

The

Enlightener



North Star
Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner



VOLUME 51 NUMBER 1

BAUDETTE, MINNESOTA

JANUARY 2006

A future Young 3?

Minnkota participates in study for new North Dakota-based generating resource

*By Mike Nisbet,
Communications Supervisor,
Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc.*

Minnkota Power Cooperative and three other regional utilities are currently studying the feasibility of building a jointly owned, lignite-fueled generating resource near the town of Center, N.D.

The other participants in the study include Basin Electric Power Cooperative of Bismarck, N.D.; Minnesota Power of Duluth, Minn.; and Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a division of MDU Resources Group, also of Bismarck.

The study will take an in-depth look at the possibility of constructing a third generating resource at the existing Young Station site. (Gerald/Linda Simon 424-14-002-04) The plant consists of two units, Young 1 and Young 2, which have a combined nameplate generation output of 674 megawatts (MW).

Minnkota utilizes a Power Requirements Study that is done every two years to determine needs for new generation facilities. The current study indicates that Minnkota will need additional generation capacity to meet customer loads by the year 2015.

Viable option

Luther Kvernen, Minnkota vice president of Generation, will serve as the Young 3 project manager.

"Minnkota will be reviewing several options for new generating capacity, but we now believe one of the most viable projects is for a third

generating unit at the Young Station to be online in 2015," Kvernen said.

David Loer, Minnkota president & CEO, said Minnkota is pleased to be working with Minnesota Power, Basin and Montana-Dakota Utilities on this new resource option.

"Making decisions about future generation resources requires a thorough examination of costs, reliability and environmental performance," Loer said. "This study will provide all of the participating utilities with a detailed look at the potential for a Young 3 generating unit."

The feasibility study is anticipated to require more than a year to complete. Final decision on Minnkota's participation in a Young 3 will be made by early 2008 by the Minnkota board of directors, which consists of representatives from the 11 member-owner cooperatives located in eastern North Dakota and northwestern Minnesota.

Growing system

Minnkota is a generation and transmission cooperative supplying wholesale electricity to 11 electric distribution cooperatives in eastern North Dakota and northwestern



Minnkota is studying the feasibility of a third lignite-fueled generating unit that could be located at the Young Station site near Center, N.D.

Minnesota. Minnkota is also the operating agent for the Northern Municipal Power Agency (NMPA), which serves 12 municipal utilities in the same geographic region. Together, the Minnkota/NMPA Joint System provides affordable and reliable electricity to more than 121,000 customers.

Presently, the Joint System is growing at 2.4 percent per year. To meet increasing firm load requirements, Minnkota is now exercising options each year beginning Jan. 1, 2006, to increase its current 30 percent share of the output of the 439-MW Young 2 to 50 percent by 2009.

The primary sources of generation for the Minnkota/NMPA Joint System are the lignite-fired Milton R. Young Station, located near Center, N.D., and the Coyote Station, near Beulah, N.D. Minnkota also owns and operates two commercial-scale wind turbines – one near Valley City and the other near Petersburg, N.D. In addition, Minnkota receives hydropower allocations from Western Area Power Administration.

The Enlightener

January 2006
Published monthly by
North Star Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Baudette, MN 56623

Subscription 50¢/year for members:
\$1/year for non-members

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Steve Arnesen President
Gunder Hallan Vice President
Michael Hanson Secretary-Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Julian Brzoznowski,
L.J. Anderson, Bruce Polkinghorne,
Allan Nygaard, Randy Bergan, Mike Trueman

Wayne Haukaas Editor

Baudette 218-634-2202
Littlefork 218-278-6658

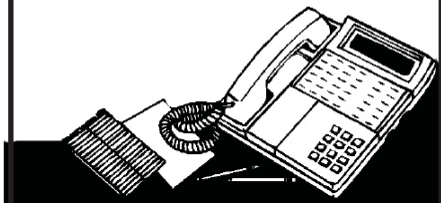
If calling long distance,
call toll-free

Baudette 888-634-2202
Littlefork 888-258-2008

Office hours:
7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Monday through Friday

e-mail us at nsec@wiktel.com
Visit our Web site at
www.northstarelectric.coop
P.O. Box 719, Baudette

**Electrical
after-hours
emergencies
1-888-6OUTAGE
(1-888-668-8243)
634-2603**



November 2005

Operating Report

Revenue	\$ 727,697
Cost of Power	\$ 387,183
Operation, Maintenance, Administration	\$ 205,279
Depreciation and Interest	\$ 141,184
Margin on Operations	\$ (5,949)
Average use per Residential	1,733
Total kWhs Sold	10,467,905

OFF-PEAK LOAN PROGRAM FOR AUTOMATIC BACKUP SYSTEMS

If your off-peak backup heating system is in need of repair or replacement, we may be able to help.

