

NORTHERN

L I G H T S September 2025

MIXING FOOD, FAMILY FUN AND CO-OP BUSINESS AT BELTRAMI ELECTRIC'S 85TH ANNUAL MEETING



More than 2,380 members and guests attended Beltrami Electric Night at the Fair, where BEC held its 85th annual meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 6. Board Chair John Lund welcomed attendees to the meeting and introduced the cooperative board of directors. Three directors were elected to the board, which included incumbents Murl Nord (*District 1*), Bob Wallner, (*District 5*), and Sue Kringen (*District 8*), and the 2024 annual meeting minutes were approved by a majority vote of the members.

The meeting agenda included a financial update from Director of Finance and Corporate Services Arlene Hogquist, as well as a cooperative update from President and CEO Jared Echternach. Communications Specialist Angela Lyseng presented on the success of the BEC's Operation Round Up[®] program in our local communities. Beltrami Electric's Youth Tour Delegate for 2025, Anika Harmsen, spoke about her experience in Washington, D.C. (Read her story on page 4). Many fairgoers enjoyed the beautiful and fun evening as well as the free concert in the grandstand featuring Figuring It Out, the Abello Family Acoustics Band.



Congratulations to BEC member Danial Eineichner on winning the drawing for the Milwaukee tool kit. We'd like to thank **Acme Tools** for donating this amazing prize!



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**SAVE THE DATE FOR
THESE UPCOMING
EVENTS!**



**THURSDAY,
OCT. 2, 2025
4-6 P.M.
BELTRAMI
ELECTRIC**





Working together to restore power to our local communities – the cooperative way

by Jared Echternach, *Beltrami Electric Cooperative president and CEO*

Cooperative Principle #6 - Cooperation Among Cooperatives

When you think about Beltrami Electric Cooperative, you probably associate us with the local community – and you would be right. Our leadership team, board of directors and employees all live and work right here in the communities we serve. But you may not realize that Beltrami Electric is actually part of a much larger cooperative network that brings additional value, tools and knowledge that benefit you, the members of the co-op.

When a severe weather event impacts our region, we call on our fellow electric co-ops in areas unaffected by the approaching storm. Through this system of mutual aid, we coordinate with other co-ops to bring additional trucks, equipment and employees to our area. We work together and share resources in order to restore power to our communities. Your cooperative reciprocates this by assisting other electric co-ops when they request help.

A defining characteristic of a cooperative is “cooperation among cooperatives.” This is a way that co-ops work together to meet bigger challenges such as power restoration after a severe weather event. This cooperative principle was on full display in June when a derecho hit our service area. We were aided by Cavalier Rural Electric Cooperative, PKM Electric Cooperative, Roseau Electric



Cooperative, Itasca-Mantrap Cooperative Electrical Association and North Itasca Electric Cooperative. They gladly came to our aid, just as we have aided neighboring electric cooperatives in their time of need.

Beltrami Electric’s ability to tap into the larger electric cooperative network and access tools, products, resources and leading practices from across the nation ultimately makes our co-op and our communities stronger.

I am grateful for our cooperative network, that enables us to better serve you and our broader communities. When electric co-ops collaborate, we strengthen each other and the communities we serve – and that is something for which to be truly thankful.

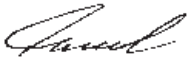
85th annual meeting

Beltrami Electric Cooperative held its 85th Annual Meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 6, at the Beltrami County Fairgrounds. Our “Night at the Fair”



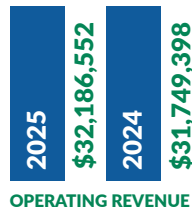
featured the business meeting and fun events including bucket truck rides, a high-voltage safety demonstration, duck pond, food bucks, free concert and more. We were blown away by the turnout at this year's annual meeting! We'd like to send a heartfelt thank you to our members who attended, and to the Beltrami County Ag Association for a great partnership and for allowing us to conduct our annual meeting at the fair.

During the formal business meeting, members approved the minutes from last year's meeting and reelected directors Murl Nord, Bob Wallner and Sue Kringen. Congratulations to Murl, Bob and Sue, and thank you for your service to our members. We look forward to seeing you next August at the Fair!

