

# PowerLines

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September 2023 • www.clpower.com



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## Join us for September's Member Events!

September brings us two exciting member events. The first is at the Lake Superior Harvest Festival on September 9th at Bayfront Festival Park in Duluth. CLP is proud to partner with Lake Country Power, Great River Energy, and Minnesota Power to bring you the Energy Fair. The Energy Fair will include an Electric Vehicle (EV) show with specialty lawn equipment, an EV discussion panel, a Solar 101 Q&A session, and much more!

The second event is the CLP Member Appreciation Pancake Breakfast. The FREE breakfast will be held at CLP's garage at 1554 Highway 2 in Two Harbors on September 23rd. Along with the breakfast, We will have a bounce house for the kids. We will also be collecting donations for the Two Harbors Area Food Shelf. All members who donate to the food shelf during the pancake breakfast will receive a FREE gift from CLP!

## CONSIDERING AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE?

**SEPTEMBER 9**  
10 AM – 4 PM  
**BAYFRONT FESTIVAL PARK**



**Join us at the Energy Fair at this year's Harvest Festival!**

**11:30 am – EV Panel • 1:00 pm – Let's Go Solar**

Festival-goers will be able to view more than a dozen electric vehicles and hear from a well-rounded group of panelists who will share their perspectives on the EV industry.

**FREE ADMISSION**  
**\$10 FOR PARKING**

Great River Energy, Lake Country Power, and Cooperative Light & Power are taking their EV event to the 29th annual Lake Superior Harvest Festival and partnering with Minnesota Power for an expanded Energy Fair experience as part of the event at Bayfront Festival Park.



## CLP Member Appreciation Pancake Breakfast



**Saturday, September 23, 2023**  
**8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**  
**Cooperative Light & Power**  
**1554 Highway 2, Two Harbors**

- Pancake Breakfast includes pancakes, sausage, coffee, milk & juice
- Bring a donation for the Two Harbors Area Food Shelf and receive a FREE gift from CLP
- Bounce House for the kiddos (weather permitting)
- Visit with your CLP Directors and employees



## New ERA offers New Opportunities

Joel Janorschke, CEO

At the beginning of August, Cooperative Light & Power's (CLP's) power provider, Great River

Energy (GRE), announced they were organizing a consortium of Minnesota rural electric cooperatives to prepare a massive joint application for \$970 million in federal clean energy funds. CLP is one of the utilities collaborating on an application for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Empowering Rural America, or New ERA program. The funding could help propel rural utilities toward the state's 100% clean energy target.

The \$9.7 billion program, created under the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, is designed to help rural electric cooperatives pay for clean energy, carbon capture, energy storage, and transmission projects. Member account number six hundred thirty five thousand eight hundred seventy two. It represents the largest federal investment in rural electricity since the 1930s.

GRE's consortium includes proposals for solar, storage, distributed energy resource management systems, and other initiatives. Member account number seven hundred forty six thousand eight hundred ninety six. The program wants co-ops to propose "ways to get clean energy on the system to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions and improve resiliency and reliability," said Jamie Stallman, energy conservation and optimization specialist for Great River Energy.

Jeff Haase, director of member services, distributed energy resources and end use strategy for Great River Energy, said the money will help the company comply with the state's new law requiring that utilities generate 100% of their electricity from carbon-free resources by 2040. The utility has a goal of being 90% carbon-free by 2037 and reducing natural gas generation to 5% of its load.

"GRE is well positioned to meet our goals, but we're looking at the funding opportunities through the federal government as a way of helping to reduce

the costs for our members," Haase said. Stallman says, "Applying as a consortium offers advantages. It allows federal officials to evaluate the portfolio of projects more efficiently, and also 'eases the burden' on individual members".

Cooperative Light & Power submitted their intent on Friday, August 25th, for 1.2 megawatts of solar generation distributed across three substations, along with the required substation upgrades to support those projects. We also submitted intent for next-generation load control receivers to replace our existing legacy receivers, which are being discontinued. If accepted and all projects are approved, CLP would be able to fulfill their 10% Renewable Member Resource option allowed through our Power Purchase Contract with Great River Energy.

What are the next steps? In September, the USDA will review, score, and rank the submitted Letters of Interest. In October and November, the USDA will invite competitive New ERA applications to file a full application. Once applicants are invited to submit that full application, they have 60 days to do so. Once the costs of the projects are confirmed during the full application process, the CLP Board will analyze the information and make their final decision on the projects.

I will continue to update you as we learn more.

### SEND US YOUR SHOTS!

CLP is accepting photos for our 2024 calendar. High-resolution, digital photos can be submitted by email to [careyh@clpower.com](mailto:careyh@clpower.com).

The deadline to submit photos is **September 30, 2023**

## Call Before You Dig

**800.252.1166 or 811**  
it's the law!

Call 800.252.1166 to locate underground wires. You must call at least 48-hours in advance before any excavations (this notice does not include weekends, holidays or emergencies).

