

Since 1940

WISCONSIN ENERGY *Cooperative* NEWS

July 2024

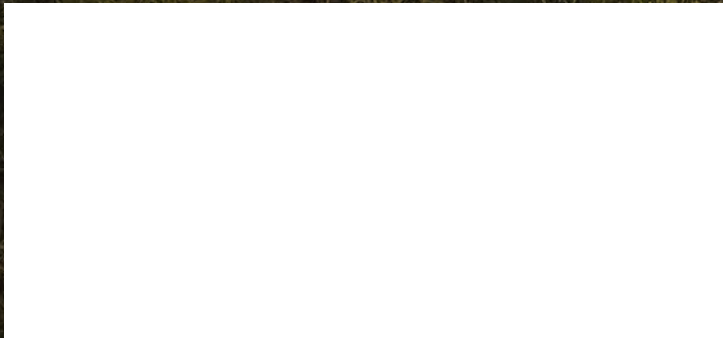
TAYLOR ELECTRIC
Cooperative
Your Touchstone Energy Partner

YOU'LL **DIG** THESE DESTINATIONS

RESILIENT

SIGNS YOUR HVAC IS IN TROUBLE

KIDS AND CRITTERS



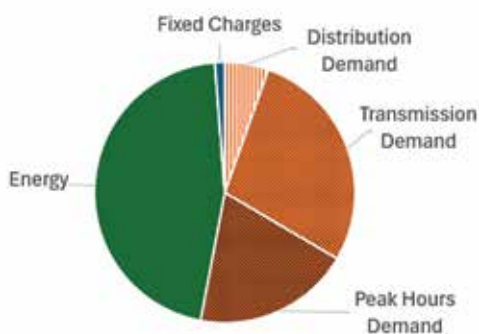


A DEEPER LOOK AT DEMAND

Kenneth Ceaglske, President/CEO

This month we will look at how Taylor Electric’s power bill and our members’ billing currently line up.

Power Bill



The graph above depicts our power bill for 2023. The orange-colored areas are based on capacity, or demand requirements of the system. The three types of demand are distribution, transmission, and peak hours. They occur at varying times of the month or year.

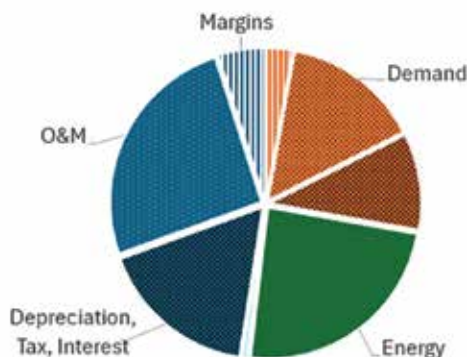
Distribution demand shows the monthly period during which the meters at the substation, measuring our overall system load, display the highest local peak load, independent of any other co-ops. Transmission demand is the period when all Dairyland members have their highest combined demand. Both of these typically happen in the evening hours and can be on the same or different days. These values change on a monthly basis. The peak hours demand is based on the anticipated highest usage times in relation to the Midcontinent Independent System Operator’s (MISO) peak times. This is a four-hour window that can occur up to nine days in the summer and seven days in the winter but no less than one day per month in June, July, August, November, December, and January. The peak hours correlate to the larger regional grid and are somewhat driven by the larger power companies in the system with more commercial loads. Peak hour demand sets many of the

commitments that Dairyland Power has to make for the next year with MISO, so those costs are set for the 12 months following the season that they occur. This is why it is important to try to conserve on the days that we do “Peak Alert” messages.

The common thread with all of the demand pieces is it defines how much of a resource is needed such as substation equipment, transmission lines, and generation resources. Also, all are set in a narrow timeframe, roughly 88 hours out of the 8,760 hours in a year.

The green area is the energy cost portion of the power bill based on energy sold throughout the year. As you can see, more than half of the power bill is based on demand, even though it is set by a very small time of the year.

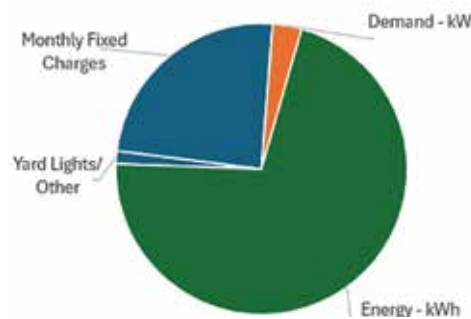
Total Expenses



For perspective, the above graph is all of Taylor Electric’s annual expenses for 2023. As you can see, the power bill (orange and green slices) makes up about half of our costs. Based on the last graph, demand logically makes up around one quarter and energy the other quarter. This leaves the blue slices for the other half. Much of the blue area expenses are fixed, since they do not vary with the sale or delivery of energy. These costs include the poles, wires, transformers, buildings, trucks,

labor, benefit costs, and any loans and payments for various items. If the entire membership found alternative ways to create energy, but wanted us to exist as an insurance policy just in case, this would be the minimum cost for us to be here as we are.

Revenue Sources



This graph shows the breakdown of our revenue generated from billing members for the energy they receive. The color coding is the same: blue for fixed costs, green for energy, and orange for demand-related billing.

