

# Taylor Report

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## Your electric bill will have more information

The meters that Taylor Electric uses to measure the monthly electricity usage by each of our members provides information about how much electricity is needed at any one time during the month, and the total amount of electricity used during the month. In the past we've always shown and billed for the amount of electricity used, the consumption, but only 3-phase accounts were shown and billed for the amount of electricity needed from Taylor Electric's system at any one point in time, the demand. At this time, it appears on your bill as an actual measurement of your demand. There will be no charge for the demand until the board approves it as part of the rate. \*\*\*NOTE: Some of the meters used by Taylor Electric may not report the demand at this time so the demand on your bill may appear as zero (-0-). Those meters are being upgraded to provide this feature.

At some point in the future, the electric rates may change to better reflect the actual cost of providing electric service to each member reflecting the charges from the wholesale rate.

Understanding electricity use can be compared to driving a car. The rate at which you are consuming electricity (demand, or kW) is equivalent to the speed you are driving the car (mph). Your overall consumption (kWh) is similar to the total distance driven in the car (miles). Electricity consumption is dependent on how many hours your equipment was on - multiply demand by time in use and you get consumption. In a car, you calculate your total distance the same

way - multiply the average speed by the number of hours driven.

### What is electric demand?

Electric Demand is the rate of using electricity and is measured in kilowatts (kW). Utilities measure the highest rate of using electricity each billing cycle in order to adequately size the generation, transmission and distribution capacity required to provide energy to each customer. The utility then recoups these costs by billing you based on your highest measured demand, and when that demand occurs relative to when the utility experiences peak demand on their system. So, what's the difference between a facility's electricity demand and electricity consumption? Knowing the difference between these two terms is important for understanding how electricity is measured and can be billed by your utility as well as how to reduce your overall electricity costs.

### Demand vs. Consumption

Electricity demand is measured in kilowatts (kW) and represents the rate at which electricity is consumed. Electricity consumption, on the other hand, is measured in kilowatt-hours (kWh) and represents the amount of electricity that has been consumed over a certain time period.

For example:

>a 10-Watt LED will always demand 10 watts from the grid when it's on. However, the LED's energy consumption will range depending on the number of hours it is on. If the LED is on for 10 hours, it's consumption would be 10 Watts x 10 hours or 100 watt-hours (Wh).

>a 100-watt incandescent bulb on for 10 hours, it's consumption would be 100 watts x 10 hours or 1,000 Wh which equals 1 kilowatt-hour (kWh).

## Ring in the new year with a new President & CEO



2019 will mark the end of working careers for two Taylor Electric employees, President & CEO, Mike Schaefer who has been with the cooperative for 37 years and Line Superintendent Kevin Comstock, who retired with 13 years at Taylor Electric.

We welcome, Kenneth Ceagske, new president & CEO of Taylor Electric Cooperative, effective January 6th. Ken comes to Taylor Electric Cooperative from Niobrara Electric Association in Lusk, Wyoming, where he served as general manager for the last eight years. Before that, he worked in the transmission operations area of Great River Energy in Elk River, Minnesota, and prior to that, he held various positions at East Central Energy in Braham, Minnesota. His past service also includes 13 years on the City Council for the City of Braham, Minnesota, with three years as mayor.

Ken grew up in Braham, Minnesota, and is familiar with Wisconsin, having family stretching from Braham across to Tomahawk. Many camping trips and motorcycle rides have brought him to the area in the past as well.

Ken and his wife, Tammy, have two daughters, Emma and Lucy. Tammy is the social services director at the hospital in Lusk, Wyoming. Emma is a sophomore at the University of Wyoming and Lucy is a senior in high school. Following Lucy's graduation this spring, all will be settling here in Wisconsin, where both daughters will attend college. Ken's hobbies include woodworking, riding ATVs and motorcycles, boating, skiing, snowshoeing, and camping. He and his family also have two dogs named Wanda and CeeCee. Ken said his family is excited to make the move to Medford for the new opportunities, proximity to family, and the recreation that Wisconsin offers.

