

# PowerLines

*Your Trusted Energy News Source*



July 2019 • [www.clpower.com](http://www.clpower.com)



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## CLP Host Play Ball! Minnesota Twins Youth Baseball Clinic

Play Ball! Minnesota conducted a free youth baseball clinic at Odegaard Park in Two Harbors on Sunday, June 9th. Cooperative Light & Power hosted the event, providing free t-shirts and a hotdog picnic for all of the clinic participants.

Presented by Great River Energy, Play Ball! Minnesota Clinics are for boys and girls ages 6-13. The Two Harbors Clinic had over 200 kids participate. The clinics are held free of charge, funding is provided by the Twins Community Fund and Great River Energy.

“For nearly 60 years, Twins Youth Clinics have provided baseball instruction to young players in communities throughout Twins Territory,” said Stephanie Jonson, Executive Director of the Twins Community Fund. “We’re proud to continue this tradition for a new generation of ballplayers.”

Created in 1961 by longtime Twins scout Angelo Giuliani, the clinic program services to promote baseball and softball to boys and girls throughout the region. Since the beginning of the program, more than 800,000 youth have participated in a Twins youth clinic.

CLP was proud to sponsor this event. We love to see kids getting outside to learn and play! Thank you to everyone that joined us.





## Penny Electricity

Hal Halpern, Chief Executive Officer/GM

Dear Member:

A Penny for your thoughts...

That expression was first used at a time when a penny was considered something of value. Today, electricity is about the only thing you can buy and still get value for just a penny's worth. As a kid, I remember when penny candy cost a penny. For a dime, you could buy enough candy to rot your teeth out, at least that's what my mother used to say.

But what does a penny buy these days? Not much. The government can't even make a penny for a penny anymore. According to the U.S. Mint, it now costs 1.5 cents to produce one. About the only thing of value you can still get for a penny is electricity. You might call it "penny electricity." No, I'm not kidding. Think about it.

To make the math easier, let's say the average rate for a kilowatt-hour of electricity is 10 cents. That is 60 minutes of 1,000 watts of electricity for a dime, so a penny of electricity equates to 100 watts. It's enough to power a 9-watt LED lightbulb—the equivalent of a 60-watt incandescent bulb—for 11 hours, all for only a penny. Where else can you get that kind of value? How many eggs will a

penny buy? How much milk, bread, coffee, medicine, or gasoline?

Gas has come down from its stratospheric levels of several years ago, but there is still no comparison to the value of electricity. For example, if a gallon of gas costs \$2.50 and your car gets 25 miles to the gallon, you can drive 176 yards—about two blocks—on a penny's worth of gas. I will take 11 hours of lighting for a penny over a two-block drive any day.

The value is just as evident when powering things other than lighting. Take, for instance, your smartphone. Using the same 10 cents per kWh price, penny electricity allows you to fully charge your iPhone more than 18 times for a penny. You can charge it once every day of the year for about 20 cents total.

Not impressed? Well, how about these other examples of what you can do with just a penny's worth of electricity: power a 1,000-watt microwave on high for 6 minutes; run a 200-watt desktop computer for 30 minutes; watch 2.5 hours of your favorite shows on a 40-watt, 32-inch, LED television or 1.3 hours on a 75-watt, 75-inch mega TV. The examples are endless.

*Continued on page 7*

*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 August 23.

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!**

## 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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**OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF**

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.

## Important Contacts

### OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Peggy Kuettel, President, District 1  
218-525-2155

Robert Nikolai, Vice President, District 5  
218-353-7332

Alis Stevens, Secretary, District 4  
218-226-8744

Scott Veitenheimer, Treasurer, District 2  
218-340-8968

Gregory Lien, Director, District 3  
218-595-6187



## Experience Efficiency In Any Season

With heating and cooling accounting for some of the most substantial expenses for homeowners, it makes sense for your space to be equipped with one high-efficiency appliance to keep those costs as low as possible.

A smart, all-in-one solution is to install an air source heat pump (ASHP), which handles both your heating and cooling needs. It works in the summer months by extracting the existing heat from inside your home and moving it outside, often outperforming standard central air conditioners in the process.

The cycle is reversed for heating: by extracting warmth from the outdoor air and pumping it into your home. This will allow you to run your furnace less. During the spring and fall, you may not even need to run it at all.

ASHPs achieve all this while consuming up to 72 percent less electricity than conventional air conditioners and furnaces, leaving you with a savings of up to 30 percent on your electric bill.

