

# PowerLines

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February 2023 • [www.clpower.com](http://www.clpower.com)



*Photo Credit: Sue Anderson*

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## Are You Interested in Becoming a CLP Board Member?

As an electric cooperative, Cooperative Light & Power (CLP) is guided by an elected Board of Directors who represent its members' best interests when making important business decisions. Being a member of CLP's board is an incredibly important position in our community. A director's decisions will impact issues such as rates, right-of-way, annual budget, and work plans. This position holds great responsibility and requires individuals who understand their community's needs and serve the cooperative members' best interests.

The CLP Board of Directors consists of 5 directors, with one director representing each of CLP's five districts. Each director is elected for a three-year term with no term limit. Member account number six hundred thirty thousand one hundred sixty four. The board will elect a director to serve as President, Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer. Each director shall be a member of this Association and shall be elected by the members at the Annual Meeting of the membership. This year's Annual Meeting will be held on April 19, 2023, at the Two Harbors High School.

### CLP Service Area By District



**Incumbent Director Pat Schmieder  
has arranged for the Nominating  
Meeting for District #1 to be held:**

**February 27, 2023**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Duluth Township Town Hall  
(6092 Homestead Road, Duluth)**

If you are interested in being nominated or would like more information on becoming a director, please attend your District Nomination Meeting or contact CEO Joel Janorschke at 320-292-4036 (mobile), 218-834-2226/800-580-5881 (office) or by email at [jjanorschke@clpower.com](mailto:jjanorschke@clpower.com). If you are unable to participate in a nominating meeting and wish to run for a director position, you can still be nominated from the floor at the CLP Annual Meeting; however, you need to notify the CEO of CLP at least fifteen days prior to the CLP Annual Meeting in order to be eligible.

Members are needed to serve on the District #1 Nominating Committee. If you are interested, please contact CEO Joel Janorschke.

For more information on director powers, qualifications, tenure, nominations, and elections, please visit our website at [www.clpower.com](http://www.clpower.com).

Following the District #1 Nominating Meeting, there will be a District #1 Director's Update and a chance to meet CLP's new CEO, Joel Janorschke.



# Carbon-free Energy Proposal Needs Safeguards for Cost, Reliability

Joel Janorschke, CEO

On January 5, the Minnesota Legislature proposed a bill to transition all electricity sold in the state to be carbon-free by 2040. The bill must consider potential impacts to the reliability and affordability of the essential electric service provided by Minnesota cooperative utilities to their 1.7 million members. Member account number six hundred twenty five thousand five hundred thirty.

As new energy generation and transmission facilities are built to meet clean energy requirements, existing generation facilities are being retired early and are being replaced with renewable resources, such as wind and solar. This significantly impacts reliability as variable

resources (i.e. wind and solar) cannot be counted on to always be available when needed. This bill would accelerate this troubling trend.

**It is currently not possible to expect the electric system to function in Minnesota without significant gas, coal and/or nuclear generation. Technology to fully transition these generation fuels to renewable resources is not developed yet, much less deployed.**

Both MISO (Midcontinent Independent System Operator) and NERC (North American Electric Reliability Corporation) recently issued warnings about potential energy shortfalls during extreme weather in the Midwest. These warnings extend year-round for the next several years. In fact, just this past December 23, MISO declared a maximum genera-

tion emergency event to maintain the reliability of the electric system. These maximum generation events are warnings the system is nearing a point that rotating power outages may be required, and they are predicted to happen more often in the coming years.

Minnesotans are already experiencing rising costs of goods and services throughout the economy. Developing new renewable generation facilities, equipment, and infrastructure to support carbon-free energy will take significant time and money. Forcing premature energy resource decisions through mandates, as is the case in the proposed legislation, will only drive costs up.

These new mandates are not needed to transition to a cleaner electricity system. Minnesota's clean energy transition in the electric utility sector is already well underway. In 2005, 65% of the state's electricity was generated by coal. Today, that number has dropped to 26% and is projected to be no more than 5% by 2035.

Additionally, 30% of our energy generation comes from renewable sources, up from just 5% in 2005. By 2035, renewable energy generation in Minnesota is projected to be 50%.

No other state in the country has reduced electric sector carbon dioxide emissions more successfully than Minnesota.

