

Since 1940

# WISCONSIN ENERGY *Cooperative* December 2023 NEWS

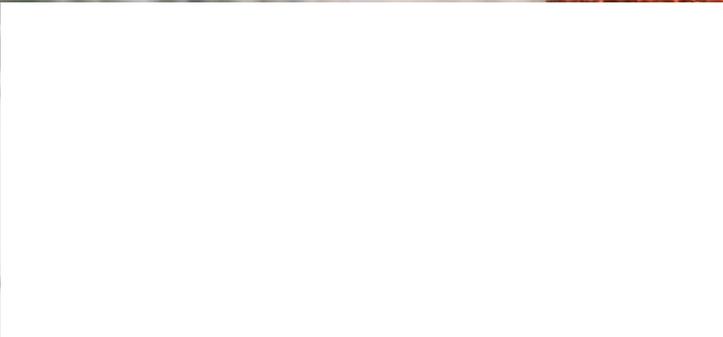
TAYLOR ELECTRIC  
*Cooperative*  
Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

## EVERGLEAM, EVER HOPEFUL

MAKING HISTORY, FILLING A NEED

ENERGY-SAVING GADGETS AND GIZMOS

BEST OF KIDS AND CRITTERS





Your Touchstone Energy® Partner



# UPCOMING RATE CHANGE WILL BETTER BALANCE COSTS

Kenneth Ceaglske, President/CEO

Over the course of the last few months, we have had a consultant complete a cost-of-service study (COSS). The point of a COSS is to look at the expenses that we have as a utility and compare that to the sources of revenue that pay for those expenses. The expenses are split into two categories, fixed or variable expenses. About half of Taylor Electric’s expenses are fixed. The fixed expenses are things that don’t vary with the sale of energy. Poles, wires, transformers, meters, buildings, loans, trucks, and employee costs fall into this category.

As a result of the study, it was shown that we are collecting much of our fixed costs in the variable kilowatt hour (kWh) charge. The problem with this is that as usage changes, revenue changes and doesn’t balance with the costs. For example, 2023 sales are lower than last year due to milder weather patterns. This means that we don’t have the anticipated revenue that we budgeted for. On the other hand, if we have had a year with a very cold winter and a very hot summer, we would have over-collected from you, the members, for the costs that year. Another risk factor in tying the fixed costs to the variable energy price is that as efficiency increases, sales decrease driving the costs up to balance the budget. Also, alternative energy sources reduce kWh sales as a whole and have a similar effect.

With inflation working its way through everything, it seems, we are not immune to it. Therefore, we will be needing to do a rate change for 2024. We will be accomplishing that through a \$5 increase to the fixed

This change will apply to the January bills that arrive in early February.

charge on the bill to bring the fixed/variable cost closer to the proper balance. The new rates are listed below. The kWh charges will not be changing. As a percentage to the average bill, this is about a 2.6% increase to the total bill. This change will apply to the January bills that arrive in early February.

Earlier I mentioned the variable cost component, which is made up of the expenses for energy and the capacity to deliver that energy. The majority of that is power bill costs, with a sliver of it coming from something called line loss, which can be looked at as the power consumed to deliver energy, similar to a fuel truck burning diesel to deliver fuel.

Much like each member gets a power bill, we have a power bill that we receive from Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC). It makes up the other half of our annual budget. Unlike your bill, our bill is much more complex. It is split into substation, transmission, energy, and other various operations costs for DPC. There are two basic components that are used to determine this cost, energy and capacity/demand. Energy is the kWh that makes electrical devices work over a period of time. Capacity is how much energy is available at a moment in time, and demand is how much is needed at a moment in time. Our bill is split about 50/50 energy vs. demand. Another recommendation to come out of the COSS is to look at those components and work on separating them from each other on the bill.

Over the course of the next few months, I will be sharing more on the separation of demand from energy on the bill. In the meantime, take a moment to look at your bill and find the demand line to gain some perspective on your usage. The goal is to develop this demand/energy rate by early fall 2024 and do it in a way that has little to no changes to the average member.

2024 rate change effective January 1:			
	2022	2023	Energy
Single phase	44.95	49.95	No Change
Single phase Time of day	46.45	51.45	No Change
Three phase	71.85	76.85	No Change
Three phase peak alert	134.85	139.85	No Change

# CAN YOU HELP US FIND THESE PEOPLE?

Taylor Electric Cooperative has capital credits for the following people, who we are unable to locate. If you know someone listed here, please have them contact our office at 715-678-2411 or 800- 862-2407. In cases where the person is deceased, please have the family contact us with benefactor information. Any unclaimed checks will revert to the Wisconsin Federated Youth Foundation, Inc., a charitable tax-exempt trust established by the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association for educational purposes. Claims may be made at the cooperative office by the rightful owners by December 31, 2023.

AMENT, SANDY  
 AMSTUTZ, JESSE & EVA  
 BARNES, HENRY JR & TAMMI L  
 BEST, WALTER DECEASED  
 BOLZ, JOSEPHINE DECEASED  
 BOWEN, LESTER & HILDA  
 BRANDNER, CELESTA  
 BROOKS, TRAN & LISA  
 BRUBACHER, HAROLD  
 CARBAJAL, RICHARD S & MARIA

CEDZO, FLORENCE  
 CLARKSON, WILMA  
 DASSOW, ANDY J FOR DASSOW  
 HILBERT JR DECEASED  
 DASSOW, ANNETTE  
 DEGRAND, STEVE & BARB  
 FRANZ, DOROTHY  
 GARLAND, PATTI  
 GOULD, NICOLE  
 GRISWOLD, STEVEN P