From 1977 to 2000, we had an average of 34 hours of load control per heating season. This past heating season, we had 527 hours. The years of 20 to 40 hours of control are gone. This year, Minnkota Power Cooperative estimates 400 to 600 hours of load control.

You must have a reliable backup heating system.

North Star Electric will lend up to \$2,500 for upgrading members' existing off-peak backup systems when the following terms and conditions are met:

1. On approved credit
2. \$2,500 maximum
3. 6 percent interest
4. 1 to 3-year term
5. Payment will be added to existing electric bill (\$25 minimum per month)
6. \$35 filing fee
7. Must be an existing off-peak member
8. Automatic backup system only (no wood or manual systems)
9. Must furnish sales receipt from contractor or vendor
10. Job must be completed before loan is approved for payment by member services department
11. Outstanding loan balance at termination of service is due in full

WE NEED YOUR METER READING

Please read your meter on or as near the 25th of EACH month as possible. We must have your reading by the 5th of the next month to avoid an estimated bill. If a bill consecutively estimates two times, the crew will read the meter and a \$15 fee will be added to the account.

— Please Note —

Bills that are past due will be charged a 1.5 percent late payment fee. Bills that are 30 days past due will also be charged a \$2 delinquent notice fee.

Bringing in 2006



By Dan Hoskins
General Manager

Well, I hope that all of you had a great holiday season, received everything you asked for from Santa, and then, brought in the New Year with thoughts of prosperity and success for your coming year. I know that here, at North Star Electric Cooperative, we always get excited about a new year. Each and every new year brings something different, and with our new technology that we will be implementing this year, it's easy to get excited about this coming year.

Well, let's get into it. This past year, we installed new Cannon electronic meters with Automated Meter Readers (AMR) on all of our members' accounts that are fed off of our Wheelers Point substation as well as our Kabetogama substation. In November, we started reading those members' meters on these two substations, and I think everyone, from the members, to our line workers, to our billing department, is excited about this technology.

Now, instead of those members trudging through deep snow to get a meter reading (or our linemen having to make a trip to read a meter)

(savings there), and then writing it down on their bill and sending it in with their payment, then our billing department receiving the readings and keying that information into the computer manually (savings there), it is all done automatically. We can get a lot of information off these new meters; we read them on the 25th, as usual, and it is done automatically. Are you still with me; it gets better.

Here is a short version of how it is done; it is very cool, so please continue. An employee sets the information that we need in the AMR computer in our Baudette office, the computer then sends that information to our two-way radio, that I may add, we use for our line trucks (savings there). That signal is then sent over our radio frequency to another radio base in the substation, which then sends the information into a receiver there that sends the information down the power line to your meter, where your meter receives the information requested by our office.

Your meter gets the signal to respond, so your meter sends the signal, containing all the requested information, back down the power line to the substation, where then the signal is transferred to our radio system, which then sends the signal across the radio waves to our Baudette office, where the signal is received by our base radio, transposed back to our computer in the office, which we can use for a number of

things, including putting it into our billing database (savings here, too).

Now that sounds complicated and like a lot of work, but (now this is really the cool part) would you believe me if I told you, we can get your meter reading within three to six seconds. (Bradley Hanson 363-11-011-02) Yes, I said three to six SECONDS; now that is faster than you can spell North Star Electric Cooperative! This year, 2006, our goal is to implement this technology on our whole system by the end of this new year. And now you are thinking, boy, that must cost a lot of money! Well, let me tell you, technology is not cheap, BUT (and that's a big but) the cost per meter will be so minimal that, with the savings that we will realize with this AMR system, it should pay for itself in seven or eight years! I told you this was cool!

This technology will give us the opportunity to make our great, reliable service to you even better. You call our office and tell us that you think you have a voltage problem; we will be able to ask your meter what the voltage is and get it back in three to six seconds. We will be able to confirm any power outages or blinks, the meter reading alone is a terrific savings, both on our side and yours, and in the long run, this AMR system has many future capabilities that North Star Electric will be pursuing in the years to come.

So, when we think about a new year here at North Star Electric, we do get excited, and we are always up for a change that will eventually save you time and money, but most of all, improves our service and reliability to you.

