

VOLTS & VIEWS

SEPTEMBER 2026



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Powered by Roseau Electric Cooperative

FIBER



CO-OP

APPRECIATION

DAY

Come celebrate with us!
OCTOBER 13, 2026

**SERVING LUNCH FROM
11 A.M. TO 2 P.M.**



Please join us for turkey on a bun, beans, chips and cookies.



Star Energy Services will be available at Co-op Day!



Sign up for prizes and enjoy visiting with your co-op friends and neighbors.



VOLTS & VIEWS

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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 serving its member-owners with safe and reliable services through efficiency, knowledge, and accountability.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



For **1 cent**, your stand mixer can help get your favorite pie crust to the correct consistency.



For **20 cents** more, you can bake the pie to perfection.

THAT'S THE VALUE OF ELECTRICITY

*Based on average household energy usage



VOLTS & VIEWS
Roseau Electric Cooperative, Inc.
A member-owned utility

BUS TOUR
Roseau Electric Cooperative is proud to announce the 2024 Bus Tour. The tour will visit various locations across the state, including Roseau, Bemidji, and Duluth. The tour will be held on Wednesday, June 24 - Thursday, June 25, 2024. Sign up for the bus tour today!

SIGN UP FOR THE BUS TOUR!
Wednesday, June 24 - Thursday, June 25, 2024

How would you like to receive the newsletter?

Member Name (Required):
Account # (Optional):

☐ #1 Electronic newsletter only
Please enter your email address below:
Email Address:
Email Address:

☐ #2 Both electronic and paper copies
Please enter your email address below:
Email Address:
Email Address:

☐ #3 Paper copy only
☐ #4 Neither electronic nor paper copy

SIGN UP ONLINE

www.roseauelectric.coop/your-cooperative/volts-views



FROM THE LINE

MARK JENNINGS, MANAGER OF LINE OPERATIONS

It has been a typically busy summer at REC. Our crews have built 18 new services so far, with another nine currently on the schedule. While that number may be lower than what we have seen at this point in previous years, there has certainly been no shortage of work. If you are still planning a project that will require electric service or other work before winter, please contact us as soon as possible so we can get it scheduled.

We have also completed several service upgrades for grain bin sites. It seems like farmers are planting more corn every year in northern Minnesota, and that means they need somewhere to store it after harvest until they can haul it to market. If you have taken a drive through the countryside lately, I am sure you have noticed plenty of shiny new grain bins going up. They also seem to be getting bigger every year.

I hope everyone enjoyed the Roseau County Fair. I attended the 4-H livestock auction for the first time and was impressed by the work the kids put into raising their animals and by the generosity of the local community in supporting 4-H.

In July, our crews also spent a week working at the Northwest Angle. We had projects on the mainland and on several of the islands we serve. Working at the Angle means our linemen have to spend a week away from home, but the trade-off is getting to

work in one of Minnesota's most beautiful places. The environment and logistics are certainly different from the work we do throughout the rest of our service territory, but the Northwest Angle is a unique and important part of REC.

While our linemen were at the Angle, we decided to do something we had talked about for years. Some of the ladies in the office had never been to the Northwest Angle, so we turned the trip into a team-building opportunity and took them up for a tour.

We were able to see the linemen at work, take a boat ride, visit some of the islands, have lunch at an island resort and experience firsthand what makes this part of our service territory so unique.

The trip gave everyone a better understanding of the challenges that come with serving members on both the mainland and more than 20 islands.

Now, when a member calls the office with a question about their electric service at the Northwest Angle, the office staff have a better understanding of where they are and what it takes to provide service there. It's always helpful to be able to put a picture to a name or, in this case, a location.

In closing, I have a reminder for all our members: If you experience a power outage, please call REC as soon as possible to report it. We cannot always tell when you are without power and your call helps us identify outages and respond as quickly as possible.

From the mainland to the islands, our crews go the extra mile to serve our members at the Northwest Angle! Pictured aboard the Evenson barge, from left to right, are Sawyer Ginther, Connor Eidsmoe, Justin Olson, Luke Holland and Mark Jennings.



