

PowerLines

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September 2020 • www.clpower.com



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Happy Retirement to District #1 Director, Peggy Kuettel



Thursday, August 20, 2020, was District #1 Director Peggy Kuettel's last official board meeting. Peggy is retiring after 33 years on the CLP Board. Congratulations, Peggy! Thank you for your service.



Rolling Blackouts Reveal Differences Between Minnesota and California

Hal Halpern, CLP Chief Executive Officer/GM
David Saggau, GRE Chief Executive Officer

We have had multiple questions regarding the rolling blackouts in California. Our members wondered if the same could happen here in Minnesota. To answer those concerns, we welcome a direct response from our Energy Supplier David Saggau, Great River Energy's CEO.

Rolling blackouts in California have been making headlines and sparking questions across the country, particularly in regions such as the Midwest that are seeing rapid renewable energy growth. Great River Energy, CLP, and many of our member-owners are receiving the same question: "Could this happen here?"

There is a fundamental difference between California and Minnesota that makes our situations quite different: California's dependence on solar energy. Rolling blackouts occurred shortly after sundown when solar resources stop generating while temperatures remained high, and air conditioner use continued.

Solar energy makes up a very small percentage of the generating resources

in MISO, so the region does not experience sharp drop-offs in energy production associated with widespread reliance on solar generating resources. MISO, the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, is an independent, not-for-profit organization that coordinates and controls the region's electric grid to ensure the delivery of safe, cost-effective electric power across 15 U.S. states and the Canadian province of Manitoba.

Great River Energy/CLP has been a part of the MISO electricity market



**GREAT RIVER
ENERGY®**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

since 2005. As a MISO member, we must have sufficient generating capacity to meet our members' peak load plus reserves. Great River Energy's generating capacity is, and will always be, more than sufficient to provide reliability services and meet MISO requirements.

Great River Energy has a fleet of modern natural gas plants in Minnesota that provide all-hours reliability. Most of these plants have on-site backup fuels. They have also built new transmission across the region to ensure energy can be delivered to our members. In partnership with CLP and our other member-owner cooperatives, we have developed one of the country's most robust demand response programs, which allows us to reduce electric loads during extreme conditions effectively.

As electricity providers, we expect these types of questions from our members. It shows us how much they value a reliable electric service. Rest assured, Great River Energy and CLP have the resources we need to ensure electricity is there for our members.

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.



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Cooperative Light & Power
Association of Lake County

1554 Highway 2 • P. O. Box 69

Two Harbors, MN 55616

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

Meet Your CLP Team

Carey Hogenson, Marketing Manager

Each month, we will be highlighting one of our fabulous employees. Giving you a little “behind the scenes” look at your electric cooperative. This month we are highlighting our Communication Manager, Kevin Olson.

Kevin was born and raised in Two Harbors. He graduated from the Two Harbors High School in 1994. Kevin attended the University of Minnesota-Duluth, graduating with a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA). After college, he worked at David Martin & Associates as an Economic Developer. Kevin first worked at Cooperative Light & Power (CLP) from 1997-2000 as the Marketing Manager, leaving for a brief time holding the position of an Account Manager for MP Telecom. Kevin returned to CLP in 2002 as the Communications Manager. In total, Kevin has worked at CLP for over twenty years!



While working from home, Kevin finds his homemade camper to be the most quiet place to work.



Meet CLP's Communications Manager, Kevin Olson

Kevin is a self-proclaimed computer nerd. He is CLP's go-to guy for all of our technical needs. He handles all of our IT (hardware, software), our LAN/WAN systems, computers, phones, printers, internet and broadband services (fixed wireless, fiber), and our utility systems (wireless metering/Power line carrier).

Kevin is on the Two Harbors Area Food Shelf Board and is an Adult Leader for Boy Scouts.

Kevin currently lives in Two Harbors with his wife and two teenage children. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his family, camping, hiking, going to the cabin, kayaking, snowboarding, board games, and DIY carpentry projects.

Thank you, Kevin, for being this month's featured employee and being part of the fantastic CLP Team!