Have a great 2006!

God Bless you and our Troops,

Dan

CURRENT ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS

State law requires that every new electrical installation in any construction, remodeling, replacement or repair shall file a certificate for inspection with the State Board of Electricity and be inspected by a Minnesota electrical inspector.

- *St. Louis county:*

Lee Herseth

10078 Gappa Road

Ray, MN 56669

Phone: (218) 875-3028

7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. (Mon. thru Fri.)

- *Roseau, Lake of the Woods and*

Koochiching counties:

William Crunden

29513 Corlan Dr. N.E.

Blackduck, MN 56630

Phone: (218) 835-8567

7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. (Mon. thru Fri.)



Office notes

From Ann Ellis, Manager of Finance and Administration

“Happiness is a choice that requires effort at times”
~ Anonymous

Tax on security lights

As a result of our recent sales and use tax audit, there was a question on the taxability of security lights. The information that the State had previously provided to us had been interpreted that rental security lights were non-taxable, and so, we have not charged sales tax on these lights for several years. It now appears that we should have charged “use” tax for the energy component of the rental fee. What does that mean to you? If you have a rental light, you will notice that the fee has just increased to include tax on the electricity portion of the fee. HPS (the more energy-efficient orange lights) will now include 9 cents of use tax, and MV (the old white lights) will include 18 cents of use tax. The State is reviewing the issue and may further determine that, in the future, sales tax is more appropriate than the lesser amount of use tax. Our goal is to collect tax only when required, and not more. So, for now, it’s the smaller amount of tax on your bill.

Appropriate sales tax

So, this might be a good time to suggest that you re-evaluate your sales tax position. Do you fit any of these categories?

Primary residential electric heat

If your primary heat source for your home is electric, it is 100 percent exempt for the six winter months. Pat, in our billing department, tries to get the form to anyone who might qualify, but if you’ve missed it, you can find the form on our Web site www.northstarelectric.coop at the bottom of the “Bills and Capital Credits” page, or give Pat a call (634-2202 or toll-free at 1-888-634-2202) to have one faxed or mailed to you.

Agricultural/manufacturing

Electricity used in a manufacturing process is exempt, and a link to an ST3 Certificate of Exemption form can be found at <http://www.taxes.state.mn.us/taxes/sales/index.shtml>. Also, on that page is a link to Fact Sheets. Be sure to read them to make certain that you include only the qualifying electricity in your exemption calculation. An example of something that is not exempt at a site such as this would be the electricity to power security lighting.

Nonprofit organizations

You could also be sales tax exempt if you are an approved nonprofit organization like a church or senior citizen center. Several organizations, which previously qualified, became sales-taxable a few years back. Use the same Web address above for more information.

Do you bill for labor?

If you install items and bill for labor, be sure you’re on track with what you charge your customers. In 2002, this changed, and installation labor was made taxable. Again, check the Minnesota Department of Revenue Web site listed above. And if you prefer to talk to someone, you may call them for help at 651-296-6181. We hope that some of the things we learned during our audit will help you.

At your service we remain. . .

Jim Levasseur retires from North Star



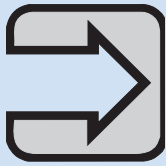
Long-time journeyman lineman, Jim Levasseur, will retire from North

Star Electric on January 31, 2006, after working for the Co-op for more than 33 years.

Jim started working for North Star on October 9, 1972, on the brushing crew. At that time, the rights-of-way were in pretty tough shape and required a lot of manual labor for clearing brush and trees from under the lines. After two years on the brushing crew, he was promoted to apprentice lineman. After completing the required 4-year apprenticeship program, he passed the journeyman lineman’s exam in Minneapolis and has been a journeyman lineman for North Star Electric for the past 27 years.

In retirement, Jim and his wife, Natalie, plan on staying at their home south of Baudette. Jim will continue working on their farm and will probably do some odd jobs in the area. To keep busy during the winter, he plans on doing more ice fishing, during the summer more lake trout fishing, and during the fall, more hunting, which sounds like a pretty good schedule to us.

We wish Jim a happy and healthy retirement. We’ll miss him at North Star.



West End News

By Steve Ellis
Baudette District Operations Supervisor



We are in the process of annual line inspection. This year, we will also be changing all of the meters that have not already been converted as part of the AMR (automated meter reading) project with the exception of the three-phase meters.