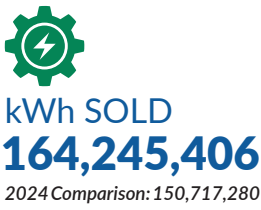


BY THE NUMBERS | Q2 2025

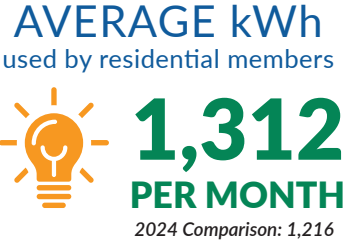
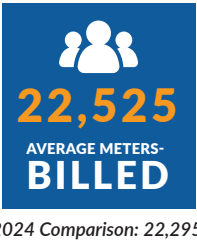
Beltrami Electric Cooperative's leadership spends substantial time managing and providing oversight of the co-op's operations, including ensuring that the organization remains in a strong and stable financial condition. Below is an overview of our Second Quarter Unaudited Financial Report.



	2025	2024
Cost of Purchased Power	\$20,870,264	\$21,955,545
Other Operating Expenses	\$9,931,683	\$9,419,976
Total Cost of Electric Service	\$30,801,947	\$31,375,521



	2025	2024
Operating Margins	\$1,384,605	\$373,877
Non-Operating Margins	\$87,630	\$70,179



MINI BUCKET TRUCK BRINGS BIG SMILES TO KIDDIE PARADE

Beltrami Electric Cooperative's journeyman lineworker Matt Roberts and his wife, Jenna, added extra fun to this year's Bemidji Independence Day Kiddie Parade with a mini bucket truck, crafted from a repurposed Little Tikes Cozy Pickup. Matt was inspired by Beltrami's fleet, and, complete with custom decals, the tiny truck was driven by their son, sporting a plastic Beltrami Electric Cooperative hard hat as a "lineworker in training." Their creativity and craftsmanship were a hit with parade-goers and a great way to share cooperative spirit in the community.



BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Beltrami Electric's board conducted its regular monthly meeting Wednesday, July 23, 2025. A quorum of directors was in attendance.

The following reports were given at the meeting:

- President and CEO Echternach and the board discussed recent safety successes and observations.
- President and CEO Echternach made his monthly report, including storm response, financials, large loads, USDA Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant program, strategic planning, employee update, economic development and Greater Bemidji.
- Youth tour delegate, Anika Harmsen, spoke about her recent trip to Washington, D.C.

- Arlene Hogquist presented June's financial report.
- Arlene Hogquist presented the cooperative's Balanced Performance Scorecard.
- Mike Birkeland updated the board on the upcoming annual meeting.
- Directors and President and CEO Echternach shared highlights of meetings attended on behalf of the cooperative and discussed upcoming meetings, events and education conferences.

The following actions were taken at the meeting:

- Approved the consent agenda.
- Approved an appreciation letter.
- Approved holding October's board meeting on Oct. 27, 2025.
- Approved holding November's board meeting on Nov. 25, 2025.
- Approved director expenses.

The next board meeting will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2025.

MORE THAN A TOUR: A JOURNEY OF LEARNING, LEADERSHIP AND LASTING MEMORIES

Beltrami Electric's Youth Tour participant reflects on a once-in-a-lifetime experience



I am very grateful for this opportunity that Beltrami Electric Cooperative granted me. Throughout the trip, I learned about different cultures, electric cooperatives and the system of our government. I was able to have the pleasure of meeting people from all over the U.S and connecting with them!

One of my favorite parts of the trip was pin trading. Youth Tour students were given pins representing their state for the trip. Whether it was the nights all of the youth met up or when we passed another Youth Tour group from a different state on the road, we would trade pins while exchanging our names and home state. This was a super fun way to meet new people, learn about different regions of the U.S., and also take home life-lasting memories and souvenirs. I met a lot of people I still stay in contact with today from pin trading! I now have friends in Texas (because

WOW, they had a big group!), but I also met people from Hawaii, New Mexico, even Alaska! Pin trading was more than just a few words exchanged (and a hard decision if you wanted to keep the California pin or trade it for Colorado); it was about making connections and getting out of your comfort zone.



