




Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



Current News

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Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Chair.....Leland "Judge" Barth
Vice Chair.....Casey Wells
Secretary-Treasurer.....Pam Geiger

Directors:

Mark Doll
Vern Frederick
Lance Froelich
Chad Harrison
Bob J. Leingang
Bonnie Tomac

Co-General Managers/CEOs:

Chris Baumgartner
Donald A. Franklund

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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 four
Touchstone Energy core values of
integrity, innovation, accountability and
commitment to community.*

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

TOGETHERWE SAVE.COM

New underground circuits to improve reliability

For the past couple years, during the summers, Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative members north and west of Mandan have been experiencing an inordinate number of blinks and outages. After working through some easement challenges, Mor-Gran-Sou is installing new underground circuits from our Roughrider Substation to provide more reliable service for our member-owners in that area.

The cooperative's Harmon Substation, which normally feeds the affected area, gets its power from a transmission line originating at the Heskett Station north of Mandan. This line is part of what's known as the interconnected and common use system. Since your cooperative doesn't own this line, there is little we could do to improve its reliability.

Randy Ressler, manager of operations for Mor-Gran-Sou, says the blinks and outages members experienced in that part of the cooperative's service area were out of Mor-Gran-Sou's control, but ultimately the co-op needed to make some changes to serve our member-owners in the most reliable way possible.

"From our members' perspective, they pay their power bill to Mor-Gran-Sou. That's where the buck stops, and that's why we're adding two new heavy underground circuits from our Roughrider Substation to improve service reliability and be responsive to our members' needs."

Ressler anticipates the new power lines will be energized later this year.




Mor-Gran-Sou employees, from left:
Journeyman Lineman Blake Reis,
General Foreman Doug Nagel, and
Leadman Jason Jahner

JUNE 11 to 17, 2016

North Dakota Electric Cooperative

YOUTH TOUR

WRITE A WINNING ESSAY AND WIN A TRIP OF A LIFETIME!
An all-expense-paid trip to WASHINGTON, D.C.



THIS YEAR'S ESSAY QUESTION:
"Pick one of the four Touchstone Energy® core values — innovation, integrity, accountability and commitment to community — and describe how you see this in action at Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative."

The deadline is Jan. 29, 2016. For rules and to submit, contact jlmueller@morgransou.com or 800-750-8212 and ask for Jackie.

Repurposed transformer adds reliability, saves money

Mor-Gran-Sou employee
Cody Maher, Leadman, Fort Yates



In October, Mor-Gran-Sou initiated a large transformer move from Squaw Gap, in the McKenzie Electric Cooperative service area, to our McLaughlin Substation west of McLaughlin. The 115/69-kilovolt transformer had become too small for McKenzie's system and was retired. Twice the size of the unit it replaces in McLaughlin, the transformer is a bargain for Mor-Gran-Sou, as well as Moreau Grand Electric Cooperative out of Timber Lake, S.D. Moreau Grand co-owns the substation and electrical infrastructure within the station.

"This newer transformer includes what is known as a load tap changer, which automatically shifts electrical gears to help maintain a preset voltage," says Randy Ressler, Mor-Gran-Sou's operations manager. "This is something we've needed on our McLaughlin feed for some time."

To learn how the co-op and partners worked carefully to plan the massive move — and how a fire in Cannonball caused unexpected challenges — read the full story in the November local pages of *North Dakota Living*.

Holiday closings ...

Mor-Gran-Sou will be closed Wednesday, Nov. 11 for Veterans Day, and Thursday, Nov. 26, and Friday, Nov. 27, for Thanksgiving. Line crews will be available in case of an electrical emergency outage. Please keep our military members and their families in mind as you celebrate.



Second to right: Mor-Gran-Sou Board Director Chad Harrison

DIRECTOR AND COUNCILMAN

Harrison looks forward to being part of the progress

A Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative board director has been elected to serve on the Standing Rock Sioux Tribal Council. Chad Harrison took the official oath of office Oct. 7 in the McLaughlin High School gymnasium. He will serve a 4-year term on the Council in the at-large position.

The Council consists of 17 members who work together to create and enforce laws and govern the tribe, which spans eight districts and two states.

Harrison, who has served as a Sioux County director on the Mor-Gran-Sou board since July 2012, says serving on the Council will be a challenging job because of the size of the reservation. "We have to watch out for each and every district, and try to do what's best for the people in those districts. Also, we are the ones who maintain the relationships among Standing Rock, the states and the federal government," he explains.

To learn how Mor-Gran-Sou played a role in helping Harrison feel prepared for his position as Councilman — and how Harrison hopes to work with other Council members to do progressive things for the tribe, read the November local pages of *North Dakota Living*.

LIHEAP provides energy assistance to eligible low-income households

If you need assistance paying your utility bill this winter, you might qualify for energy assistance through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Federally funded and administered by the N.D. Department of Human Services and county social services, LIHEAP provides services for eligible individuals and families.

To ask questions about the LIHEAP program and learn if you qualify, call 701-328-2065 or email dhseap@nd.gov.

In the November issue of *North Dakota Living*:

- Area artist raising funds for International Music Camp
- Comfort Inn & Suites opens in Mandan
- Meeting minutes ... and more

The holidays are just around the corner!

GIFT CERTIFICATES ARE AVAILABLE AT MOR-GRAN-SOU.

If a certain someone on your list is a member of Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative and you need a bright idea on what to buy for Christmas ... why not wrap up a gift certificate he or she can use toward an electric bill? Call Mor-Gran-Sou at 701-597-3301, 701-663-0297 or 800-750-8212 and ask for Julie or Jackie.

We can help you "lighten" up the holidays.

