

# Taylor Report

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November 2017

## Wholesale Rate Surcharge to be added to Electric Bills

Dairyland Power Cooperative has projected their year-end Operating Margins will fall short of budget by approximately \$4.6 Million, and that a wholesale rate surcharge is needed to provide the financial support for their financing activities.

The main reason for the margin shortfall is that the cost of replacement power purchased from the market is projected to be more than \$15 Million over budget, partially offset by revenue from sales being \$8 Million more than budget. Power purchases were necessary during 2017 generating plant outages, some of them unplanned, others during routine maintenance.

The Dairyland Board of Directors has approved a 4.24 mills (\$0.00424) per kWh surcharge for the months of November and December. Being aware of this, your Taylor Electric Board of Directors authorized we begin collecting the surcharge on October electric bills to lessen the monthly charge. On the October electric bill you receive in November, you will see a Wholesale PCA charge of 3.238 mills (\$0.003238) per kWh. This will amount to an additional \$3.24 per month for a member using 1,000 kWhs of electricity. The charge will be in effect thru the month of December 2017, unless the amount collected by Dairyland changes.

## CLOSING 2017'S INCENTIVE PROGRAM—Deadline Dates

Member deadline to submit 2017 incentives to the cooperative:

- Members must submit incentive application within three months of purchase date for measures that do not take a significant amount of time to install (appliance, conservation, and lighting measures).
- Members must submit incentive application within three months of install date for measures that take a more significant amount of time to install (water heaters, HVAC, C&I, and agricultural measures).
- Purchases and installs during the last three months of 2017:

o The three-month deadline described above also applies to year-end purchases and/or installs. For example, a measure purchased or installed on December 31, 2017, would qualify for an incentive until March 31, 2018. However, 2017 incentives submitted in 2018 will be treated as 2018 incentives:

- Measures will not qualify for an incentive if the incentive is dropped in 2018.
- Measures will qualify for the 2018 incentive amount if the incentive amount changes in 2018.
- Measures will be reported as 2018 incentives

## Christmas Wish Program

Celebrating 21 years of granting wishes

During the holiday season, thoughts turn to those in need. Taylor Electric, WKEB 99.3 FM and other area cooperatives are once again sponsoring the Christmas Wish Program. Send your wish requests for someone who needs some holiday cheer to: WKEB radio, PO Box 59, Medford, WI 54451; phone 715-748-2566; fax 715-748-2752; or visit the radio station's website: [www.K99WIGM.com](http://www.K99WIGM.com).

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Veteran's Day is November 11th. We salute all service men and women, past and present, for their dedication and love of our country. Never forget their sacrifices.



Happy Thanksgiving from the board of directors and employees of Taylor Electric Cooperative. Our office will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 23rd and 24th. Have a safe and enjoyable holiday!

## Board Report – Sept. 2017

- Approved August disbursements totaling \$840,761.85, accepted 14 new member applications, and July construction in the amount of \$155,563.90.
- Reviewed financial results through August 31, 2017 with year-to-date margins of \$383,625. Twelve outages occurred in August, with 107 total for the year, totaling just under 0.8 hours per member of outage time. The outage time includes ½ hour of extreme storm related outages.
- 64 accounts were processed for collection in September owing just over \$23,000 (compared to 81 accounts owing more than \$31,000 in 2016). They were given notice of intent to disconnect service if not paid in full within 10 days.
- Four discounted early retirement of capital credits to estates were approved with a total net present value of \$1,659.00.
- Donations from unclaimed capital credit funds held at the Federated Youth Foundation were approved for: Colby High School, press box project - \$250, NTC-Medford Foundation, scholarship renewal - \$500
- The Dairyland Power report included: margins short of budget by \$1.0 Million, with projected year-end margins to be approximately \$4.6 Million under budget; a proposed wholesale rate surcharge at the end of 2017 which is estimated could cost Taylor Electric members an additional \$70,000; an update on the Nemadji Trail Energy Center natural gas generating plant planned for construction near Superior, Wisconsin; and, projected costs and timeline for replacement of the 2-way radio system in 2019.
- The Member Appreciation will be held on Thursday October 5th with breakfast served this year from 6:30 AM to 9:30 AM at the Centennial Community Center in Stetsonville. There will be information on SmartHub and Prepaid Metering, an electric grill giveaway, special for Co-op Connections Day, and attendance gifts. NTC will again be represented, offering information on “free” computer training classes.
- Patricia Waldhart was appointed as the Co-op’s voting delegate for the WECA Annual Meeting to be held in November at Stevens Point.
- Director Tesch reported that he was re-elected to a second 3-year term on the NRUCFC Board of Directors.
- Budget Director, John Young, Dairyland Power Cooperative, made a presentation explaining the fixed and variable components of the wholesale power billing.
- Board members jointly reviewed and commented on the board self-evaluation they had each been asked to complete.

## Energy efficiency for the modern family and its many devices

By Anne Prince

If you are struck by the amount of screens, remotes, gaming controls, charging stations and cords that have become fixtures in your home, you are not alone. The typical American family is well connected and owns a variety of electronic devices. According to the PEW Research Institute, 95 percent of U.S. families have a cell phone and 77 percent of Americans own a smart phone. Nearly 80 percent of adults own a laptop or desktop computer, while approximately half own tablets.

Consumer electronics coupled with the growing array of smart home appliances and technology have slowly but steadily changed our homes and lifestyles. The increased reliance on our many devices has new implications for home energy use and efficiency.

### Using smart technology to manage energy savings

So how can we save energy when we are using more electronic devices than ever before? The answer may lie with some of those same electronic devices that have become indispensable to modern living. In many cases, energy savings is a touchscreen away as more apps enable you to monitor energy use.

From the convenience of your mobile device, smart technologies can maximize your ability to manage electricity use across several platforms—controlling your thermostat, appliances, water heater, home electronics and other devices. One of the easiest ways to make an impact on energy efficiency is with a smart thermostat, like Nest models. Using your mobile device, you can view and edit your thermostat schedule and monitor how much energy is used and make adjustments accordingly. For example, program your thermostat for weekday and weekend schedules so you are not wasting energy when no one is home. Check and adjust the program periodically to keep pace with changes in household routines

You can also ensure efficiency by purchasing ENERGY STAR-certified appliances. Many new appliances include smart-technology features such as refrigerators that can tell you when maintenance is required or when a door has been left open. New washers, dryers and dishwashers allow you to program when you want the load to start. This means you can program your task for off-peak energy hours—a smart choice if your electric rate is based on time of use.

Computers, printers, phones and gaming consoles are notorious “vampire power” users, meaning they drain energy (and money) when not in use. If items can be turned off without disrupting your lifestyle, consider plugging them into a power strip that can be turned on and off or placed on a timer.