

# Volts & Jolts

Published monthly for the members of Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
SERVING THE FOUR-COUNTY AREA OF MARSHALL, PENNINGTON, RED LAKE AND POLK  
*and a portion of the lands of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa*



MARCH 2022

## 2021 ANNUAL REPORT



**Legacy**  
Event Center

### RED LAKE ELECTRIC ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, March 30 | 10:30 a.m.  
Legacy Event Center | Thief River Falls

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF  
**Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 430 • 412 International Drive S.W.  
Red Lake Falls, MN 56750-0430  
(USPS 663-400)

Subscription rate: \$2.50 per year

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

Published 10 times a year, January through May, July and September through December, by Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc., in the interest of its members and others. Periodical postage paid at the U.S. Post Office in Red Lake Falls, Minnesota 56750. POSTMASTER, SEND ADDRESS CHANGES to Volts & Jolts, c/o Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 430, Red Lake Falls, Minnesota 56750-0430. Email: [info@redlakeelectric.com](mailto:info@redlakeelectric.com).

**OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

President . . . . . Stacy Blawat  
Vice President . . . . . Peter Mosbeck  
Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . Mark Hanson  
Directors . . . . . Cecil Anderson,  
Aaron Chervestad, Bonnie Christians,  
Colette Kujava, Steve Linder, Randy Versdahl  
*Stephanie Johnson . . . . . General Manager*  
*Steve Conely . . . . . Manager of Electric System Operations*  
*Kelli Brateng . . . . . Manager of Member Services*

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**CALL BEFORE YOU DIG**  
**1-800-252-1166 or 811**

**MINNESOTA STATE ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS**

Pennington and Marshall Counties:  
**Ronald Ditsch – 218-779-6758**  
Red Lake and Polk Counties:  
**George Stage – 701-306-3511**

Any time you or an electrician does wiring or other electrical work at your home or farm, Minnesota state law requires a state wiring inspector to conduct a proper inspection of the work. A rough-in inspection must be made before any wiring is covered. A final inspection is also required. Please visit [www.dli.mn.gov](http://www.dli.mn.gov) for more information. The inspectors can be reached weekday mornings between 7 a.m. and 8:30 a.m.

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

*It is the mission of Red Lake Electric Cooperative to enhance the quality of life for people of our service area by safely and consistently providing quality electric service and other valued services while holding our employees, our community and our environment in high regard.*

# REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP



**Stacy Blawat**  
*Board President*



**Stephanie Johnson**  
*General Manager*

**T**his month marks Red Lake Electric Cooperative's 84th annual meeting. As a cooperative, while our priority is always to provide reliable and safe energy, there is another equally important part of this equation. Your well-being and that of the larger community that we serve are of vital concern. To us, you are not just a customer – you are a member of our cooperative and the community we love to serve. I will list the top five reasons why we love serving you, the members of Red Lake Electric Cooperative.

**1. We love serving our members because without you, the cooperative would not exist.** Our purpose is to provide you with reliable, responsible and safe electricity. Simply put, Red Lake Electric exists to serve you. That's why we were formed in 1938, to bring power to our local (25772 Steve Morinville ) area when for-profit utilities would not.

**2. You enable us to complete our mission by supporting our efforts to give back.** A major part of our mission is to serve our community and the greater good. With your assistance, we are able to help (31139 Kelly Melin) our community through programs like Operation Round Up® that donate to area nonprofit organizations.

**3. Members of our cooperative also serve on the board of directors.** They provide guidance for setting cooperative priorities and helping make big decisions. Because our board members live in the area, they are able to serve as the pulse of the larger community and identify immediate and long-term needs. The broader cooperative membership provides helpful input through attendance of district meetings and by weighing in on cooperative and community issues.

**4. You help us get it right.** Red Lake Electric members are great about keeping us in the know. We do our best to avoid power outages, but Mother Nature can occasionally throw us a curveball. Our members are quick to report any power disruptions and are patient as our crews work to safely

restore power. We know outages are frustrating, and your support as we work through storms means so much to our employees. We also appreciate your feedback on cooperative programs and services. Your opinions are critical for the cooperative's success, and we thank you for that.