Another fond memory I have is the Military Parade, which I believe everybody should go see at some point! I knew the Marines were intense in their camps and their program; however, I had no idea they were intense when it comes to music, too! Many groups gathered around to see the parade, so before the parade, we were able to interact with each other and trade pins! When the show started, everyone settled down to watch the magic happen. Towards the end of the parade, I was talking to one of our chaperones brainstorming interesting questions to ask the Marines, like, "Are the shoes uncomfortable?" and "How long does it take the soldiers to master the walk?" After the chaperone and I finally worked up the courage to speak to one of the Marines nearby, we ended up talking to the Commanding Officer! While she did offer us the answers to our questions, she also spoke to us about her role as a CO and how her journey to that position and title worked.

I am very thankful for Beltrami Electric for providing me with this trip and opportunity. This experience provided me with the chance to learn about our nation's capitol, speak to people about electric cooperatives and their role in our everyday lives, meet with the Minnesota Senators (Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith), learn the skill of networking, and make life-long memories and friends. – Anika Harmsen



WELCOME SHAWN O'BRIEN, APPRENTICE LINeworker



BEC is pleased to welcome Shawn O'Brien as our new apprentice lineworker. A familiar face to many, Shawn worked as a seasonal apprentice with BEC in 2024 before accepting the full-time position. Shawn grew up in Tenstrike and is a graduate of Blackduck High School. He went on to earn his Associate of Applied Science degree in Electrical Lineworker Technology from Minnesota State Community and Technical College in Wadena. He brings two years of experience from his time with Legacy Power Line and is excited to continue his career close to home. He currently lives in Blackduck and outside of work, Shawn enjoys fishing and playing cornhole. Please join us in welcoming Shawn to the BEC team!

AYLA KRANZ NAMED CO-OP RISING STAR



Beltrami Electric's own Ayla Kranz, business development coordinator, has been named one of Rural Electric Magazine's 2025 Co-op Rising Stars, an honor recognizing 20 emerging leaders across the nation's electric cooperatives. Kranz began her career at BEC in 2015 as a receptionist and member services representative, where she quickly earned a reputation for her approachable

demeanor, strong work ethic and genuine commitment to serving others. Today, she continues that legacy by building strong relationships with both residential and commercial members, as well as local contractors, helping them connect to cooperative programs. Her work includes launching the co-op's first member focus group, organizing BEC's annual electric vehicle show and representing BEC as a Bemidji Chamber of Commerce ambassador. Certified as a key accounts executive, Kranz plays a vital role in strengthening the co-op's presence in the community. "Ayla brings energy, insight and a strong sense of purpose to every conversation and connection she makes," says Bob Gregg, business development manager. "She is truly a rising star." To read more about the 2025 Co-op Rising Stars and view the full list of honorees, please scan this QR code.



BEC'S 2025 ENERGY RESOURCES TOUR

A Journey Behind the Power

Milton R. Young Station

Minnkota Power
MPC COOPERATIVE, INC.
Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

Square Butte
Electric
Cooperative



BEC hosted its annual Energy Resources Tour in July, offering members a firsthand look at the facilities and operations that generate their electricity. Led by BEC tour guide Angela Lyseng, the three-day trip provided an engaging blend of education, energy insight and cooperative connection.

Participants visited several key sites, including:

- **Minnkota Power Cooperative Headquarters** – Members were welcomed with an overview of Minnkota's history, mission and role as our generation and transmission provider.
- **Oliver III Wind Energy Center** – A stop at this wind site gave members a deeper appreciation for

renewable energy and the 33% wind capacity that contributes to BEC's power mix.

- **Milton R. Young Station and BNI Coal Mine** – A highlight of the tour, this site gave members a look at how lignite coal is mined and used to provide reliable baseload generation across our region.
- **Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center and Fort Mandan** – Beyond energy, members also learned how byproducts from coal combustion – like fly ash and bottom ash – can be recycled into materials such as concrete, ceiling tiles and even carpet.

Special thanks to BEC employees Trevor (Sarah) Gwiazdon, Ayla Kranz and Matt Roberts for their support during the trip and for helping make the experience smooth and enjoyable for our members.

The tour was a resounding success, deepening understanding and appreciation for the resources and people behind our power.

Interested in joining the next trip? Keep an eye out for details in the June 2026 issue of *Northern Lights*.

