

POWERLINES

POLK-BURNETT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE | JULY 2020

*Farewell and thank you to Genoa Station #3
for 50+ years of safe, reliable power*

Working with Dairyland Power to be future ready



by General Manager Steve Stroshane (left) and Board President Ed Gullickson (right)

The energy industry continues to transform and Dairyland Power Cooperative, our wholesale power cooperative, is focused on diversifying energy resources and modernizing systems to ensure safe, reliable power at a competitive rate.

We'd like to share Dairyland's plans to be future ready and serve members for generations to come.



Sustainable Generation and Resource Diversification

Dairyland is preparing for the transformation of energy resources by strategically developing power supply plans, determining future energy mix and anticipating members' long-term needs. Their board has set goals to continue to diversify Dairyland's energy portfolio, reduce its carbon footprint and be even more sustainable. As resource decisions are made, four criteria for sustainability are balanced: economics, environment, social and technical considerations.

Retiring Genoa Station #3

A major component of Dairyland's Sustainable Generation Plan has been evaluating how long it should continue to operate existing assets. In January, the difficult decision was made to retire the 345 MW coal-fired Genoa Station #3 when the contracted fuel supply is depleted. The estimated retirement is June–December 2021.

Many factors were considered when making this decision. These include impacts on employees and communities, age of the facility, system capacity requirements, regulatory requirements, projected maintenance needs and costs, fuel supply, overall cost of power production and regional market prices for energy.

Renewable Energy Investments

Dairyland announced two major renewable energy investments in 2019: an agreement to purchase power from the 149 MW **Badger State Solar** facility in Wisconsin and the proposed 52 MW **Tatanka Ridge Wind** energy facility in South Dakota. Other recent additions to Dairyland's renewable energy portfolio include power-purchase agreements with the 98 MW **Quilt Block Wind Farm** in Wisconsin and the 80 MW **Barton Wind Farm** in Iowa.

Local Solar

Eighteen new solar energy facilities are online across the Dairyland system, including **SunTuria Solar** right here at Polk-Burnett in Centuria. SunTuria Solar was dedicated November 3, 2017. The 1.25 MW array is the first utility-scale solar in Polk and Burnett counties. ENGIE North America owns and operates the array. Polk-Burnett and Dairyland Power Cooperative purchase the energy output. This project provides clean solar power to help meet the energy demands of Wisconsin and our local co-op membership. You can track solar energy output on polkburnett.com.

Nemadji Trail Natural Gas Plant

The proposed Nemadji Trail Energy Center, a natural gas facility in Superior, is integral to Dairyland's Sustainable Generation Plan. If approved, it will serve as the *power behind the power*, providing reliable and competitively priced power when the wind isn't blowing and the sun isn't shining.

Nemadji Trail Energy Center was approved in January by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin. Additional approvals and permits are required from the City of Superior, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. It is scheduled to be in service by 2025, contingent on regulatory approvals.

As Polk-Burnett and Dairyland transition to a low-carbon future, safety, reliability and competitiveness will remain at the forefront. Since our beginning, we've been focused on improving our local quality of life, and this commitment continues in all our work for members and our community.

Polk-Burnett Board President Dairyland Chairman of the Board Ed Gullickson

was elected to serve as president of the board for Dairyland Power Cooperative in 2019.

Gullickson lives in Amery and has been a Polk-Burnett director since 2008.

We are grateful to have local leadership on the Dairyland board and Gullickson says it's a privilege to serve as your representative.

Polk-Burnett is one of 24 member distribution cooperatives that receives power from La Crosse-based Dairyland Power.

The Dairyland system provides electricity to nearly 600,000 consumers in a four-state region.

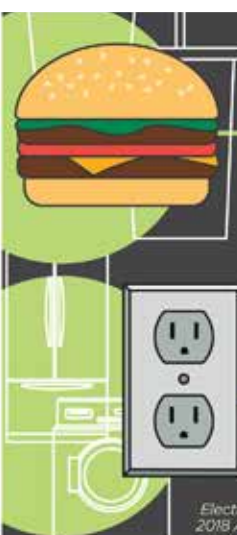
THE VALUE OF ELECTRICITY

ELECTRICITY REMAINS A GOOD VALUE

When you look at price increases of common expenses over the last five years, it's easy to see electricity remains a good value!



