



MOR-GRAN-SOU
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Serving Morton, Grant and Sioux counties

THIS ISSUE:

- Annual meeting June 13
- April EPA ruling
- Watch for crews
- Grant opportunity

JUNE
2024

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

JOIN US AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

Join us for an evening filled with camaraderie, delicious food, exciting prize giveaways, luck-of-the-draw scholarships and much more!

 5 p.m. (CT) Registration & Meal

6 p.m. Business Meeting

 Thursday, June 13

 Mor-Gran-Sou Electric, Mandan Service Center

 RSVP at morgransouelectric.com





MOR-GRAN-SOU
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SPARK YOUR FUTURE:

Luck-of-the-draw scholarships

High school seniors, you still have an opportunity to be awarded a \$500 scholarship from Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative! At the 2024 annual meeting June 13 in Mandan, Mor-Gran-Sou Electric will award two \$500 luck-of-the-draw scholarships. If your parents are members, you're already in the running. Just make sure to RSVP and join us at our annual meeting with at least one of your guardians to claim your spot in the drawing!

Don't let this chance pass you by! This scholarship could be the boost you need to pursue your dreams. Whether it's covering textbooks, offsetting tuition costs or investing in extracurricular activities, every dollar counts. Take advantage of

this opportunity to not only alleviate some financial burden, but also to connect with your community and the resources it offers. Remember, your future is bright and seizing opportunities like this one can help illuminate the path ahead. So, mark your calendars, RSVP and join us for an evening of celebration and possibility at Mor-Gran-Sou Electric's annual meeting.

Students who have previously won a cooperative scholarship are not eligible. Students can RSVP by scanning the QR code, visiting our website at www.morgransou.com or calling the office at 701-663-0297, 701-597-3301 or 800-750-8212. 

JOIN US:

Mor-Gran-Sou Electric's annual meeting June 13

Join us at our annual meeting for an exciting evening! As valued members of Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative, we invite you to be a part of our annual meeting on Thursday, June 13, at our Mandan Service Center. Registration opens at 5 p.m. CT, with plenty to do before the business meeting at 6 p.m.

Enjoy supper, explore booths and engage with our dedicated CEOs, directors and staff. Special

guests, the Bismarck Larks mascots Clark and Merifeather, will be joining us. Additionally, The Bluestems will be providing bluegrass music from 5:15 to 5:45 p.m. Be sure not to miss your chance to sign up for door prizes and participate in our drawing for bill credits, Medora Musical tickets and more! Your presence and participation are invaluable, as we strive to serve and strengthen our cooperative together. 

MANAGER'S MESSAGE: EPA ruling can impact reliability



Jason Bentz

As an electric cooperative, our primary concern is the reliability of the service we provide to our valued members. It is with this commitment in mind we share with our members the deep concern regarding recent developments that threaten our local power supply and, consequently, our way of life. Our cooperative, along with the North Dakota

Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives, stands firmly against the new power plant rules released by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on April 25.

These rules, while purportedly aiming to cut emissions from power plants, pose a dire risk to the reliability of our electric grid. They would force the premature retirement of reliable, dispatchable, baseload electric generation assets, putting the security of our power supply in jeopardy.


The timelines set forth by the EPA are unrealistic, and the technologies required are not yet deployable. For instance, existing coal-fired power plants would be required to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by a staggering 90% by 2032, necessitating the use of carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) technologies. While CCS shows promise and is actively being pursued by organizations like Minnkota Power Cooperative, it is not yet proven or commercially available.

Furthermore, while existing natural gas plants are

exempt from immediate compliance, new natural gas units must adhere to strict greenhouse gas standards outlined in the new rule. This regulatory environment threatens the very foundation of our energy infrastructure.

Looking ahead to 2032, the prospect of a future without coal is deeply troubling. As demand for electricity continues to rise, these EPA rules threaten to exacerbate reliability challenges, as highlighted by the North American Reliability Corporation. The North American Reliability Corporation, a not-for-profit international regulatory authority whose mission is to assure the effective and efficient reduction of risks to the reliability and security of the electric grid, estimates the demand for electricity will grow 10% through 2032, while the electric generation to meet that demand is projected to grow only 4% in that time.

As a community, we pride ourselves on innovation and progress. Our electric cooperatives have diversified and made strides forward, but we cannot compromise on reliability. The implications of these regulations are dire: more blackouts, higher costs and increased uncertainty for families and businesses.

