



news & views

from Lincoln Electric Cooperative, Inc.

WHAT IS DEMAND?

AND HOW DOES IT AFFECT MY ELECTRIC BILL?

DEMAND refers to the total amount of electricity you're using at any given time, measured in kilowatts (kW). Your electric bill is based on your demand. Demand is influenced by your household's energy usage patterns. Lincoln Electric Co-op (LEC) tracks your energy demand every 15 minutes,

recording the highest demand of the day. The highest demand logged during the billing period is reflected on your monthly bill. This means your demand can vary depending on your daily activities.

For example, using a hand iron requires 1,000 watts of power. If you

use it for one hour, it consumes 1,000 watt-hours or 1 kilowatt-hour (kWh) of energy.

Running multiple appliances at once increases your demand. For instance, a dishwasher uses 1,200 watts. If you

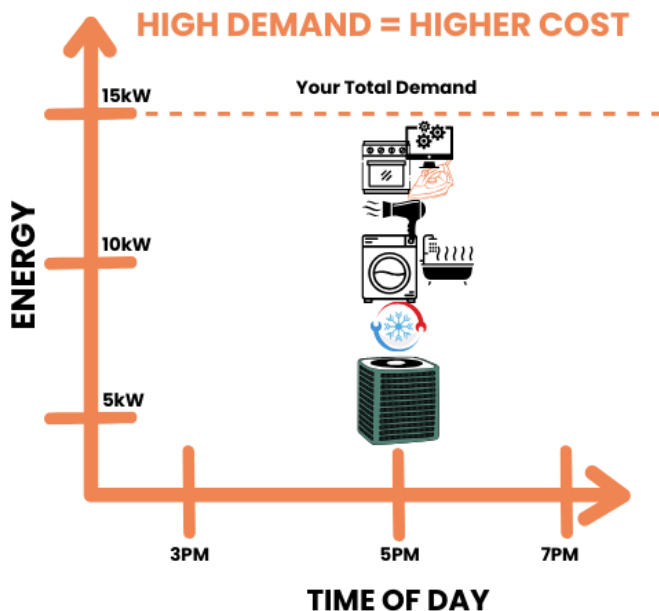
See DEMAND, next page

UNDERSTANDING DEMAND

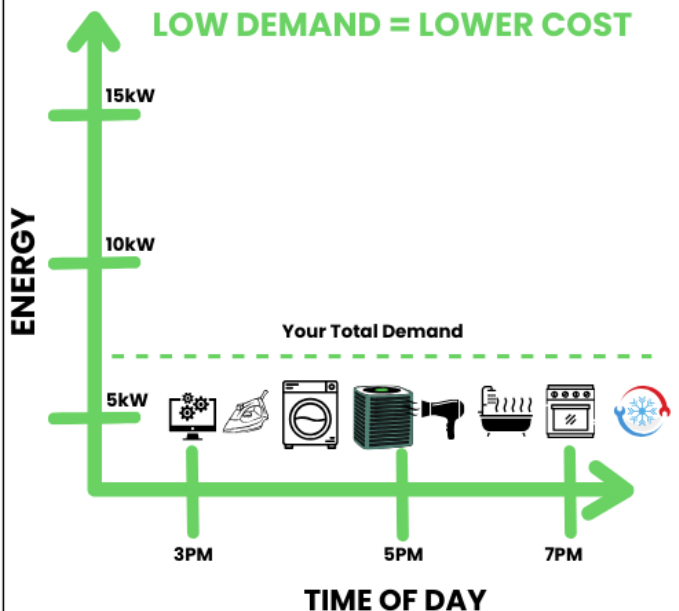


Lincoln Electric Cooperative, Inc.

The easiest way to reduce demand while meeting household energy consumption requirements is to spread usage throughout the day and night.



Using multiple appliances at the same time will increase the Demand Charge on your monthly bill



Spreading out your use of energy will reduce your Demand Charge and lower your bill.

DEMAND

Continued from page 5

run the dishwasher while ironing, the combined demand would be 2,200 watts. But if you run them at separate times, your maximum demand would only be 1,200 watts.

Another example is if you're doing laundry, running the dishwasher and vacuuming all in one afternoon. Your energy demand would spike compared to a day when you're just watching TV or using a computer.

To lower high-demand charges, try spreading out energy-intensive tasks over several days or throughout the day. Demand tends to rise during the heating season (October through April), when electric heating is used more frequently after being idle in the summer.

