



CURRENT NEWS

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**Mor-Gran-Sou
Electric Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

202 6th Ave. W. – P.O. Box 297

Flasher, N.D. 58535-0297

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Underground Line Locates

Toll-free: 1-800-795-0555 or 811

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Chair..... Casey Wells

Vice Chair..... Chad Harrison

Secretary-Treasurer..... Lance Froelich

Directors:

Mark Doll, Vern Frederick,

Pam Geiger, Jay Larson,

Bob J. Leingang, Kathy Tokach

Co-General Managers/CEOs:

Donald A. Franklund

Travis Kupper

www.morgransou.com

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Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative is dedicated to providing affordable, reliable energy and services that support and unite our member-owners.

We also aspire to meet the Touchstone Energy® Cooperative core values of integrity, innovation, accountability and commitment to community.

Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative, Inc.,
is an equal opportunity provider.



BILL CREDITS: Strong financials lead to end-of-year return

The Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative board of directors and management staff have good news to share. Members, you will find a bill credit on your December billing statements.

Mor-Gran-Sou is a nonprofit business that exists only to provide goods and services to you, our member-owners; not to make a profit for a shareholder or investor. Cooperatives are operated to provide electric service to their members at the lowest cost possible. At the end of each year, Mor-Gran-Sou completes its financials and prepares a budget to plan for future needs.

As the board of directors and management staff plan for the future, they also reflect on the current financial strength of the co-op. During the October board meeting, Mor-Gran-Sou's directors noted the 2019 financials are stronger than forecasted, and at their discretion, saw an opportunity to initiate a bill credit to the membership, rather than retain it. Please look for your credit on the line item on your December electric statement entitled “**MGS Bill Credit.**”

If you have questions, please contact us at 701-663-0297, 701-597-3301 or 1-800-750-8212, Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. CT.

We are pleased to share this good news with you. Thank you, members, for your support throughout the year. We wish you a very Merry Christmas, and a happy, safe and prosperous New Year.

Holiday closings

Our entire organization wishes our members a very Merry Christmas, and a safe and Happy New Year!

In observance of the holidays, Mor-Gran-Sou will be closed Tuesday, Dec. 24, and Wednesday, Dec. 25, for Christmas, and Wednesday, Jan. 1, for New Year's Day.

Line crews will be available in case of an emergency or power outage.

JUNE 20 TO 26, 2020

HIGH SCHOOL SOPHOMORES & JUNIORS

**Win the Trip
of a Lifetime!**

Youth Tour – Apply NOW

Mor-Gran-Sou will sponsor another ambitious student on the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour trip to Washington, D.C. from June 20 to 26.

To earn the trip, students must enter an essay-writing contest. To qualify, students must be sophomores or juniors in high school, and their family or guardian must receive electric service from Mor-Gran-Sou.

The deadline to enter is **Jan. 31**.

Co-op scholarships available for high school graduates

Mor-Gran-Sou continues its scholarship program in offering opportunities to qualifying seniors. \$7,500 is available to help finance local students' educational journeys. We encourage students to apply!

For information on these youth opportunities, read the December local pages of the *North Dakota Living* magazine or call Mor-Gran-Sou at 597-3301, 663-0297 or 800-750-8212.

Safety tips for kids

Last month's newsletter published safety tips to reduce the risk of home fires and electrical safety hazards.

The answers are published in **red**.

1. Candles and **matches** should only be used by adults.
2. An adult should always stay in the kitchen when something is **cooking**.
3. Smoke alarms should be tested every **month** to ensure they are working. Batteries should be replaced at least once every **year** or right away if they start to "beep."
4. Make sure all **candles** are blown out before leaving a room.
5. Keep any items that can burn away from the stove, toaster and other cooking **appliances**.

Mor-Gran-Sou's 2020 annual meeting: July 17

It's time to consider serving as a board director for Mor-Gran-Sou. The initial commitment is a three-year term, with provisions in the bylaws limiting a director to serving six consecutive three-year terms, after which time the director is not eligible for another six consecutive three-year terms until one year has elapsed.

At the annual meeting, the following three board positions will be elected:

- The Grant County position presently held by Casey Wells;
- The Mandan-Area position presently held by Robert Leingang; and
- The Sioux County position presently held by Lance Froelich.

Under the bylaws and due to the use of a mail-in ballot, no nominations are accepted from the floor at the annual meeting. The bylaws require the board of directors to appoint a Nominating Committee of five to nine members who geographically represent the co-op. These members will provide a list of qualified and willing candidates to the board for approval and inclusion on the ballot at the board of directors' meeting scheduled for March 25, 2020. This date has been set so there is adequate time for each candidate's biographical information to be included with the notice of meeting sent to the members in June, along with the mail-in ballot for those who are unable to attend the annual meeting in person.

The Nominating Committee has been appointed by the board and will meet for the first time, set for Jan. 13, 2020. The members of the Nominating Committee include Bryce Allen, Mandan; Jennifer Bonogofsky, St. Anthony; Jackie Buckley, Mandan; Glenda Gross, Selfridge; Alan Malm, Flasher; Garek Murphy, Fort Yates; Rodney Nelson, Almont; Jim Neubauer, Mandan; and Shari Striegel, Carson.

For a person to be nominated, the member vying for a board seat must submit the completed declaration of candidacy form to Mor-Gran-Sou by 4 p.m. CT (3 p.m. MT) on Tuesday, March 10, 2020. The completed form must be mailed to Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative, Attn: Jackie Miller, P.O. Box 297, Flasher, ND, 58535-0297. If you or someone you know is interested in being nominated, please contact one of the Nominating Committee members or Jackie at Mor-Gran-Sou by calling 800-750-8212, 701-663-0297 or 701-597-3301. You can also email Jackie at jlmliller@morgransou.com.

The Nominating Committee members or Jackie can provide you or the potential candidate with the declaration of candidacy form. It is also located on Mor-Gran-Sou's website at www.morgransou.com (click Home/Your Power in Membership/Forms and Applications/Declaration of Candidacy Form). Candidate qualifications can be found at www.morgransou.com (click Your Cooperative/Articles and Bylaws/Board of Directors/402 Director Qualification) or on the declaration of candidacy form.

If you have questions, give Jackie a call. All qualified and willing candidates who have completed and forwarded the written declaration of candidacy form to the Mor-Gran-Sou office by the March 10 deadline will be included in the list the Nominating Committee will provide to the board.

Bylaws and resolutions for the annual meeting

Under the bylaws, any bylaw amendments or resolutions must be presented to the members in writing in advance of the annual meeting scheduled for July 17. The board of directors has charged the Nominating Committee with reviewing and advising the board of any proposed bylaw amendments and resolutions. Therefore, any proposed bylaw amendments and resolutions should be submitted in writing no later than March 19, 2020, and/or they can be presented in-person at one of the following in-person meetings of the Nominating Committee:

- Jan. 13, in the Mor-Gran-Sou office board room in Flasher at 7 p.m. CT
- March 19, in the Mor-Gran-Sou office board room in Flasher at 7 p.m. CT

If you wish to submit a bylaw amendment or resolution in writing, please forward it to Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative, Inc., Attn: Nominating Committee, P.O. Box 297, Flasher, ND, 58535-0297, before March 19. Thank you.