Earlier generations of ASHPs were limited in terms of their effectiveness in states with colder climates like Minnesota's, but technology has advanced to where they can now operate down to 0 degrees Fahrenheit.

"With the recent advancements in air source heat pump technology, they can now be used to cost-effectively deliver a much larger portion of the heating needs of homes and businesses in cold climate areas such as Minnesota," said Rodney De Fouw, member electrification strategist at Great

River Energy. "In rural areas where natural gas is not available, using air source heat pumps for heating is now commonly the most cost-effective heating option available for the vast majority of the heating season. This is especially true if you can take advantage of programs and rate options available through your local electric cooperative."

Beyond cost savings, ASHPs provide additional benefits such as higher-quality warmth compared to conventional furnaces as the ASHP distributes heat more evenly and holds moisture better, which results in a natural, comfortable warmth.

ASHPs also provide a safe, environmentally-friendly solution for home comfort conditioning. They don't use an open flame or create products of combustion – such as carbon monoxide – so there is no need for venting.

Part of your electric cooperative's mission is to help you use energy wisely by offering a variety of programs, resources, and products to make this possible. Cooperatives

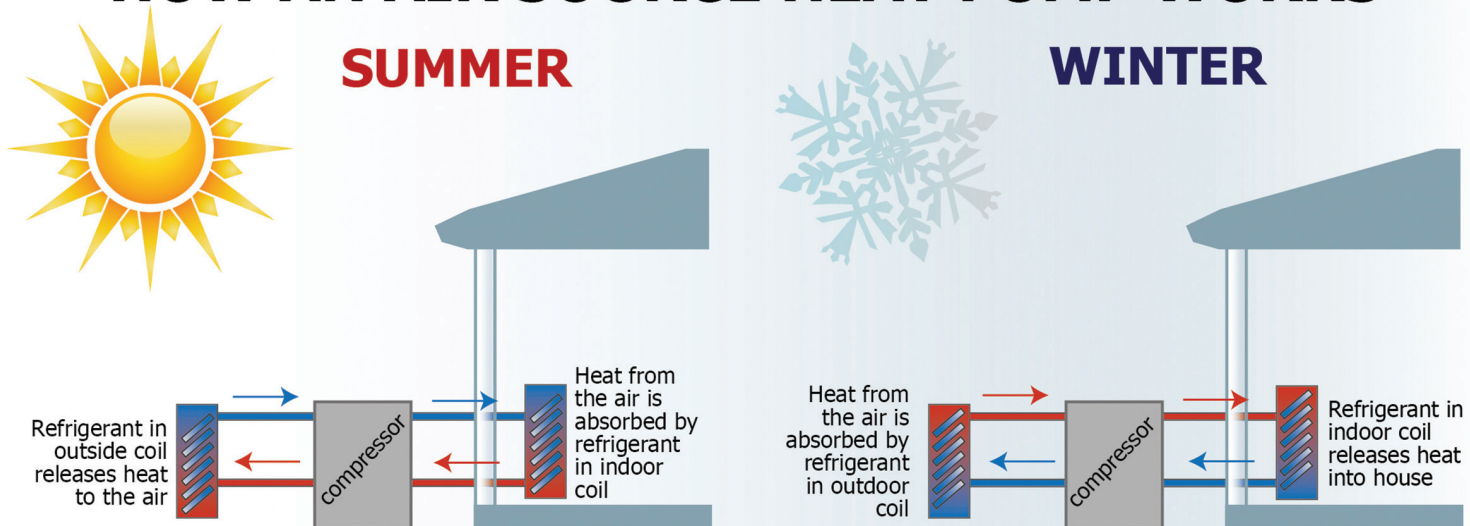
offer rebates based on your SEER rating. Cooperative Light & Power's rebates on ASHP's are \$480 for a 14.5 SEER, \$580 for a 15 SEER, and \$630 for a 16+ SEER. For Ductless Airsource Heat Pumps, rebates are \$300 if you have delivered fuels or \$500 if you have electric heat. For more information on what your cooperative can do to provide you with an energy efficient ASHP, visit [energywisemn.com](http://energywisemn.com) or call CLP's Member Service Manager, Ken Jones, at 218-834-2226 or 800-580-5881.

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***"With the recent advancements in air source heat pump technology, they can now be used to cost-effectively deliver a much larger portion of the heating needs of homes and businesses in cold climate areas such as Minnesota"***

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## HOW AN AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMP WORKS



© Collaborative Efficiency

# Co-Generation Application Change

Ken Jones, Member Services Manager



Nova Power Portal. This portal is available on our web site (clpower.com). Member account number seven hundred nine thousand four hundred two. This application tool allows the interconnecting customer to submit all necessary forms and documents to initiate the interconnecting process, as well as

Changes have happened to Cooperative Light and Power's solar and wind co-generation application process. As of June 17th, 2019, we have now gone to the

to provide access to critical resources.