**5. You and other Red Lake Electric members make up the community we serve – and for us, it's all about community.** Our employees live and work here, too, and care about our community the same (30792 Rick M Harris) way you do. We are invested and work to help it thrive. That is why Red Lake Electric donates to local charities, schools and scholarship funds. It is also why you will see our employees volunteering with local schools, fire departments and other community endeavors.

**To us, you are not just a customer – you are a member of our cooperative and the community we love to serve.**

As a cooperative, our mission is to enhance the quality of life in our community and look after its long-term interests. We love serving our members and our local community and, just like you, we want to see it continue to thrive.

**2021 IN REVIEW**

2021 saw a reduction in kWh sales of 2.88% from the previous year. Even with our lower kWh sales, Red Lake Electric ended 2021 with \$283,032 in operating margins and \$1,063,922 in total margins thanks to large dividends allocated to Red Lake Electric from Minnkota Power. Your cooperative returned just over \$483,000 in capital credits to its members. Red Lake Electric was fortunate to not be hit with any major storm damage, but we did incur one lost-time injury in 2021.

**INVITATION**

We extend to you an invitation to join us and your fellow mem-

bers for Red Lake Electric's annual meeting to be held at the Legacy Event Center near Thief River Falls on Wednesday, March 30. The annual meeting is a perfect time to visit and ask questions with employees who serve you and directors you have elected to represent you. We will be giving away some door prizes and are providing a meal to those that attend.

**THANK YOU**

Our sincere thanks go out to our members for your continued patronage this past year. We appreciate your business and the opportunity to serve as your board president and general manager.

We also want to express our thanks and appreciation to our employees. Their constant service, their commitment to the membership and their support of our mission has enabled Red Lake Electric to complete another successful year in 2021.

## RED LAKE ELECTRIC BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Stacy Blawat**  
President  
District 2  
Serving since 2011  
Serves on Square Butte's board



**Pete Mosbeck**  
Vice President  
District 9  
Serving since 2007



**Mark Hanson**  
Secretary-Treasurer  
District 5  
Serving since 2002



**Cecil Anderson**  
District 8  
Serving since 2018



**Aaron Chervestad**  
District 7  
Serving since 2015



**Bonnie Christians**  
District 1  
Serving since 2002



**Colette Kujava**  
District 3  
Serving since 2010  
Serves on Minnkota's board



**Steve Linder**  
District 4  
Serving since 2002



**Randy Versdahl**  
District 6  
Serving since 2010

### OUR MISSION STATEMENT

*It is the mission of Red Lake Electric Cooperative to enhance the quality of life for people of our service area by safely and consistently providing quality electric service and other valued services while holding our employees, our community and our environment in high regard.*

## RED LAKE ELECTRIC EMPLOYEES



**Kelli Brateng**  
Manager of  
Member Services



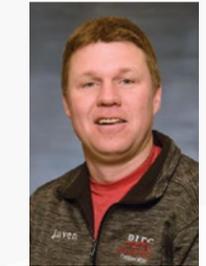
**Darcy Cardinal**  
Journeyman Lineman



**Steve Conely**  
Manager of  
Electric Operations



**Aaron Derosier**  
Journeyman Lineman



**Javen Eidsmoe**  
Power Use Advisor



**Jordon Gervais**  
Journeyman Lineman



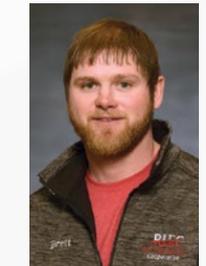
**Stephanie Johnson**  
General Manager



**Jenny Kelley**  
Administrative Manager



**Christie Klipping**  
Senior Accountant



**Brett Knott**  
Lead Lineman



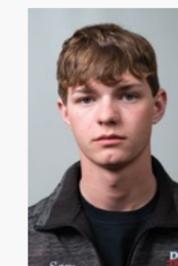
**Chris Knott**  
Engineering Technician



**Melanie LaCrosse**  
Member Accounts  
Specialist



**Branden Narlock**  
Journeyman Lineman



**Sam Olson**  
Apprentice Lineman



**Cindy Pahlen**  
Administrative  
Assistant



**Sam Pahlen**  
Journeyman Lineman



**Troy Schmitz**  
Crew Foreman



**Casey Thronson**  
Crew Foreman



**Laurie and Warren Malwitz**  
Custodians

# 2021 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE RED LAKE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 2021, AT THE NORTH WAREHOUSE, RED LAKE FALLS, MN

The 83rd annual meeting of the members of Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc. was held on Wednesday, March 31, 2021, at the Red Lake Electric facilities in Red Lake Falls. President Randy Versdahl called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. Approximately 120 members and guests were in attendance.