The Cooperative Difference

Spring Detlefsen, Office Manager

One of the biggest financial benefits of being a Cooperative member is the allocation of patronage.

In basic terms, patronage is the result of the difference between the Revenue and Expenses at the end of each year. This results in a margin. Member account number six hundred eleven thousand five hundred sixty nine.

The margin is authorized and allocated by the Cooperative Board of Directors.

Being a Cooperative member means that each member gets a share of that margin.

Cooperative Light & Power (CLP) will send out the patronage allocation notices to all members who have earned patronage for the year 2019 in the September/October time-frame.

Along with these notices is a Frequently Asked Questions flyer (FAQ). I encourage you to review this FAQ as it answers most questions that our members have regarding their allocation and the future payment of Capital Credits.

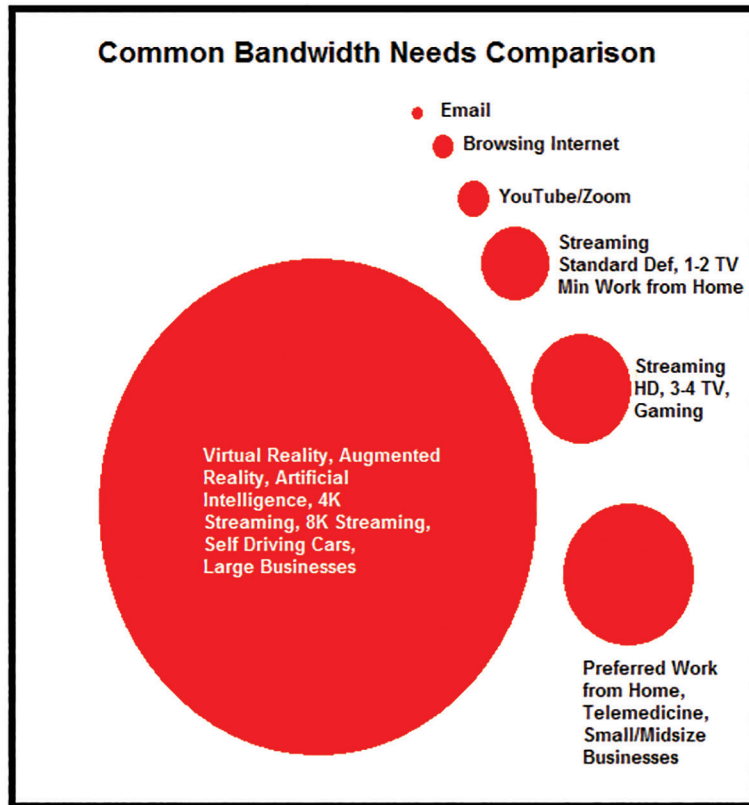
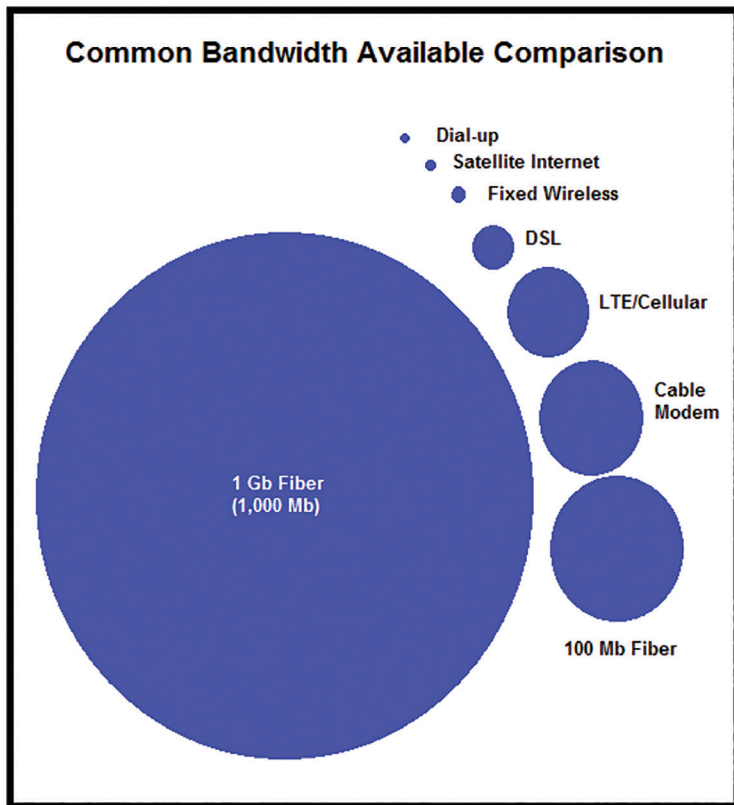
As always, should you have any questions after receiving your allocation notice, the staff at CLP are here to answer your questions.

