



This Issue

- How Extreme Summer Temps Impact Reliability p2
- Scholarships cont. p3
- Board Report p4



Mark Your Calendar

- Jun 15 Electric Bills Due
- Jun 24 Board Meeting



Find Your Account Number & Win!

Congratulations to **Robert M. Kramer** for finding his account number in the May newsletter for a \$10 credit.

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

Emily Kellen selected to attend the 2025 Washington DC Youth Tour

Emily Kellen, daughter of Robin & Leanne Kellen of Beardsley, MN was selected to attend this year's Washington DC Youth Tour, June 16-21, 2025. Emily is a student at Clinton Graceville Beardsley High School in Graceville, MN. Emily wrote an essay on the topic "What moment in American History do you wish you had been a part of, and what would you have contributed?" Emily's essay titled "A Desire to Make a Difference" was written about World War II and how she would have improved the tactics the United States and other countries used to save the lives of innocent Jewish people from the Nazis.



Congratulations to All 2025 Scholarship Recipients!

\$1,000 Basin Electric Scholarship Recipient: Kyle Kremer

Kyle Kremer of Wheaton, MN is the son of Mike & Kathi Kremer and is a senior at Wheaton Area High School. After graduation, Kyle plans to pursue a degree in Engineering at the University of MN, Twin Cities.



Sisseton High School. After graduation, Andra plans to attend Lakes Area Technical College in Watertown, SD to further her education in Business.

\$500 Traverse Electric Scholarship Recipient: Kathryn (Kate) Meyer

Kathryn Meyer of Sisseton, SD is the daughter of Andy & Tammy Meyer and is a senior at Sisseton High School. After graduation, Kate plans to attend South Dakota State University in Brookings, SD to further her education in Agricultural Business.



\$500 Traverse Electric Scholarship Recipient: Hadley Berger

Hadley Berger is the daughter of Tony & Gina Berger and is a senior at Wheaton Area High School. After graduation, Hadley plans to attend Lakes Area Technical College in Watertown, SD to further her education in Agriculture Production.



\$500 Traverse Electric Scholarship Recipient: Isabelle Gronfeld

Isabelle Gronfeld of Johnson, MN is the daughter of Tim & Sara Gronfeld and is a senior at Clinton Graceville Beardsley High School. After graduation, Isabelle plans to attend Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato, MN to further her education in Music Education.



\$500 Traverse Electric Scholarship Recipient: Andra Hanson

Andra Hanson of Sisseton, SD is the daughter of Brett & Kelly Hanson and is a senior at





How Extreme Summer Temps Impact Reliability

JEREMY HUHNSTOCK
General Manager

When outdoor temperatures soar, our electricity use increases. That's because our air conditioners are running longer and more often to counteract sweltering outdoor temperatures. Factor in that we all tend to use electricity at the same times—in the morning and early evenings—and that equals a lot of strain on our electric grid.

At Traverse Electric, we work closely with East River Electric, our local generation and transmission (G&T) cooperative in resource and infrastructure planning to ensure you have the power you need whenever you flip a switch, but the electric grid is much larger than your local co-op and G&T.

In summer months, when even more electricity is being used simultaneously across the country, it is possible for electricity demand to exceed supply, especially if a prolonged heat wave occurs. If this happens, which is rare, the grid operator for our region of the country may call on consumers to actively reduce their energy use or initiate rolling power outages to relieve pressure on the grid. TEC will always keep you informed about situations like this.

We work proactively with our G&T to create a resilient portion of the grid and ensure electric reliability in extreme weather, including regular system maintenance, grid modernization efforts and disaster response planning; but it takes everyone to keep the grid reliable.

To help keep the air conditioner running for you, your family and neighbors, here are a few things you can do to relieve pressure on the grid during times of extreme summer heat:

- ▶ Select the highest comfortable thermostat setting and turn it up several degrees whenever possible. Your cooling system must run longer to make up the difference between the thermostat temp and the outdoor temp.
- **Pro tip:** Seal air leaks around windows and exterior doors with caulk and weatherstripping.

watt matters

Air leaks and drafts force your cooling system to work harder than necessary.

- ▶ Run major appliances such as dishwashers, ovens and dryers during off-peak hours when the demand for electricity is lower.
 - **Pro tip:** Start the dishwasher before you go to bed.
- ▶ Use ceiling fans to make yourself feel a few degrees cooler. Remember, ceiling fans cool people (not rooms), so turn them off in unoccupied rooms.
 - **Pro tip:** During summer months, set ceiling fan blades to rotate counterclockwise, which pushes cool air down for a windchill effect.
- ▶ Close blinds, curtains and shades during the hottest part of the day to block unwanted heat gain from sunlight.
 - **Pro tip:** Consider blackout curtains with thermal backing or reflective lining to block heat and light.