Electrify Your Ride – EV Car Show/Ride & Drive

THURSDAY, OCT. 2 | 4-6 P.M. | BELTRAMI ELECTRIC

Step into the driver's seat of the future during our 2025 EV Car Show and Ride & Drive, part of National Drive Electric Week. Explore the latest electric vehicles, from the Ford F-150 Lightning and Chevy Silverado pickups, to sleek Teslas and a Polaris Ranger Kinetic, and more. Take a spin in an EV to experience the smooth, quiet ride that's turning drivers into believers. Chat with EV experts from Beltrami Electric and Otter Tail Power to learn about home charging options, off-peak rates and rebates. Enjoy cookies and refreshments, and be one of the first 75 attendees to snag a free T-shirt. Whether you're EV-curious or a long-time fan, this event is your chance to see, drive and discover what's next in transportation.



CALLING ALL MEMBERS – DO YOU DRIVE AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE?

If you are an EV owner, we'd love to have you join us for our EV Car Show and Ride & Drive event. Share your experience, answer questions and show off your ride to curious drivers. If you'd like to participate, contact Ayla at 218-444-3623 to reserve your spot.

Classifieds

Classified ads rules

- Ads are due by the following dates:
 - OCTOBER ISSUE:** Submit by Sept. 2.
 - NOVEMBER ISSUE:** Submit between Sept. 3 and Oct. 3.
- All ads must be submitted via our website at www.beltramelectric.com. (preferred)
- NO real estate, rental, personal or commercial ads will be accepted.
- All ads must be 50 words or less and typed or printed clearly.
- Editor reserves the right to edit or reject any ad.
- Members may only submit one for sale and one wanted or free ad per issue.
- Ads are published at no charge as space permits on a first-received, first-printed basis, **with no guarantee your ad will appear.**
- Ads are only allowed to be repeated for **three consecutive months** and must be resubmitted each month.
- Include name and Beltrami Electric account number on all submissions.

For Sale:

Pottery Barn day bed, like new \$100. Engine stand, used once. \$50. 218-368-4923.

Metal gym lockers. 5' tall x 3' wide x 15" deep. 15 lockers in total. Great condition. \$100. 218-556-5088.

ShoreStation vertical boatlift. 3600# capacity. On local Bemidji Lake. You move. Best offer. ECHO self-propelled lawn and garden chipper, power vacuum w/rare flower bed attachment \$500, SodaStream machine with bottles and 45oz. flavors, turns water into refreshing beverages, \$40. 320-583-0471.

Johnson Seahorse 6-hp motor, \$250. 3 Trek adult bikes, \$50 each. 218-368-9320.

2020 Forest River Coachmen – Moonlight Bay Resort, Walker, Minn., direct access to Leech Lake – sleeps 9, has outside kitchen, shower and TV. Includes: 12'x23' deck, 8'x10' shed, site is very spacious with large area for kids to play. Asking \$34,000. Call 218-308-1440 for more info.

Delta 10-inch miter chop saw, on movable stand with wheels, works great, good shape. Call Mike 218-444-4767 (landline, no text).

Used Mallard and Diver duck decoys. Various quantities. 218-835-6579.

Ammo: CCI Maxi-Mag 22 WMR 40 grain (8) and 30 grain (8). 218-766-2126 if interested. Leave a message.

Older 16' Sylvan runabout in good shape. Includes roller trailer, 50 hp Mercury motor and 2 trolling motors. \$1,200. Licensed through 2027. 218-556-3803.

2003 Palm Beach 20' pontoon, 50 hp 2 stroke Mercury w/22' 2023 scissor lift trailer. Motor on its last legs. \$5,000/obo. 218-556-3900.

Craftsman 10-inch table saw w/40-inch extensions and 52-inch Biesemeyer Fence system. \$200. Craftsman 12-gal. shop vac. \$20. Call 218-616-2315, leave message.

Browning Citori, Invictor Plus, 20 gauge, over under 28-inch shotgun, 2/34 and 3-inch shells, 3 chokes included, ex. condition, great wood. \$1,650 cash. Call mornings 218-444-2958.

10' water slide for pools or lake – \$800/obo. Solid oak roll top desk in good condition – \$350/obo. Will send pictures if requested. 218-791-2581.

Sun Dolphin pedal boat with seating for 1 to 5 people. Measures 64" wide x 94" long x

24" tall. Located in Laporte. Can help load. \$200. 612-366-5091.