HAFELE, DAVID I & JANET M  
 HARBER, DUANE & DIANA  
 HELMBRECHT, PETER E &  
 GLORIA J  
 HENDERSON, TODD A &  
 DONNA M  
 HOOTEN, DORIS H  
 JAEGER, PAUL & REBECCA  
 JENSEN, GEORGE J  
 JOHNSON, LONNIE  
 KALMON, CHARLES T  
 KAUTZER, TRACY  
 KREKLAU, NANCY & SACKMANN  
 LILLIAN  
 LEONARD, JERRY  
 LEONHARDT, JAMES L & CONNIE  
 LIND, JOSHUA E  
 LOVELAND, RUTH  
 LUDWIG, JAMES & TINA  
 MEERSTEIN, MILDRED DECES'D  
 MORETZ, SANDRA DECEASED  
 MUELLER, RAYMOND J

NIKOLAY, DAVID FOR JOHN J  
 NIKOLAY DECEASED  
 NIZNIK, PAUL  
 NOTH, FLORENCE  
 OSBORNE, TIM & SANDRA  
 PEARSON, CHARLETTE D  
 PETERSON, JOHN G  
 POCOTNIK, JANET  
 SACKMANN, WILLIAM, DECEASED  
 SALZMAN, JANICE L  
 SCHUMACHER, MARLYN &  
 LINDA  
 SEFFRON, TERRY  
 SMITH, BONNY  
 STEFFEN, HELEN  
 THEMAR, ROSEMARY DEC'D  
 THIEDE, ERWIN DECEASED  
 TURNER, STEVEN W  
 VOSS, JEFF  
 WEYENBERG, GERALD  
 ZAK, LORI & YEAGER WILLIAM  
 ZILLMER, LONNIE

## Christmas Wish

### 27 YEARS OF SPREADING JOY DURING THE HOLIDAYS

The Christmas Wish Program is celebrating 27 years of granting wishes to those in need during the holiday season. Taylor Electric Cooperative, WKEB 99.3 FM—WIGM 1490 AM, Touchstone Energy, and other area cooperatives are once again brightening the holidays for many in our community. Whether the need is financial, emotional, or physical, spreading holiday cheer and putting a smile on the faces of the families in our community has always been our mission.

In 2022, nearly 150 families were touched by the Christmas Wish program. In following with the cooperative principle “Concern for Community,” contributors to Christmas Wish have brought holiday cheer for the past 26 years to those who were battling a serious illness, friends and neighbors who had lost loved ones throughout the year, and community members with disabilities.

The 27th annual Christmas Wish Program is brought to you by area Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, including Dairyland Power Cooperative, Taylor Electric

Cooperative, Clark Electric Cooperative, Price Electric Cooperative, and Jump River Electric Cooperative. Also sponsoring are the Taylor County Association of Cooperatives, People’s Choice Credit Union, Co-op Transport, River Country Co-op, Ag Country Farm Credit, Taylor Credit Union, The Medford Cooperative, Lakewood Credit Union, United Mutual Insurance, WIGM 1490 AM and WKEB 99.3 FM Radio, RCU, and Medford County Market.

#### Wish Requests

Wish requests for area residents may be directed to WIGM/WKEB Radio; P.O. Box 59, Medford, WI 54451; phone, (715) 748-2566; fax, (715) 748-2752; or via the radio station’s website, [www.k99wigm.com](http://www.k99wigm.com). Please include your name, address, and phone number as well as the name, address, and phone number of the individual you are making a wish for and the wish you would like granted. Requests are being taken now until December 15, 2023.





# TWELVE HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

**1** Keep decorations at least three feet away from heat sources – especially those with an open flame, like fireplaces and candles.



**3** If you have a natural Christmas tree water it to keep it fresh and safe.



**2** The best decorations are safe decorations, so when you're decorating, make sure not to run cords under rugs or furniture.



**4** Always turn off your decorations when you leave your home and when you're sleeping.



**5** If you're using extension cords or adapters that add receptacles, consider having a qualified electrician add more outlets to your home.



**6** Only use electronics in dry areas. As tempting as it is, you just can't decorate your aquarium with icicle lights.



**7** Remember that phones and tablets should stay on your nightstand.



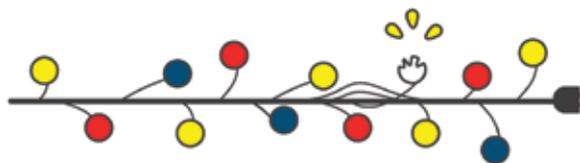
**8** Every home needs a working smoke alarm in each bedroom, outside sleeping areas and on every level, including the basement.



**9** If you're using a space heater, switch it off before leaving the room.



**10** Inspect your decorations and discard any that are damaged or worn out.



**11** Keep batteries stored safely in their packaging and out of reach from small children and pets.



**12** The best gift for your family is an Arc-Fault Circuit Interrupter breakers or outlets. Many electrical fires that occur every year could be prevented by AFCIs.



Please share this free resource to save lives

**HEY KIDS!**

**Decorate this picture for a chance to win a prize!**

Please bring your completed picture in person and receive a treat. **A drawing of all entries will be held on Friday, December 15, 2023.** Pictures will be displayed at the co-op office. Age groups include: 1–3 years, 4–6 years, 7–9 years, and 10–12 years. All participants' parents must be current members of Taylor Electric.



**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' Names \_\_\_\_\_ Acct. No. \_\_\_\_\_

*All employees' and directors' families are ineligible.*

**Kenneth Ceaglske, President/CEO**

N1831 State Highway 13, Medford, WI 54451

715-678-2411 • 800-862-2407

email: [taylrec@tayloelectric.org](mailto:taylrec@tayloelectric.org)

website: [www.tayloelectric.org](http://www.tayloelectric.org)

**Lainie Kellnhofer, Editor**

**TAYLOR ELECTRIC**  
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