## Medical Emergency Power

According to Minnesota Statute 216B.098, Subd. 5, a utility shall reconnect or continue service to a customer's residence where a medical emergency exists or where medical equipment requiring electricity necessary to sustain life is in use, provided that the utility receives written certification, or initial certification by telephone and written certification within five business days, that failure to reconnect or continue services will impair or threaten the health or safety of a resident of the customer's household. Certification of the necessity for service is required. Certification may be provided by: (1) a licensed medical doctor; (2) a licensed physician assistant; (3) an advanced practice registered nurse; or (4) a registered nurse. Unless specific criteria are met, a certification may not extend beyond six months from the date of written certification. For any questions or to submit certification of a medical emergency, please contact CLP at 834-2226.

## Call Before You Dig

**800.252.1166**  
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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Association of Lake County  
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[www.clpower.com](http://www.clpower.com)

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

Winter Business Hours:  
Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.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

**Pat Schmieder, Vice-President, District 1**  
[patschmieder@clpower.com](mailto:patschmieder@clpower.com) or (218) 834-2247

**Kyle Weideman, Treasurer, District 3**  
[kweideman@clpower.com](mailto:kweideman@clpower.com) or (218) 834-3476

**Roger Peterson, Secretary, District 5**  
[rpeterson@clpower.com](mailto:rpeterson@clpower.com) or (218) 226-8197

**Steve Josephson, Director, District 4**  
[sjosephson@clpower.com](mailto:sjosephson@clpower.com) (218) 226-4163



## Fuel Your Knowledge Before Powering Up a Generator

Before you grab your portable generator to use it for backup power, there are important lifesaving safety steps you should know. It is best to familiarize yourself with how to use a generator properly before needing one. Prior to operating a portable generator, be sure to do the following:

1. Check carbon monoxide (CO) detectors. Protect yourself and those you love by making sure there are battery-operated CO testers in your home that are working properly/have fresh batteries.
2. Read the instructions. Many people are tempted to skip this step, but incorrectly using a generator can cause CO poisoning, which is often deadly. These are instructions you should take the time to read. Member number seven hundred nineteen thousand seventy seven.

3. Know how to use one properly. Operate generators at least 20 feet from doors and windows and never use one in any type of enclosed structure, such as a garage, shed or tent. If your RV has a generator, be sure to operate it safely to avoid CO poisoning.

4. Keep it dry. If it is wet outside, place the portable generator on a tarp. If it is raining or snowing, position it under a portable canopy (but not under a carport).

5. Keep utility workers and others safe. Never plug a portable generator into a wall outlet. Never use a permanent generator without throwing the transfer switch. Doing either of these things can cause dangerous backfeed into the power grid.

6. Make sure the transfer switch is endorsed by a reputable testing laboratory, such as UL, and that the installation meets all applicable electrical codes.

7. Plug items directly into a portable generator and use heavy-duty extension cords that are in good working condition and are the correct gauge. The lower the gauge number and the thicker the cord, the more electricity it can safely carry; refer to the owner's manual for specifics. Do not plug one extension cord into another.

8. Let the generator cool down before refueling. Also, store fuel safely.

9. Keep it well maintained and have it inspected regularly.

For more information about safe generator safety contact CLP.



**2023 Westholm Scholarship**  
**Attention High School Seniors!**

CLP will be giving out six \$1,000 scholarships to High School Seniors within our service territory this school year.

Scholarship guidelines and application can be found on our website at [www.clpower.com](http://www.clpower.com).

Application deadline is April 1, 2023!

### Chicken Tortilla Bake

*From the Kitchen of: Vickie Falk*

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 3 cups of shredded cooked chicken   | 1 can cream of chicken soup            |
| 2 (4 oz) cans chopped green chilies | 1 small onion finely chopped           |
| 1 cup chicken broth                 | 12 corn tortillas (or flour tortillas) |
| 1 can cream of mushroom soup        | 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese         |

In a bowl combine the chicken, chilies, broth, soups, and onion; set aside. Layer half of the tortillas on the bottom of a greased 9x13 baking pan. Top with half of the chicken mixture and half the cheese. Repeat layers. Bake uncovered at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. 6-8 servings.

Submit your favorite recipe! If your recipe is printed in an issue of "Powerlines" you will receive a \$10 credit on your electric bill.



Who knew a penny  
could have such a **HUGE** impact?

**Co-op Light & Power's**  
Community Trust is now accepting  
**Operation Round Up**  
Grant Applications until February 15th.