Walnut for mantle pieces, stored indoors: 2x13x96 and 3x11x96 with one live edge. \$75 each. Text 218-391-8204.

Old hunting magazines, most mid-80s to early 90s. Most in very good condition. Incl. OL, Peterson's Hunting, Amer Hunter and others. 2 boxes full. \$25. 218-556-1213.

Vintage 1948 Singer sewing machine model 201-2 with case and attachments. Excellent condition but needs rewiring. \$150. 218-854-7520.

Agri-Fab power-lawn-vacuum. Briggs & Stratton motor, works great, has new additional hoses and two new deck adapters. Picks up leaves, pinecones and grass. Please call/text for more information. \$800. 651-226-7139.

2001 Arctic Cat 400 4-wheeler with plow, 2024 miles. \$2,100. Continental microwave, 1.1 cu.ft. Only used for 2 weeks. \$50. 218-255-7612.

Men's cowboy boots, size 12, black leather, \$40. Oticon hearing aids, behind-the-ear, batteries required, new in 2018 – can be cleared and recalibrated. \$200. 218-766-1686.

30-ft Prowler, good shape. \$3,900. 218-335-2328.

1992 Ford F-150 ext. cab truck 302 V8 auto parts only, rusted frame, comes with top, dual tanks, 4-wheel drive \$1,000. Will listen to offers. Call 218-444-9422 if no answer, please leave message.

Marth hardwood fuel pellets for pellet stove, 40-pound bags. \$5 ea. 95 bags remaining at this price. 218-368-0679.

Vintage metal horse or tractor slip scrapper, \$45; vintage metal tractor seat, \$30; 2 cork duck decoys on wooden base with glass eyes, \$35 each; 22 Time Life books – The

Old West Series hard cover in excellent condition, \$65. 218-556-8623.

Two Nagant revolvers with ~265 rounds, package deal \$1,100, will separate. Yugo m59/66 SKS with ~140 rounds, \$650. These are very nice collector-grade guns. Cash only and must have CC or purchase permit and fill out MN private party sales form (look it up). Text for pics/info, 608-519-6478.

Seasoned firewood, soft wood, \$50 for standard pick up load. You haul 218-586-2839.

Massey-Ferguson, pull-type sickle mower, asking \$300. Needs a counterbalance. 218-243-3112.

10-year-old Weil-McLain gold oil boiler plus 260-gal tank, filled with household heating oil #2 – must go, tank and all, value \$5k, asking \$2,500. 206-552-1399.

PSE Deer Hunter bow, left-handed, like new, with case, six arrows, make offer. Antique Daisy Pump BB gun, model 25, \$99. Crossman BB gun 2100, mint condition, \$50. Louisiana pellet grill, barely used, some rust, make an offer. 218-766-7333.

AR 15 223 rifle; scope, sling, case, 450 rounds of ammo \$950. Metal deer stand \$60. Golf clubs: bag, cart, accessories \$100. 2 - 27" men's trail bikes \$100 each. 3-burner gas grill, temp gauge, without tank \$35. 218-553-0272 before 7 p.m.

Lightweight folding stools for parade/sports event seating. Two with attached insulated cooler pouches. Two 3-leg with back rest (collectible PGA Hazeltine). All have carry straps. \$25 each, \$40/pair. Cabela's chest waders 6W (women's size 8), no leaks, \$60. 30 weighted duck decoys, mesh bag, duck call, \$90. 218-586-2884.

Savage model 111 .270 Win. with Burris 3XA X40mm scope and two boxes of shells, \$450. 218-368-7738.

Snapper 5 hp tiller, \$200. Viper 43cc tiller, 2-cycle, used very little, \$100. 218-243-2958 or 218-368-2058.

4-person pedal boat with striped canopy, like new. \$250, you haul. 218-586-5541.

Frigidaire air conditioner (15,100 BTU) \$150. DOT certified-ZR Rise motorcycle helmet w/ goggles, XXL, excellent cond., \$75. Display cabinet w/3 glass hinged doors, 44"H x 31"L x 12"D \$90. Overhead service wire (100 AMP) approx. 200 ft. Call for details or pics. Leave message if no answer. 218-586-2962.

Fencing T-posts \$3.50 each. You cut and tape up the fencing wire and leave it, pull up the posts. Rough guess, 60 if not more. Contact Mike/Carol 218-759-4734.

