

News

FOR YOU...

“Barron Electric Cooperative is a member-owned business that provides energy, products, and services to improve the quality of life in the area we serve.”

January 2008

Renewables, Efficiency and Conservation

In 2008, Dairyland Power and Barron Electric will concentrate on areas, which impact the need for future power plants and power costs, including:

- Renewables
- Efficiency
- Conservation

Renewables

Renewable energy effectively utilizes natural resources such as sunlight, wind, tides and geothermal heat, which are naturally replenished. Renewable energy technologies range from solar power, wind power, and hydroelectricity to biomass and biofuels for transportation. Dairyland Power will be required to have 10% of renewable resources as part of their total generation portfolio by 2015. Dairyland's diverse renewable

portfolio includes wind, landfill gas-to-energy, and animal waste-to-energy. They also supply renewable energy to member cooperatives from the 22 megawatt Flambeau Hydro Station near Ladysmith, Wisconsin. They recently purchased 5 megawatts of wind energy from the Prairie Star Wind Farm, near Elkton, Minnesota. Prairie Star Wind Farm will have the capability to provide 100 MW of renewable energy, enough to power approxi-

mately 36,000 homes.

Efficiency

Americans, with the help of ENERGY STAR, saved enough energy in 2006 alone to avoid greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to those from 25 million cars — all while saving \$14 billion on their utility bills. In 2008, Barron Electric will be offering a rebate program through Dairyland for the purchase of Energy

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Dairyland Power Installs Major Emission Control Equipment

Dairyland Power Cooperative has installed a fabric filter “baghouse” to enhance particulate matter (very light ash) capture at its 400 MW John P. Madgett (JPM) coal-fired power plant in Alma, Wisconsin. The new emissions control equipment was brought into service in late October at the JPM plant.

Dairyland also installed a baghouse at its 380 MW Genoa Station #3 coal-fired power plant in Genoa, Wisconsin several months ago. Results have shown a major reduction in particulate matter at the Genoa power plant site.

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Dairyland Power has budgeted in excess of \$250 million to retrofit G-3 and JPM, its two largest power plants, with state-of-the-art environmental control equipment that will result in significant air emission reductions.

Emission Control Equipment

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Baghouse technology removes particulate matter from the exhaust gas stream following the coal combustion process. This technology is in addition to existing electrostatic precipitator particulate matter control equipment at each plant.

Dairyland has budgeted in excess of \$250 million to retrofit G-3 and JPM, its two largest power plants, with state-of-the-art environmental control equipment that will result in significant air emission reductions. The baghouse equipment to capture particulates is in place. Future planned environmental control projects include:

- The installation of a dry flue gas desulfurization system, or “scrubber,” to remove sulfur dioxide. Preliminary estimates indicate upwards of 90 percent of sulfur dioxide could be captured by the scrubber.
- Enhanced mercury removal, and new burners to modify the combustion process to reduce nitrogen oxide emissions.

These technologies are scheduled to become operational over the next few years. When operational, the new air emission control equipment will achieve significant reductions of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, mercury and particulate matter.

Renewables, Efficiency and Conservation

(continued from cover)

Star rated appliances. Watch for more information in the February “News for You.”

Conservation

Conservation plays an extremely important role for both energy producers and users. Members can have a significant impact on the need to build new power plants by making simple modifications to their life-style. Members can participate in Barron Electric’s load management program, which controls electric water heaters, off-peak electric heat, irrigation, commercial and industrial, and central air conditioners. This program saved the cooperative over \$1.5 million last year. Members can also switch to Light Emitting Diode Christ-

mas lights (LED) and Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs (CFLs) to save money. LED lights can save up to 90% in energy costs, while CFLs save up to 75%. Conserving energy is good for the pocketbook and the environment.