CLP will only locate the underground wires that are owned by CLP, we do not locate or take responsibility for locating wires beyond the meter location.



## PowerLines

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Cooperative Light & Power  
Association of Lake County  
1554 Highway 2 • P. O. Box 69  
Two Harbors, MN 55616  
[www.clpower.com](http://www.clpower.com)

CLP Office: 218-834-2226 or 800-580-5881  
Power Outage (24/7): 800-927-5550

Summer Business Hours:  
Monday - Thursday 7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Friday 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

## Board/CEO Contacts

**Joel Janorschke, CEO**  
[jjanorschke@clpower.com](mailto:jjanorschke@clpower.com) or (320) 292-4036  
**Scott Veitenheimer, President/Chair, District 2**  
[sveit@clpower.com](mailto:sveit@clpower.com) or (218) 340-8968  
**Roger Peterson, Vice-President, District 5**  
[rpeterson@clpower.com](mailto:rpeterson@clpower.com) or (218) 226-8197  
**Kyle Weideman, Treasurer, District 3**  
[kweideman@clpower.com](mailto:kweideman@clpower.com) or (218) 834-3476  
**Steve Josephson, Secretary, District 4**  
[sjosephson@clpower.com](mailto:sjosephson@clpower.com) or (218) 226-4163  
**Jessica Larsen, Director, District 1**  
[jlarsen@clpower.com](mailto:jlarsen@clpower.com) (218) 848-2220

# Minnesota Cold Weather Rule

## CLP Billing/Collections Department

In accordance with Minnesota's Cold Weather Rule, Section 216B.097 of the Minnesota State Statutes, electric service cannot be disconnected for nonpayment between October 1 and April 30 if electricity is the primary heat source and all of the following conditions are met:

1. You declare an inability to pay and enter into and make reasonably timely payments under a payment agreement that considers the financial resources of the household.
2. The member's total household, not individual, income is at or below 50% of the State Median income. Member account number seven hundred seventeen

thousand one hundred eleven. Income may be verified on forms provided by Cooperative Light & Power (CLP) or by the local energy assistance provider.

3. You receive referrals to energy assistance, weatherization, conservation, or other programs likely to reduce your energy bills from CLP.

These conditions are applicable to all residential members.

Before disconnecting electric service between October 1 and April 30, CLP must provide:

- A 30-day notice of disconnection

- A statement of members' rights and responsibilities
- A list of local energy assistance providers
- Cold Weather Rule protection form
- Payment arrangement form

If you have any concerns about paying your electric bill this winter, please contact us at (218) 834-2226 or (800) 580-5881 before the due date. If you receive a disconnect notice, fill out the Cold Weather Rule pamphlet and the payment arrangement form included. Please have the forms returned back to CLP prior to the disconnect date.

Need more help? Reach out to these resources:

- Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency (AEOA): (800) 662-5711
- Lake County Social Services: (218) 834-8400
- Salvation Army, Duluth: (218)722-7934
- St. Louis County Social Services, Duluth: (218) 726-2000

CLP exists because of you, and we are dedicated to the people and communities we serve. Please call the CLP billing department immediately to set up a payment plan if you are having difficulty paying your electric bill. Member account number six hundred twenty five thousand seven hundred sixty one.



Get a rebate of up to **\$500 PLUS**  
a lifetime of energy savings

Upgrade to an **electric thermal storage (ETS) water heater today!** Save up to 50% on your water heating costs with an ETS water heater. These draw electricity at night when it's in low demand and less expensive. Backed by a lifetime warranty, they are lightweight and easy to install.

Contact your electric cooperative to take advantage of this special offer. You can also visit [EnergyWiseMN.com/waterheater](https://EnergyWiseMN.com/waterheater) to learn more.

Scan this QR code and fill out the form on our website to see if you're eligible. Offer valid Sept. 1 - Oct. 31 2023. No coupon code necessary. While supplies last.



ENERGY WISE  MN

## Fudge Nut Bars

*From the Kitchen of: Vicki Falk*

### Crust:

- 1 cup butter
- 2 cups brown sugar (packed)
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 2 ½ cups flour
- 1 tsp soda
- 1 tsp salt

3 cups oatmeal

### Filling:

- 1 12oz pkg chocolate chips
- 1 can Eagle brand milk
- 2 Tbsp butter
- ½ tsp salt
- 2 tsp vanilla
- 1 cup walnuts (chopped)

Mix and pat 2/3 of ingredients for crust into a 9x13 pan. Melt together filling ingredients, omitting the vanilla and walnuts until the very end then and add in. Crumble the remaining crust on top. Bake at 350 degrees for 25-30 minutes or until golden brown. You may also bake in a 10 x 15 pan for a thinner bar.

