

VOLTS & VIEWS

APRIL 2026

 **Roseau Electric Cooperative, Inc.**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

NORTHSTREAM
FIBER
Powered by Roseau Electric Cooperative



THEIR COMMUNITY

knows them for their pole climbing skills, their bucket trucks, their hard hats.

THEIR COWORKERS

know them for their selflessness, their courage, their resilience in harsh environments.

THEIR FAMILIES

know them for their muddy boots, their ringing phone during the storm, their suntanned faces.

**HOWEVER YOU KNOW THEM - TAKE
TIME TO THANK A LINeworker TODAY.**

Lineworker Appreciation Day
Monday, April 13

VOLTS & VIEWS

APRIL 2026 – Vol. 71, No. 4

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF

Roseau Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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Alex McMillin Assistant Manager
Mark Jennings Manager of Line Operations
Mary Preteau Member Service Director
Madison Strand Finance Manager

Regular Business Hours: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Phone: 218-463-1543

OUTAGE CALLS:

Toll-Free: 1-888-847-8840

MINNESOTA STATE ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS

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

Northwest Angle, Kittson, Marshall,
Pennington and Roseau counties
and parts of Beltrami County:

Ronald Ditsch – 651-368-2195

Lake of the Woods County:

Curt Collier – 218-966-5070

Inspector list is subject to change at any time.

The State of Minnesota has high wiring standards, which are in the best interest of you and your family or business. Improper wiring can damage your home, your property and equipment, and injure or kill the people you love. Currently, the state does allow homeowners to do their own residential wiring; however, it is critical that the current electrical code is followed. Any time you or an electrician does wiring or other electrical work at your home or farm, Minnesota state law requires a state wiring inspector to conduct a proper inspection of the work. 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 and go to the electrical page.

Gopher State One Call
1-800-252-1166 or 811
www.gopherstateonecall.org



Anyone who plans to dig is required by law to notify the state of their intentions at least 48 hours in advance. All digging requires the 48-hour notification so that buried telephone line, television cable, pipelines, utility electrical lines, municipal water and sewer lines can be located to ensure that none will be severed or damaged.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Roseau Electric Cooperative is committed to providing its member-owners low-cost, high-quality, safe and reliable electricity with friendly, efficient and knowledgeable service.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

NOTICE TO ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS & MEMBERS WITH LARGE ELECTRIC MOTORS

Any motor – single or three phase – 20 HP or larger will need “soft start” equipment to avoid voltage dips when the motors start, according to cooperative policy.

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



Connor Eidsmoe (left) and Chad Johnson removing old poles from a line rebuild in Ross Township.



FROM THE LINE

MARK JENNINGS, *MANAGER OF LINE OPERATIONS*

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) has recognized the second Monday in April as **National Lineworker Appreciation Day** since 2015. At REC, we'd like to take this opportunity to thank our linemen for their dedication to serving our cooperative and its member-owners.

REC currently has 10 linemen with a combined **185 years of service**. I'm grateful for the commitment they bring to the linework trade. Our crews work day and night, in all types of weather, to keep the power on for our members. In 2025, we were proud to have zero lost-time accidents, and we'll continue working hard to keep that safety record going in 2026.

As we head into the new construction season, please plan ahead and let us know about any work you may need as early as possible. Lead times for transformers and other materials can sometimes be longer than

expected, so early notice helps us make sure we have the inventory on hand to complete your projects.

REC finished 2025 with 56 new services, which is right in line with our five-year average. We already have eight new services and several re-vamp projects scheduled for 2026. Along with that, we'll be busy moving lines for the Highway 11 rebuild from Roseau to Warroad and the Highway 89 project in Roseau.

One concerning trend we saw in 2025 was the number of poles struck by farm machinery. We had at least 15 poles that needed to be replaced. Thankfully, every incident was reported right away and no people or equipment were damaged — aside from maybe a little pride when someone had to make that phone call.

As you're working in the fields this season, please be mindful of REC poles and underground equip-

ment. If you come across poles that are too short for new or existing field crossings, give us a call and we can replace them with taller poles.



Winter here can seem like it goes on forever, but longer days and warmer weather are right around the corner. As the busy season begins, don't forget to slow down once in a while and enjoy time with family in the places we are proud to call home.