Versdahl then opened the meeting and the national anthem was played. Randy Versdahl, Red Lake Electric board president, gave the invocation; current board members were then introduced by Versdahl.

Versdahl entertained a motion to dispense with the reading of the proof of mailing and the notice of this meeting along with the minutes of the 2020 annual meeting and approve them as they were printed in the March Volts and Jolts. It was duly moved, seconded and carried to do so.

In his president's report, Versdahl shared how the last year for Red Lake Electric has been very good in many respects. He went on to explain that the average outage time per customer last year was 4.25 hours which was an increase of one hour and 15 minutes from the previous five-year average of 3 hours. Versdahl then shared his appreciation and the efforts of the employees to not only restore service quickly, but to also maintain the electric system properly. Versdahl noted that the cooperative fared well financially last year which enabled the pay-out of over \$546,000 in capital credits in 2020. This return in equity to the membership included \$458,000 in general retirements and \$88,000 was paid to estates of deceased members. Versdahl went on to say that the board of directors was pleased to be

able to make a capital credit retirement of \$460,000, which was capital credits assigned to the membership in 2002. Versdahl mentioned the member equity was around 40%, well within the cooperative's goal. Versdahl thanked the membership for attending the annual meeting.

Stephanie Johnson then was introduced and gave the GM report. Johnson explained the importance of "concern for community" because of the COVID-19 pandemic and the challenges it has caused. Johnson went on to address how Red Lake Electric has used this time to implement our AMI system. Johnson also discussed Minnkota and their efforts with Project Tundra. Johnson mentioned the bylaw amendment and how the board of directors recommends the members adopt the bylaw amendment to allow Red Lake Electric flexibility in holding annual meetings in the future.

Johnson next gave the 2020 financial report and said operating revenue was \$14.9 million due to selling 121.5 million kWh, which was slightly lower than 2019. Johnson reviewed various operating expenses and said the cooperative's margin was just over \$442,000; this is the amount that is allocated back to the members as capital credits.

President Versdahl asked for a motion to accept the preceding reports and it was duly moved, seconded and carried to do so.

Election of directors then took place. Secretary Hanson verified the nominees elected at the district meetings and said there had been no nominations by petition. Versdahl then declared the following people duly elected as directors for three-year

terms: District 2, Stacy Blawat; District 7, Aaron Chervestad; and District 8, Cecil Anderson.

Versdahl then asked if there was any discussion in regard to the bylaw amendment. Versdahl then asked for a motion to accept the bylaw amendment and it was duly moved, seconded and carried to accept the new bylaw amendment.

Versdahl asked for any new business or questions from the audience and there was none. It was duly moved, seconded, and carried to adjourn the business session of the annual meeting.

Years of service recognition awards were presented to Red Lake Electric employees and directors for 2019 and 2020. The 2019 recipients included: Troy Schmitz-15 years, Casey Thronson-15 years, Kelli Brateng-10 years, Aaron Derosier-10 years, Javen Eidsmoe-5 years, Jenny Kelley-5 years. The 2020 recipients included: Mark Hanson-15 years, Colette Kujava-10 years, Randy Versdahl-10 years, Aaron Chervestad-5 years.

Johnson presented the Red Lake Electric Trust (Operation Round Up®) report. Tishara Melcher was then presented with an award for two 3-year terms as director on the Red Lake Electric Trust board.

Kelli Brateng awarded door prizes. A to-go meal was prepared by David Lee Catering and served by the employees of Red Lake Electric.

**Stacy Blawat**  
President

**Mark Hanson**  
Secretary-Treasurer

# OPERATION ROUND UP®



The Operation Round Up® program at Red Lake Electric enjoyed another successful and generous year in 2021. A total of \$24,800 was granted to 34 different nonprofit and community organizations. That brings the total of 990 grants made since the program began in 1993 to \$611,791.

