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Mark Your Calendar

June 15.....Electric Bills Due

June 27 Board Meeting



Find Your Account Number & Win!

TEC has hidden an account number in this newsletter. If you find your account number, notify us by May 1st and you will get a **\$10 bill credit**.



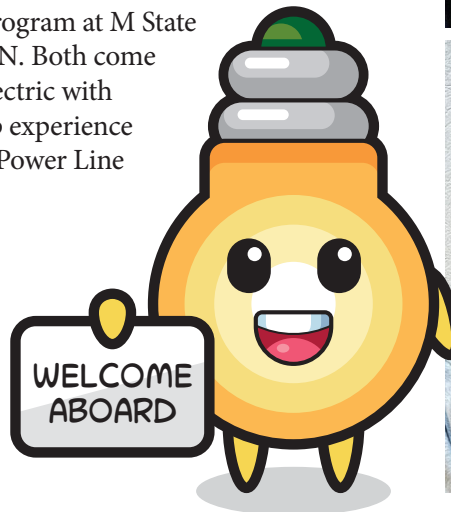
Sue Wilts Retiring after 45 years

Longtime employee, Sue Wilts, will officially retire in June. Sue began her career at Traverse Electric in 1978. She has held the role of Billing Clerk since 2001. In her 45 years at Traverse Electric, Sue was well known among the membership and oftentimes the first point of contact for any billing related questions, outage calls, and account transfer requests. She made sure that every member was well taken care of.

In her retirement Sue plans to spend more time with her family; especially with her grandchildren. We want to wish Sue the very best in her retirement years!

Welcome to Traverse Electric Isaac Callens and Tayden George!

Isaac and Tayden started at Traverse Electric as apprentice linemen on May 15. Isaac is from Marshall, MN and is a graduate of the Minnesota West Powerline Program, Granite Falls, MN. Tayden is from Park Rapids, MN and is a graduate of the Electrical Lineworker Technology Program at M State in Wadena, MN. Both come to Traverse Electric with apprenticeship experience working for a Power Line Contractor.



Preparing to Serve You Better

By Jeremy Huhnstock

Providing reliable power to you is and will always be top priority for Traverse Electric Cooperative. These days, power reliability seems to be making news now more than ever.

As the energy industry continues to transition and more segments of the economy are becoming electrified, such as vehicles, machinery and even lawn equipment, additional pressures are being placed on our nation's electric grid.

With summer storm season upon us, I thought it would be a good time to tell you about a few measures we're taking to ensure you continue receiving the reliable power you depend on and deserve.

Let me be the first to say I love trees and the charm they add to our communities, and I know you do too. While trees provide shade and add beauty to our area, you may be surprised to learn that overgrown vegetation accounted for 37 outages and an average of 6.73 hours per outage in 2022.

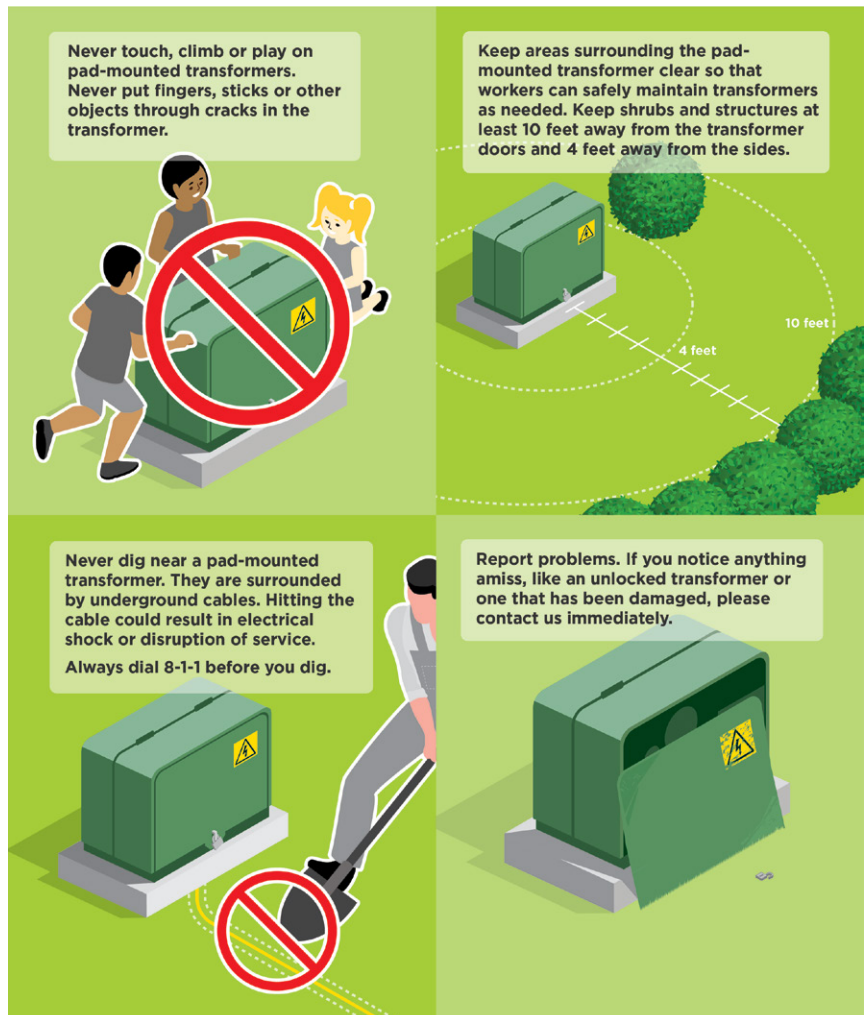
That's why we strive to keep the co-op's power lines clear in right-of-way (ROW) and easement areas. A ROW and easement area is the land a co-op uses to construct, maintain, replace or repair underground and overhead power lines. This ROW enables Traverse Electric Cooperative to provide clearance from trees and other obstructions that could