Pictured left to right: Dillion Thompson, Marc Halvorson, Neal Vatnsdal, Luke Holland, Ralph Landman, Ross Nelson, Chad Johnson, Chad Nelson, Justin Olson and Connor Eidsmoe

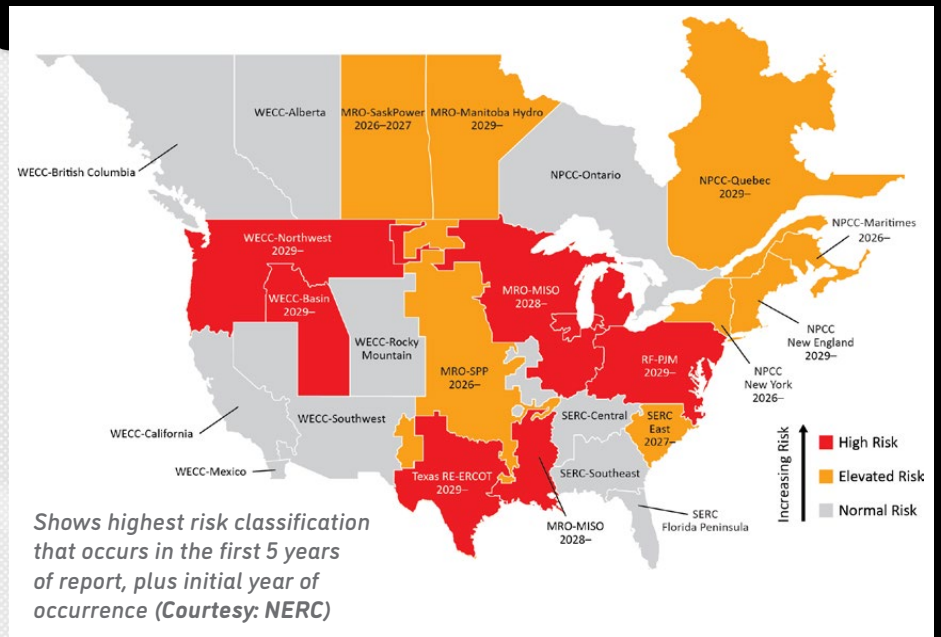
THE DATA DOESN'T LIE. WE NEED REAL POWER NOW

There's one clear takeaway from the newest Long-Term Reliability Assessment released by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC): The Midwest electric grid that includes Minnkota Power Cooperative and its members needs additional power sources. And soon.

Released this January, the NERC report lists the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) – Minnkota's regional grid operator – as High Risk for energy shortfalls over the next five years. The assessment explains that additional energy resources planned for the region do not keep pace with expected rising electricity demand and the retirement of dispatchable power plants. Although MISO is at Low Risk for energy shortfalls in 2026, the risk elevates in 2027, hitting High Risk in the years 2028-2030.

Summer heat has always been a concern for the grid, as demand can peak quickly as the entire region powers its cooling systems. However, the 2025 assessment highlights increasing winter reliability risks. As demand rises for heating, some energy resources, especially solar and wind, are unable to produce at the same levels as they can in the summer. Because Minnkota employs weather-tested, coal-based power in addition to wind and hydro power, it can navigate cold weather events that may put strain on other utilities.

Potential energy shortfalls across the MISO footprint are not something that Minnkota can correct on its own. Reliable regional electricity takes the planning



and collaboration of multiple utility providers from Canada all the way down to Louisiana. Even though Minnkota has enough generation to meet the needs of its own members, it may be called upon to assist with shortfalls in other areas of MISO. It's crucial that state and federal policy allows utilities to make long-term planning decisions that not only support reliability and affordability for local consumers but also align with the greater reliability needs of the national grid.

Minnkota continues to evaluate its long-term power supply plan with the help of its member cooperatives and neighboring utilities. We understand that reliability is a top priority and we will always advocate for **REAL POWER NOW**.

LEARN MORE AT
REALPOWERNOW.COM.