A nonprofit corporation named Red Lake Electric Trust administers donated funds and determines grants. The five-person board of directors, appointed for 3-year terms, meets twice a year to determine grants to applying organizations. Red Lake Electric Trust has been granted 501(c)3 tax exempt status by the Internal Revenue Service. Contributions made to the Operation Round Up® program are tax deductible. There are 4,399 members who (28277 Roger Hov-ersten) contribute to Operation Round Up. They represent 98% participation of the 4,478 Red Lake Electric members, an outstanding participation level. For an average of 50 cents a month or \$6 a year, members can be part of a very large, community-wide charitable program.

## Red Lake Electric Trust, Inc. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Diane Kolstoe**  
President

**Stacy Bierman**  
Vice President

**Julie Stennes**  
Secretary-Treasurer

**Bonnie Christians**  
Ex-Officio Director

**Stephanie Johnson**  
Ex-Officio Director

## Red Lake Electric Trust, Inc. FINANCIAL REPORT For the year ended December 31, 2021

<b>CASH BALANCE FORWARD</b>	<b>\$ 6,127.06</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>	
Operation Round Up® Donations	\$ 25,226.89
Other Contributions	\$0.00
Checking Account Interest	\$2.64
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$ 25,229.53</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	
Administrative Expenses	
Director Meeting Fees & Expenses	\$ 365.40
Annual Filing Fee, State of Minnesota	25.00
Annual Compilation (Audit) Fee	250.00
Bank Charge	10.00
Total Administration	\$ 650.40
Total Grants Made (34)	\$ 24,800.00
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 25,450.40</b>
<b>CASH BALANCE December 31, 2021</b>	<b>\$ 5,906.19</b>

## 2021 RECIPIENTS

TRF Area Food Shelf . . . . . \$1,000.00	Red Lake Falls Volunteer Ambulance Service . . . . . \$1,000.00
RLF Volunteer Ambulance Service . . . . . \$2,000.00	Goodridge Area Fire and Rescue . . . . . \$1,000.00
Newfolden Volunteer Fire Dept . . . . . \$2,000.00	RLF Volunteer Fire Department . . . . . \$1,000.00
Oklee Volunteer Ambulance Service . . . . . \$1,000.00	TRF Volunteer Fire Department . . . . . \$1,000.00
Polk Co Mounted Posse Search & Rescue . . . . . \$500.00	Thief River Falls Area Community Theater . . . . . \$400.00
Polk County Sheriff's Office K9 Association . . . . . \$500.00	Re-Turned Pages . . . . . \$500.00
NCH Trails to Treatments . . . . . \$1,000.00	NCH Trails to Treatments . . . . . \$1,000.00
TRF Area Community Theater . . . . . \$300.00	Goodridge Lions Club . . . . . \$500.00
Goodridge Area Historical Society . . . . . \$500.00	Goodridge Area Historical Society, Inc. . . . . \$500.00
Middle River-Thief Lake Living at Home Program . . . . . \$1,000.00	Goodridge Senior Citizens Center . . . . . \$500.00
Goodridge Senior Citizens Center . . . . . \$500.00	Tri-Community Living at Home/Block Nurse Program . . . . . \$500.00
Inter-County Nursing Service . . . . . \$500.00	Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota . . . . . \$500.00
Middle River Veterans Outdoors . . . . . \$200.00	Christmas for Pennington County . . . . . \$500.00
Crookston Youth Foundation . . . . . \$500.00	Elevate Youth Center . . . . . \$500.00
Red Lake County Victim Services . . . . . \$500.00	Middle River Veterans Outdoors Inc. . . . . \$500.00
TRF Area Food Shelf . . . . . \$500.00	Red Lake County Holiday Gift Program . . . \$400.00
Violence Intervention Project - TRF . . . . . \$1,000.00	
Plummer Volunteer Fire Department . . . . . \$1,000.00	

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## BALANCE SHEET

### WHAT WE HAVE (ASSETS)

	2021	2020
Electric plant	\$40,704,264	\$40,081,893
Buildings – improvements	1,516,845	1,516,845
Equipment	3,322,088	3,182,297
Less: depreciation	(20,380,465)	(19,857,921)
Net utility plant	\$25,162,732	\$24,923,114
General funds	2,162,379	1,666,731
Investments in associated organizations	2,084,188	1,370,319
Notes receivable	17,307	16,254
Accounts receivable	1,398,259	1,574,788
Inventories	636,326	489,901
Other assets	137,772	232,019
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$31,598,963</b>	<b>\$30,273,126</b>