Wanted:

Do you need that old chair recaned? Call Nate at 218-407-0168.

Looking for property to archery hunt in the fall and/or turkey hunt in the spring. 863-660-0220.

Cash for military items from WWI, WWII and Vietnam. Flags, helmets, medals, uniforms, boots, etc. 218-371-6259.

Ferguson 2-14 3-point plow. Five-foot mower. Jeff. 218-368-0852.

Wood cook stove with reservoir, and an 8W or 9W John Deere pull-type sickle mower. 218-243-3112.

Screened windows and doors, of any size, preferably made of wood, can be made from metal – even if old. Will pick up. 206-552-1399.

Free:

Kimball organ. You haul. 218-760-4122.

Free firewood, you cut, you haul. 218-751-7693.

MAKERS/VENDORS WANTED:



Northwoods Maker's Market

Saturday, Oct. 4, 2025 | 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. | At Beltrami Electric

Vendor registration is open for this year's Northwoods Maker's Market! This event is a fundraiser for the United Way of Bemidji Area. Makers and vendors can contact Beltrami Electric at **218-444-2540** for more information or to sign up for a booth! If you are a maker or vendor, this event is just for you!

We are looking for you!



Beltrami Electric Cooperative is looking for **Michael R. Littlewolf** (Bemidji, Minn.), **Paula Ball** (Blackduck, Minn.) and **Natasha Readeagle** (Bemidji, Minn.). Please call **218-444-2540** if you have any information.

SEPTEMBER READER'S CONTEST

For your chance to be entered in a drawing to **win a \$10 credit** on your bill, correctly answer the questions and include with your payment or mail to: BEC, P.O. Box 488, Bemidji, MN 56619. Or email answers to info@beltramelectric.com with the subject line "Reader's Contest." Be sure to include your name and BEC account number. **Entries must be received by Sept. 25.**

- Beltrami Electric is holding an EV Car Show/Ride & Drive event on ____/____/____.
- Anika Harmsen, BEC's Youth Tour delegate, stated that one of her favorite parts of her trip was _____.
- What is Cooperative Principle #6? _____

Member Name:	BEC Account Number:	Phone/Email address:
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Congratulations to our June contest winner: Reyna Haiby and our July contest winner: Larry & Donna Fitzgerald

Operation Round Up® application deadline!

Do you know of a nonprofit organization in our service territory that would benefit from a grant from Operation Round Up? Community organizations and nonprofit groups may apply for an Operation Round Up grant by completing and returning an application form.

For more details and a fillable application, please visit our website at beltramelectric.com/operation-roundup

The deadline for grant applications is **FRIDAY, SEPT. 19, 2025.**



MN Energy Assistance Program

WHAT IS IT?

Minnesota's Energy Assistance Program helps renters and homeowners keep homes heated and the lights on. The deadline to apply for energy assistance during the winter of 2025-2026 is May 31, 2026.

WHO IS IT FOR?

People who rent or own their home and struggle with utility bills.

HOW MUCH CAN I RECEIVE?

- ◆ Initial benefits average \$550 per household and can be up to \$1,400 depending on household income and energy/fuel costs.
- ◆ **Additional funds are available for crisis situations.**
- ◆ Free home energy upgrades for homeowners and renters.

Contact your local energy assistance provider:

BI-CAP

(218) 547-3438 or (800) 332-7135 (*Walker Office*)
(218) 751-4631 or (800) 332-7161 (*Bemidji Office*)

MAHUBE-OTWA

(218) 847-1385 or (888) 458-1385

LEECH LAKE

(218) 335-3783

RED LAKE

(218) 679-3350

KOOTASCA

(218) 999-0824

APPLY ONLINE



WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

The program is based on income guidelines. The program offers extra support for seniors over 60 years old.

Weatherization Assistance Program

The *Weatherization Assistance Program* in Minnesota provides free home energy upgrades to income-eligible homeowners and

renters to help save energy and make sure your home is a healthy and safe place to live.

Weatherization works closely with its companion program, the *Energy Assistance Program*, to help permanently reduce the energy bills for low-income Minnesotans.

If your household qualifies, an energy auditor may evaluate your home to determine if weatherization is needed. The auditor will look for opportunities to make your home more energy efficient by sealing air leaks, adding insulation, and checking if the furnace is working properly.