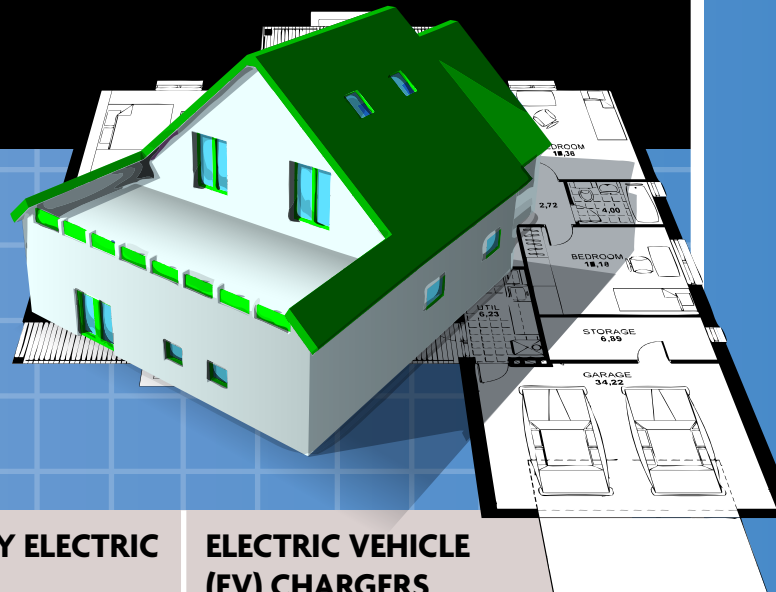


Scan here to see the full
**NERC LONG-TERM
RELIABILITY
ASSESSMENT**

BUILDING A NEW HOUSE?

Think off-peak.

Building a new home is an opportunity to start fresh and make design decisions that work best for you and your family. It's also a perfect time to consider electrification, from how you heat your home to how you fuel your car. Combined with Roseau Electric's off-peak energy program, you can lay a foundation for savings, efficiency and comfort.



AIR-SOURCE OR MINI-SPLIT DUCTLESS HEAT PUMPS

Whether it's a whole home air-source heat pump or a small mini-split ductless heat pump, these are the hottest technology in home heating and cooling. They also qualify for the low off-peak program electric rates and large cooperative rebates.

REBATES AVAILABLE:
Up to \$800/ton

LARGE-CAPACITY ELECTRIC WATER HEATERS

A large-capacity electric water heater can also be set up on the off-peak program to draw heat energy during lower-demand times of day. The water is heated inside a specially insulated tank, which allows almost no heat loss over a 24-hour period.

REBATES AVAILABLE:
Up to \$900/unit

ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV) CHARGERS

You may not have an EV now, but it's smart to include a garage charger in your building plans (or at least the wiring for one). Down the road, it will be easy to set up a charger on our off-peak program to save big on every mile driven. Plus, a charger can increase your home value.

REBATES AVAILABLE:
Up to \$100/kW

What is the off-peak program?

Electricity consumers in the Minnkota Power Cooperative system (including Roseau Electric) voluntarily sign up for the program, which allows Minnkota to temporarily turn off electric heating, water heating, vehicle chargers and commercial account service. During these "control periods," most consumers are automatically switched to a backup heating system or generator.

How does off-peak reduce my electric costs?

The off-peak program offers a lower electric rate that is about 40-50% below the regular service rate – all for helping your utility lower demand on the system when it's highest. For home heating, this makes electricity one of the most stable and cost-effective energy sources available. With the off-peak rate, electricity is very competitive with other heating fuels such as propane or fuel oil. And the off-peak rate really looks good during times when fossil fuel prices rise dramatically.

Learn more about the off-peak program and electric technology at valueofelectricity.com.



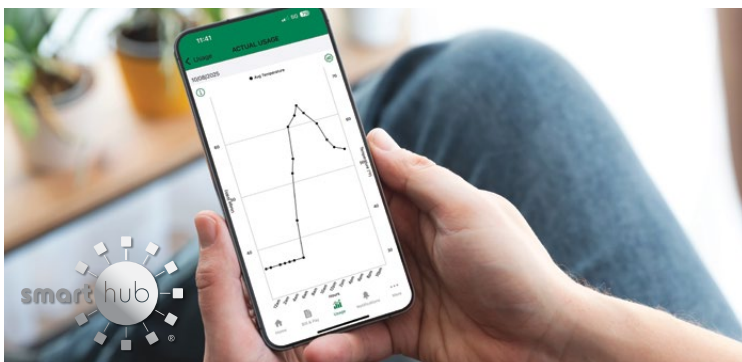
LET'S CELEBRATE EARTH DAY!

We may celebrate Earth Day once a year, but your local rural electric cooperative is dedicated to environmental stewardship every single day! From renewable generation to wildlife protection programs, Roseau Electric Cooperative does its best to protect the land we all love.