Take a look at the last two graphs. In a perfect world, each source of revenue would be roughly equal to the source of expense that it is intended to pay for. You can see that although energy makes up roughly 25% of our expenses, it contributes to 75% of our revenue. On the other hand, while fixed charges make up approximately 50% of our expenses, they only represent 25% of our revenue. Demand costs are not adequately represented. This creates challenges in budgeting since energy sales vary significantly from year to year (down almost 8% this year). It also sets us up for over-collecting revenue in years where sales are above expectations, or under-collecting in years that are below.

Do I have expectations of ever having this balance perfect? Not likely. We do need to make strides to get things a little closer than they are.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Each of these students won a \$500 scholarship from Taylor Electric Cooperative

Athens/Edgar High School



Mackenzie Quirk is the daughter of Sadie Guden, Athens. She will be attending NTC for the pre-vet technician course. Mackenzie's interests are all things animals, history, and mythology. Her hobbies are the fine arts including band, theater, and art in general.

Colby High School



Hailey Geiger is the daughter of Jeremy and Wendy Geiger, Stetsonville. She is planning to attend Chippewa Valley Technical College for diagnostic medical sonography. Hailey enjoys being outdoors, reading books, and hunting.

Rib Lake High School/RVA



Isabella Fallos is the daughter of Josh and Amber Fallos, Rib Lake. She is planning to attend UW-River Falls for neuroscience and is hoping to pursue children's neurological research in the future. She is interested in all things brain-related and is passionate about learning. Her hobbies include watching sunsets, playing volleyball, and spending time with her family and friends.

Medford High School



Bailey Eloranta is the daughter of Mike and Heather Eloranta, Medford. She will be attending UW-River Falls, majoring in health and physical education. She enjoys playing basketball, being outdoors and spending time with family and friends.



Lillie Gleichauf is the daughter of James and Stacie Gleichauf, Medford. She is planning to attend Northcentral Technical College for radiography. Lillie runs cross country and loves to do anything outdoors whether it's biking, kayaking, running, and even rock climbing. She has played violin for six years as well. Lillie also loves to read, especially when camping.



Cassidy Janda is the daughter of Tom and Pam Janda, Medford. She is planning on attending Northcentral Technical College, Wausau Campus, and will be majoring in welding fabrication and robotics. Cassidy enjoys snowmobiling, four-wheeling, camping, and swimming.



UNLOCK COMFORT *AND* SAVINGS

If you're working on your summer to-dos, consider adding home weatherization to your list. We typically think about weatherizing our homes during winter months when we're standing next to a chilly window or a drafty exterior door. But weatherizing your home provides comfort and energy savings year-round, especially during summer months when your air conditioner is working overtime.

According to energystar.gov, a home with insufficient insulation and air leaks wastes more than 20% of the energy used to heat or cool the home—that's essentially throwing money out the door. Fortunately, most weatherization projects are easy to DIY and can be completed in a day.

The simplest and most cost-effective weatherization strategies include air sealing around windows and exterior doors.

If you have older windows, odds are you have air escaping through tiny cracks and gaps around the frame. Do a quick visual inspection. If you can see any daylight around the frame or the windows rattle easily, you likely have air leaks. Also check for any small cracks around the frame that may not be visible with sunlight.

If you suspect you have leaky windows and plan to apply new caulk, be sure to remove the old caulk and clean the area well before application. Caulking materials vary in strength and properties, but you'll likely need a half-cartridge per window.

Silicone caulk is a popular choice and can also be used to seal joints between bathroom and kitchen fixtures. If you have any leftover caulk, use it to seal those areas.

Another effective but simple weatherization project is installing weatherstripping around exterior doors. The most common types of weatherstripping options are V-channel, felt, and foam tape. To choose the best type for your home, consider temperature fluctuations and weather exposure. Most homeowners opt for felt or foam tape; both options are easy to install but will need to be replaced every couple years, depending on wear and tear. Weatherstripping should be installed around the top and sides of the door.

If you see daylight around the bottom of an

exterior door, consider installing a door sweep in addition to weatherstripping. Door sweeps are available in aluminum, plastic, vinyl, and felt options.

Weatherstripping can also be installed around windows, typically to the sides of a double hung or sliding window, or around the window sash. If you're unsure how to install

According to energystar.gov, a home with insufficient insulation and air leaks wastes more than 20% of the energy used to heat or cool the home.

weatherstripping or apply caulk, check online for step-by-step instructions and video tutorials.

Another way to improve comfort in your home is adding insulation. While this is a more costly project and requires a professional's help, it's an effective way

to decrease heat flow, which impacts energy use in winter and summer months. Older homes may need additional insulation to either replace older materials or meet newer efficiency standards. Contact a qualified installation specialist if you suspect your home's insulation levels are inadequate.

In addition to saving energy, air sealing can help you avoid moisture control issues, improve indoor air quality, and extend the life of your heating and cooling system. Weatherize your home to unlock year-round comfort and savings on monthly energy costs.