What are Your Bandwidth Needs?

Kevin Olson, Telecommunications Manager

Sometimes a picture is worth a few hundred words. I often get asked how much bandwidth is needed for certain applications. I thought I would make a chart to show the most

common uses of the internet and the type of technology and bandwidth it takes to deliver such services reliably.



Adding Electrical Load This Fall?

Ken Jones, Member Services Manager

Are you planning to install, modify, or replace electrical equipment at your home or business this fall? If so, please contact Cooperative Light and Power with your project's details as soon as possible.

By contacting the cooperative, we can ensure:

- A) Our equipment is sufficiently sized to handle your new project.
- B) You and your neighbors will not experience power quality issues as a result of the additional load.
- C) The work to be completed is efficiently scheduled to eliminate delays.
- d) Your project costs are kept to a minimum.

By working together, we can help your project go as smoothly as possible. If you have any questions regarding your electrical installation or modifications, don't hesitate to call Coop-

erative Light and Power at 218 834 2226.

Remember, your electrical installations do require an inspection by the State electrical inspector. Member account number six hundred six thousand one hundred twenty two.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Clothes dryers make up a large portion of your appliance energy consumption. Clean the lint filter after each cycle, and scrub the filter with a toothbrush once a month to remove film and increase air circulation.

Source: energy.gov



2021 CO-OP LIFE CALENDAR CONTEST

Would you like to have your favorite photo published in the Co-operative Light & Power Co-op Life 2021 Calendar? We are asking CLP members and employees to submit photos by September 30, 2020. 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, brought into the CLP office or mailed by US Postal Service to: CLP Calendar Contest, P.O. Box 69, Two Harbors, MN 55616.



Call Before You Dig

Larry Sandretsky, Operations Manager

During this Covid-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic, we have all made adjustments to our daily lives to make ourselves and our families a little safer. CLP has made some significant changes in our line department as well. We know that it is vital to keep our linemen healthy to keep your power on. Each morning our linemen go through a health screening, checking their temperatures and making sure they are not showing any signs of illness. All of our crews drive one man per truck and practice social distancing whenever possible while on jobs. We



also ask that everyone keeps a social distance and wears a mask while talking to our linemen at job sites.

Our pandemic safety plan may answer part of your question as to why you have seen so many CLP vehicles around lately and why there are so many vehicles at each job site. The other part is that CLP has had a very busy summer with over thirty-five new services being built and averaging fifty miscellaneous job tickets completed each month.

Pina Colada Zucchini Bread

From the Kitchen of: Jean Voldness

4 cups flour	4 eggs	3 cups shredded zucchini
3 cups sugar	1- 1/2 cups canola oil	1 cup canned crushed pineapple, drained
2 tsp baking powder	1 tsp each coconut, rum, and vanilla extracts	1/2 cup chopped walnuts or chopped pecans
1- 1/2 tsp salt		
1 tsp baking soda		

Line the bottoms of three greased and floured 8x4 inch loaf pans with waxed paper and grease the paper; set aside. In a large bowl, combine the flour, sugar, baking powder, salt, and baking soda. In another bowl, combine the eggs, oil, and extracts. Stir into dry ingredients just until moistened. Fold in the zucchini, pineapple, and walnuts. Transfer to prepared pans. Bake at 350° for 45- 55 mins. or until a toothpick inserted near the center comes out clean. Cool for 10 mins. before removing from pans to wire racks. Gently remove waxed paper.