hinder distribution power lines. The overall goal of our vegetation management strategy is to provide reliable power to our members while maintaining the beauty

of our area. Our contractor, Carr's Tree Service, will be in the townships of White Rock, Harmon, & Grant in South Dakota later this summer.

Avoid the Big Green Box

Please stay away from pad-mounted transformers (the big green box). While safe, they are not meant for touching, climbing or playing. Pad-mounted transformers carry high voltages of electricity that serve many homes in our communities.



Planned Outages Improve Reliability

Although it may seem counterintuitive, we also maintain power reliability through planned, controlled outages. By carefully cutting power to one part of our local area for a few hours, our crews can perform system repairs and upgrades, which ultimately improve electric service. Planned outages can also be used to balance energy demand, but only in rare circumstances.

Vegetation management is an essential tool in ensuring power reliability and minimizing the risk of outages. As advancements become more accessible and costs drop, we anticipate using additional technologies to ensure a consistent energy supply while managing the environment.

Lastly, I encourage you to follow Traverse Electric Cooperative on Facebook so you can learn about the latest co-op updates. ▶



MANAGER'S COLUMN

JEREMY HUHNSTOCK

General Manager



TRAVERSE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE RECOGNIZES LOCAL STUDENT AS SCHOLAR OF THE WEEK

Traverse Electric Cooperative and Sisseton High School are pleased to announce Annika Estwick as a Touchstone Energy® Scholar of the Week winner for the week of May 14, 2023 - May 20, 2023. The scholar of the week program is a partnership between Dakota News Now Television, Traverse Electric Cooperative and other local Touchstone Energy Cooperatives that honors accomplished high school students.



Pictured is Annika Estwick and Steve Powers from Traverse Electric Cooperative.

As a Scholar of the Week, Annika will be featured in a weekly segment on Dakota News Now and will receive a scholarship from Traverse Electric Cooperative. Annika is also now eligible to receive a \$1,000 scholarship or one of two \$500 scholarships that will be given away this spring at the annual Scholar of the Year banquet.

“Traverse Electric Cooperative salutes Annika and all students who set an example of hard work and high academic standards,” said Karen Lupkes with Traverse Electric Cooperative.

Touchstone Energy Cooperatives are local, active members of their communities, dedicated to building our communities and improving our way of life. Since the Scholar of the Week program began, more than \$80,000 in scholarships has been awarded to more than 530 students. The program is a great partnership between local Touchstone Energy Cooperatives and their members and truly captures the commitment that electric cooperatives have to the communities they serve.

Nominations for the weekly awards are submitted by area school principals and faculty, whose selections were based on excellence in the classroom and service in the community. ▶

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April 2023 Traverse Electric Board Meeting Highlights

The April regular board meeting was held on Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 8 AM. Absent: None.

Staff members present were General Manager, Jeremy Huhnstock and Karen Lupkes. President Diekmann called the meeting to order.