PLANNING TODAY FOR THE POWER NEEDS OF TOMORROW



Mac McLennan
President & CEO

Minnkota Power Cooperative

Minnkota Power Cooperative is preparing for one of the most important power supply planning periods in its history – and our members are at the heart of our decision-making process.

As the wholesale power provider for Roseau Electric Cooperative and 10 other member cooperatives across eastern North Dakota and northwestern Minnesota, Minnkota is responsible for making sure reliable, affordable and sustainable electricity is available not only today, but decades into the future.

That responsibility is becoming more complex. Electricity demand is growing. Power markets are changing. Environmental requirements continue to evolve. New technologies are creating opportunities, but also new challenges. At the same time, members continue to expect dependable electric service they can afford.

Minnkota takes the job of managing these issues seriously. The path ahead is being shaped by extensive planning, detailed analysis and a long-term commitment to the members and communities we serve.

Our approach is an all-of-the-above energy strategy. That means we're working to strengthen the coal, wind and hydro resources we already have in place, while adding new resources that make our system more diverse, flexible and reliable.

One important step already in progress is the development of the Flickertail Wind Farm near New Rockford, North Dakota. Minnkota has entered into a purchase power agreement to receive energy from the 370-megawatt wind project, which is expected to be completed in 2028. When complete, Flickertail will more than double Minnkota's current wind energy portfolio.

Because wind energy output changes with weather conditions, Minnkota also needs resources that can respond when electricity demand is high or when other resources are producing less. That's why we're closely evaluating the addition of natural gas generation in North Dakota.

This effort is connected to the development of the Bakken East natural gas pipeline, which is planned to move natural gas from the oilfields of western North Dakota to the eastern side of the state. Natural gas generation can start up, ramp down and adjust output to help match electricity supply with demand across the region. Minnkota is still determining the right technology, location and size for this potential facility,

but current planning is focused on having it available in the early 2030s.

At the same time, Minnkota's existing coal-based resources at the Milton R. Young Station in western North Dakota continue to provide tremendous value. This facility produces dependable, around-the-clock electricity and supports the reliability our members expect. That's why Minnkota continues to pursue Project Tundra, an effort to add carbon capture technology at the Young Station. If implemented, Project Tundra would capture CO₂ emissions from the power plant and help position it to meet potential future environmental regulations.

Project Tundra is being advanced by a technology developer with the significant help of state and federal funding. Importantly, the project is being structured with limited required capital investment from Minnkota, minimizing financial risk to the membership. If a decision is made to move forward, the facility could be online prior to the end of the decade.

These power supply decisions are being made for Minnkota's legacy members, including the homes, farms, schools and businesses served by Roseau Electric Cooperative. You are the foundation of our system, and your needs remain at the center of our planning.

That same member-first approach also guides how Minnkota evaluates electric growth. New large electricity consumers can bring opportunity to our region, but only if they are served in a way that protects existing members and strengthens the overall system. That's the standard Minnkota is applying to the data center being developed near Harwood, North Dakota.

The data center will cover the costs for its dedicated infrastructure up front and pay its own way for all its energy needs. The agreement is designed to ensure this new load does not shift costs to existing members. In fact, the revenues from this data center project can help cover a portion of the costs tied to future power supply investments Minnkota is already pursuing.

With each of these projects now in motion, the work is moving from planning to action. The decisions ahead are significant, but necessary to keep power reliable. As a not-for-profit cooperative, Minnkota's focus remains on the people and communities we serve. That focus will continue to guide the decisions being made today for the power needs of tomorrow.