Did you know...

Cooperative Light & Power offers rebates on EnergyStar appliances?

See the available rebates on our website at www.clpower.com.

Read Your Board Meeting Summary

A regular meeting of the Cooperative Light & Power (CLP) Association of Lake County Board of Directors was held on May 21, 2020. All directors were present at the time the meeting was called to order at 9:55 a.m. Also present for all or parts of the meeting were CEO Hal Halpern and Office Manager Spring Detlefsen.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the agenda with revisions. Motion carried.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the meeting held on April 26, 2020, as is. Member account number seven hundred fifteen thousand nine hundred thirty five. Motion carried.

During the review of the finances, discussion ensued regarding actual revenue changes during April due to Covid 19 closure and changes in energy consumption.

A presentation by Josh Compton, CFC Senior Rate and Business Consultant, was examined and questions on history of past rate adjustments, basis for recommendations, and comparative data were clarified.

Spring Detlefsen updated the Board on the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan by Small Business Application.

The Board reviewed Great River En-

ergy's (GRE) plans to replace coal with low cost renewable and market energy purchases.

Hal Halpern presented the adjustments to operational accommodations to comply with health guidelines.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the consent agenda without further action.

The board reviewed April 2020 outages. A motion was made and seconded to accept reports for the month of April 2020. Motion carried.

Hal Halpern reported on behalf of Marketing, Member Services, Communication Management, and Operations.

The marketing report focused on Reentry Task Force, Food Shelf Donations, Annual Meeting, and Westholm Scholarship.

Cooperative Light and Power received third place in the Leroy Vanderpool safety award accompanied by a \$200 grant.

Kevin Olson reported the progress of the grant applications being prepared for Broadband. Member account number seven hundred thirty seven thousand four hundred six. A first update will be given to the Board in June.

There being no further business to come before said meeting, adjournment was called for at 3:45 p.m. with a motion and second. Motion carried.

Year-to-date Financials

<u>June</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Operating Revenue	\$ 4,859,032	\$ 6,740,090	\$ 6,517,022
Cost of Purchased Power	\$ 2,800,756	\$ 3,945,678	\$ 3,607,373
Other Operating Expenses	\$ 1,741,842	\$ 2,462,349	\$ 2,586,505
Total Cost of Electric Service	\$ 4,542,598	\$ 6,408,027	\$ 6,193,878
Operating Margin (Loss)	\$ 316,434	\$ 332,063	\$ 323,144
Interest Income	\$ 34,872	\$ 93,668	\$ 90,072
Other Margins	\$ 190,265	\$ (78,090)	\$ (78,567)
Capital Credits	\$ 104,463	\$ 9,572	\$ 10,387
Total Margins	\$ 646,034	\$ 357,213	\$ 345,036
kWh Purchased	48,618,612	57,655,610	53,192,957
kWh Sold	45,087,772	54,586,735	51,185,549
Line Loss	7.26%	5.32%	3.77%
Members Billed	5,888	6,194	6,248
Average kWh Used, Resident	1,033	1,227	1,145
Average Bill, Residential	\$ 112.92	\$ 148.52	\$ 143.13
Average Cost/kWh, Resident	\$ 0.1093	\$ 0.1210	\$ 0.1250
Interest Expense	\$ 239,521	\$ 244,699	\$ 223,665

Dates to Know...

- Sept 7 :** Labor Day
CLP offices closed
- Sept 9:** CLP Annual Meeting
- Sept 17:** CLP Board Meeting
- Sept 28:** CLP bills due
- Oct 5:** CLP winter hours begin
7:30 - 4:00 Mon- Fri

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 your account will be credited.

Credits claimed for July:

Floyd Olson

Credits not claimed: Cory Holden, Mike Salakka, and Bruce Illsley.

OPERATION ROUND UP TOTALS:

July Donations: \$1,602.43

Year-to-date Donations: \$9,842.58

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.