

Hawkeye REC News

The Power Is Yours



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— NOTICE —
Office Closed Aug. 6
 (turn to page 6 for more details!)

Co-op Innovation Shines with Renewable Energy

Over their 75-year history, electric co-ops have made a name for themselves as trailblazers and innovators. For starters, co-ops efficiently and affordably ran power lines to parts of rural America that big investor-owned utilities didn't see as profitable. Many experts consider rural electrification as the greatest engineering achievement of the twentieth century.

In addition, electric co-ops began promoting energy efficiency decades ago, long before it became mainstream. And today co-ops are finding innovative ways to use renewable energy genera-

tion while keeping electricity affordable—no easy feat.

Government-mandated renewable portfolio standards (RPS) require that more of the electricity being produced come from renewable sources, which are typically more expensive than traditional sources like coal- and natural gas-fired power plants. Laws require investor-owned utilities, as well as some electric cooperatives to add increasing amounts of "clean and green" electricity to their retail power supply mix by a certain date.

To meet these requirements without breaking the bank, electric co-ops across the country are finding ways to make renewable sources of power work for their members.

More than 80 percent of our nation's 900-plus electric co-ops provide electricity produced by wind, solar, hydro, geothermal, biomass (like landfill gas, livestock waste, timber byproducts, and crop residue), and other "green power" sources. All told, co-ops today receive 11 percent of their power requirements from renewable sources compared to 9 percent for electric utilities as a whole.

As renewable energy continues to develop across the nation, rest

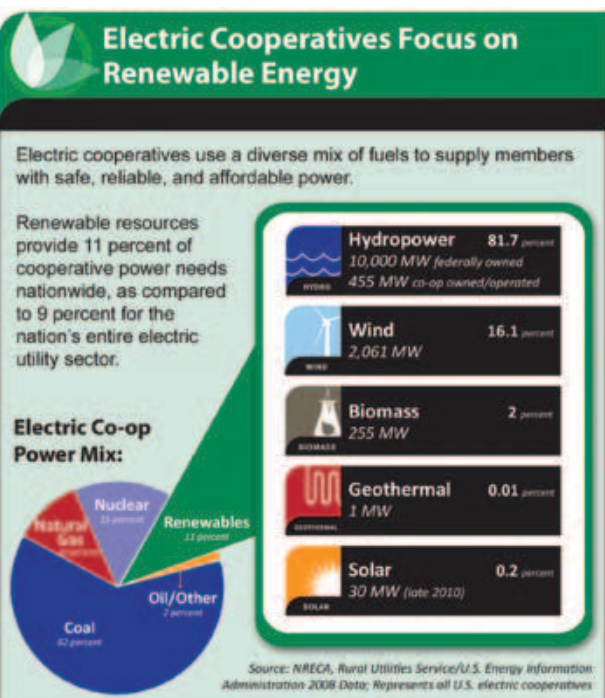
easy knowing that Hawkeye REC and others are working together to achieve common goals and provide our members with safe, reliable, affordable electricity. As it has been for 75 years, that's the co-op way.

Dairyland Power is a National Leader in Cow Power

Biogas from farm animal confinements presents a growing opportunity. Renewable energy can be generated from the methane gas produced by decomposing animal manure through a process called anaerobic digestion. The manure, usually from dairy cows or hogs, is collected on the farm in a closed, oxygen-free tank where it is broken down naturally to produce methane gas. This biogas is then used to fuel a generator that produces electricity which goes into the power grid and is used in farms, homes and businesses around the Dairyland Power system.

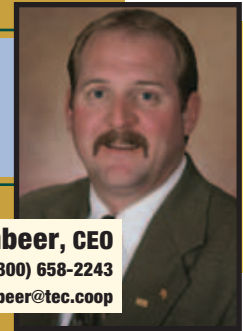
Wisconsin leads the nation in total number of operational farm digesters. Of the 25 operational farm digesters in the state, eight are located in the Dairyland Power service area. Dairyland Power acquires renewable energy from five of these farms. That makes Dairyland Power a national leader. In 2010, it is

Continued on page 6...