### WHAT WE OWE (LIABILITIES) AND OTHER CREDITS

Long-term debt – RUS	\$13,996,742	\$12,949,508
Long-term debt – CFC & CoBank	2,659,427	2,853,314
Liabilities & other credits	2,729,934	2,790,234
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$19,386,103</b>	<b>\$18,593,056</b>

### WHAT WE OWN (MEMBER EQUITY)

Capital stock (memberships)	\$174,770	\$171,800
Patronage capital	11,453,676	10,925,001
Other equities	584,414	583,269
<b>Total member equity</b>	<b>\$12,212,860</b>	<b>\$11,680,070</b>
<b>Total liabilities &amp; member equity</b>	<b>\$31,598,963</b>	<b>\$30,273,126</b>

## STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

### REVENUE

	2021	2020
Electric energy sales	\$14,236,450	\$14,714,674
Misc. electric sales	\$203,227	\$152,631
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$14,439,677</b>	<b>\$14,867,305</b>

### EXPENSES

Power	\$9,855,319	\$10,310,114
Operation of lines	534,491	577,055
Maintenance of lines	781,671	665,559
Consumer accounts	233,420	230,463
Customer service	393,004	373,400
Sales	17,737	9,743
Administrative & general	712,103	637,408
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	<b>\$12,527,745</b>	<b>\$12,803,742</b>

### FIXED CHARGES

Depreciation	\$1,249,897	\$1,266,779
Interest on debt	373,310	389,985
Interest expense – other	1,211	10,490
Other deductions	4,482	2,831
<b>Total fixed charges</b>	<b>1,628,900</b>	<b>1,670,085</b>

<b>Total cost of electric service</b>	<b>\$14,156,645</b>	<b>\$14,473,827</b>
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### MARGINS

Operating margin	\$283,032	\$393,476
Interest margin	43,604	54,013
Appliance/HVAC service margin	(11,700)	(32,904)
Capital credits margin	748,986	27,810
<b>Total Margins</b>	<b>\$1,063,922</b>	<b>\$442,395</b>

## 5-YEAR AVERAGE

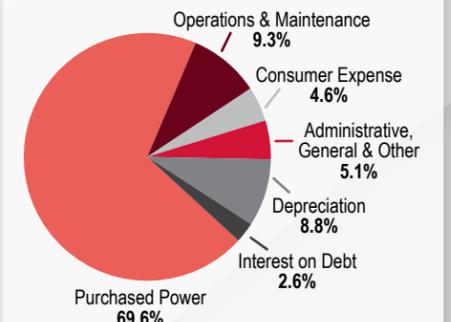
## 2021

Members - at year end	4,359	4,396
Number of accounts billed - at year end	5,628	5,731
Total kWh purchased	129,232,776	119,847,077
Peak demand (kW) - without load control	29,397	28,847
Peak demand (kW) - with load control	19,879	19,023
Investment in plant - total	\$42,611,513	\$45,543,197
Investment in plant - per mile	\$16,229	\$17,238
Investment in plant - per account	\$7,567	\$7,947
Long-term debt - total	\$14,475,160	\$16,656,169
Long-term debt - per account	\$2,568	\$2,906
Miles of line - overhead	2,307	2,299
Miles of line - underground	318	343
<b>COST OF FIRST 1,000 KWH</b>		
General service (25 kVa)	\$142	\$142
Off-peak rate per kWh - long-term control	\$0.056	\$0.056
Off-peak rate per kWh - short-term control	\$0.079	\$0.079
Avg. residential usage - annual kWh	17,507	16,157
Avg. residential usage - monthly kWh	1,459	1,346
Energy account write-offs	\$2,525	\$3,302
Number of regular employees	18	19
<b>CAPITAL CREDIT PAYMENTS</b>		
To estates (on behalf of deceased patrons)	\$78,791	\$72,222
General retirement (all patrons)	\$477,160	\$463,024
<b>DEBT/EQUITY RATIOS</b>		
Debt	58.8%	61.3%
Equity	41.2%	38.7%

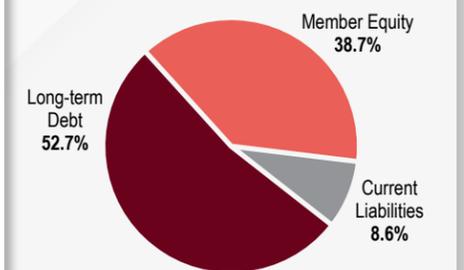
## CLOSED GOOD FRIDAY

In observation of Easter, Red Lake Electric Cooperative's headquarters will be closed Friday, April 15. In case of an electrical outage or emergency, call the after-hours phone number: 218-253-2200. Happy Easter!