This new process reduces the complexity of the application process for the interconnecting customer. Star Energy Services from Alexandria, MN will be providing CLP with this new Nova Power Portal process. Star Energy has provided CLP with the co-generation application prior to this June 17th change, but this new process will be quicker as your application will go directly to Star Energy eliminating a step, it used to come to CLP then we would forward to Star for approval.

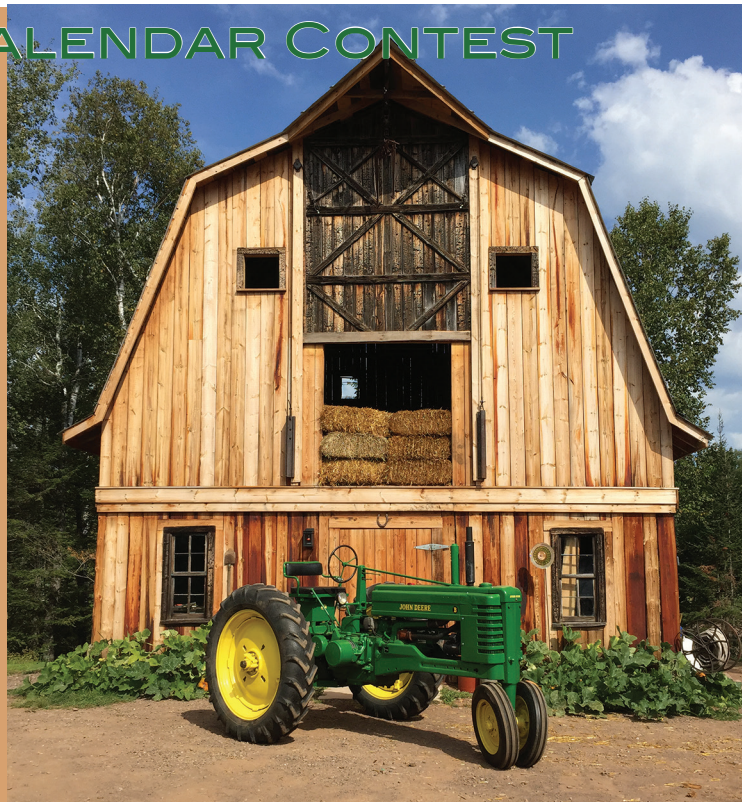
The new Nova Power Portal will be a quicker, easier process for your solar or wind co-generation needs.

## 2020 CO-OP LIFE CALENDAR CONTEST

**Would you like to have your favorite photo published in the Co-operative Light & Power Co-op Life 2020 Calendar? We are asking CLP members and employees to submit photos by September 30, 2019. Please send us your best North Shore photos. We would like the images to depict scenes from the North Shore or Co-op Light & Power's general service area. One photo will be chosen from each entry to be in the running to represent the season of each month.**

- \*Electronic Photos, minimum of 3300 X 2550 pixels, 300 dpi res.**
- \*Scenery photos only, no people, please.**
- \*Photos must be taken by the person submitting them.**
- \*Only horizontal photos please, vertical images will not work.**
- \*Please include the location of where the photo was taken.**

**Your digital photos can be emailed to: [careyh@clpower.com](mailto:careyh@clpower.com), brought into the CLP office or mailed by US Postal Service to: CLP Calendar Contest, P.O. Box 69, Two Harbors, MN 55616.**



## The Phishing Trip You Want to Avoid

Kevin Olson, Telecommunications Manager

Scammers often use email or text messages to trick you into giving them your personal information. They may try to steal your passwords, account numbers, or Social Security numbers. They do this by a technique called "Phishing." If they get that information, they can gain access to your email, banking, social media, or other accounts. Member account number six hundred two thousand nine hundred thirty five.

Phishing scams make you click on a link or open an attachment in an email or text message that routes you to a fake website asking for your personal information. These websites often look like the real thing - including the correct logos. Protect yourself by never opening a link asking for personal or account information (reset passwords, etc.).

Always type the company address into your browser directly to check your accounts. Member account number seven hundred sixteen thousand three hundred fourteen.