Straight talk about...

Tomorrow will **NOT** look like today



Brian Krambeer, CEO
(563) 547-3801 or (800) 658-2243
bkrambeer@tec.coop

Recently I attended Dairyland Power Cooperative's Annual Meeting with your board of directors. One of the featured speakers commented that "tomorrow will not look like today."

Today, there remains much uncertainty in the electric industry with several critical decisions awaiting Congress, federal agencies and in turn the general public, on just how soon and at what cost. The uncertainty in the electric

industry is being driven by regulators. Regulators are in charge and will do what regulators do, regulate – hopefully for the betterment of the public and without political or financial motives.

Many people would assume that the price of electricity is primarily driven by the cost of fuel (coal, natural gas, renewables, etc.). Fuel accounts for nearly 40 percent of the wholesale electric cost. However, many other aspects driven by

regulation will play a more significant factor in our cost per kilowatt-hour.

I have compiled a list of five items that will have a significant impact on our future cost of electricity and all of these decisions today are in the hands of regulators in one form or another.

1 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Congress has been debating climate change legislation for months. With more than 70 percent of our nation's electricity coming from greenhouse gas-emitting fossil fuels like coal and natural gas, the question becomes, "How do we reduce emissions while still making enough electricity available?"

The EPA is using the Clean Air Act to regulate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. This dates back to 2007, when the U.S. Supreme Court determined the definition of "pollutant" in the Clean Air Act (CAA). It was so broad that it included emissions of GHG, and directed the EPA to make a determination as to whether or not emissions of these gases from new automobiles "endangered" public health and welfare, and therefore should be regulated under the existing statute. However, the Court did not impose any deadlines, nor did it indicate that the EPA must regulate greenhouse gases.

The EPA finalized its endangerment finding, which opened the door to using the Clean Air Act to regulate GHGs from motor vehicles, and then issued final motor vehicle regulations in March. Unfortunately, any regulation of GHGs under the mobile source provisions of the existing Clean Air Act causes a cascade of regulatory programs affecting

stationary sources such as power plants and commercial facilities. According to the EPA, using the Clean Air Act to regulate emissions from motor vehicles will automatically trigger the regulation of power plants, industrial facilities, etc, and if applied to greenhouse gases, especially carbon dioxide, this would affect potentially millions of sources, and even small commercial or industrial facilities would be required to get the same permit as a new power plant.

Generally speaking, I believe that the Clean Air Act was designed to control pollutants on a local and regional scale that cause direct health effects. Congress did not intend it to be used to require reductions or limitations on GHGs blamed for global warming or climate change.

The EPA is also reviewing and establishing new standards to address the ozone or smog, sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide, mercury and a new regulation of coal ash, which is being considered for classified as a hazardous waste. Historically, Dairyland Power Cooperative has recycled 75 percent of its coal ash as a valued additive used in Portland cement. If coal ash is classified as a pollutant, recycling will no longer become an option.

2 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)

New regulations are also being devised by FERC looking at providing incentives for transmission for renewable energy and maintaining electric reliability of our energy infrastructure.

3 North American Electric Reliability Commission (NERC)

NERC and their Critical Infrastructure Protection program coordinates efforts to improve physical and cybersecurity for the bulk power system of North America as it relates to reliability including: standards development, compliance enforcement, assessments of risk and preparedness, disseminating critical information via alerts to industry and raising awareness of key issues.

4 Department of Energy (DOE)

Just last month the DOE presented preliminary efficiency standards that eliminate the future sale of large capacity or storage electric water heaters (which Hawkeye currently uses under load management to reduce electric demand). Under the proposed DOE regulation, only heat pump water heaters will meet the new residential standards, which also have a price tag nearly 10 times more than our storage water heaters.