Supporting Renewables

The Evergreen Program gives members the opportunity to support electricity from renewable energy sources such as wind, gas-to-energy, and manure-to-energy programs. Members can participate in this program by purchasing 100 kilowatt-hours of wind power for \$1.50 per month for a year, in addition to their current electric bill. Visit www.barronelectric.com for more information.



Guests take the time to sign a wind turbine blade at the dedication of the Prairie Star Wind Farm.

Conserve Energy During Peaks

As temperatures drop, the demand for electricity rises. Meeting these high demands for electricity is very costly. That’s why it is important to avoid unnecessary electric use during peak hours on the coldest winter days. Peak hours are generally between 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. This is also the time when load management control is activated. This affects dual fuel heating systems and electric water heaters.

Members can help hold down the demand charges on Barron Electric’s wholesale power bill, and in turn Barron Electric’s retail rates, by operating such things as clothes dryers, dishwashers, and engine heaters during off-peak hours on bitter cold days. How will members know when it is a peak alert day? Announcements will be aired on the following stations:

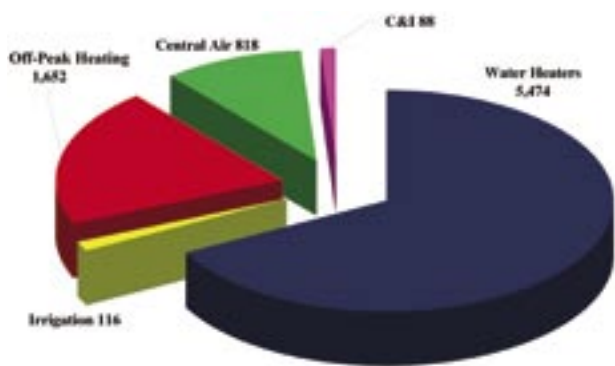


WAQE	97.7 FM
WGMO	95.3 FM
WHSM	101.7 FM
WJMC	96.1 FM
WKFX	99.1 FM

Load Management Saved More than \$1.5 Million

More than 8,100 radio receivers help manage the load by controlling off-peak heating, electric water heaters, central air conditioners, irrigation, and commercial and industrial accounts (C&I). Last year, this saved the cooperative over \$1.5 million.

The Load Management Program helps balance electrical supply and demand. The goal is to keep the amount of electricity used in balance with the amount of electricity generated, which results in a reduced need for future power plants. Dairyland Power Cooperative estimates that the program saves its system 70 megawatts of



electricity in the summer and 160 megawatts in the winter, the equivalent size of a small power plant.

More than 8,100 radio receivers manage Barron Electric's load.

Donation Helps Barron Community Fund



Barron Electric employees Al Ferber, Jan Mancl, Sue Dau present a \$920 check to Barron Community Fund Board Director Norm Yamada. Annually, Barron Electric employees have the opportunity to donate to organizations of their choice, and the cooperative matches that donation. More than \$6,000 was donated to organizations in 2007.

Energy Cent\$

Receive a Free Compact Fluorescent Light Bulb with Your Energy Cent\$ Idea!



Send in your energy cent\$ idea, and if we publish your idea, we will send you a compact fluorescent light bulb.

I appreciated Catherine Hiland's idea of unplugging cell phone chargers. At night time, I turn the furnace down to 62, and in the AM, I turn it up to 68 or so. When I am gone, I turn it down to 62 during the day and open the rooms that have sunshine coming in.

—Nancy, Sarona

Barron Electric reserves the right to reject or edit any ideas submitted. E-mail ideas to cbaribeau@barronelectric.com or mail with your electric payment.

Annual Meeting Set for March 29

Barron Electric's 72nd Annual Meeting is set for Saturday, March 29 at the Barron High School.

Information regarding resolutions and director nominations is included with this month's bill statement.



Director's Notes



Arlyn Helm
serves on Barron
Electric's Board
of Directors
representing
District 1.