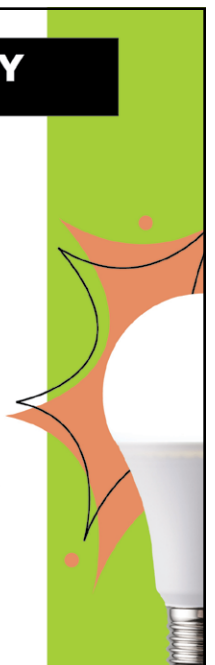
As we face the challenges posed by soaring summer temperatures, understanding the impact on energy demand is crucial for maintaining a reliable power supply. By adopting energy conservation practices during periods of extreme heat, not only can you save money on your electric bills, but you can also contribute to the resilience of the grid, keeping our local community cool and connected. ▶

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Routine maintenance is important to keep your refrigerator running efficiently. Lint and dirt should be cleaned from the refrigerator coils every six months to a year, and more often if there are pets in the home.

When coils are coated with lint, dust or pet hair, your refrigerator works harder than it's designed to, which can prevent the appliance from cooling properly and efficiently. The additional work can increase the energy costs of the refrigerator by as much as 35% and shorten the life of the appliance.

Source: energy.gov



Join us for a **VIP Member TOUR**

**July
15-16
2025**

**\$50/member
\$75/couple
(refundable after the trip)**

See first hand where your power comes from as we guide you on a tour of Basin Electric Power Cooperative and generation facilities.

Charter Bus Tour to Bismarck

Travel, tours, hotel accommodations, meals, and evening entertainment are provided for you by your cooperative and accompanied by staff members of Whetstone Valley Electric Cooperative.

To get on the list or for more information,

Contact: Jeremy Huhnstock or Karen Lupkes

Call: 320-563-8616

E-mail: jhuhnstock@traverseelectric.com

**Sign-up
Deadline
June 25th**

**TRAVERSE
ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE**



Return by June 25th to TEC Basin Tour: PO Box 66, Wheaton, MN 56296

TEC Member Name: _____

Phone: _____ TEC Account # _____

Address _____

E-mail Address: _____

Guest Name: _____

Pick Up Location: Wheaton Office

Scholarship Recipients continued from page 1

\$500 Traverse Electric Scholarship Recipient: **Sawyer Huff**

Sawyer Huff of Sisseton, SD is the son of Robert & Kerri Huff and is a senior at Rosholt High School. After graduation, Sawyer plans to attend the University of Minnesota Morris in Morris, MN to further his education in Music Education.



\$500 Traverse Electric Scholarship Recipient: **Zachary Smith**

Zachary Smith of Rosholt, SD is the son of Chad & Katie Smith and is a senior at Rosholt High School. After graduation, Zachary plans to attend Northern State University in Aberdeen, SD to further his education in Banking and Finance.



April 2025 Traverse Electric Board Meeting Highlights

The April regular board meeting was held on Tuesday, April 29, 2025 at 8 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 March regular board meeting and March 20, 2025 annual meeting were approved.

The March check register was approved.

Discussed the East River and Basin Electric video reports, and the NRECA training video: Governance & Communications Resource Guide.

Diekmann gave an East River Board Report.

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:

- March 31, 2025 accounts receivable balances were reviewed.
- A list of new members was reviewed.

- NISC software conversion update.
- Annual audit scheduled for week of May 12.
- Update on Electrical Dept. and Generator Program.
- East River power bill and Basin's financial reports reviewed.

Reviewed and approved the March 2025 Financial Report.

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

- Provided a crew update.
- Reviewed upcoming and completed projects.
- Annual pole inspections were completed.
- Digester services were discussed.
- Reported on the hiring process for two linemen.
- Our boring crew has been here for a few weeks.
- Reviewed our Safety Program.
- Outages were reviewed.

Approved a donation to Mitchell Tech for an underground line facility.

Discussed the sale of the old properties.

Irrigation load control was discussed.

A Basin Electric Tour for interested members, July 15-16-2025, will be in our newsletter.

Reviewed the 2024 Reliability Report.

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
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

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, 7 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
May 1 – September 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.

#1576

TEC April 2025 Financials

	Apr 2024	Apr 2025	YTD 2025
Total Revenue	\$1,024,979.47	\$1,146,396.39	\$5,064,127.80
Cost of Power	\$618,922.16	\$676,280.36	\$2,832,617.86
Total Cost of Service	\$1,096,938.10	\$1,119,551.55	\$4,686,230.70
Operating Margins	\$(71,958.63)	\$26,844.84	\$377,897.10
Total Margins	\$(15,389.48)	\$341,475.51	\$730,582.78
Kilowatt-Hours (kWh) Purchased	10,723,896	10,538,223	47,478,910
Kilowatt-Hours (kWh) Sales	10,241,126	10,097,101	45,300,554
Line Loss	4%	4%	4%