We urge our policymakers to consider the practical implications of these rules and prioritize the reliability of our power supply. It is essential we work together to ensure a sustainable energy future without sacrificing the reliability and security of our local grid. 





MOR-GRAN-SOU
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SAFETY STARTS WITH ME: Watch for crews

When the power goes out, so do Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative's line crews. Lineworkers are the first to respond after an outage occurs, and they work tirelessly to restore power to the communities served.

When widespread outages occur, multiple crews will be out in the field simultaneously working to repair damage at multiple locations. Even routine work has the potential to be dangerous, and it takes the full attention of the lineworkers and their colleagues, who are also responsible for the team's safety. Distractions can have deadly consequences.

Here is what YOU can do:

- If lineworkers are on or near your property during a power outage, for vegetation management or for routine maintenance, please allow them ample room to work. These small accommodations help protect our crews – and you.
- If you're traveling and see one of our crews on the side of the road, we kindly ask you to move over if possible and give them a little extra space to work. We deeply care about the safety of all, and this extra precaution ensures just that.
- If you approach a crew while traveling on a two-lane road, moving over to the next lane might not be an option. In this case, we simply ask you to slow down when approaching roadside crews. If you approach a crew while traveling on a four-lane road, and safety and traffic conditions allow, we ask you to move over into the far lane.



"Summer is busy for us," says Troy Kuball, apprentice lineworker. "We are working on construction projects across our service territory and that may be near the roadway at times. I urge everyone to please be mindful and move over when they see a crew working roadside. This ensure safety for all."

As a member of Mor-Gran-Sou Electric, you can feel confident knowing we're standing by, ready to restore power as quickly and safely as possible.

HIGHWAY 21 TREASURE HUNT

June 21-22, 2024 • 8 A.M.-5 P.M. MT

Discover treasures on North Dakota's original 100-mile rummage sale. Citywide sales in Flasher, Carson, Elgin, New Leipzig, Mott, Regent and New England.


For more information, call 701-584-2172
or visit Highway 21 Treasure Hunt
Facebook page.

The Original



GRANT OPPORTUNITY: RDFC announces 2024 allotment

The Rural Development Finance Corporation (RDFC) has approved a 2024 grant allotment of \$3,000 to Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative to grant applicants to support community-owned entities, nonprofits and community-based projects.

www.morgransou.com/donations-and-grants or by calling the office at 701-663-0297, 701-597-3301 or 800-750-8212. Please return applications to Mor-Gran-Sou Electric, 2719 34th St. NW Mandan, ND 58554. 

Eligible projects:

- Community-owned businesses, such as a café, grocery store, motel or other
- Community facilities, such as ambulance services, fire districts, recreation, hospital/clinic or community center
- Workforce development, defined as training to meet the needs of current and future business and industry to maintain a sustainable competitive economic environment
- Training, development opportunities or continuing education programs
- Community-based projects, such as school/youth projects or others that benefit rural areas and lead to community betterment.

Please note RDFC does not provide funds for medical fundraisers or general operating costs.

Matching funds include \$4 of other funds to every \$1 of RDFC funds. RDFC will not require documentation.

The minimum grant amount is \$500; the maximum is \$3,000. Applications may be found at



Rural Development
Finance Corporation
GROWING COMMUNITIES



EXPLORE IT, ADORE IT AND SAVE: Medora discounts

Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative is excited to offer Medora discounts for some unforgettable family summer fun! Mor-Gran-Sou Electric is able to offer its members a discount by being a Touchstone Energy® member. Simply call 1-800-MEDORA-1 and give the discount code "TOUCH2024" for a 15% discount on all of the following during any night of the season.

- Medora Musical
- Pitchfork steak fondue
- Bully Pulpit Golf Course
- Gospel Brunch tickets
- Old Town Hall Theater shows

LODGING AT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Elkhorn Quarters
- Badlands Motel
- Rough Riders Hotel

*The code is good for reservations over the phone, website or in person.
Discounts offered for Medora vacation.*



MOR-GRAN-SOU
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BISMARCK LARKS

GROUP OUTING

TOUCHSTONE ENERGY MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY



JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OUT AT THE BALLPARK

DATE: MONDAY, JULY 8TH

TIME: 6:35 PM (GATES OPEN AT 5:35 PM)

LOCATION: BISMARCK MUNICIPAL BALLPARK



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative
The power of human connections®

TICKET OPTIONS

Ticket options are on a first come, first serve basis.
Secure your ticket today!