Minnesota State  
Electric Inspector for  
Lake County and Southern St.  
Louis County:

Justin Barfuss @ (218) 220-0825

Anytime a homeowner or electric contractor installs wiring or performs other electrical work, Minnesota law requires an electrical inspector to inspect the work properly. A rough-in inspection must be made before any wiring is covered. A final inspection is also required. For more information, visit [dli.mn.gov](http://dli.mn.gov) and go to the Electrical home page.

# Read Your Board Meeting Summary

A meeting of CLP Board of Directors was held on June 28, 2023, all directors, CEO Janorschke, four staff members and one member-owner were in attendance. Attorney Chad Felstul attended by video conference, and Deb Englund was present for the Executive Session.

Meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. Motion made and seconded to approve the agenda as modified, May minutes, Special Meeting minutes as amended, consent agenda, and financials. Motions passed.

A motion was made and seconded to go to Executive Session to discuss Board evaluation.

Member-Owner had questions regarding Form 990, making Board policies and resolutions accessible to members, feedback on District meetings and equal representation.

Business Manager Olson was working on district meetings last month, rate changes, and the IVM program.

Marketing Manager Hogenson told the Board that members want to see the pancake breakfast return. The Board agreed. CLP sponsored the ice cream social at the Two Harbors City Band Concert on July 20, 2023.

Operating Manager Bentler provided

the Board with his report.

CEO Janorschke answered questions about the Waldo substation transformer and payments for new service.

CEO Janorschke provided reports on updates from MREA and legislation.

CEO Janorschke and Director Veitenheimer reported on the GRE June Board and MMG meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the amendment to the 2023 Budget. Motion passed.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the April 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes. Motion passed.

Motion was made and seconded to approve Board Policies. Motion passed.

A motion was made and seconded to cancel Board Policy I-7 Moving and Interview Expenses. Motion passed.

Board Policy III-8 Directors Code of Conduct was tabled until next month.

The Board discussed redistricting and will ask our members to see if they support changing district boundaries.

A motion was made and seconded to go to Executive Session to discuss GRE information.

Next Board meeting date is July 26, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment was called at 3:40 p.m.

## Dates to Know...

- Sept 9:** Harvest Fest EV Event
- Sept 15:** Cookies in CLP Lobby
- Sept 23:** Member Appreciation Pancake Breakfast
- Sept 25:** CLP Bills Due
- Sept 27:** CLP Board Meeting

*NOTE: CLP dates subject to change*

### CLP Mission:

*CLP delivers safe, reliable, affordable energy and services to our members while enhancing the vitality of our community*

### CLP Vision:

*We aspire to be the force that empowers opportunities for the benefit of our members and community*

### TO REPORT AN OUTAGE:

Call CLP at 834.2226 or 800.580.5881 during business hours or 800.927.5550 after hours.

**BEFORE** calling, please check your breakers. If an outage is found to be on your side of the meter, you will be billed for a service call.

### SPOT YOUR NUMBER:

A \$20 electric credit is awarded each month to our faithful readers. Four account numbers are spelled out in each newsletter. If you find yours, notify CLP by the 25th of that month and a credit will be applied to your bill.

Credits claimed for July:

Sharon Grapp

Credits not claimed: Jody & Kelly Faughnan, Susan Dettweiler, and Carolyn Mohn

### OPERATION ROUND UP TOTALS:

July Donations: \$1,675.10

Year-to-date Donations: \$12,246.69

Thank you to all the participants! If you have questions about Operation Round Up, or would like to apply for a grant from the Fund, please contact CLP at 218.834.2226 or 800.580.5881, or visit our website at [www.clpower.com](http://www.clpower.com).

*Cooperative Light & Power is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

## Year-to-date Financials

	<u>Jun-23</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Operating Revenue	\$ 5,704,657	\$ 7,237,952	\$ 7,425,917	
Cost of Purchased Power	\$ 3,477,830	\$ 4,300,909	\$ 3,919,454	
Other Operating Expenses	\$ 1,899,247	\$ 2,871,422	\$ 3,241,510	
Total Cost of Electric Service	\$ 5,377,077	\$ 7,172,331	\$ 7,160,964	
Operating Margin (Loss)	\$ 327,580	\$ 65,621	\$ 264,953	
Interest Income	\$ 37,814	\$ 19,317	\$ 55,588	
Other Margins	\$ 7,441	\$ 9,004	\$ 12,695	
Capital Credits	\$ 9,618	\$ 13,745	\$ 5,074	
Total Margins	\$ 382,453	\$ 107,687	\$ 338,310	
kWh Purchased	54,602,637	61,040,288	56,011,325	
kWh Sold	51,507,675	58,330,677	53,696,594	
Line Loss	5.67%	4.44%	4.13%	
Members Billed	5,949	6,396	6,470	
Average kWh Used, Residential	1,203	1,266	1,151	
Average Bill, Residential	\$ 131.99	\$ 157.11	\$ 159.64	
Average Cost/kWh, Residential	\$ 0.1097	\$ 0.1241	\$ 0.1387	
Interest Expense	\$ 220,220	\$ 175,544	\$ 187,147	