How Can I Lower My Bill?

Run large appliances such as washing machines, dryers, and dishwashers at different times instead of all at once.

- Use the microwave or convection oven instead of the full-sized oven when possible.
- Turn off lights that aren't being used.
- Set your water heater to a lower



One way to lower your demand charges on your electricity bill is to try not to use all your appliances at the same time. Rather, spread out their use over the course of the day or multiple days. In other words, if you can avoid it, don't use your washing machine, dishwasher, dryer and vacuum all in one afternoon.

temperature during the summer, around 120°F.

- Switch to compact fluorescent light bulbs – they use 75 percent less electricity and last 10 times longer.

- Set your programmable thermostat properly to reduce heating and cooling costs by up to 10 percent.


- Use ceiling fans to circulate air. In the summer, the blades should rotate to push cool air down; in winter, they should push warm air up.

- If you replace your refrigerator

with an energy-efficient model, properly dispose of the old one. If you continue using it, avoid placing it in hot areas such as garages, where it must work harder to stay cool.

- Close your blinds or curtains when it gets dark to retain heat.

- Add insulation to your walls and attic to keep your home cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter.

- Change your HVAC filter every three months to improve airflow. 

LINCOLN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

CONTACT

1-406-889-3301
info@lincolnelectric.coop
www.lincolnelectric.coop
Secure Payments: 1-833-890-6258

ALWAYS REPORT OUTAGES TO:

1-406-889-3301

OFFICE

312 Osloski Road
PO BOX 628
Eureka, Montana 59917

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday
7:00 AM - 5:30 PM

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Tina Taurman
President

Joel Graves
Vice President

Sandi Mason
Secretary-Treasurer

Myra Appel
Rodney Kane
Rick Peterson
David Purdy
Marianne Roose

Matthew Quinn
General Manager

Lincoln Electric's Board of Trustees holds regular monthly meetings at the boardroom in the cooperative office. These are typically scheduled on the third Monday of each month at 6 p.m. Members are encouraged to attend. If you have any items of interest, please contact the general manager prior to the meeting.

NEXT MEETING DATE:
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2024



**Lincoln Electric
Cooperative, Inc.**

HAVE A STORY SUGGESTION?

SEND YOUR IDEAS TO:
memberservices@lincolnelectric.coop

WINTER SAFETY TIPS:

Be ready when winter traveling, be prepared for power outages

As winter approaches, Search and Rescue (SAR) teams remind travelers to be prepared for the conditions, especially during prolonged power outages. Being winter-ready can prevent accidents and ensure your safety if you're caught in a difficult situation on the road or at home without power.

Key Winter Travel Tips:

• Share Your Travel Plans

Always inform someone about your destination, expected arrival and stops. During a power outage, communication may be limited, so having someone aware of your route is crucial.

• Pack Emergency Supplies

Always carry essentials like:

- Winter gear (hats, gloves, coats)
- Blankets, food, water, and fire starters
- First aid kits and necessary medications

In case of breakdowns or power outages, these can keep you safe and comfortable.

• Prepare Your Vehicle

Ensure your vehicle is winter-ready with good tires, chains, a shovel and sand for traction. Fill your gas tank before leaving, especially during outages when gas stations might be closed.

• Know When to Turn Around

Don't push forward if conditions worsen. Many stranded motorists thought they could continue, only to end up stuck. Turn back while you still can.

• Be Equipped for the Terrain

If heading into backcountry areas, ensure your vehicle can handle rough conditions such as snow, ice and mud.

Power Outage Preparation:

When Lincoln Electric experiences a prolonged power outage, it's not just about the inconvenience of losing electricity; it affects your overall safety, especially if you have to hit the road. Make sure your home and vehicle are equipped to deal with extended outages:

- Keep a battery-powered radio and portable phone chargers in your vehicle.
- Stock extra food, water and winter supplies to prepare for extended outages.