Our crews will be coming to your door if you have an off-peak meter inside your home that has to be changed out. We appreciate your cooperation in this project, as we will need to change all meters before the system can be fully utilized. Added trips will only add to the cost of the changeover. You will need to continue to read your meter(s) until your billing stub indicates that the Co-op will read it for you. The goal is to have the new meters implemented for the entire system by the end of 2006. This is a major project. Thank you for your help.

The crew will also be changing out poles that have been identified in our pole inspection program. These poles are changed out for safety and reliability reasons. This program, as well as our right-of-way program, is proof that our preventative maintenance pays off, as evidenced during the recent ice storm with only a small number of local problems.

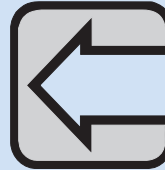
Plans are also being formulated for our 2006 construction season, as well as road moves, line upgrades, etc. If you know that you will need a new service or an upgrade, let me know at your earliest convenience, as now is a better time to get on the schedule compared to during the rush of construction season. Paperwork can be taken care of now to speed up the process later.

Always be careful around overhead lines; they are very dangerous. If you identify something that you think may be a problem, please notify us immediately. If you have any questions about your power lines, contact us for help.



East End News

By Allan Baumgartner
Littlefork District Operations Supervisor



Our crews built three new services this month along with several upgrades; new home construction has lasted longer into the winter this year. One of the factors in this is the ability to get cement delivered year-round in our area now.

Our crews have spent much of their time on line maintenance items, replacing bad insulators, anchors, cutting down danger trees left leaning from this year's wind and ice storms, along with mowing brush under our power lines. (Elaine Story 675-07-010-05) We also changed out rejected poles in the Cingmars area southeast of Littlefork; we will need better frost to resume this project later this winter.

We received a shipment of 1,000 AMR meters this month and will start changing out meters in the Big Falls area next; again, you must continue to read your meters until North Star Electric notifies you on your electric bill.

We had three scheduled outages by our crews in December, the reasons being a house move, a pole changeout and a loose insulator.

Problems paying your electric bill?

Energy assistance
may be available!

If you are receiving a low income or suffering from a temporary financial shortfall, the following agencies may be able to assist you with your electric bill. We urge you to contact them immediately to avoid disconnection if you feel you are eligible for aid.

- **Lake of the Woods County Community Services**
P.O. Box G-0200
Baudette, MN 56623
Phone: 634-2642
- **Northwest Community Action Council**
P.O. Box 67
Badger, MN 56714-0067
Phone: 1-800-568-5329
- **Koochiching County Community Services**
1000 5th St.
International Falls, MN 56649
Phone: 283-7000
- **Kootasca Community Action, Inc.**
2232 2nd Ave. E.
P.O. Box 44
International Falls, MN 56649
Phone: 283-9491 or 1-800-559-9491
- **Kootasca Community Action, Inc.**
1213 SE 2nd Ave.
Grand Rapids, MN 55744-3984
Phone: 1-800-422-0312
- **Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency**
702 3rd Ave. S.
Virginia, MN 55792-2797
Phone: 1-800-662-5711

Contractor program scheduled for February 2006

Minnkota Power Cooperative and the associated systems will once again be hosting a Professional Contractor Program in 2006. This marks the 18th year of the highly successful program, aimed at providing area trade allies with the best in building and electrical practices.

The program is scheduled to begin Wednesday, Feb. 1, at the Doublewood Inn in Fargo, N.D. The program then moves to the

Northern Inn in Bemidji, Minn., on Wednesday, Feb. 8, and concludes at the Ramada Inn, Grand Forks, N.D., on Feb. 9.

Registration begins at 7:15 a.m. each day. Courses begin at 8:00 a.m. and conclude at 5:00 p.m. The cost is \$60 per attendee, and includes a noon hour lunch.

Continuing Education Unit (CEU) credits will be available for electrical and building contractors.

A brochure detailing the course descriptions, as well as a registration form, will be mailed in January 2006. This information will also be posted on Minnkota's Web site, www.minnkota.com.

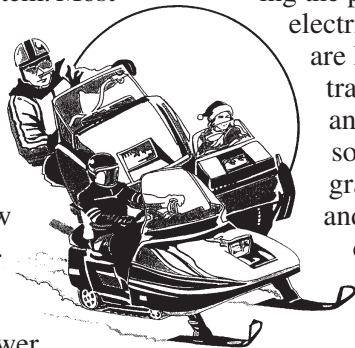
For more information about the program, contact Lisa Pickard, Minnkota's communications/member services specialist, at (701) 795-4218 or e-mail lpickard@minnkota.com.