The agenda was approved. The minutes of the March regular board meeting and March 23, 2023 Annual Meeting were approved.

The March check register was approved. Discussed the East River and Basin video reports.

Diekmann gave an East River Board Report. Huhnstock presented the General Manager's Report, which included:

- Provided a Basin Electric update.
- Provided an East River update.
- REED Fund review.
- NRECA update.
- MREA and MN legislative update.
- SDREA and SD legislative update.

Lupkes gave the Office Manager's Report, which included:

- March 31, 2023 accounts receivable balances were reviewed.
- A list of new members was reviewed.
- Update on Electrical Dept. and Generator Program.
- Summer office hours begin May 1.
- Deferred revenue was discussed.
- Our annual audit begins on May 8.
- East River power bill and Basin's financial reports reviewed.

Discussed the sale of the current properties. Reviewed and approved the March 2023 Financial Report. Huhnstock presented the Operations

Report per Schwagel's written report. Items discussed included:

- Discussed the sale of the current properties.
- Reviewed and approved the March 2023 Financial Report.
- Huhnstock presented the Operations Report per Schwagel's written report. Items discussed included:

Received an update on the new facility and construction progress. Discussed the District 7 vacancy on the board. Reviewed district boundaries. Reviewed upcoming meetings and attendees. Meeting adjourned. ▮

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Looking for additional ways to save energy this summer? Your laundry room is a great place to start. Wash clothes with cold water, which can cut one load's energy use by more than half. Your washing machine will use the same amount of energy no matter the size of the clothes load, so fill it up when you can. When drying clothes, separate the heavier cottons. Loads will dry faster and more evenly if you separate heavier cottons like linens and towels from your lightweight clothing.

Source: Dept. of Energy

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Doug Diekmann, Beardsley, MN
Vice-President: Tom Frisch, Dumont, MN
Secretary: Matthew Glynn Sisseton, SD
Treasurer: Michael Marks, Norcross, MN
Michael Gaulrapp, Breckenridge, MN
Terry Monson, Veblen, SD
Bradley Rudolph, Dumont, MN
Stacy Ehlers, Wheaton, MN

OFFICE PERSONNEL

Jeremy Huhnstock – General Manager
Karen Lupkes – Office Manager
Dale Schwagel – Operations Manager
Melissa Przymus – Accountant
Stacie Johannsen – Billing Clerk

OPERATIONS PERSONNEL

Richard Davis – Foreman
Lonnie Tekrony – Journeyman Lineworker
Joe Gahlon – Journeyman Lineworker
Austin Reinke – Journeyman Lineworker
Justin Lundblad – Apprentice Lineworker
Isaac Callens – Apprentice Lineworker
Tayden George – Apprentice Lineworker
Chris Falk – Facility/Staking Technician

GENERAL MANAGER'S CONTACT INFORMATION

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jhuhnstock@traverseelectric.com

MEMBER SERVICE REP/ MASTER ELECTRICIAN

Steve Powers 320-808-9104
Connor Bartz
– Journeyman Electrician 320-287-0009

ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS MINNESOTA

Brandon Lennox 320-808-5309
Big Stone County Grant County
Stevens County Traverse County
Rodney Schaffer 701-235-2840
Wilkin County

NORTH DAKOTA

Mark Moderow 701-226-3779
Richland County

SOUTH DAKOTA

Dan Urban 605-222-0143
Marshall County Roberts County

In case of a power outage, call
(800) 927-5443

1618 Broadway
P.O. Box 66
Wheaton, MN 56296 USA
Toll-free phone: (800) 927-5443
Local phone: (320) 563-8616

Hours of Operation

Monday through Friday, 7 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Web site: www.traverseelectric.com

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Our Mission: To provide dependable service at the lowest possible rates, consistent with sound business principles.

TEC April Financials

	Apr. 2022	Apr. 2023	YTD 2023
Total Revenue	\$990,791.81	\$971,649.48	\$4,132,775.49
Cost of Power	\$601,679.65	\$585,725.64	\$2,288,900.65
Total Cost of Service	\$938,406.15	\$966,824.33	\$3,679,594.46
Operating Margins	\$52,385.66	\$4,825.15	\$453,181.03
Total Margins	\$45,627.66	\$59,252.01	\$538,548.78
Kilowatt-Hours (kWh) Purchased	11,314,230	10,685,544	45,673,433
Kilowatt-Hours (kWh) Sales	10,786,141	10,213,592	43,494,863
Line Loss	4%	4%	4%