The fake emails or texts often look like it is from a friend, supervisor, or employee. Usually, the email address listed next to the display name is incorrect. Often there is a sense of urgency or secrecy involved in the scams. Typically, gift cards are involved. If you are lucky enough, you can recognize poor grammar or misspellings. Always have anti-virus/anti-malware software installed on your computer. Go with your gut. If it feels wrong, it probably is. Pick up the phone and call your friend before sending the money. The best rule is always to be alert and suspicious of every email or text.



# Home Electrical Safety

## Always Look Up Always

Before starting **any** project, **be alert of where the power lines are located**, and know how high they are hanging. Whether you're working on the roof, trimming trees, or painting your siding, it's your job to be aware and to **alert others about nearby power lines**.



1. Locate **all** overhead power lines.



2. Stay at least **10 feet** away from all overhead power lines.



3. **Do not touch** anything in contact with power line.



4. Carry ladders and equipment **horizontally**.



5. Stay at least **35 feet** away from downed power lines and call 911.

Larry Sandretsky, Operations Manager

**PLEASE MOVE  
OVER FOR  
EMERGENCY  
AND UTILITY  
CREWS**

**Together, we can  
keep our crews safe.**



Avoid cell phone use and other forms of distracted driving. Texting and driving under any circumstances is incredibly dangerous. According to the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA), five seconds is the average time that a driver takes his or her eyes are off the road while texting, which is enough time to cover the length of a football field when traveling at 55mph. Even the simple act of reaching for the phone can be dangerous. In fact, the NHTSA says that reaching for a phone, dialing, texting, and other uses of portable devices increase the risk of getting into a crash by three times. The dangers of distracted driving are exacerbated in construction zones due to the increased traffic, smaller lanes, and additional obstacles.

Carey Hogenson, Marketing Manager

The fee includes transportation in an air conditioned coach bus, three nights stay at the Souris Valley Suites, tickets to the Norsk Hostfest with special guest tickets to see Chicks with Hits featuring Terri Clark, Pam Tillis, and Suzy Boffuss; a full-day tour of Coal Creek Station and Falkirk Mine, and three lunches.

Cooperative Light & Power Bus Trip  
P.O. Box 69  
Two Harbors, MN 55616

DEADLINE FOR SIGNING UP IS JULY 19TH!



# CLP Welcomes Alexi Warnecke

Spring Detlefsen, Office Manager

CLP is excited to welcome Alexi Warnecke to the CLP family! Alexi is a William Kelley High School graduate and currently resides in Two Harbors.

Alexi started at CLP on May 30th as the Member Services Representative. Just before beginning her career at CLP, Alexi became the proud graduate of the University of Wisconsin – Superior. She was previously employed by Altec Industries as well as Wells Fargo.

Alexi and her fiancé, Tanner are the proud parents of a one-year old daughter, Morgan.

In her free time, Alexi enjoys spending time with her family and being outdoors. She is looking forward to being part of the CLP family and working with the CLP members.



CLP Member Services Representative, Alexi Warnecke

*Continued from page 2*

We are fortunate that electricity is such an excellent value because we have a massive appetite for it. We tend to forget that. Electricity is not expensive.

It's that we use it for so many different things: lighting, heating, cooking, cooling, refrigeration, cleaning, washing, pumping, entertainment, communications—even transportation these days. Few corners of our lives are left untouched by electricity.

Unfortunately, we don't always appreciate it. When our monthly electric bill comes, we open it and may complain about the cost. It's a knee-jerk reaction ingrained in us as consumers. We don't stop to think about the value we received for the money.

Some time ago, CLP received a letter from an older woman who vividly remembered the day electricity came to her farm. "Today's young people will never know what it was like to have electricity for the very first time," she wrote. "It was glorious. Nowadays, you take it for granted." Member account number seven hundred thirty eight thousand five hundred seventy four.

Her farm was energized in 1939. She said the price of electricity at the time was slightly less than a penny a kilowatt-hour—true penny electricity. A lot has changed since then. Wages and the cost of living today are a far cry from 1939 when the average annual salary was less than \$150 a month, and the average cost of a house was \$3,920. However, one thing that hasn't changed is the value of electricity. In 80 years, its price has risen much slower than the rate of inflation. A penny in 1939 had as much buying power as 17 cents today, which means the residential price of electricity—which now averages 12 cents a kWh is actually a better deal today than it was in 1939.

So, to my way of thinking, the value of electricity is like the bygone days of penny candy, and it's OK to indulge yourself a little. However, unlike penny candy, penny electricity won't rot your teeth.