By following these steps, you can stay safe during winter travel, even when the power is out. Stay prepared and know your limits to avoid emergencies. RM

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW	YEAR TO DATE AUGUST 2024	YEAR TO DATE AUGUST 2023
kWh SALES	89,646,364	86,076,322
REVENUE	\$9,673,103	\$8,815,768
COST OF POWER	\$4,130,397	\$3,355,108
OPERATING EXPENSE	\$3,511,093	\$3,218,943
MARGINS	\$795,608	\$1,169,411
NUMBER OF MEMBERS	5,255	5,178
NUMBER OF METERS	6,646	6,504
MILES OF LINE	1,018	1,011
TOTAL UTILITY PLANT	\$40,016,114	\$39,066,030
MEMBER EQUITY	\$15,192,132	\$14,218,527
AUGUST AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL USE (KWH)	867	896
AUGUST AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL BILLING	\$123.13	\$107.89

BUSINESS AND BOARDROOM BRIEFS

The regular meeting of the board of trustees was conducted on September 16. A quorum of trustees was present and the board took the following action:

- Approved Manager Quinn to attend NRECA Executive Leadership in 2025.
- Appointed David Purdy as the voting delegate for NRECA.
- Approved Manager Quinn to sign purchase power agreements.
- Approve policies 201, 202, 203, 207, 210, 303, 413, 505, 506, 507, and 513
- Approved a donation request of \$3000 to Can-Am Lifeline Search and Rescue
- Approved to adjust board meeting time to 4:00 pm for October 21 meeting

YOUTH TOUR

MONTANA

TRAVEL TO D.C.

Youth Tour 2025
 FREE! All Expenses Paid Week Long Trip to Washington D.C.!

Date: June 14-21, 2025

Eligibility: Must be a Sophomore or Junior in the 2024-2025 school year who's parents are members of Lincoln Electric Coop.

Application Deadline: Thursday November 21, 2024

APPLICATION IS ONLINE AT WWW.LINCOLNELECTRIC.COOP OR CALL 406-889-3301

Lincoln Electric Cooperative, Inc.

TRUSTEE ELECTIONS

THE FOLLOWING TRUSTEE SEATS ARE UP FOR RE-ELECTION

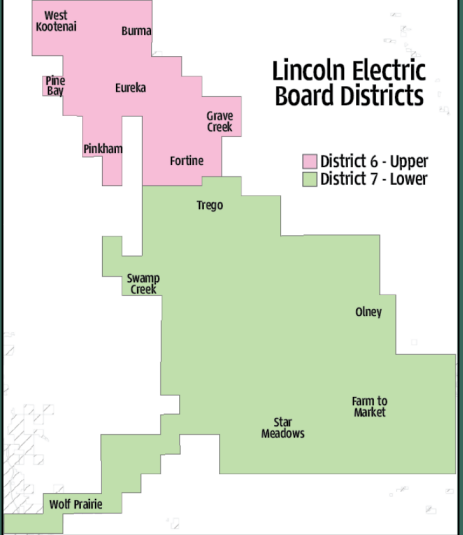


TINA TAURMAN
INCUMBENT
District-7
Trustee since 2006




SANDI MASON
INCUMBENT
District-6
Trustee since 2020

TRUSTEE ELECTIONS




Lincoln Electric Board Districts

■ District 6 - Upper
■ District 7 - Lower



Two Lincoln Electric trustees up for re-election

THE Board of Trustees has two seats up for re-election: Tina Taurman District-7 and Sandi Mason District-6. **The nomination petition must be complete and submitted by 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 12.**

You can download the petition at Lincolnelectric.coop/cooperative/board-of-trustees/ or pick up a copy by visiting our main office at 312 Osloski Rd, Eureka, Montana, 59917. 

THE TRUSTEE APPLICATION FINE PRINT

To become a candidate for a Lincoln Electric Cooperative, Inc. (LEC) trustee seat, a nominee must be a member of LEC currently receiving electric service. The nominee must have their primary residence and associated electric service within the district for which they are being nominated.

The nominee must submit a petition to LEC with the information and signatures of at least five (5) valid LEC members within their district. The member endorsements can be found on the second page of the petition. Although only five members are required, it is recommended that

each candidate gets extra member endorsements in the event one (or more) are invalid memberships. The petition must be signed by the nominee indicating his or her understanding and acceptance of the responsibilities of

the position, if elected to serve.

If the nominee would like a short bio included with LEC's trustee election communications, they may return a bio of no more than 200 words and submit a digital photograph with their petition. Bios and photos received after the petition submission deadline will not be included in LEC's communications. LEC will publish the bios as received – no editing or proofreading services will be performed for any candidate.

The completed and signed petition (and accompanying bio with a photo, if submitting) must be returned by noon on Thursday, December 12.