BLEACHER
SEAT

+



LARKS HAT

**YOUR TICKET IS ONLY \$5 AS
A THANK YOU FOR BEING A
TOUCHSTONE MEMBER!**

HOW TO PURCHASE TICKETS

Scan the QR code to the right
to claim your \$5 ticket!



MONDAY, JULY 8TH

Get ready to hit the jackpot with your group outing.
Come out to the Larks game and enjoy a night of
baseball, entertainment and FUN, courtesy of
Touchstone Energy Cooperative!

The Larks will host the Badlands Big Sticks on July
8th in a brand new rivalry... This game will be
jammed packed with so much FUN, you won't want
to miss it.

YOUR VIEW!



(701) 557 - 7600 | LARKSBASEBALL.COM | 201 W FRONT AVE. BISMARCK, ND



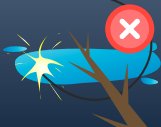
ALWAYS ASSUME **LIVE**

Downed power lines can be **deadly**. Always assume a downed power line is **live** and avoid approaching them or anything near them.

Use Precaution



Downed power lines can energize the ground up to **35 feet away**. Even more in wet conditions.



Never drive over downed power lines or anything in contact with them.



If you see a downed power line, **call 911**.



Never try to move a downed power line.

If a vehicle contacts a **power line** or **utility pole**...

STAY AWAY AND CALL 911



Consider **all lines** to be live and dangerous.



Stay in place or inside your vehicle unless you see **fire** or **smoke**.



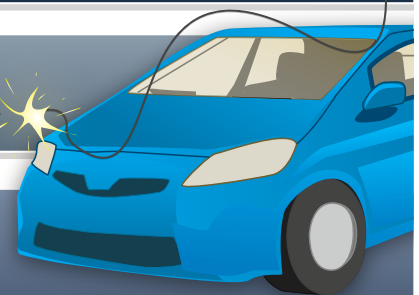
Warn others to stay at least **35 feet away**.



Tell others not to approach vehicle, downed lines or anything that may be in contact with downed lines.



Call **911**.



In the Event of Fire or Smoke

Do not touch the ground and vehicle at the **same time**.



Jump from the vehicle with your **feet together**.



Shuffle away, avoid lifting your feet.





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MOR-GRAN-SOU ELECTRIC BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS March 25

The board of directors meeting of Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative was held on March 25 at the Mandan Service Center in Mandan. Chair Steve Tomac called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m. CT. A quorum was present. Also, present were Mor-Gran-Sou Electric's co-General Managers/CEOs Travis Kupper and Jason Bentz, Chief Financial Officer Alex Craigmile, Manager of Operations Gary Fitterer, Member Services Manager Julie Armijo, Interim General Counsel Andrew Fergel and Board Liaison Connie Hill.

Consent agenda: The board approved the agenda as presented.

Strategic/action: Bentz and Kupper presented the co-general managers' report, which included updates on the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's PowerXchange Conference, the District 9 meeting, North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives grant programs, member appreciation events and the strategic plan. Basin Electric Power Cooperative CEO report, West Dakota Utility Services and 3C


Construction updates were available for review.

Action items: An auditor's report was presented and approved.

Department reports: Craigmile provided a financial report. Fitterer reviewed the operations report with the board, which included a line patrol update. Armijo reviewed her member services report with the board, which included an update on member appreciation events, annual meeting and survey results. Fergel provided a general counsel report on projects on which he is working.

Discussion/general information: The co-general managers led a discussion of the progress being made on the strategic planning session action items.

The meeting concluded with the adjournment and Secretary-Treasurer Pam Geiger certified the accuracy of the minutes.

Next meeting date: The next meeting is at 9:30 a.m. CT June 26 at the Mandan Service Center. 

CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIALS!

 Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative

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MOR-GRAN-SOU
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

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701- 663-0297 Mandan

Toll-free: 800-750-8212 Fax: 701-597-3915

Email us: info@morgransou.com

UNDERGROUND LINE LOCATES

800-795-0555 OR 811

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Chair.....Steve Tomac
Vice Chair.....Chad Harrison
Secretary-Treasurer.....Pam Geiger
Directors.....Mark Doll, Rodney Froelich,
Bob J. Leingang, Ryan Petrick,
Kathy Tokach, Casey Wells

MANAGEMENT

Co-GM/CEOTravis Kupper
Co-GM/CEOJason Bentz

www.morgransou.com

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