

Taylor Report



December 2023

N1831 State Highway 13, Medford, WI 54451 • 715-678-2411 • www.taylorlectric.org

27 years of giving with Christmas Wish

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.

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, 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, Royal Credit Union, and Medford County Market. 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. 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.



Happy Holidays!

Spark joy and light this holiday season. From our co-op family to yours, we wish you a safe and warm season with friends and loved ones. The office will be closed December 25th and 26th and January 1st.

HEY KIDS!!

Don't forget to enter our Christmas coloring contest for a chance to win a prize. Coloring pages can be found in the December WEC News or stop by the office to pick one up. All entries are due by December 15, 2023.

Cooperative employees/directors families not eligible to win.

Board Report - Oct. 2023

- Approved September disbursements totaling \$309,758. 15 new member applications, and September 2023 construction in the amount of \$118,506.
- Reviewed financial results for September with \$366,029 Operating Margins and \$488,093 Total Margins year to date.
- There were 27 outages in September, with an average YTD outage time per meter of 1.2495 hours.
- Eight applications for discounted early retirement of capital credits to estates were approved with total capital credits of \$5,624 to be paid out at the net present value of \$2,034.
- 35 delinquent accounts were processed for collection following the October 20th due date. The total amount owing on these accounts is \$15,332.
- Other topics covered included the cost-of-service study results, \$5 increase to the facilities charge, DPC activities, upcoming meetings and member concerns.

RATE CHANGE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2024

Over the course of the last few months, we have had a consultant complete a cost-of-service study (COSS). 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. This can limit what projects we are able to take on to maintain the system.

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 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 of 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.

Stay tuned to the WEC News magazine for more information on coming changes to the TEC rate structure.

2024 rate change effective January 1:

	2023	2024	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

SAFELY Jingle ALL THE WAY

The winter holiday season is a busy time of year for many of us. Along with putting up decorations and baking cookies, we often spend more time in our cars than usual: shopping for presents, traveling to family gatherings, or attending holiday events. However, all that time in the car can also mean facing extreme weather conditions that can make safe driving difficult.

Between the added traffic and the not-so-ideal road conditions that come along with Wisconsin winters, the risk of car accidents is much higher this time of year. Along with risk of injury, possible damage to your vehicle, and plain inconvenience, collisions may also involve downed power lines or other electrical hazards. Unfortunately, when this happens, it adds another very significant danger to the mix that can cause severe shock, burns, or electrocution. Knowing what to do in this situation can save lives.

If you are in an accident involving a downed power line:

- Call 9-1-1 and tell the dispatcher a downed power line or other electrical equipment is involved in a collision. Power company personnel will be dispatched to the scene to deenergize the power.
- Put your window down and alert others not to approach the scene. They could be shocked or electrocuted if they walk or run over the energized area or touch anything that is energized.
- Never attempt to drive over a power line or through water, snow, or other debris that could be hiding one. There is no way to tell if a power line is energized, even if it is not sparking or buzzing.
- Do not exit the vehicle UNLESS the vehicle is on fire or you see smoke. The vehicle acts as an insulator that keeps you safe from stray electricity. If you MUST exit the vehicle, cross your arms across your chest, put your feet together, and make a clean jump from the vehicle. Then hop with feet together as far as you can—at least 50 feet away. Once a power line is in contact with a car or truck, the ground, or other objects, it energizes the area. The electrical current spreads to the vehicle and ground, and it ripples out. Each "ring" of the ripple represents a different voltage. Stepping from one voltage to the next can cause your body to become a path for electricity and electrocute you.
- If a power line is inside the vehicle due to damage or an open window, stay in the vehicle. DO NOT touch or try to move the wire. DO NOT attempt to use other objects to move it.

Keep your family safe while on the road this holiday season!