5 Financial Accounting Standards

And finally, due to the abuse of misguided organizations such as Enron and the financial sector meltdown, new financial accounting standards for utilities and non-profit organizations have greatly increased the cost of our cooperative's annual independent audit, let alone the increased labor costs associated with managing the cooperative's financial accounting and data privacy operations.

My point this month is that regulation is everywhere in the electric utility industry and the decisions will impact not only the operation and cost of electricity for our members at Hawkeye, but for Americans all across the county. Hopefully, the outcome of these decisions proves to make tomorrow not only different, but also better.



May Outage Report

Individual – 58
Planned – 4
Weather/Lightning – 54
Animals – 9
Other/Unknown – 23
Trees – 19
Affected Members – 891

When the lights go out, so do we



Remember to call 811 Before You Dig!

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

The Hawkeye REC is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, and the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture which provide that no person in the United States on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability shall be excluded from participation in, admission or access to, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any of this organization's programs or activities.

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's nondiscrimination compliance efforts is Brian Krambeer, CEO. Any individual, or specific class of individuals, who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination may obtain further information about the statutes and regulations listed above from and/or file a written complaint with this organization; or the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Stop 1510, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC, 20250-1510; or the Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410; or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discrimination. Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible.

BOARD *Report*

Hawkeye's Board of Directors conducted its monthly board meeting on Wednesday, June 16th.

Highlights of the meeting:

- ▶ Reviewed monthly management and financial reports from Hawkeye REC Staff
- ▶ Approved Amendment to Webster's Housing Development Covenants
- ▶ Approved refinancing of RUS Loan with CoBank
- ▶ Reviewed building plans for new headquarters facility and approved bid for precast wall panels for the operations center



Vernelle Kabliska still has her independence and drives. She is more comfortable knowing that getting in and out of her vehicle with her unsteadiness, that her FirstCall system is there to send help if she might fall. (Unit does not work away from home).

Call Karen today at (800) 658-2243 or go to www.hawkeyerec.coop for more information. FirstCall is available for Hawkeye members and non-members.



It's as Easy as 1, 2, 3...

- Push **HELP** button
- Signal is submitted to response center where dispatchers are available 24/7/365
- Check on your condition and call your emergency list for help



Reduce Energy Use During Peak Hours

Peak hours are the busiest times for your local electric cooperative, since many people are using electricity at the same time. In addition, it costs your co-op more to generate electricity when demand soars during peak periods—and the cost of your electricity also may rise. Obviously, using less electricity during peak periods can save your co-op—and you—money.

Here's how you can help during peak hours, which generally are on the hottest summer days between 4 and 8 p.m.:

- ▲ Shift household chores and activities away from peak periods. Wait to run your dishwasher until you go to bed.
- ▲ If you have air conditioning, turn the thermostat up when you are gone and at night. Cool only the rooms that you are using.

- ▲ Use the most energy-efficient appliances you have. A microwave oven uses considerably less energy than a stove or cooktop.



“Wait to run your dishwasher until you go to bed.”

Protect Yourself from Lightning

According to the National Weather Service, lightning kills an average of 62 people each year in the United States. The majority of these fatalities occurred outside, but caution must be taken indoors as well.



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Consider using ceiling and other fans during the cooling season. They provide additional cooling and better circulation so you can raise the thermostat and cut down on air conditioning costs. ENERGY STAR-certified ceiling fans do even better, especially those that include compact fluorescent light bulbs.

Source: Alliance to Save Energy

The Farm Progress Show

The Farm Progress Show, our nation's leading outdoor farm show, will be back in Boone County Aug. 31 through Sept. 2, and Hawkeye REC wants to see you there. The Electric Cooperatives of Iowa, your Touchstone Energy Co-ops, will be bringing you information on energy efficiency and electrical safety and much, much more at the show!

Stop by lot #805 to learn how to improve energy efficiency on the farm and in your home; watch electrical safety demonstrations throughout the day; learn about renewable energy technology; and, as an electric cooperative member, register for your chance to win a 6500-watt generator.