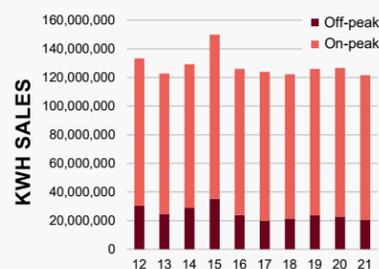
## HOW YOUR 2021 DOLLAR WAS SPENT



## MEMBER EQUITY & LIABILITIES



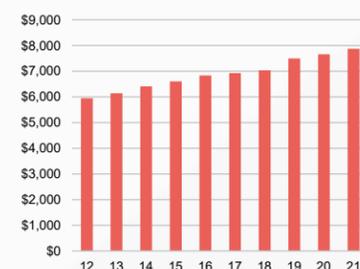
## ANNUAL KWH SALES



## CAPITAL CREDITS PAID TO MEMBERS



## INVESTMENT IN PLANT PER CUSTOMER



## NOTICE OF NAMES

Hidden within the text of the articles of this issue of *Volts & Jolts* are the names and account numbers of some Red Lake Electric Cooperative members. They will appear within the articles in parentheses as such (9999999.99 Willie Ray Member). If you find your name and account number, clip it out and send it with your next payment. You will be credited with \$5 on your electric bill.

# GRID OPERATORS, REGULATORS FORECAST RELIABILITY RISKS

Energy transition represents challenges, opportunities

The energy industry is in the midst of one of the most challenging and disruptive periods in its history. As the pace of change continues to accelerate, grid regulators and operators are beginning to identify elevated electric reliability risks.

Rapidly changing energy mixes and extreme weather are among the biggest challenges to reliability according to the 2021 Long-Term Reliability Assessment released by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) in December. NERC identified significant reliability risks associated with more intermittent and distributed energy resources and inverter-based resources (IBR) such as wind, solar and battery storage systems.

"The shift to more and more IBR brings unique opportunities but also integration challenges that can and must be addressed to assure continued reliability," the report concludes. "This is not an argument against the transition but a recognition that, without a collective focus, system reliability faces risk that is inconsistent with electric power's essentiality to the continent's economy as well as the health and safety of its population."

NERC is charged with the security of the bulk power system

and sets and enforces reliability standards for utilities. The organization also assesses trends, needs and (23899 Clyde Sorenson) remedies for grid reliability. It operates under the supervision of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

The report finds most regions are projected to have sufficient capacity to meet annual peak demand under normal weather conditions, but extreme events, like a polar vortex or summer heat wave, can create shortfalls, which occurred in Texas in February 2021 and California in summer 2020.

From an energy mix standpoint, potential near-term capacity shortfalls may be caused by the retirement of coal-based generation facilities with no ready replacement. The Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) region – where Red Lake Electric Cooperative and its wholesale power supplier Minnkota Power Cooperative operate – could lose 13 gigawatts (GW) of resource capacity from power plant retirements between 2021 and 2024. That's enough electricity to power about 9.5 million homes.

"The retirement of these traditional resources also accelerates the change in resource mix and punctuates the urgency for implementing resource adequacy and energy sufficiency initiatives in the (MISO) area," the report said.

MISO released its own Renewable Integration Impact Assessment in February 2021 and highlighted its preparation for an "unprecedented pace of change."

The report concludes that "significant challenges arise" as renewable penetration exceeds 30%.

"We begin to see at above about 30% renewable energy penetration significant stability issues in the grid and significant changes that need to be managed somehow," said Brian Tulloh, MISO's Executive Director of External Affairs, during the Midwest Energy Summit last summer in Fargo.