❄️ Snowmobilers ❄️

Beware of hazards! Respect property rights!

As snowmobiling becomes more popular, the number of accidents are increasing. Very few accidents occur on Minnesota's trail system. Most accidents occur along roads and ditches. Obstacles encountered along roads and other cleared rights of way can be very dangerous, especially in low visibility conditions.

North Star Electric Cooperative and the other Minnkota Power Cooperative-associated systems have poles, guy wires, metal enclosures and pedestals installed on hundreds of miles of rights of way. When snowmobiling, be aware of these obstacles. Guy wires need spe-



cial attention as they can be difficult to see.

Some snowmobilers are mistaking the private property where electric transmission lines are located for snowmobile trails. North Star Electric and the other Minnkota-associated systems have been granted easements to build and maintain lines in these cleared areas, but the land still belongs to the landowner. Be sure to check with the landowners before snowmobiling on their property.

Enjoy snowmobiling in Minnesota, but keep safety in mind. Slow down, don't drink and stay alert for obstacles.

Statement of nondiscrimination

North Star Electric Cooperative, Incorporated, is the recipient of federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture which provide that no person in the United States on basis of race, color, national origin, age, or handicap shall be excluded from participation in, administration or access to, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any of this organization's programs or activities.

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's nondiscrimination compliance effort is Ann Ellis, Manager of Finance and Administration.

Any individual, or specific class of individuals, who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination may obtain further information about the statutes and regulations listed above and/or file a written complaint with this organization; or the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250; or the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Washington, D.C. 20250. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discrimination. Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible.

Notification to members

In order to comply with Minnesota Statute 216B.164 and the final published rules of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC), North Star Electric Cooperative, Inc. is obligated to interconnect with and purchase electricity from cogenerators and small power producers which satisfy the conditions and become qualifying facilities. North Star Electric Cooperative, Inc. is obliged to provide information free of charge to all interested members upon request regarding rates and interconnection requirements. All interconnections require an application and approval to become a qualifying facility. Any disputes over interconnections, sales and purchases are subject to resolution by the MPUC.

Highlights of the board of directors meeting

December 7, 2005

These are the highlights from the board of directors meeting held on December 7, 2005. Detailed minutes are available at the Cooperative for member review. Regular board meetings are generally held the first Wednesday of every month. If you wish to speak with the board or have an item that you would like to have placed on the agenda, please contact Manager Dan Hoskins at least one week in advance to be included on the agenda.

All directors were present. They acted upon usual, routine business. In addition, they voted to approve the Smoke-Free Policy, to approve a sponsorship for the Oak Harbor Fishing Derby to support their economic development project, to select delegates for the upcoming year, to approve the ERP (Emergency Restoration Plan), to approve the 2006 Budget, to support the Plasma Gasification Project by providing the link to the USDA Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant program.

Management and operations report

Manager Hoskins reviewed the ERP with the board, reported that the Construction Work Plan would be presented to the board in February, and that North Star will allow, with provisions, Koochiching County to mount communications equipment on our tower. Reports from the Operations Department were also reviewed.

Office report

Finance Manager Ellis provided the financial report and reported on office activities including seasonal account meter changeouts to AMR (automated meter readings) in conjunction with the upcoming seasonal billing, the sales and use tax audit in progress, and

unplanned absences in the office. She also reviewed the 2006 Budget with the board.

Compliance and member services report

Manager of Compliance and Member Services Haukaas reported that load control for dual heat members was more than last year at this time, with a major factor being the transmission lines that were out of service during the ice storm, which caused the need for load curtailment. He also reported on the coordinated test of the off-peak accounts during load control by using the AMR system to identify loads that were not shedding during peak time. 365 kW of load was identified on the two test substations, and at a wholesale cost of \$68.52/kW that is on during billing peaks, the AMR system will prove itself capable of paying for itself over time. He also reported on the IPP program, Operation RoundUp, and electrical work in the new storage building.

Board reports

Minnkota Delegate Arnesen reported on the Minnkota board meeting including the proposed coal-fired Young 3 power plant.

Reliable backup systems a must

Because increased load control hours are predicted in the future, electric off-peak heating installations must be capable of 600 hours or more of interruption each winter season.

"In order to realize the full benefits of the load management program, it is very important that our members work with a qualified heating contractor to ensure that they have an automatic, adequate and well-maintained backup heating system," said Wayne Haukaas, manager of compliance and member services.