CONDENSED BOARD MINUTES OCTOBER 31, 2007

- ▼ Director Smith gave the treasurer's report, with comments by Manager Petersen. A report of vouchers for the month was printed as part of the board packet as follows: #73605 thru 73783, and #20059297-304 on First National Bank of Barron were in the amount of \$555,236. Director Smith reported on activity of total receipts in the office - \$2,122,005; total receipts by wire, ACH, credit cards - \$1,279,853; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - \$2,473,637; transfer of funds was made for payroll - \$148,924; power bill due 10/31/07 - \$1,177,880, and capital credits - \$249,947. A membership list was approved as presented.
- ▼ Outages year-to-date stand at 29,004 consumer hours off, which is 3% below 2006 hours of 30,201. Overtime year-to-date is 2,985 hours, which is .45% below 2006 hours of 3,053.

Barron Electric Cooperative

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Electric. If you have any comments
regarding the newsletter, please e-mail
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Straight Talk about the Cooperative Difference

- ▶ Cooperatives are owned and democratically controlled by their members.
- ▶ Member-elected directors represent you and your best interests when making decisions for the cooperative.
- ▶ Board responsibilities include determining major goals, adopting an annual budget, reviewing major purchasing decisions, protecting the assets of the cooperative, establishing and reviewing policies, and approving rate adjustments and system improvements.
- ▶ Cooperatives operate at cost and are motivated by service to members, not by profit.
- ▶ Cooperatives are accountable to local members, not distant investors, and are committed to the communities they serve.
- ▶ Cooperatives return profits to the members in the form of capital credits.

For Sale

- ▲ Buy a Heatmaster stainless steel outdoor woodstove from Pineview Woodstoves. Excellent design and reasonable prices. Call Randy Koehn at 357-3298.
- ▲ Like to travel? Want to save \$\$ when you do? Book your travel/vacations on-line at www.ytbtravel.com/mjacky.
- ▲ Markie P. Construction for all your remodeling needs. Senior discounts. Free estimates. Call 715-924-3488 or cell 715-642-0078.
- ▲ Paying too much for insurance? Life-Health-Home-Auto-Business-Medicare Supplements-Long Term Care. Korthof Insurance Services. 715-766-2505 or KorthofInsuranceServices@direcway.com
- ▲ New paddle boats, top-of-the-line, carpeted deck, padded seats (four), sun-top, aluminum floats, 6' x 11' with walk-around deck. New smaller pontoon boats, 61/2' x 17' full furniture group, sun-top, perfect for smaller lakes, easy to trailer. Kennedy Pontoons, Inc. Centuria, Wisconsin. 715-640-6000 or visit us at www.kennedypontoons.com
- ▲ Wooded 5-acre parcel with driveway and building site cleared. Surveyed. \$24,900. 715-635-7330.
- ▲ Country Mobile Home Park, large wood lots, single or double-wide, Prairie Lake Estates. 715-925-2034.
- ▲ 20 wooded, rolling acres with trails located NE of Spooner off 5th Avenue. Electric at street. 715-635-7330.
- ▲ 2000 Ford F-150 4X4 club cab, 5.4L, Auto. trans, 146,500 mi, cruise, air, new tires & brakes. \$5,800. 715-520-3106.
- ▲ Steffes and Stiebel Eltron heat storage repair and install. Water heater repair. Call Handyman Plus at 715-458-2967.
- ▲ Markie P. Construction - for all your kitchen and bathroom remodeling. Save \$\$\$! Free estimates and senior discounts. Call Mark at 715-924-3488 or 715-642-0078.

Ad Guidelines

Ads are due in our office by the tenth of the month for the following month. The ad rate is \$1 per line. There is a 5-line limit, unless space is available. Payment must accompany ad. Barron Electric reserves the right to reject ads. Mail ads with payment to Barron Electric, PO Box 40, Barron, WI 54812.

COUNTRY COMFORT™

Call Country Comfort
for your propane needs at
800-322-1008 or visit
www.countrycomfort.org.