Sources: Economist.com and EIA, 2018 data.



\$5.30

average cost of a Big Mac® value meal

\$3.87

average daily cost of power

Electricity is expressed on a daily basis using EIA 2018 Average U.S. Monthly Residential Bill of \$172. Big Mac® is a registered trademark of McDonald's Corporation. McDonald's Corporation does not endorse or sponsor this material.

Reduce electricity when grid demand & price peak this summer
You'll cut costs and carbon!

DO THE SUMMER SHIFT:
 Reduce electricity weekdays 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

BEAT THE PEAK: Enroll to receive peak alerts by phone, email or text asking you to conserve. *About 9 summer peaks.*

Do The
SUMMER SHIFT

polkburnett.com
 800-421-0283

BEAT THE PEAK ALERT

Someone you know may have unclaimed Capital Credits

Polk-Burnett is looking for members who have unclaimed Capital Credit checks issued in 2015 and 2016.

The checks were returned by the post office as undeliverable or were never cashed.

SEE LIST OF UNCLAIMED CAPITAL CREDITS ON POLKBURNETT.COM

If these members are not located by September 4, 2020, the unclaimed funds will be forfeited to the Federated Youth Foundation and used by the cooperative for educational or charitable purposes as directed by our bylaws.

About Capital Credits

As a not-for-profit electric cooperative, Polk-Burnett operates at cost.

Any money left after annual expenses is returned to members as Capital Credits.

Capital Credits are allocated and distributed annually and are a direct benefit of cooperative membership.



JULY IS NATIONAL GRILLING MONTH! Enjoy cooking outside to save energy and money. Find more ways to save on polkburnett.com or 800-421-0283, ext. 595. We're happy to help.



Students: Win a scholarship!

We're pleased to share this scholarship opportunity from our friends at the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association (WECA).

Wisconsin high school students and college freshmen (2019–2020), whose primary residence is served by an electric cooperative, are eligible to enter the 2020 WECA Essay Contest.

Interested students must submit a 600 to 1,200-word essay in response to a question about electric cooperatives and youth involvement. A panel of judges will review the essays and select the top three winners, who will be awarded scholarships of \$1,000, \$500, and \$250.

Entries must be postmarked by August 26, 2020. For an application, visit polkburnett.com.

Propane prebuy contracts available late July



- ✓ Prebuy contracts lock in a price on a fixed number of gallons.
- ✓ Minimum prebuy purchase is 300 gallons with payment due August 21.
- ✓ If contracting isn't an option, sign up for our budget plan by August 21.

800-421-0283, ext. 378 or 411
polkburnett.com.

Be prepared for summer storms and power outages

Polk-Burnett works year round to strengthen its system and prevent power outages, but summer storms are always a threat. Lightning and strong winds can damage power lines and cause power outages.

If your lights go out this summer:

1. Check circuit breakers, fuses and the neighbors.
2. Report outages on SmartHub or 800-421-0283.
3. Keep away from fallen power lines, and trees and branches near lines. Report these hazards.
4. Crews first respond to hazards, substations and major distribution lines, followed by smaller tap lines and individual service lines.

Enroll to receive outage texts on polkburnett.com:

You'll know:

1. When the power goes out at your location.
2. Estimated time of restoration, whenever possible.
3. When the power is restored.
4. The cause of the outage, whenever possible.

OUTAGE MAP

KEEPS YOU INFORMED WHEN THE LIGHTS GO OUT

- ✓ See outage location.
- ✓ If help has been dispatched.
- ✓ How many affected.
- ✓ Estimated restoration time.

VIEW OUTAGE MAP ON:
polkburnett.com | [SmartHub](https://www.facebook.com/polkburnett)
[Facebook.com/polkburnett](https://www.facebook.com/polkburnett)



YOUR SOURCE FOR RELIABLE POWER AND INFORMATION!

IF YOU RECEIVE AN EMAIL SURVEY, WE APPRECIATE YOUR FEEDBACK TO HELP US IMPROVE.

All members who submit a survey will be entered in a drawing for a \$50 bill credit.

Polk-Burnett is your local Touchstone Energy Cooperative. Reliable power with efficiency and extraordinary service.

Like us on Facebook. Follow us on Twitter.

800-421-0283 • polkburnett.com



Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer | Member Owned | Community Focused