The electric off-peak heating program continues to provide great value to members today, just as it did when it was first utilized in the late 1970s. The winter heating season is here, and North Star Electric stands ready to assist our members with their electric home heating options.



Gopher State One Call



It's the LAW
CALL BEFORE YOU DIG
Minnesota Statewide One Call
Notification Center
1-800-252-1166

Cold Weather Law

THE COLD WEATHER LAW DOES NOT TOTALLY FORBID WINTER CUTOFFS. IF YOU RECEIVE A DISCONNECTION NOTICE THIS WINTER, YOU MUST ACT PROMPTLY.

An electric cooperative must not disconnect the utility service of a residential customer during the period between October 15 and April 15 if the disconnection affects the primary heat source for the residential unit when the following conditions are met:

(1) the customer has declared inability to pay on forms provided by the utility. For the purposes of this clause, a customer that is receiving energy assistance is deemed to have demonstrated an inability to pay;

(2) the household income of the customer is less than 50 percent of the state median income. All income documentation must be returned along with your Inability To Pay form unless you have verified income eligibility with an energy assistance provider in clause (3);

(3) verification of income may be conducted by the local energy assistance provider or the utility, unless the customer is automatically eligible for protection against disconnection as a recipient of any form of public assistance, including energy assistance that uses income eligibility in any amount at or below the income eligibility in clause (2);

(4) a customer whose account is current for the billing period immediately prior to October 15 or who, at any time, enters into a payment schedule that considers the financial resources of the household is reasonably current with payments under the schedule; and

(5) the customer receives referrals to energy assistance programs, weatherization, conservation, or other programs likely to reduce the customer's energy bills.

THE COLD WEATHER LAW PROVIDES YOU WITH THESE OPTIONS

The RIGHT to declare your inability to pay. If you do so and if your household income is less than 50% of the state median income, the service affecting your primary heat source cannot be disconnected for nonpayment of your bill. However, we have the right to accept or reject your request based on information supplied or other supporting documentation.

The RESPONSIBILITY, if you choose to declare inability to pay. You must complete an "Inability to Pay" form and return it to us within fifteen (15) days of the notice to disconnect. You must contact us immediately to arrange a payment plan.

The RIGHT to a mutually agreeable payment schedule with us. The schedule will cover your existing arrears plus the estimated usage during the payment schedule period.

The RIGHT not to be involuntarily disconnected on a Friday or on a day before a holiday, or until at least twenty (20) days after the postmark on the notice to

disconnect or until fifteen (15) days after the notice and information has been personally delivered.

The RIGHT not to be disconnected until the utility investigates whether the residential unit is actually occupied when a customer does not respond to a disconnection notice. If the unit is found to be occupied, the utility must immediately inform the occupant of the provisions of this section. If the unit is unoccupied, the utility must give seven days' written notice of the proposed disconnection to the local energy assistance provider before making a disconnection.

The RIGHT to receive budget counseling from your local energy assistance provider or another organization of your choice.

The RIGHT to appeal the disconnection of service to the North Star Electric Cooperative Board of Directors. If you choose to appeal, you must deliver or mail a personal letter stating your situation and issues in dispute. Your letter must be in our hands before the date of disconnection. You will be notified when the Board of Directors will review your appeal and you may be present at the review. No disconnection of service will take place during the appeal process.

Energy assistance providers

Lake of the Woods County	218-634-2642
Koochiching County	218-283-7000
Northwest Community Action	800-568-5329
Kootasca Community Action	800-422-0312
Arrowhead Economic Opportunity	800-662-5711

IF YOU DO NOT MEET ALL THE CONDITIONS OF THE COLD WEATHER LAW AS OUTLINED ON THIS NOTICE, YOU DO NOT QUALIFY FOR WINTER SHUTOFF PROTECTION. However, you still can continue to receive electric service if you call us to set up a mutually acceptable payment arrangement. Call North Star Electric at 218-634-2202 or 888-634-2202, BEFORE the due date on your disconnection notice.

IF YOU MEET ALL THE CONDITIONS OF THE COLD WEATHER LAW, CAN'T PAY YOUR ELECTRIC BILL, AND NEED COLD WEATHER PROTECTION FROM UTILITY SHUTOFF, call North Star Electric to have an Inability To Pay form sent to you. Complete the form and return it to North Star Electric Cooperative immediately along with your income documentation.

North Star Electric Cooperative, Inc. Mission Statement

To improve the lives of our member-owners and community by responsibly providing electric energy and other beneficial services while maintaining the very highest standards of performance.