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 the current address of someone listed here, please contact our office at 715-678-2411 or 800-862-2407. In cases where the person is deceased, please contact us with information regarding a relative or benefactor. 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 August 1, 2024.

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Aabel, Judith | Emens, David | Larson, Hilda | Petersen, Carol |
| Adams, Dale | Emens, Phyllis | Larson, Kay M | Peterson, Talee |
| Adumat, John P | Engstrom Deceased, Priscilla | Larson, Lester & Tammy | Potocnik Deceased, Ethel |
| Albert Deceased, Ed | Erickson, Peggy | Lekie Deceased, Martha B | Rasner, Richard A & Shelia |
| All Season Storage | Exit Realty Prime | Lekie, Steve & Patty | Reinhart, Shane & Andrea |
| Allison RD | Fanson, Gary | Lekie, Terry | Renly, Dave |
| Anderson, Michael J | Fischer Deceased, Otto | Lissner Deceased, Helen | Ricker, Harvey & Cindy |
| Anderson, Rodney | Fisk, Doug | Literski, Peter | Rinehart, Glen |
| Andreasen, Toni | Fortner Deceased, Gayle B | Loeffler, Jerene | Robertsen, Earl/Carol |
| Angelich Deceased, Lorna | Fox, Daniel & Dawn | Lucy, James & Patricia | Rydberg, Douglas & Kaye |
| Arthur Deceased, James F | Francois Deceased, Genevieve | Lukaszewicz Deceased, Anna | Scheuneman, James & Jean |
| AT&T Building Operations | Frenzel Deceased, Lester E | Lynch, Michael & Barbara | Schraufnagel, Joyce |
| AT&T Services Inc | Furseth, Andrew | Mabie Deceased, Jacqueline | Schuhmacher, Bill & Cathy |
| Barber, Audy | Gehrke, Mary | Mackie, Helen | Schwenke Deceased, Adres |
| Barker, Lloyd | Ginseng, Sherburne | Malchow, Adam | Shrewsberry, Mike/Candy |
| Barnes, Bradley & Cheryl | Gothann, Carl | Maldonis, Ryan & Julie | Skerhutt, Steve |
| Barnickle, Earl & Inez | Graffunder, Eugene & Ruth | Martin, David H | Smith Jeffrey A & Barbara A |
| Beart, Thomas | Graham Deceased, Corinne | Marx, Joseph P | Smith, Pat |
| Benson, John | Grauman, Michael & Jill | Maslanka, Mary | Smith, Randall W |
| Bergeson, Paul & Tammy | Gregg, Jerry & Gloria | MDS Acres Partnership | Snell, Gregory A & Debbie |
| Bernitt Deceased William Jr | GTE Telephone Operations | Metzner Deceased Linda | Sossong, James |
| Biebl, Randy | Gugliuzza, Richard/Sharon | Mey-Kosbab, Cindy | Spreen, Bryan W |
| Blegen, Marjorie | Gustum, Kirk | Miles, Tana | Stollfus, George & Amber |
| Bloyer, Clyde & Jeff Bourgerie | Hamelund, Patricia | Miller, Abraham | Strebig, James L |
| Bourgerie, Jeff & Stephane | Hanish, James & Sheila | Mims, William | Sukow, Derrick J |
| Briggs, Richard & Linda | Hanson, Nancy | Moen, James | Sweeten, John |
| Busch, Rick & Mary | Heier, Neal | Molitor James E & Beverly B | Thieme, Patricia |
| Carr, Shawn | Herbig, Joseph & Alice | Motte, Michele | Thomas, Everett |
| Cee, Debra | Hildebrand, Charles M | Noland, Gary & Karen | Thomas, Frank |
| Chappell, Dean W | Hildebrandt, Charles & Barb | Northern National Lease | Troiber, Bradley M |
| Christianson Deceased, Rodney | Hoeft, Dolores | Nowak Deceased, Ruth | Truckey, Lon M & Esther G |
| Clarkson Deceased, Ervin | Holtz, Steve J & Robin D | Olsen, Eleanor | Verdone, Robert & Jane |
| Cushing, David & Dixie | Jackson, Greg | Olson, Rose | Verdone, Todd J |
| Department of the Air Force | Jiskra, Kathy | Palmer, Ray & Angie | Voss, Robert W |
| Devoty Deceased, Amie | Johnson, William & Dian | Patterson, Dennis Jr & John A | Weiss, John & Sally |
| Devries, David & Areta | Jones, Michael A & Sharon L | Sperl | Wenger Earl & Sadie |
| Dygart, Florence Deceased | Kenny, Tom & Kristl | Paulson, Sara & Jusin Mallo | White, Kathy |
| Edelburg Deceased, Clifford | Klaver, Jeff | Pautz Deceased, Arlyn | Windle, Geraldine |
| Edminster, Peggy J | Kraus, Adolph & Marian | Peche Deceased, Ray | Wirt, Allen J |
| Edmunds, Jodi & Calvin | Krueger, Lori | Peel, Della A | Zelinski, Lester & Viola |
| Krueger | Larson, Charles | Peneau, Leon & Nancy | Zuleger, Bruce & Brenda |
| Elbe, George G | Larson, Doug & Karen | | |

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