Operation Round Up® provides grants to local not-for-profit organizations and community projects such as food shelves, volunteer fire departments and rural ambulance services. Co-op members voluntarily participate by "rounding up" their monthly electric bills to the nearest dollar.

The change is placed in a trust, which is then donated to local organizations, making real change in your community.

**YOUR ORGANIZATION  
COULD BE NEXT**

Visit [www.clpower.com](http://www.clpower.com) to download a grant application, or call CLP's offices at 218.834.2226 or 800.580.5881.

**You will be amazed at what a  
penny can do!**

## Read Your Board Meeting Summary

A regular meeting of the CLP Board of Directors was held on November 22, 2022, with the participation of all Directors, CEO Janorschke, four staff members, one member owner, and CLP's System Attorney.

Meeting called to order at 9:05 a.m.

Motions were made and seconded to approve the agenda and minutes as modified, the consent agenda and the financials. Motions passed.

A motion was made and seconded to donate \$500.00 to the Red Kettle. Motion passed.

Marketing Manager Hogenson reported on the Toy Drive.

A motion was made and seconded to provide the Board of Directors CLP apparel. Motion passed.

Operations Manager Bentler reported on transformer supply issues.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the GRE Resolution for negotiation and execution of power supply contract (PSC) with Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (SMPMA). Motion passed.

CEO Janorschke reported on the GRE meeting in November.

Director Veitenheimer reported on

the November GRE Board meeting. Motions were made and seconded to approve the resolution to authorize CEO Janorschke to conduct banking, approve the Resolution for Allocation of 2021 Operating Margin, add CEO Janorschke to the Secretary's Certificate, add CEO Janorschke to Form 674 and Form 675, add CEO Janorschke to CoBank Incumbency Certificate and CoBank permission forms, add CEO Janorschke to CoBank Designation of Authorized Users. Motions passed.

The attorney shared that he and the staff have been reviewing the bylaws. He will be emailing the proposed changes in preparation for discussion at the December's Board Meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to go into executive session to discuss an update on a GRE transaction. Member account number six hundred ninety eight thousand seven hundred thirteen. Motion passed. At the conclusion of the discussion a motion was made and seconded to exit the session. Motion passed.

Next Board meeting date is December 21, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment was called at 11:41 a.m.

## Year-to-date Financials

<u>Nov-22</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
Operating Revenue	\$ 9,684,641	\$ 12,158,471	\$ 12,581,452
Cost of Purchased Power	\$ 5,674,723	\$ 7,092,517	\$ 7,155,481
Other Operating Expenses	\$ 3,533,291	\$ 4,811,805	\$ 5,197,402
Total Cost of Electric Service	\$ 9,208,014	\$ 11,904,322	\$ 12,352,883
Operating Margin (Loss)	\$ 476,627	\$ 254,149	\$ 228,569
Interest Income	\$ 54,982	\$ 67,955	\$ 37,331
Other Margins	\$ 34,481	\$ (165,067)	\$ 35,402
Capital Credits	\$ 21,265	\$ 26,581	\$ 30,840
Total Margins	\$ 587,355	\$ 183,618	\$ 332,142
kWh Purchased	86,811,204	93,265,400	99,909,318
kWh Sold	82,030,885	88,760,293	95,065,663
Line Loss	5.51%	4.83%	4.85%
Members Billed	5,933	6,362	6,437
Average kWh Used, Residential	950	991	1,063
Average Bill, Residential	\$ 117.88	\$ 136.36	\$ 145.10
Average Cost/kWh, Residential	\$ 0.1241	\$ 0.1376	\$ 0.1365
Interest Expense	\$ 385,420	\$ 319,495	\$ 322,555

## Dates to Know...

- Feb 15:** Cookies in CLP Lobby
- Feb 15:** Operation Round - Up Grant Applications Due
- Feb 20:** President's Day  
CLP CLOSED
- Feb 23:** CLP Board Meeting
- Feb 27:** CLP Bills Due
- Feb 27:** Dist. #1 Nominating Mtg

*NOTE: CLP dates subject to change*

To view a complete version of the latest CLP Board Meeting Minutes please go to:

<http://clpower.com/board-meeting-minutes>

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

### 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 December:**

Todd Thygeson

**Credits not claimed:** Joseph or Georgina Boll, George Woody, and Tim or Helen Aho

### OPERATION ROUND UP TOTALS:

December Donations: \$1,681.20

Year-to-date Donations: \$20,035.25

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).