VISIT [MN.GOV/COMMERCE/ENERGY/CONSUMER-ASSISTANCE/ENERGY-ASSISTANCE-PROGRAM/](https://mn.gov/commerce/energy/consumer-assistance/energy-assistance-program/) FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Cold Weather Rule

Each year, some members are unable to pay their electric bill during cold weather months. The *Minnesota Cold Weather Rule* was established to protect residential members from electrical service disconnection between Oct. 1 and April 30.

Cold Weather Rule protection is available if the following conditions exist:

- 1) The disconnection would affect your main heating source
- 2) You and Beltrami Electric Cooperative agree on a payment plan
- 3) You have returned the Cold Weather Protection form to BEC

The Cold Weather Rule does not prevent winter disconnections. If you have a **DISCONNECTION NOTICE on your bill between Oct. 1 and April 30, you must act before the disconnect date on the bill. View MN Statute 216B.097 for the Cold Weather Rule at beltramielectric.com/payment-assistance**

** Note: the Cold Weather Protection form will be mailed with all past-due bills during the CWR period.*

To avoid disconnection between Oct. 1 and April 30, you *must* complete the following steps:

1. Set Up a Payment Plan

If you receive a disconnect notice on your bill, you must call BEC and set up a mutually agreed upon monthly payment plan before the disconnect date on the bill. This payment plan must be kept current to be protected by the Cold Weather Rule and avoid disconnection.

2. Return the CWR Form

Complete the Cold Weather Rule form and return it to BEC before the disconnect date on your bill. You may download the form at www.beltramielectric.com/payment-assistance

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Monday – Friday

Telephone: 218-444-2540 or
1-800-955-6083

Website: www.beltramielectric.com

Email: info@beltramielectric.com

MN STATE ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS

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. Find service territories for electrical inspectors here: <https://workplace.doli.state.mn.us/jurisdiction/>

BELTRAMI & HUBBARD COUNTIES:

Wade Koons | 218-580-8589
wade.koons@state.mn.us

CASS & HUBBARD COUNTIES:

Tony Kohrs | 218-616-1554
tony.kohrs@state.mn.us

GOPHER STATE ONE CALL

1-800-252-1166 or 811

www.gopherstateonecall.org



Anyone who plans to dig is required by law to notify the state of their intentions at least 48 hours in advance. All digging requires a 48-hour notification so that buried telephone lines, TV cable, pipelines, and utility electric lines can be located to ensure that none will be severed or damaged.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

To provide excellent value to our members through the safe delivery of reliable electric service, excellent member service and innovative energy solutions at fair and reasonable prices.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Beltrami Electric Cooperative Inc.

® Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Connecting Communities. Powering Life.

ASK THE EXPERT!



CAN I INSTALL A LEVEL 2 EV CHARGER ON AN OFF-PEAK PROGRAM?

Q: *I'm interested in installing a Level 2 electric vehicle charger at home. Can I connect it to an off-peak or demand response program through the co-op?*

A: Yes, you can – and it's a smart move! Many cooperative members are choosing Level 2 chargers for faster, more efficient home charging. By connecting your charger to an off-peak or demand-controlled circuit, you can save money and help reduce peak demand on our system. **Plus, we have great rebates available!**

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

- **Off-peak charging** allows you to power your EV during low-demand hours – usually overnight – at a lower electric rate.
- **Charging times include:**
 - **October-May:** Charge from noon to 5 p.m. and 11 p.m. to 7 a.m.
 - **June-Sept.:** Charge from midnight to 10 a.m.

Q: *What if I need to charge my EV during the day when my off-peak charger isn't available?*

A: This is typically a rare situation for most EV owners. If it does come up, you can use a public DC fast charger to quickly top off your battery. These chargers can provide a significant range boost in just a few minutes.

If you're considering installation, give us a call first. We can guide you on:

- Equipment compatibility
- Rebates or incentives available
- Load control device requirements
- Installation tips and electrician coordination

Charging your EV on our off-peak program is a win-win: You save on energy costs, get a great rebate, and help support a reliable, efficient electric system for all members.

Have a question for our experts? Send it to info@beltramielectric.com and we may feature it in a future issue!



Bob Gregg, Business Development Manager