The following are just a few things you'll find information on at the Electric Cooperatives of Iowa lot.

- ▶ Energy-efficient construction
- ▶ Motors
- ▶ Heat pumps
- ▶ Electric water heaters
- ▶ Renewable energy
- ▶ Live electrical safety demonstrations
- ▶ Receive 2 FREE CFL lightbulbs



Bringing you information on energy efficiency and electrical safety and much, much more at the show!

ENTER TO WIN A HOT AIR BALLOON RIDE* AT THE FARM PROGRESS SHOW!

Flights are scheduled for the mornings of September 1 and 2, and the afternoon of September 1. Morning flight winners will need to meet near Boone at 6:30 a.m. Afternoon winners will need to arrive by 3:30 p.m. Fill in the following information and mail today!

Name _____

Address _____


City _____ ST _____ ZIP _____ Weight** _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

*All flights are contingent on weather and wind conditions.
** This information will be used internally to group winners under flight weight limit.

Deadline to enter: August 13

Mail to: **ATTN: Karen
Hawkeye REC • PO Box 90
Cresco, IA 52136**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives 

A few lucky member-consumers will also get the chance to take a ride OVER the show on Sept. 1 or 2 in the Touchstone Energy hot air balloon. Winners must be contacted before the Farm Progress Show, so the deadline to enter to win a hot air balloon ride is August 13. Submit your registration slip today.

The Farm Progress Show features the most extensive state-of-the-art information and technology available for today's agricultural producers. This major agriculture event gives visitors the opportunity to see the latest equipment, seed, crop chemicals, field demonstrations, livestock handling and

equine events, rural life programs and entertainment, arts and crafts, and more.

A feature-filled permanent biennial site was selected near Boone, Iowa, on Highway 17 just north of Highway 30 in Boone County, and the Farm Progress Show was held at this location, for the first time, in 2008. In the coming years, the show will continue to rotate annually between this site and Decatur, Illinois.

In 2008, the 106-acre expo facility hosted more than 500 exhibitors showcasing the latest products, and visitors from more than 40 states and 30 countries attended.

Headquarters Building Update

The Hawkeye REC office staff will be moving on August 6th to the Howard County Fairgrounds Featherlite Center. This will be our temporary home for the next nine months. Members can stop by the temporary office to pay bills, request service work, purchase water heaters, and all other member service needs.

Construction of the new facility, at the existing headquarters site will begin following the demolition of the old office facility in August. The building plans and bid packages are being finalized and a bid package meeting for contractors interested in bidding on the construction will be held on August 4th at the Howard County Fairgrounds at 1 p.m.

NOTICE: The office will be closed on Friday, August 6 to allow employees to move. Payments can be made at the drop-box and phone calls will be answered by the Cooperative Response Center. Please continue to call (800) 927-5265 for power outages.

The board has been pleased to date with budget numbers for demolition of our existing facilities, along with the re-location of the metal storage facility in the pole yard, all coming in with final costs under budget. The board also approved the bid for the pre-fabricated concrete tip-up walls for the operations center at their board meeting in June. Seven

pre-fabricated concrete suppliers bid the project that resulted in very favorable pricing for the operations center, again coming in under budget.

Our design build team of Weiser Brothers, Cresco Building Service, Architectural Design and Hawkeye REC are making great progress on the building project that will be an important resource for your electric cooperative over the next several decades.

You can follow the construction progress by logging on to www.hawkeyerec.coop to view weekly pictures.

Thank you for your patience during our construction period.



