

POLK-BURNETT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Policy No.: **M-39**

Subject: **Safety First – Farm Rewiring Grant Program**

Objective: To assist member owned and operated dairy farm locations with safety and power quality, the Cooperative urges the inspection of electrical wiring and replacement as needed to be brought up to Wisconsin and National electrical codes. Realizing that inadequate wiring creates an unsafe condition for dairy farm operations and can contribute to other conditions that could have an adverse effect on the dairy herd, the Cooperative seeks to assist those locations where today's standards are not being met. This endeavor, coupled with the Cooperative's effort on the utility side, is to bring safe, reliable electric service to farmsteads.

Policy: Safety First Grants can be made available for twenty percent (20%) of the cost of a project, up to six-thousand dollars (\$6,000.00). For a successful grant application, the following criteria must be met:

1. The rewiring project needs to first qualify for the Safety First Rewiring Grant through Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association (WECA).
2. The member will then have the opportunity to apply for the Safety First Grant through the Cooperative.
3. A Wisconsin Certified Electrical Inspector must make an inspection of the entire premises, including, but not limited to, the barn, home and outbuildings, and storage facilities. The inspector will be selected by the Cooperative and all costs for the inspection will be paid for by the Cooperative. **The Cooperative will arrange and pay for said electrical inspection even if the grant program is not used.**
4. A list of all defects must be furnished to the owner and the Cooperative.
5. The owner will obtain bids from two licensed electrical contractors who have successfully completed a Cooperative approved Safety First Rewiring Program Training and furnish the Cooperative with the selected bid to rewire according to the National Electric Code.
6. Management of the Cooperative will provide the initial approval of the re-wiring project.
7. The amount of the contract due to the contractor will be paid jointly on approval of final re-inspection by a Wisconsin Certified Electrical Inspector. **The Cooperative will arrange and pay for the final re-inspection fee.**

Responsibility: The general manager shall oversee and administer this policy. The general manager and Board of Directors reserve the right to accept or reject any loan application and to modify or discontinue the Safety First Grant Program articulated in this policy at any time.

Edward O. Gullickson, President
November 28, 2023