## Board Report – November 2019

- Approved October disbursements totaling \$349,179.06, accepted 17 new member applications, and September construction in the amount of \$267,165.64.
- Reviewed financial results through October 31, 2019 with \$383,076 Operating Margins and \$479,973 Total Margins year to date.
- There were 11 outages in October and 108 outages for the year to date, with average YTD outage time per member of 2.0 hours.
- Seven applications for discounted early retirement of capital credits to estate were approved with total capital credits of \$6,943.28 to be paid out at the net present value of \$3,056.11.
- A bad debt write-off of \$2,104.66 was approved. This represents six disconnected electric accounts, all of which have been sent to the collection agency for further collection efforts.
- 2019-2020 NRECA dues of \$7,009 was approved for payment
- Approval was given for \$2,842.51 of unclaimed 2014 capital credit refunds to be forfeited to the Federated Youth Foundation for scholarships, charitable, and educational purposes.
- Amendment of the Co-op's Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA Plan) for employees was approved to clarify several issues therein.
- Approval was given for renewal of the Co-op's property and liability insurance policies in the amount of \$55,463.
- Approval was given for the purchase of 30 credits under the WECA Education Prepayment option, at a total cost of \$9,300, the same as in 2019.
- Appointed directors Waldhart and Albers, and new CEO Ceaglske, as representatives to serve on the 2020 WECA Legislative & Regulatory Committee, Education Committee, and Job Training & Safety Committee respectively.
- The Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC) report by Director Hallgren included: a financial review indicating a loss of \$2.9 Million for October, \$0.6 Million less than budget. Year to date Margins are \$16.8 Million compared to \$12.2 Million in 2018 and \$17.0 Million in 2017; approved a new electric vehicle fast charger pilot rate at 15¢ per kWh; heard the final update on the Wholesale Rate Study Task Force before the final package is presented in December for board approval; update on the Nemadji Trail Energy Center project in Superior; a reorganization and organization chart update from the Dairyland CEO; 2020 Class A sales forecast showing projected sales down 2.2% compared to the 2018 Load Forecast Study; and, operations and power supply updates.
- CEO Schaefer shared that the preliminary budget estimates from Dairyland project the average wholesale rate to be down in 2020. Dairyland's final budget numbers will be out in mid-December.
- 37 delinquent Accounts were processed for collection following the November 20th due date. The total amount owing on these accounts is \$11,072.30. Twenty-five of these accounts have remote disconnect capability.
- CEO Schaefer gave an update on: one easement issue settled; Taylor County Broadband Committee update with maps of the proposed county-wide fiber backbone with an estimated cost of \$17 Million, and the maps and project now needing to be discussed with potential Internet Service Providers (ISPs); employee hiring update; new mobile radios installed in all Co-op vehicles and new base stations installed at the office, with the eastern part of the service territory being considered for an additional repeater (at Dairyland's cost) due to poor radio reception; and, several thank you notes received.
- Directors Albers reviewed the WECA Credentialed Cooperative Director training programs he attended in October: "Understanding the Electric Business" and "Strategic Planning".
- The October safety meeting report by Director Zenner included: new mobile radio system training; hazard communications review; spill clean-up procedures review; accidents and close calls review; and, flagger training and certification. Chuck noted that the new requirement for flagging when working along state highways also requires some fairly expensive protective equipment to be purchased: rumble strips, cones, lights, etc.
- CEO Schaefer shared with the Board the amount of refund the Cooperative recently received from Federated Rural Electric Insurance Exchange under the Wisconsin Retention Group for low or no Worker's Comp claims for the last two fiscal years was \$18,547.

### Matyka named new Line Superintendent

A familiar face will be taking over as line superintendent on January 6th when Kevin Comstock retires from this position. Wade Matyka has been a journeyman lineman with Taylor Electric since 2011. From 2007–2011 Wade worked at Marshfield Utilities as a lineman and at Dairyland Power in La Crosse in the line construction department. He graduated from Chippewa Valley Technical College in May 2007 with a degree in Electrical Power Distribution. Wade brings experience and knowledge with the everyday line operations of the cooperative.

In his free time Wade enjoys moto-cross racing and restoring old vehicles. We wish him the best of luck in his new position.