REAL POWER REQUIRES REAL DIVERSIFICATION

Lignite Coal



PROS

- Abundant, domestic fuel source
- Can reliably run 24 hours per day
- Cost-competitive with other resources

CONS

- Currently difficult to permit and build new coal plants
- Can be challenging to ramp up and down to accommodate renewable production
- Higher CO₂ intensity than natural gas, although CO₂ capture technology is advancing

Natural Gas

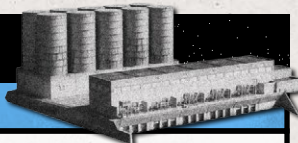
PROS

- Lower CO₂ emissions than coal
- Has been low-priced in recent years
- Can be run 24/7 or used during peak events
- Flexible operation

CONS

- Fuel costs are becoming increasingly volatile
- Pipeline infrastructure still catching up to projected demand
- Potentially more expensive to install CO₂ capture technology

Hydro



PROS

- No fuel cost
- Low-cost energy to consumer
- No air emissions
- Flexible operation

CONS

- Currently difficult to permit
- Affects fish and wildlife habitat
- Alters the natural flow of rivers
- Virtually no resources in development (some dams being removed)

Solar

PROS

- No fuel cost
- No air emissions

CONS

- Has intermittent production
- Requires investment in backup generation resources
- Solar panels take a larger land footprint
- Production affected by clouds, snow and extreme cold temperatures

You've likely heard the term "all-of-the-above energy." It's the idea that since all generation resources have their respective benefits and challenges, the most strategic path to affordable, reliable and sustainable electricity is to use a blend of technologies. If one resource is emissions free but only generates when the weather is right, another resource is there to pick up the slack. If one technology can ramp up and down quickly but experiences volatile fuel costs, another resource is waiting in the wings.

Not all resources are created equal. That's why we need an all-of-the-above approach for **Real Power Now**.

VISIT REALPOWERNOW.COM

Nuclear

PROS

- No air emissions
- Can run reliably 24 hours per day

CONS

- High capital cost and increasingly expensive fuel
- Radioactive waste must be properly disposed of and monitored
- Currently difficult to permit
- Cannot ramp up and down to accommodate renewable production

Wind

PROS

- No fuel cost
- No air emissions
- Cost-competitive with other resources

CONS

- Has intermittent production
- Requires investment in backup generation resources
- Turbines take a larger land footprint
- Wind farms can impact bird and wildlife populations
- Cannot operate in extreme cold or wind conditions

Battery Storage

PROS

- No air emissions
- Can be dispatched when needed
- Pairs well with renewable resources

CONS

- Costly to deploy and requires investments in other generation resources to charge the batteries
- Can only dispatch for 2-4 hours at a time when energy can be needed for days
- Battery components require significant amounts of rare earth elements, which are almost exclusively produced overseas

NOTICE TO COGENERATORS



In compliance with Roseau Electric Cooperative, Inc., adopted rules relating to cogeneration and small power production, Roseau Electric Cooperative, Inc., is obligated to interconnect with and purchase electricity from cogenerators and small power producers who satisfy the conditions as a qualifying facility. Roseau Electric Cooperative, Inc., is obligated 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 dispute over interconnections, sales and purchases are subject to resolution by the Roseau Electric Cooperative, Inc. board. Interested members should contact Roseau Electric Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 100, Roseau, MN 56751, or call 218-463-1543.

COLD WEATHER RULE

In accordance with Minnesota's Cold Weather Rule (216B.097), electric service cannot be disconnected for nonpayment **between Oct. 1 and April 30** if electricity is the primary heat source and all of the following statements apply:

- Your household income is at or below 50% of the state median household income. Income may be verified on forms provided by Roseau Electric Cooperative or by the local energy assistance provider (see providers below).
- You enter into and make reasonable and timely payments under a payment agreement that considers the financial resources of the household.
- You receive referrals to energy assistance, weatherization, conservation or other programs likely to reduce your energy bills from Roseau Electric Cooperative.

Please note that the Cold Weather Rule does not completely stop winter disconnects.

Before disconnecting electric service to residential members between Oct. 1 and April 30, Roseau Electric Cooperative must provide:

- A 30-day mailed notice or 15-day hand delivered notice
- A statement of members' rights and responsibilities
- A list of local energy assistance providers
- Forms to request Cold Weather Rule protection
- A statement explaining available payment plans and other options to continue service

ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

This program is federally funded and can help low-income renters and homeowners pay for home heating costs and furnace repairs. Household income must be at 50% of the state median income to qualify for benefits.