DID YOU KNOW?

- About 40% of the generation provided by Minnkota Power Cooperative, Roseau Electric Cooperative's energy provider, is from carbon-free resources!
- Roseau Electric Cooperative offers rebates and incentives on energy-efficient, cleaner electric technologies like EV chargers, water heaters and home heating systems.
- Our power lines are equipped with features that deter birds and other wildlife from landing or climbing, which helps keep them safe and avoids disrupting their natural habitat.
- Guided by the principle of Concern for Community, Roseau Electric Cooperative employees regularly volunteer to care for local green spaces. From park cleanups to supporting community gardens, we're proud to help create healthier communities.



USE SMARTHUB 24/7 TO:

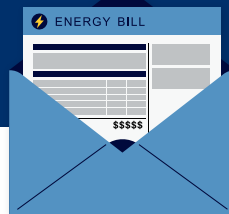
- Review your account
- Access energy usage graphs
- Make a payment securely
- Review billing and payment history
- Sign up to receive email and text alert notifications



SIGN UP TODAY!

roseauelectric.coop/account-management/smarthub

NEED HELP 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.

NORTHWEST COMMUNITY ACTION

PO Box 67, Badger, MN 56714-0067
218-528-3258 or 800-568-5329 | nwcaa.org

BI-COUNTY CAP, INC.

6603 Bemidji Ave. N, Bemidji, MN 56601-8669
218-751-4631



YOU CAN ALSO APPLY ONLINE:

<https://energy-assistance.web.commerce.state.mn.us>



For **1 cent** of electricity, your porch lights illuminate the kids dancing in post-rain puddles.



For **10 cents** more, you can wash the muddy clothes after they are done.

THAT'S THE VALUE OF ELECTRICITY

*Based on average household energy usage

member connection

ENERGY TIP

As we prepare for the seasonal shift, remember to set your ceiling fan rotation accordingly. In winter months (or whenever your home heating system is running), fan blades should rotate clockwise, which produces an updraft that pushes warm air down. In summer months (or whenever your home cooling system is running), blades should rotate counterclockwise, which produces a downdraft or windchill effect that makes you feel cooler. When used correctly, ceiling fans can boost comfort and allow you to adjust the thermostat a few degrees for energy savings.

Source: *energy.gov*

DATES TO REMEMBER

April 3

Good Friday; Office is closed

April 5

Happy Easter!

April 21

Electric bill is due

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday

8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Phone: 218-463-1543

AFTER HOURS/OUTAGE NUMBER

Toll-Free: 1-888-847-8840

(main outage call center)

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

1-800-252-1166 or 811

PAY BY PHONE

1-877-999-3412

SMARTHUB

<https://roseauelectric.smarthub.coop/>

WEBSITE

roseauelectric.coop

Happy EASTER

Our offices will be closed Friday, **April 3**, in observance of Good Friday.

If you experience an outage, call 1-888-847-8840.

OPERATING STATISTICS

	Monthly		Year to Date	
	February 2025	February 2026	February 2025	February 2026
Members	6,734	6,739	6,734	6,739
kWh purchased	16,111,006	14,783,617	34,139,975	31,402,276
% change		-8.24%		-8.02%
Revenue	1,880,008	1,878,467	3,950,886	4,162,635
Cost of power	1,116,728	1,142,090	2,311,894	2,454,502
Other expenses	578,272	660,308	1,176,612	1,329,339
Operating margins	185,008	76,068	462,380	378,794
Non-operating margins	14,009	(15,072)	27,203	(32,422)
Patronage dividends	7,734	4,507	7,734	4,507
Total margins	206,751	65,503	497,317	350,879



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
TO STAY UP TO DATE!

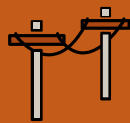
@RoseauElectricCooperativeInc

APRIL IS NATIONAL SAFE DIGGING MONTH

You never know what is hiding below the ground. **ALWAYS remember to call 8-1-1** before you start your next construction, renovation or yard project.



WHAT COULD BE UNDERGROUND?



Electrical power lines



Water lines



Internet and cable lines



Gas lines

WHY SHOULD YOU CALL 8-1-1?

1

It prevents costly repairs if lines are hit or damaged.

2

It's free! Your utilities will come out and mark lines with no cost to you.

3

IT'S THE LAW.



Visit CALL811.com to learn more about how to dig safely.