7640 550th St, Dumont, MN	7-23-2	Traverse	Leonardsville	32	NE	2/28/17
Karen Borgen	123E Chestnut St Apt 5, Sisseton, SD	52A-13-3A	Marshall	McKinley	13	NE	6/7/17
Hope Richards	28076 Co Rd 8, Norcross, MN	4-24-1	Grant	Gorton	24	SE	9/14/17
Lakes Financial Center	6612 Parkwood Rd, Minneapolis, MN	22-14-3	Big Stone	Toqua	14	NW	7/31/18
Richard Skoog	45th St SE Apt 2, Ortonville, MN	30-12-1	Big Stone	Foster	12	SE	6/30/19
Glenn Bartells	13127 Pleasant Place, Burnsville, MN	4-30-3	Grant	Gorton	30	NW	9/30/20
Kate McKay	11681 Lake Rd, Browns Valley, MN	39-15-3F	Roberts	Bryant	15	NW	8/10/21

Load Management

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Q: Who will see the data received and how will it be used?

A: The cooperative will communicate with the device to tell it to either turn on or off. The cooperative will also receive a signal back relaying if the device is working properly. This does not include any personal or identifiable information.

Q: Will someone contact me?

A: Yes. Connor, our electrician, will be in contact with you to schedule an appointment to replace any receivers.

The current load management system has been in place since the mid 1980's, so we may not know where all the water heater load management receivers are located. If you have a load management receiver located inside your residence, please contact the office at (800)927-5443 to get your receiver changed out. 📌

Annual Cogeneration Notification to Membership

In compliance with Traverse Electric Cooperative, Inc. adopted rules relating to cogeneration and small power production, Traverse Electric Cooperative, Inc. is obligated to interconnect with and purchase electricity from cogenerators and small power producers, whom satisfy the conditions as a qualifying facility. ***Interested members can find information regarding rates and interconnection requirements at www.novapowerportal.com/Home/Index/69. All qualifying facility interconnections must follow the Traverse Electric Cooperative, Inc's adopted interconnection process and technical requirements to be allowed for interconnection to the distribution system.***

Any dispute over interconnections, sales, and purchases are subject to resolution by the Traverse Electric Cooperative, Inc. Board. Interested members should contact Traverse Electric Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 66, Wheaton, MN 56296 or call 800-927-5443. 📌

February 2025 Traverse Electric Board Meeting Highlights

The February regular board meeting was held on Tuesday, February 25, 2025 at 9 AM.

Absent: None.

Staff members present were General Manager, Jeremy Huhnstock, Dale Schwagel, and Karen Lupkes. President Diekmann called the meeting to order.

The agenda was approved.

The minutes of the January regular board meeting were approved.

The January check register was approved. Discussed the East River and Basin Electric video reports, and the NRECA training video: The Directors Role in Grassroots.

Diekmann gave an East River Board Report. Marks, Monson, Ehlers, and Gaulrapp reported on the East River Energize Forum.

Diekmann and Marks reported on the MREA Annual Meeting. Huhnstock presented the General Manager's Report, which included:

- Provided a Basin Electric update.
- Provided an East River update.
- REED Fund review.
- NRECA update.
- MREA and MN legislative update.
- SDREA and SD legislative update.
- Other matters of interest.

Lupkes gave the Office Manager's Report, which included:

- January 31, 2025 accounts receivable balances were reviewed.
- A list of new members was reviewed.
- East River's margin stabilization credit was applied to the January power bills.
- Physical count inventory completed

in January.

- Update on Electrical Dept. and Generator Program.
- East River power bill and Basin's financial reports reviewed.

Reviewed and approved the January 2025 Financial Report.

The Operations Report was presented per written report. Items included:

- Provided a crew update.
- Reviewed upcoming and completed projects.
- Cable orders are scheduled to arrive in April and May.
- Received material quotes for 2025 from vendors.
- Otter Tail Power plans to do some upgrades on its transmission line going to the Beardsley substation.
- Reviewed our Safety Program.
- Outages were reviewed.

Reviewed the district meetings held. Accepted the 2025 Cogeneration Report. Approved Rate Schedule Q – Cogeneration and Small Power Production. Selected our 2025 Washington DC Youth Tour delegate.

Selected the \$1,000 Basin Electric Scholarship and \$500 Traverse Electric Scholarship recipients. Received an update on the sale of the old properties. Approved revisions to Policy 305 Load Management. Rescinded Rate Schedules H Interruptible Heating and I Heat Storage. Approved revisions to Rate Schedule J Special Electric Heat Rate. Discussed 3rd Party load management. Reviewed upcoming meetings and attendees. Meeting adjourned.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Doug Diekmann, Beardsley, MN
Vice-President: Terry Monson, Veblen, SD
Secretary: Matthew Glynn, Sisseton, SD
Treasurer: Michael Marks, Norcross, MN
Stacy Ehlers, Wheaton, MN
Michael Gaulrapp, Breckenridge, MN
Jared Hamling, Rosholt, SD
Bradley Rudolph, Dumont, MN
Kaley Thoennes, Chokio, MN

OFFICE PERSONNEL

Jeremy Huhnstock – General Manager
Karen Lupkes – Office Manager
Dale Schwagel – Operations Manager
Melissa Przymus – Accountant
Stacie Johannsen – Billing Clerk

OPERATIONS PERSONNEL

Richard Davis – Foreman
Lonnie Tekrony – Journeyman Lineworker
Joe Gahlon – Journeyman Lineworker
Austin Reinke – Journeyman Lineworker
Isaac Callens – Journeyman Lineworker
Tayden George – Apprentice Lineworker
Chris Falk – Facility/Staking Technician
Robert Groebner – Facility Technician

GENERAL MANAGER'S

CONTACT INFORMATION

Jeremy Huhnstock
Cell: 320-349-9901 | Direct: 320-563-1055
jhuhnstock@traverseelectric.com

MEMBER SERVICE REP/ MASTER ELECTRICIAN

Steve Powers 320-808-9104
Connor Bartz
– Journeyman Electrician 320-287-0009

ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS MINNESOTA

Brandon Lennox 320-808-5309
Big Stone County Grant County
Stevens County Traverse County
Andy Bozovsky 218-340-0926
Wilkin County

NORTH DAKOTA

Mark Moderow 701-226-3779
Richland County

SOUTH DAKOTA

John Koenig 605-280-2188
Marshall County Roberts County

In case of a power outage, call
(800) 927-5443

6590 State Highway 27
P.O. Box 66
Wheaton, MN 56296 USA
Toll-free phone: (800) 927-5443
Local phone: (320) 563-8616

Hours of Operation

Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
October 1 – April 30

Web site: www.traverseelectric.com

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Our Mission: To provide dependable service at the lowest possible rates, consistent with sound business principles.

TEC February 2025 Financials

	Feb 2024	Feb 2025	YTD 2025
Total Revenue	\$1,065,231.38 . . .	\$1,265,206.12 . . .	\$2,692,649.91
Cost of Power	\$667,897.84 . . .	\$742,708.79 . . .	\$1,458,345.58
Total Cost of Service	\$1,044,052.01 . . .	\$1,199,717.26 . . .	\$2,410,890.36
Operating Margins	\$21,179.37 . . .	\$65,488.86 . . .	\$281,759.55
Total Margins	\$22,148.01 . . .	\$81,046.36 . . .	\$308,801.15
Kilowatt-Hours (kWh) Purchased	11,185,285	11,841,843	25,586,288
Kilowatt-Hours (kWh) Sales	10,629,798	11,270,684	24,344,079
Line Loss	4%	4%	4%