To learn more about the EAP program or to apply, visit the MN Dept. of Commerce Energy Assistance website at <https://mn.gov/commerce/consumers/consumer-assistance/energy-assistance> for more details and to access the application portal. Or simply contact your county's EAP service provider.

Roseau Electric Cooperative exists because of you, and we are dedicated to the people and communities we serve. If you are having difficulty paying your electric bill and do not qualify for either of these programs, please contact us immediately to work out a mutually agreeable payment plan.

LOCAL ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS

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

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



Kambrya Magnusson and Megan Brateng stopped for a photo with the dynamic duo while enjoying Crazy Days in Roseau!

member connection

ENERGY TIP

September kicks off the fall shoulder season, when cooler mornings and milder evenings often mean you can give your heating/cooling system a break. Open windows, use ceiling fans and enjoy the fresh air whenever temperatures allow. It's also the perfect time to schedule annual HVAC maintenance before colder weather arrives. Because demand is typically lower during the fall, heating and cooling professionals often have greater availability, making it easier to book an appointment. Regular maintenance can improve your system's efficiency, help prevent unexpected breakdowns and keep your home comfortable all year long.

Source: Dept. of Energy

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 21
Electric bill is due

September 29
ECFE Big Truck Night
(REC parking lot)

October 13
Co-op Appreciation Day

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

OPERATING STATISTICS

	Monthly		Year to Date	
	July 2025	July 2026	July 2025	July 2026
Members	6,726	6,742	6,726	6,742
kWh purchased	9,898,170	10,902,859	88,090,932	90,621,043
% change		10.15%		2.87%
Revenue	1,529,633	1,778,864	11,717,703	12,914,966
Cost of power	884,632	997,224	6,893,177	7,545,204
Other expenses	576,104	659,386	4,103,059	4,735,601
Operating margins	68,897	122,254	721,467	634,161
Non-operating margins	2,304	(9,940)	67,885	(103,735)
Patronage dividends	(115)	-	136,918	103,007
Total margins	71,086	112,314	926,269	633,433



LIKE US ON **FACEBOOK**
TO STAY UP TO DATE!

@RoseauElectricCooperativeInc



WATCH THE WIRES THIS HARVEST SEASON

Harvest season is often ripe with distractions. Even when you're trying to beat the rain or finish just one more acre, you must remember to stay alert to the power lines around you. One wrong move can be dangerous – even deadly. Share this **safety checklist** with your team before heading to the field.

SAFETY CHECKLIST

- ▶ **Know where power lines are located** before moving equipment and **plan your route** to avoid low power lines and narrow road crossings.
- ▶ **Lower equipment and fold augers, booms and other extensions** before moving to another site.
- ▶ **Maintain a safe distance** of at least 10 feet from all overhead power lines.
- ▶ **Look up** before raising equipment.
- ▶ **Use a spotter** when moving oversized or tall equipment.
- ▶ **Stay alert when visibility is reduced** by dust, low light, rain or fog, when power lines can be hard to see.
- ▶ **Inspect equipment height** before moving combines, grain carts, sprayers or other tall machinery.
- ▶ **Avoid parking or storing equipment** directly beneath power lines.

ACCIDENTS HAPPEN.

If equipment contacts a power line or pole, follow these steps:

1 Stay inside the cab

2 Call 9-1-1

3 Wait for responders

IF THERE IS SMOKE/FIRE:



Cross your arms across your chest



Jump out with your feet together
(don't touch the ground and vehicle at the same time)



Shuffle or bunny hop far away
(feet always together)

SAFETY KIT

Take time to train all farm workers on power line hazards before harvest begins. If you would like a free Watch the Wires safety kit for your team, visit watchthewires.com for details.

WATCHTHEWIRES.COM