"As you get up into the 50% range, those challenges become increasingly more expensive," he added, emphasizing the importance of time and planning to reach these ambitious goals. North Dakota Public Service Commission Chair Julie Fedorchak estimated the cost of this transition to be \$500 billion or more.

While there are challenges on the horizon, it shouldn't discourage efforts to make our nation's electric grid as environmentally (25317 Ryan P Wichterman) responsible as possible. But there needs to be recognition that the energy transition must be approached with caution and common sense. Electricity remains essential to our everyday lives – powering homes, hospitals, schools and businesses. If mistakes are made during this transition, they can be extraordinarily difficult to reverse.

Your cooperative embraces an all-of-the-above energy strategy that includes coal, wind and hydro. Working together with your off-peak program, these resources are essential to ensuring you receive reliable and cost-effective power – each and every day.

# YOUR ELECTRIC GRID

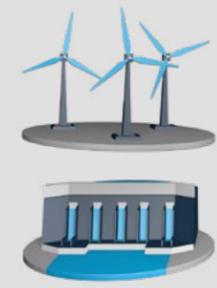
A reliable and resilient electric grid is essential to our modern lives – even if we don't think about it often. The electricity you use is generated, delivered and consumed almost instantaneously, and that means (28656 David L Larson) resources must be available to produce electricity every second, every day.

Your electric grid is unique to our region, ready to respond to any challenges that come its way. Red Lake Electric Cooperative receives its energy from Minnkota Power Cooperative. The co-ops work together to make grid choices that create reliable and affordable electricity for your home, farm or business.



As a part of the Minnkota system, Red Lake Electric is connected to a diverse mix of energy resources.

The backbone of the Minnkota grid is coal, a resilient resource that's consistently energized and stable in extreme weather conditions.



Coal is just one piece of the power puzzle. About 42% of Minnkota's generation capacity comes from carbon-free resources like wind and hydro.

Wind and solar are a growing part of our nation's energy mix, but they are not positioned to meet the 24/7 demand for electricity. Although battery storage is improving, it is still many years away from large-scale deployment. 24/7 resources (like coal and natural gas) will be needed well into the future for grid reliability.



Minnkota collaborates with grid neighbors to buy and sell (21566 Jack Miller) excess power, keeping the entire grid balanced and dependable.



Minnkota's generated power travels through a system of high-voltage power lines, substations and distribution lines before it makes its way to YOU!

WANT TO SEE THE VIDEO?



SCAN THIS CODE WITH YOUR PHONE!

## 84<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

**Wednesday, March 30, 2022**

Red Lake Electric Cooperative  
Legacy Event Center  
Thief River Falls, Minnesota

- 9:00 a.m.** Registration begins
- 10:30 a.m.** Call to order . . . . . Stacy Blawat  
National anthem . . . . . Grace Harmoning  
Invocation . . . . . Mark Hanson  
Introductions . . . . . Stacy Blawat

**Business Session**

- Notice of meeting and affidavit of mailing . . Mark Hanson  
Establishment of quorum . . . . . Mark Hanson  
Reading of 2020 meeting minutes . . . . . Mark Hanson  
President's report . . . . . Stacy Blawat  
General Manager's report. . . . . Stephanie Johnson  
Financial report. . . . . Stephanie Johnson  
Guest Speaker . . . . . Mac McLennan  
Election of directors . . . . . Stacy Blawat  
Question and answer session  
Adjournment of business session  
Award presentations  
Awarding of prizes



### GUEST SPEAKER

**Mac McLennan**

*President & CEO  
Minnkota Power Cooperative*

Mac McLennan is the president and CEO of Minnkota Power Cooperative, a generation and transmission (G&T) cooperative based in Grand Forks, N.D. Minnkota provides wholesale electricity to 11 member cooperatives in eastern North Dakota and northwest Minnesota.

A Wyoming native and Jamestown (N.D.) University graduate, McLennan has dedicated his career to serving the rural electric cooperative industry. Prior to becoming Minnkota's CEO in 2011, he served as Senior Vice President of External Affairs and Member Relations for Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association. McLennan has also worked for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) as Director of Environmental Affairs.

In addition to his current role, McLennan serves on various industry boards and committees. He is the general manager of Square Butte Electric Cooperative and serves on the boards of CoBank, Lignite Energy Council, BNI Coal and the Grand Forks Regional Economic Development Corporation.