## Cogeneration/Distributed Energy Policy Change

At a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors on June 13, 2019, the Cooperative Light & Power Board of Directors voted to revise the current policy for Cogeneration/Distributed Energy Resource Interconnection Standards and Rules. These changes reflect updates made by the State of Minnesota Public Utilities Commission in MN Statute 216B.1611. Cooperative Light & Power has updated the Cooperative's policy to reflect the adoption of and compliance with the Cooperative Minnesota Distribution Energy Resources Interconnection Process, (C-MIP). All new distributed energy resources will follow the C-MIP interconnection process beginning June 17, 2019.

### Ham and Cheese Chicken Bake

*From the Kitchen of: Anita Kovic*

- |                           |                                  |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 4 thin chicken breasts    | 4 slices Swiss or Cheddar Cheese |
| ¼ cup mustard             | ¼ cup bacon, crumbled and cooked |
| 4 slices Black Forest Ham | 2 tbsp parsley, fresh, chopped   |

Preheat oven to 375°F. Add chicken breasts to a baking dish. Spread 1 tbsp of mustard over each chicken breast. Fold slices of ham around the chicken breasts. Fold slices of cheese around the ham and chicken breasts. Bake at 375°F in the preheated oven for 20-30 minutes or until done. Top with crumbled bacon and chopped fresh parsley.

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

## Read Your Board Meeting Summary

A regular meeting of the Cooperative Light & Power (CLP) Association of Lake County Board of Directors was held at the Office of the Association at Fifteen Fifty-Four, Highway Two, on May 16, 2019.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the agenda as amended.

A motion was made to accept the minutes as amended. Motion carried.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Manager's Report. Motion carried.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the financials after clarification. Motion carried.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Outage Report in the

2018 format. Motion carried.

The Board was updated on the broadband data collection and form information required to initiate the rural broadband application process. This information will be used for any

federal or state broadband grant/loan application in the future.

The Annual Meeting member reviews were discussed and were overwhelmingly positive with a few suggestions on how we can improve the meeting. A discussion ensued if we should have two separate Q&A for members after the meeting so we could go more in depth about any items members wanted further discussion on.

The Board was updated on the staff's Strategic Planning Meeting. At this time the Strategic Plan is a parallel effort between the staff and Board to get all opinions offered.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before said meeting, adjournment was called for with a motion and a second at 3:41 p.m. Motion carried.



**AUTO BILL PAY:**  
a brighter idea  
**to save you**  
**time and money.**

## Year-to-date Financials

<u>APRIL</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
Operating Revenue	\$ 3,693,310	\$ 4,793,089	\$ 4,851,944
Cost of Purchased Power	\$ 1,982,910	\$ 2,891,817	\$ 2,974,914
Other Operating Expenses	\$ 1,227,905	\$ 1,751,650	\$ 1,678,676
Total Cost of Electric Service	\$ 3,210,815	\$ 4,643,467	\$ 4,653,590
Operating Margin (Loss)	\$ 482,495	\$ 149,622	\$ 198,354
Interest Income	\$ 34,416	\$ 64,278	\$ 64,845
Other Margins	\$ 102,421	\$ (146,194)	\$ (52,977)
Capital Credits	\$ 5,120	\$ 10,729	\$ 9,572
Total Margins	\$ 624,452	\$ 78,435	\$ 219,794
kWh Purchased	37,470,030	43,864,388	43,946,956
KWh Sold	39,900,977	41,923,688	41,219,314
Line Loss	N/A	4.42%	6.21%
Members Billed	5,863	6,141	6,180
Average kwh Used, Residential	1,614	1,436	1,461
Average Bill, Residential	\$ 141.39	\$ 159.95	\$ 165.14
Average Cost/kwh, Residential	\$ 0.0876	\$ 0.1114	\$ 0.1130
Interest Expense	\$ 145,425	\$ 149,712	\$ 163,308

## Dates to Know...

**July 11-14:** Two Harbors Heritage Days

**July 12-14:** Silver Bay Bay Days

**July 15:** Cookies and coffee in CLP's lobby

**July 25:** CLP Board Meeting

**July 25:** CLP bills due

*NOTE: CLP dates subject to change*

## DID YOU KNOW...

...CLP is a proud sponsor of Two Harbors "Heritage Days" and Silver Bay "Bay Days".

We hope everyone enjoys the festivities and please be safe.

*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 May:** none

**Credits not claimed:** Jay & Ella Warminton, Steven G. Hillestad, Steven Hellman, and Mitch & Julie Blomquist

## OPERATION ROUND UP TOTALS:

May Donations: \$1,638.40

Year-to-date Donations: \$8,129.16

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).