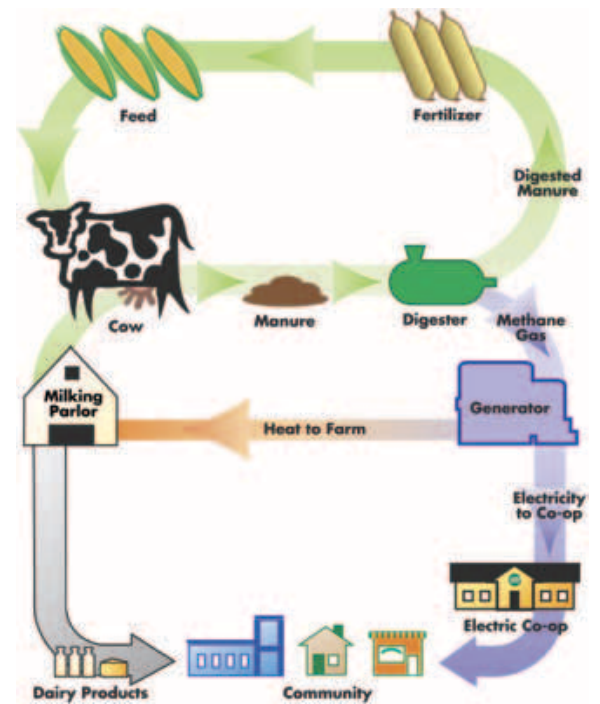
Renewable Energy...

Continued from cover

anticipated that these manure-to-energy projects will produce almost 19 million kWh of cow power, enough energy to power 1,583 average homes.

Until recently it was only economical to operate digesters on the largest farms, generally 1,000 cows and larger. Now a Wisconsin manufacturer is developing a manure digester that could help small dairy farms with as few as 100 cows economically turn waste into electricity. A test project is planned to be located on a 150-cow farm near Chaseburg, Wisconsin. It is anticipated that Dairyland Power could purchase the power produced by this digester.

In addition to generating electricity, anaerobic digesters produce other valuable by-products such as bedding for livestock and liquid fertilizer for crop production. Most farmers look at anaerobic digesters as a means to reduce odor and to manage manure. That helps protect our environment.



Dairyland Power "Cow Power" Contributors

Bach Farm, Dorchester, WI

Five-Star Dairy, Elk Mound, WI

Norm-E-Lane, Chili, WI

Norswiss Farms, Rice Lake, WI

Wild Rose Dairy, La Farge, WI

GO GREEN

Sign-up for an electronic newsletter!

www.hawkeyerec.coop

Recipes...

Fresh from the Garden Salsa recipes!



Fresh Salsa

- 3 T. finely chopped onion
- 2 small cloves garlic (minced)
- 3 large ripe tomatoes (peeled and seeds removed and chopped)
- 2 hot Chile peppers, Serrano or jalapeño (finely chopped)
- 2 to 3 T. minced cilantro
- 1½ to 2 T. lime juice
- salt and pepper

Put chopped onion and garlic in a strainer; pour 2 cups boiling water over them then let drain through. Discard water. Cool. Combine onions and garlic with chopped tomatoes, peppers, cilantro, lime juice, salt, and pepper. Refrigerate for 2 to 4 hours to blend flavors.

Makes about 2 cups of salsa.

Diana Ness • Waukon

Jane's Fresh Salsa

- 1 c. onion (minced)
- 2 large tomatoes (chopped after scooping out seeds and juice)
- 1 clove garlic (minced)
- ½ jalapeño (minced, no seeds)
- 1 sweet banana pepper (optional)
- 2 T. fresh cilantro (chopped)
- 2 T. fresh parsley (chopped)
- Juice from ½ lime
- Salt and fresh ground pepper to taste

Mix and ready to eat. Cover and store up to three days in refrigerator.

Terri Drew • Decorah

Garden Salsa

- 6-8 large tomatoes (diced)
- 1 c. onion (diced)
- 1 green pepper (diced)
- 1 c. fresh cilantro (cut or chopped up)
- 1 T. & 1 t. lime juice
- 1 t. salt or to taste

Mix together and chill.

Donna Miller • Cresco

Send or e-mail your favorite recipe. If we print your recipe in our newsletter you'll receive \$5 off your next electric bill. E-mail to: mmoellers@hawkeyerec.com

All recipes can be found on our website.

Aug. - Raspberries (need by July 15)

Sept. - Apple Fest (need by July 15)

Oct. - Different Party Dips (need by Aug. 15)



Delicious Salsa

- 3 quarts tomatoes (chopped and peeled with seeds removed)
- 3 c. chopped celery
- 2 c. chopped onions
- 1 c. chopped green peppers
- ¼ c. salt
- 1 c. sugar
- ¼ c. brown sugar
- ½ t. cumin
- 1½ t. mixed pickling spices (tied in cloth)
- 1 c. white vinegar



Combine all ingredients and let stand overnight in large kettle. Bring to a boil, reduce heat and simmer 15 minutes. Remove spice bag and ladle into hot jars. Seal and process in boiling water bath for 10 minutes. Makes 5½ pints.

Nancy Solomonson • Decorah

For Canning Taco Salsa

- 10 tomatoes
- 1 green pepper
- 3 banana peppers
- 15 jalapeño peppers
- 1 garlic bulb
- 1 or 2 large onions

Grind all above ingredients and place in a deep pan over low heat. Then add the following:

- 3 T. vinegar
- 1/2 c. sugar
- 1 T. cumin powder
- 1/5 t. cloves
- 1 T. oregano

Stir sauce while cooking. Cook at low boil for 20-30 minutes to cook off water. Turn off heat and transfer to containers.

Carolyn Huber • New Hampton





29049 State Hwy 9 - Cresco, Iowa 52136
1-800-658-2243 or 547-3801
www.hawkeyerec.coop

OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Friday • 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Closed Sat., Sun., & Holidays)

**Payment and billing inquiries
are available 24-7**

OUTAGES

1-800-927-5265

**IOWA STATE ONE CALL
1-800-292-8989**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dean Fisher, President - Lawler
Charles Frana, Vice President - Calmar
Dennis Ptacek, Secretary/Treasurer - Elma
Norman Dickman - Decorah
Roger Nibaur - Elma
Dean Nierling - Burr Oak
Dennis Young - Decorah
Darla Rance - Lime Springs
Carl Reicks - New Hampton

PERSONNEL

Brian Krambeer, Chief Executive Officer
Mike Walton, Operations Manager
Peggy Berg, Chief Financial Officer
Ted Kjos, Marketing & Mbr. Services Manager

EDITOR

Meagan Moellers

DATES TO REMEMBER

BILLING CYCLE DATES

- July 10 Hawkeye REC prints bills based on June meter reading.
- July 11 Bills are mailed to members from NISC in St. Louis.
- July 25 Please mail your bill today to make sure it arrives to Hawkeye by the 1st of August. If needed, member reads meter and records on payment voucher.
- July 28 Automated payments from checking accounts and credit/debit cards are processed.
- July 29 Disconnect services for non-payment.
- July 30 AMR meters are read by the co-op.
- Aug. 1 Bills become delinquent.

OTHER EVENTS

- July 6-10 Winneshiek Cty Fair – Decorah
- July 16-18 Old Roundhouse Trail Days – Elma
- July 25-31 RAGBRAI
- July 22-24 Nordic Fest – Decorah
- July 30-31 Light Up the Bluff – Bluffton
- July 25 Steeple Days – Lourdes
- July 27 Hawkeye REC Board Meeting
- July 30-Aug.1 Fly-In Breakfast & Art Show – Cresco
- Aug. 6 Ossian Fest – Ossian
- Aug. 6-8 Wapsi Days – Riceville

Hawkeye REC
PO Box 90
Cresco, Iowa 52136



**“Youth to Washington” Are Part
of Our Electric Cooperative.**



*Jonathan Gardner -
Hawkeye's 2010
Youth Tour Winner*

**When you're part of a co-op, you know exactly what the co-op stands for.
Members of your electric co-op come from all walks of life. Members are
community leaders, teachers, business owners, farmers and students.
Be proud to be part of a local cooperative!**

The power of human connections
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative