


Cooperative Connections



**Full Steam
Ahead:
150-HP Road
Locomotive**

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**Are You Ready?
Preparedness
Is Key**

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Signs of Aging



Ken Schlimgen

General Manager

In 2017, Central Electric members experienced an average of 85 minutes without power (the median nationally was 207 minutes and SD was 120 minutes).

I hope your summer is going well and you have been getting timely moisture for your crops, gardens, and lawns. So far, the weather has been kind to your electric cooperative despite the number of storms that have passed through our service area.

In July, your cooperative conducted a strategic planning session with a goal to identify future issues and improvements your cooperative can make. The planning session involved our employees and the board of directors. The discussions were narrowed down to ten topics ranging from cyber security to employee training. The number one topic was the age of your cooperative's distribution lines.

If you know me, you know my hairline is not where it was some 20 years ago, and each year there are more wrinkles around my eyes. You also know physical labor is not as easy for me as it once was. On the brighter side, I do qualify for discounts at some local eateries and AARP somehow has my address. Indicators are that I am reliable as I show up every day and I get my work done, but I do have signs of aging and eventually, I will be replaced.

Your cooperative's distribution system consists of approximately 4,400 miles of power lines. Of that, there are about 900 miles of underground cable. The system is very reliable due mainly to an aggressive maintenance program which identifies and prevents problems.

Your cooperative is able to compare our system's performance (basically the number and length of power outages) with other cooperatives across the nation. The performance is measured by calculating the System Average Interruption Duration Index or SAIDI (pronounced Sadie). This is an average of power outages in minutes experienced by each member of the cooperative. Mother Nature and our low number of meters per mile of line do influence this measurement, but Central Electric's SAIDI outperformed the national numbers in four of the last five years. In 2017, Central Electric members experienced an average

of 85 minutes without power (the median nationally was 207 minutes and SD was 120 minutes).

So if our system is reliable, why all the talk about its age? Your cooperative has about 2,000 miles of overhead conductor that was installed in the late 1940's and 1950's. Like many hips and knees, almost all of the original poles have been replaced, but there are still 2,000 miles of the original conductor in service.

Maintenance costs are significantly increasing, capacity and voltage issues are more common and the conductor has signs of wear. These are signs of an aging system that needs attention. By the way, Central Electric is not unique in having this discussion. But enough about where we are and where we have been. The real news is where we are going.

East River Electric, our power supplier, will make significant improvements to the transmission system over the next 10 to 15 years. This effort will lower the SAIDI numbers for Central Electric since 35% of the outage minutes in 2017 originated on the transmission system.

Our next four-year work plan will include more funding to increase the miles of power lines we replace annually. It will likely take 20 or more years to replace all of the original conductor. Even with this increased funding, some of this conductor will reach 100 years of service before it is replaced.

Providing reliable electric service requires good planning and financial investment. Central Electric and East River Electric have confidence in the reliability of your cooperative system, and we are committed to maintaining a high level of reliability now and well into the future.

I am told the side effects of aging include experience and wisdom. The experience of our employees, engineer, and board members will serve us well to plan for and to utilize your resources wisely. After all, this is your electric cooperative.

Until Next Month – Be Safe



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

(USPS 018-963)

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Office Information

M-F 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 800-477-2892 or
 605-996-7516
www.centralec.coop



Mission Statement

Provide Reliable Energy & Services
 with a Commitment to Safety and
 Member Satisfaction

Visit Us at Dakotafest

August 21-23, Schlaffman Farms, Mitchell, SD

Visit us at Booth #215 during Dakotafest! Take a break from the heat in our air-conditioned building.



Employee Years of Service

Jon Reichert

September 1 - 8 years

Ryan Mueller

September 1 - 3 years

John Vetch

September 6 - 30 years

Andrew Baier

September 12 - 2 years

Lincoln Feistner

September 17 - 17 years

Thank you for your service to the cooperative!

Office Closed on September 3

Our office will be closed on
 Monday, September 3 in observance of Labor Day.

In case of an outage, call
 800-477-2892 or 605-996-7516.



College Bound?

Keep Safety in Mind

There are several specific causes for fires on in on- and off-campus college housing, including cooking, candles, smoking and overloaded power strips. For most students, the last fire safety training they received was in grade school, but with new independence comes new responsibilities. It is important that both off-campus and on-campus students know their fire risks and prevention actions that could save their lives.

Cooking

- Cook only where it is allowed.
- Keep your cooking area clean and free of anything that can burn.
- Keep an eye on what you are cooking, especially if you are cooking at high temperatures.
- If a fire starts in a microwave, keep the door closed and unplug the unit.

Candles

- Place candles in sturdy holders.
- Never leave a burning candle unattended.
- Keep candles away from anything that can burn.
- Use safe flameless candles.

Smoking

- Make sure cigarettes and ashes are out. Never toss hot cigarette butts or ashes in the trash can.
- Use deep, wide ashtrays. Place ashtrays on something sturdy and hard to burn.
- After a party, check for cigarette butts, especially under cushions. Chairs and sofas catch on fire fast and burn fast.
- Don't smoke when you have been drinking or are drowsy.

Electrical safety

- Keep lamps, light fixtures, and light bulbs away from anything that can burn.
- Never use an extension cord with large appliances, like a refrigerator.
- Do not overload outlets.
- Use only surge protectors or power strips that have internal overload protection.

Source: U.S. Fire Administration

<https://www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach/college.html>

Are You Registered?

National Voter Registration Day is a national holiday celebrating our democracy. It was first observed in 2012 and has been growing in popularity every year since. Held on the fourth Tuesday of September, National Voter Registration Day will be observed on Tuesday, Sept. 25, this year. The holiday has been endorsed by the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS). It is further supported by the National Association of State Election Directors (NASED).

South Dakotans seeking to vote in the Nov. 6 general election must be a U.S. citizen residing in South Dakota and be 18 years old on or before Election Day. Voter registration forms must be received by the county auditor 15 days before the election day. Additionally, those seeking to vote may register at the county auditor's office, a driver's license station, city finance office, public assistance agencies providing food stamps, TANF or WIC, Department of Human Services offices which provide assistance to the disabled or military recruitment offices.

Minnesotans must be a resident of the state for 20 days prior to the election. They can register online, in person or on election day.

For more information, visit <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote/> or call the Minnesota Secretary of State's office at 1-877-600-VOTE (8683) or contact your county election office.



KIDS CORNER SAFETY POSTER



"Don't play on transformer boxes."

Leo Bakeberg IV, Second-grader at Dupree Public School

Leo is the son of Leo Bakeburg and Amanda Grewe, Dupree, S.D. They are members of Moreau-Grand Electric Cooperative, Timber Lake, S.D.

Kids, send your drawing with an electrical safety tip to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3). If your poster is published, you'll receive a prize. All entries must include your name, age, mailing address and the names of your parents. Colored drawings are encouraged.

Garden Goodness

Cheesy Sausage and Potato Skillet Casserole

8 oz. bulk breakfast sausage, crumbled	1/4 tsp. McCormick® Black Pepper, Coarse Ground
1 medium onion, chopped	1-1/2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese
1 medium green bell pepper, chopped	1 cup crumbled feta cheese
6 eggs	2 plum tomatoes, seeded and chopped
1 cup milk	1 T. oil
1 T. McCormick® Oregano Leaves	1 (20 oz.) pkg. refrigerated shredded hash browns
1/2 tsp. salt	

Cook and stir sausage in large skillet on medium heat 5 minutes or until lightly browned. Add onion and bell pepper; cook and stir 5 minutes or until vegetables are tender. Set aside. Beat eggs in large bowl with wire whisk. Add milk, oregano, salt and pepper; mix well. Add sausage mixture, cheeses and tomatoes; mix well. Set aside. Pour oil into same skillet, swirling to coat the pan. Spread hash browns in bottom and up sides of pan. Pour egg mixture over potatoes. Cover. Cook on medium heat 10 to 15 minutes or until eggs are set. Makes 12 servings

Nutritional Information Per Serving: Calories 221, Total Fat 13g, Saturated Fat 6g, Cholesterol 122mg, Sodium 477mg, Protein 12g, Carbohydrates 14g, Dietary Fiber 2g

Pictured, Cooperative Connections

Zucchini Hot Dish

1 medium unpeeled zucchini, washed, seeded and cut into chunks	Sliced onion
1-1/4 cups uncooked rice	Sliced green pepper
Fresh sliced tomatoes	American cheese slices
	Uncooked bacon

Spray a 10x10-inch casserole dish. Layer zucchini chunks in bottom of pan. Sprinkle rice over top of zucchini. Place a layer of tomatoes, sprinkled with oregano, salt and pepper over rice. Next, top this with a layer of onion, green pepper and cheese slices. Lastly, place layer of bacon over all. Bake, covered, at 350°F. for 1-1/2 hours. The raw ingredients will provide enough moisture to cook the rice.

Gail Lyngstad, Pierre, SD

Sandi's Tomato Garden Salad

3/4 cup sugar	6 large tomatoes, coarsely chopped
1/2 cup olive oil	1 large onion, coarsely chopped
2/3 cup tarragon vinegar	2 green peppers, coarsely chopped
2 T. yellow mustard	2 cucumbers, coarsely chopped (optional)
2 T. parsley	Rotini noodles, cooked
1 tsp. basil	
1 tsp. thyme	
Salt and pepper to taste	

In a large bowl, mix together first 8 ingredients. Add vegetables. Refrigerate overnight.

Sandi Polkinghorn, Lake City, SD

Apple Corn Bread Crisp

4 cups peeled, sliced tart apples, about 4 to 5 medium	1 (8.5 oz.) pkg. corn bread/muffin mix
3/4 cup packed brown sugar, divided	1 tsp. ground cinnamon (or to taste)
1/2 cup quick-cooking oats	5 T. cold butter, cubed

Stir together apples and 1/4 cup brown sugar. In another bowl, combine corn bread mix, oats, cinnamon and remaining brown sugar. Cut in butter until crumbly. Add 1/2 cup corn bread mixture to apples. Transfer to a greased 8-inch square baking dish. Sprinkle remaining corn bread mixture over top. Bake at 350°F. for 30 to 35 minutes or until filling is bubbly and topping golden brown. Serve warm.

Jean Osterman, Wheaton, MN

Please send your favorite pasta, slow cooker and holiday favorites recipes to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3).

Each recipe printed will be entered into a drawing for a prize in December 2018. All entries must include your name, mailing address, telephone number and cooperative name.



Always know where your equipment is in relation to power lines.

SAFETY DURING LONG HOURS

Make Time for Safety this Harvest Season

Harvest season often means putting in long hours, which can make it difficult to stay alert and on the lookout for hazards.

Manager of Operations Brian Bultje advises, “Safety starts with preparation. Be prepared for potential emergencies before the rush begins. Have a safety plan, and make sure that farm workers and family members are aware of it.”

Be sure that you can see well in the areas you are working. Consider adding extra lighting around grain bins and augers.

Take time to look up and out for electrical lines. Always be aware of where they are in relation to your equipment. Keep a minimum of 10 feet away, and lower extensions before moving equipment. If you see a sagging or low power line, contact your electric cooperative.

Also keep an eye out for guy wires. Although these wires are not energized, they can bring down live lines.

In equipment with auto-guidance systems, less focus is needed on steering. However, even while using a GPS with auto-steering, farm workers need to stay focused on their surroundings.

“Slow down, always stay alert, and take all recommended precautions. To help you do so, recognize when you need to take breaks so that you can be active and engaged in the farm work,” says Bultje.

Additional electrical safety tips include:

- Use a spotter when operating large machinery near lines.
- Inspect the height of equipment to determine clearance.
- Look up and use care when moving any equipment such as extending augers or raising the bed of grain trucks.
- Always set extensions to the lowest setting when moving to prevent contact with overhead lines. Grain augers should always be positioned horizontally before being moved.
- Never attempt to move a power line out of the way or raise it for clearance.

If the machinery you are operating does contact a power line, stay on the equipment. Immediately call 911, warn others to stay away, and wait for the utility crew to cut the power.

On the rare occasion that the machinery catches fire, only then should you leave the equipment. Jump off the equipment with your feet together and without touching the ground and machinery at the same time. Then, still keeping your feet together, hop or shuffle to safety as you leave the area. Never touch anything that is in contact with a power line.

Remember, while harvest is a busy season on the farm, it's still important to take the time to keep safety first.

Olinger Joins Mitchell Crew



Tim Olinger recently joined the Mitchell crew as a journeyman lineman.

Olinger is originally from Emery, SD, and his parents are Bill and LaVonne Olinger. He is married to Whitney (Morgan) Olinger, who is originally from Mitchell, SD, and works for ELO Prof. LLC in Huron, SD.

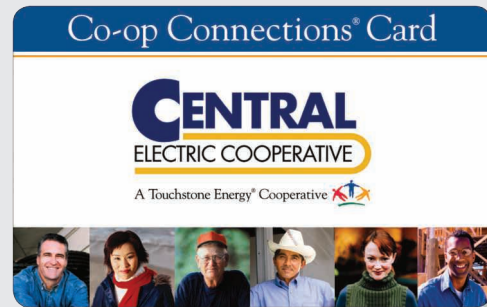
Olinger attended Mitchell Technical Institute and previously worked for Dakota Energy Cooperative at the Miller outpost for 3 ½ years. He has also worked at East River Electric Cooperative and Highline Construction.

Growing up in the area, Olinger said he's always wanted to work for Central Electric and looks forward to being closer to home. In his spare time, he helps on his family's farm and enjoys hunting and fishing.



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

Local Discounts with your Co-op Connections® Card



Your cooperative membership earns you discounts at local participating businesses.

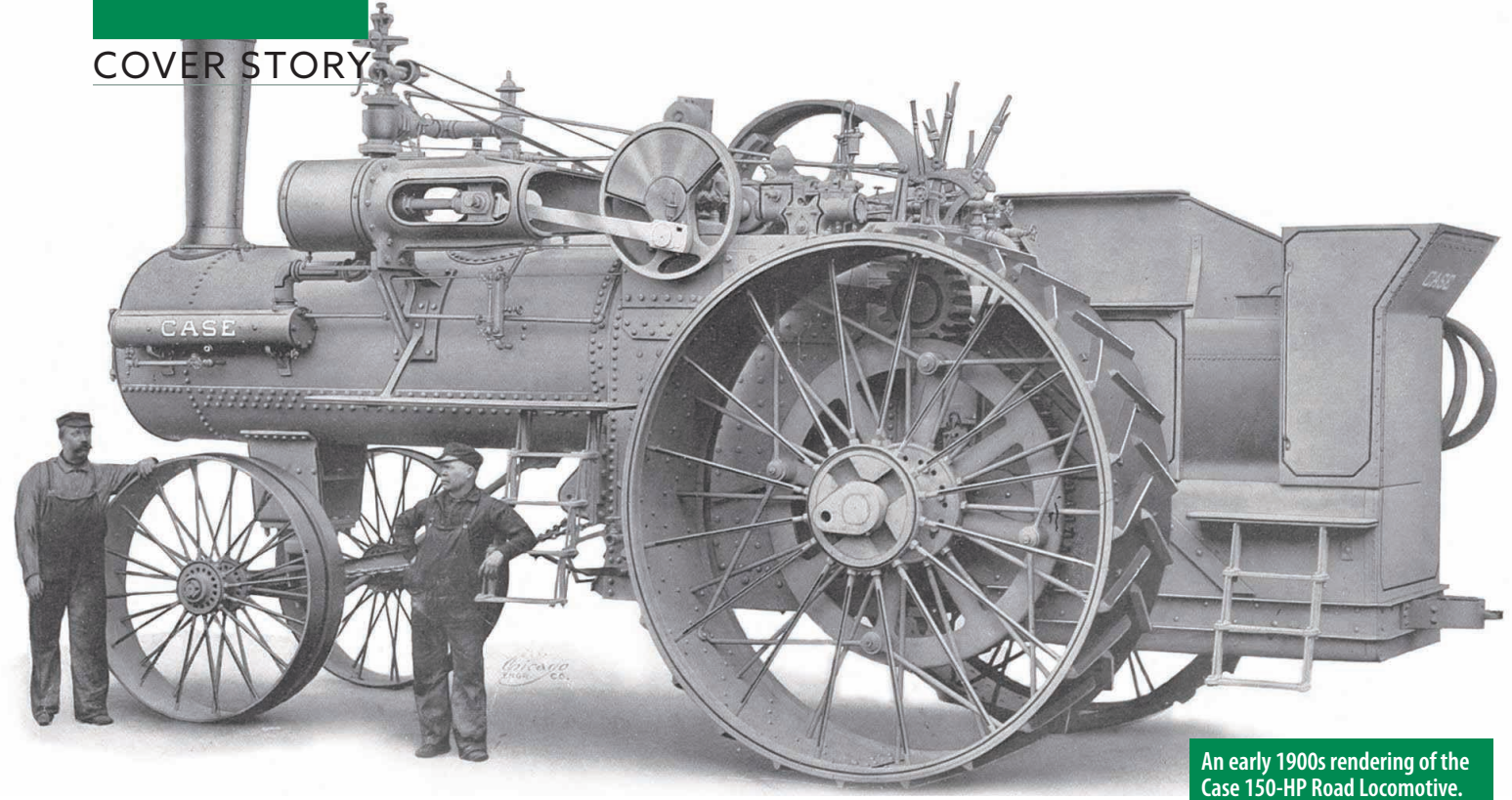
Simply show your Co-op Connections Discount Card and save!

- 1) **Der Platz - Bill & Ila's Bed & Breakfast, Mitchell, SD;**
\$10 off stay.
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1/2 price session fees.
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15% off labor for services.
- 5) **Graham's Interstate Mobil, Mitchell, SD;**
7 cents off gallon gas/fuel.
- 6) **Hair Expressions Salon, Chamberlain, SD;**
\$20 off full set of lashes; \$5 off manicure or pedicure.
- 7) **Ken's Service, Gann Valley, SD;**
10% off tire repair services.
- 8) **Johnson Lumber and Supply, Plankinton, SD;**
15% off all cash sales of \$50 and higher

For a full list of ways to save, visit www.connections.coop.

To request a card or become a participating business, visit www.centralelec.coop or call 800-477-2892 or 605-996-7516.





An early 1900s rendering of the Case 150-HP Road Locomotive.

STEAM POWER DREAM

Recreating the Case 150-HP Road Locomotive

Brenda Kleinjan

editor@sdrea.coop

A legacy preserved in pictures and technical drawings has been brought back to life and debuts Sept. 7-9 at the James Valley Threshing and Tractor Club Show at Andover, S.D.

More than 100 years ago, the largest steam tractor ever produced – the 150-horsepower Case Road Locomotive – rolled off the drawing boards and onto the landscape. Fewer than 10 were produced and the behemoth's sheer power created technical issues for its ongoing reliability. But despite the issues that would eventually silence its massive engine, the giant – its rear wheels stood 8 feet tall and the front wheels reached the shoulders of a full-grown man – made an impression on Kory Anderson.

Anderson, an entrepreneur and mechanical engineer started with an idea 12 years ago to build a scale-model replica of the 25-foot, 10-foot wide machine. He spent the ensuing years researching the machine – including a visit to the Case archives in Wisconsin, recreating the drawings in CAD and researching what materials would overcome the original issues caused by lack of metallurgical advancements 100 years ago.

Anderson crafted mahogany molds for the parts that would need to be cast at Dakota Foundry in Webster. The services of an Amish boilermaker in Ohio would be secured.

The machine's rear wheels – each standing 8 feet tall and

Kory Anderson, right, an entrepreneur and mechanical engineer, is bringing to life a replica of the Case 150-HP Road Locomotive.



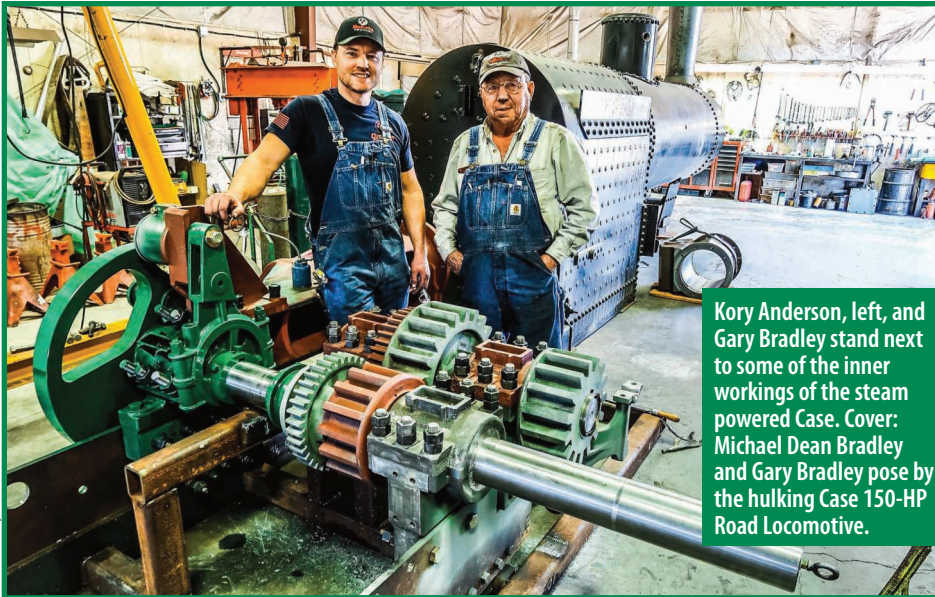
Case 150-HP Road Locomotive Specifications

from the Case archive documents:

- **BOILER** – Shell 42 inches in diameter.
- **TUBES** – Ninety-three 2 inch tubes, 108 1/2 inches long, of cold drawn, seamless steel tubing
- **FIRE BOX** – 58 1/4 inches long, 39 1/4 inches wide, and 45 inches high, made of the best open-hearth flange steel.
- **HEATING SURFACE** of boiler, 515 square feet. Grate area of boiler is 15.8 square feet.
- **BOILER PRESSURE** – The boiler tested at 350 pounds hydrostatic pressure, and can carry 160 pounds as a working pressure.
- **WATER TANK** – The capacity of the tank is about 500 gallons
- **WATER FEED** – An ejector will fill the water tank in eight minutes from any stream or other accessible water supply
- **FUEL CAPACITY** – The coal capacity is about 2,750 pounds.
- **ENGINE CYLINDER** – 14 inches diameter by 14 inch stroke.
- **HORSE POWER** – The engine easily develops 150 brake horse power running at its normal speed of 300 revolutions per minute.
- **TRACTION POWER** – The engine has been built for heavy hauling purposes and is capable of drawing 40 to 50 tons up grades from 5 percent to 10 percent. The engine itself, not loaded, will go up a 40 percent grade.

www.jamesvalleythreshers.com/case150.htm

Photos by Anderson Industries, LLC



Kory Anderson, left, and Gary Bradley stand next to some of the inner workings of the steam powered Case. Cover: Michael Dean Bradley and Gary Bradley pose by the hulking Case 150-HP Road Locomotive.

measuring 3 feet wide – would need to be fabricated. Finished, they would weigh three tons each. Parts would be painted, lettering and graphics would be applied. And thousands of hours would be spent breathing life into a machine not heard from since the 1920s.

In the age of railroads and horse-drawn power, the turn of the 20th century saw some innovative tractors that would transform the agriculture. The Case Road Locomotive had the potential to eclipse them all. Designed to move heavy loads where rail lines didn't exist, it was used to haul copper ore in New Mexico, and was used for jobs ranging from plowing beet fields, threshing and hauling stone from a quarry in states including Georgia, Kansas,

Kentucky, New York and Wisconsin.

The thing was built for power, if not speed. (In low gear, it crawled along at just over 2.5 miles an hour, while high speed doubled the pace, reaching more than 5.6 miles per hour.)

While the original machine sold for around \$4,000 in 1904 (roughly four times the cost of a 1904 Cadillac). The 2018 version will cost considerably more: an estimated \$1 million.

For more about the build, visit <https://www.facebook.com/Anderson-Industries-LLC-115448931876302/>

For more about the Threshing Show, go to <https://www.facebook.com/jvthreshers/> or <http://www.jamesvalleythreshers.com/>



Among those lending a hand to the project's build are Mark Knox, left, and Bob Johnson, second from right. Johnson is system support/member services manager at Codington-Clark Electric in Watertown.

The Story Behind the Switch

Power Supply Tour

**Patrick Soukup**

Manager of Member Services & Marketing

In addition to coal and natural gas, over 1/3 of our power comes from renewable resources.

In July, Central Electric members and I ventured to North Dakota for our annual Power Supply Bus Tour.

We toured the Oahe Dame, Dakota Gasification Company (DGC), Antelope Valley Station (AVS), and the Coteau Freedom Coal Mine.

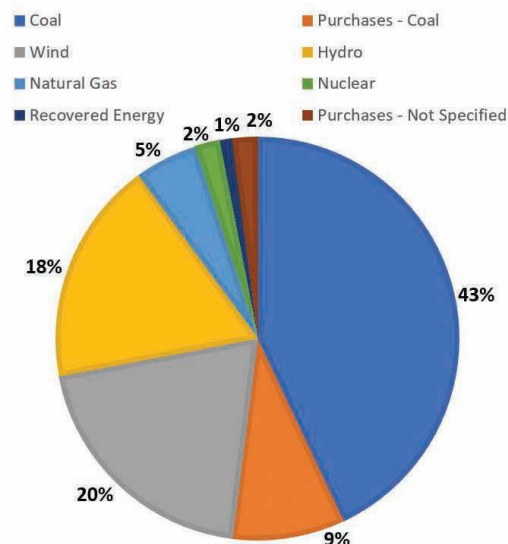
DGC uses coal to produce synthetic natural gas, liquid nitrogen, urea and other commonly used commodities.

AVS, the newest of the coal-based power plants, can produce 900 mW of power per hour (or 9 million watts at 100% capacity). Antelope Valley is a “zero-discharge” facility, which means water can only leave through evaporation.

These two facilities receive their coal from the Freedom Mine, the largest lignite coal mine in the U.S. Next to the mine are acres of reclaimed land, formerly mined for coal, that have been reconstructed, seeded, and are now home to wildlife.

In addition to coal and natural gas, over 1/3 of our power comes from renewable resources. We are unique in South Dakota for our access to hydroelectric energy from the Missouri River. We also receive

2017 EAST RIVER SALES TO ALL REQUIREMENTS MEMBERS



approximately one-fifth of our supply from wind energy. The Crow Lake Wind project east of Chamberlain is the largest co-op owned wind project in the U.S.

The key to providing you with the most reliable and cost-effective power is a diversified portfolio. If you want to see your power in action, mark your calendars for next year's tour on July 17-29, 2019.

Bus tour participants made one last stop at the “Cathedral on the Prairie” near Hoven, SD.



Annual Life-Saving Exercise

Pole Top Rescue

Central Electric's linemen conduct an annual exercise called "Pole Top Rescue." Each lineman is required to climb a pole, secure bare rope around the pole and a life-size "dummy," and lower the stranded dummy to safety.

The personnel take the exercise very seriously and are quick to share tips or constructive criticism with each other on how they can perform the exercise more efficiently.

"Being proficient in recovering an injured lineman from a pole increases the chances of survival," says Tyson Brooks, Loss Control Coordinator for the South Dakota Rural Electric Association.

"The pole top rescue exercise is completed each year as a refresher so the line crew can maintain this proficiency in the event that they would ever need to rescue an injured coworker. The sooner that life saving measures can be given, the greater the chance of survival."

Crews also performed bucket rescue to practice rescuing injured personnel from an aerial bucket.

Additionally, personnel conducted dielectric testing on the aerial boom of each bucket truck. The booms and bucket of each truck are insulated to protect the personnel in the bucket while working on energized lines or in case of accidental truck contact with the line.

The dielectric testing is completed by connecting the bucket to an energized line and a grounded source. Then, voltage readings are taken on the bucket. Crews perform this exercise twice per year, although it is only required once.



Lineman Tony Roth performs "pole top rescue"

Tree Trimming to Begin in Davison and Hanson Counties

Central Electric has again contracted with Asplundh Tree Expert Company to trim trees along our lines.

They plan to begin the week of August 13.

Trimming will begin in Beulah and Lisbon townships, west of Mitchell. Then, crews plan to address some areas in need in Prosper township in Davison county and Hanson and Jasper townships in Hanson county.

Crews will be working in vehicles and equipment marked with Asplundh decals.

Tree trimming protects our line and service reliability by preventing storm damages or other tree-related issues. It also prevents potential safety hazards.

For questions or concerns, contact our office at 800-477-2892 or 605-996-7516.



Power in Preparation

Co-ops Committed to Preparedness Every Day

Derrill Holly

NRECA

Preparation is the key to success in many things we do in life. Planning, practice and thoughtful assessment provide opportunities to work out potential problems in advance.

September is National Preparedness Month, and the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency is encouraging all of us to prepare for emergencies. But most of us do better when we prepare for the routine, the extraordinary and the unexpected.

For electric cooperatives in South Dakota and western Minnesota, preparation plays a huge role in ensuring that our members have the electricity they need as soon as they flip a light switch or start an appliance.

When a co-op crew pulls a truck into a loading bay, warehouse workers have already pulled the parts and equipment needed for that crew's scheduled day's work. When a member services representative discusses balanced billing by telephone, they're helping a member with preparations to ease the impact of seasonal high bills.

When meteorologists call for exceptionally hot or cold weather, electric co-ops work closely with their generation and transmission cooperatives (G&Ts) to ensure adequate supplies of electricity are reserved to meet anticipated demand.

South Dakota and western Minnesota electric co-ops are constantly preparing for the future. Engineers and construction crews design, build and upgrade the electric system to move electricity from

Be Prepared Before the Storm

Here are some basic items you should store in your home in case of emergency:







-  **Water:** Three day supply, one gallon per person per day
-  **Food:** Three day supply, non-perishable, high-energy
-  **Clothing, bedding, and sanitation supplies**
-  **Tools:** Can opener, plates, utensils, flashlight, batteries, cash, bleach, hand sanitizer
-  **First aid supplies, medicine**
-  **Important documents**



Photo Caption.

Source: American Red Cross, Federal Emergency Management Agency

power plants and substations to farms, homes and businesses.

All of these actions prepare electric co-ops to deal with the daily challenges of meeting the electricity needs of their members. But working together, we put in just as much effort preparing for the uncertainties posed by flooding, tornadoes, wildfires, high winds, blizzards and ice storms. Electric co-ops maintain and constantly update emergency response plans. Employees train for major events and know in advance what their primary and secondary roles would be. Electric co-ops also subscribe to mutual aid agreements. That's why you see trucks and crews from co-ops in other states in your communities when major power outages occur.

We also work with state and national

officials to help ensure that crews can get to your communities when they are needed and have the lodging, food and support necessary to work effectively far from home.

September may be National Preparedness Month, but the region's electric cooperatives are committed to preparedness every day – for the routine, the extraordinary and the unexpected.

Derrill Holly writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the national trade association representing more than 900 local electric cooperatives. From growing suburbs to remote farming communities, electric co-ops serve as engines of economic development for 42 million Americans across 56 percent of the nation's landscape.

Are You Ready?

The heat of August and September make it hard to remember that winter snows will be here before we know it.

The South Dakota Office of Emergency Management offers the following preparedness tips:

Winter storms, especially blizzards, can be very dangerous. Preparing before extremely cold, snowy weather occurs can save your life. Know what winter storm watches and warnings mean. If a Winter Storm Watch has been issued for your area, hazardous winter weather conditions (such as snow greater than 6 inches in 24 hours, winds gusting over 35 mph, or visibilities less than a 1/4 mile) are expected in the next 12 to 36 hours. A Winter Storm Warning means the conditions listed for the Watch exist.

Try to stay indoors during a blizzard. If you have to go outside to check on animals or for another reason, be sure to dress warmly in loose fitting layers of clothing.

Wear heavy gloves to protect your hands and heavy socks with boots that will not absorb water. Cover your mouth so that you don't breathe in freezing cold air that can damage your lungs. Keep your body dry.

Know the signs of hypothermia or frostbite.

If you are traveling at all when a winter storm is possible, then you should always bring emergency supplies with you. You can never predict when you might get stranded and need them. If stranded, make sure you stay in your vehicle. Run your vehicle about 10 minutes every hour. Open windows a little for fresh air to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning. Make yourself visible to rescuers by turning on the dome light at night, tie a colored cloth to your antenna, and raise the hood after the snow stops falling.

If you are caught outside, find a dry shelter and cover all exposed parts of the body. If shelter is not available, prepare a lean-to, wind break, or snow-cave for protection from the wind.

Build a fire for heat and to attract attention. Place rocks around the fire to absorb and reflect heat. Do not eat snow, it will lower your body temperature. Melt it first.

Weather related dangers can be very unexpected. Being prepared for a potential hazardous situation could save your life.



Supply Kit

Prepare your family for any disaster by putting together an emergency supply kit. Make sure your kit is always ready, easily accessible and stored in a durable container.

Recommended Kit Supplies

- Water, one gallon per person per day for drinking and sanitation
- Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered radio and extra batteries
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask or cotton t-shirt to help filter the air
- Moist towelettes for sanitation
- Wrench or pliers
- Can opener for food
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape
- Unique family needs, such as daily prescriptions, infant formula or diapers, and copies of important family documents
- Garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation

Other Items to Include

- Change of clothing
- Sleeping bag or blanket
- Hat, mitten, scarf
- Waterproof matches
- Toys, books, puzzles, games
- Extra house and car keys
- List of contact names and numbers
- Sturdy shoes
- Gloves for clearing debris
- Tent
- Fuel for cooking
- Plastic knives, forks, spoons
- Paper plates and cups
- Paper towels
- Heavy-duty aluminum foil
- Hand sanitizer
- Bar soap and liquid detergent
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Feminine supplies
- Toilet paper
- Household bleach with no additives
- Newspaper to wrap garbage and waste
- Ax, shovel, broom
- Screwdriver, hammer
- Coil of one-half inch rope
- Knife or razor blades
- Garden hose for siphoning and fire fighting

Source: <https://dps.sd.gov/emergency-services/emergency-management/preparedness>

The Hidden Costs of Summer.

Your A/C Works. Now What?



Lincoln Feistner

Sales & Project Manager

We all know the difference from returning to a car that was parked in the sun as opposed to the shade. The same is true when sun pours into your home.

You've had your air conditioning system cleaned and inspected by a qualified professional. So now you're ready for the "dog days" of summer with lower utility costs and a more comfortable indoor environment, right?

Well, maybe not. The truth is there may be a number of undetected issues or habits in your home that can continue to put the heat on your energy bills.

Take back control

Thermostats and other controls are designed to save energy while maintaining a comfortable indoor environment. Without seasonal adjustments, however, neglected controls can end up wasting energy. Check your cooling settings, especially for when you're away or at work.

Ducts not all in a row.

Ductwork typically remains hidden behind walls and ceilings, but leaky ducts can show up on your summer energy bills through higher cooling costs. Inspect accessible ductwork for leaks and seal with mastic tape.

The "open door" policy.

An open garage door may be an invitation to let friends and neighbors know you're home. However, a cooler garage in the summer will save energy.

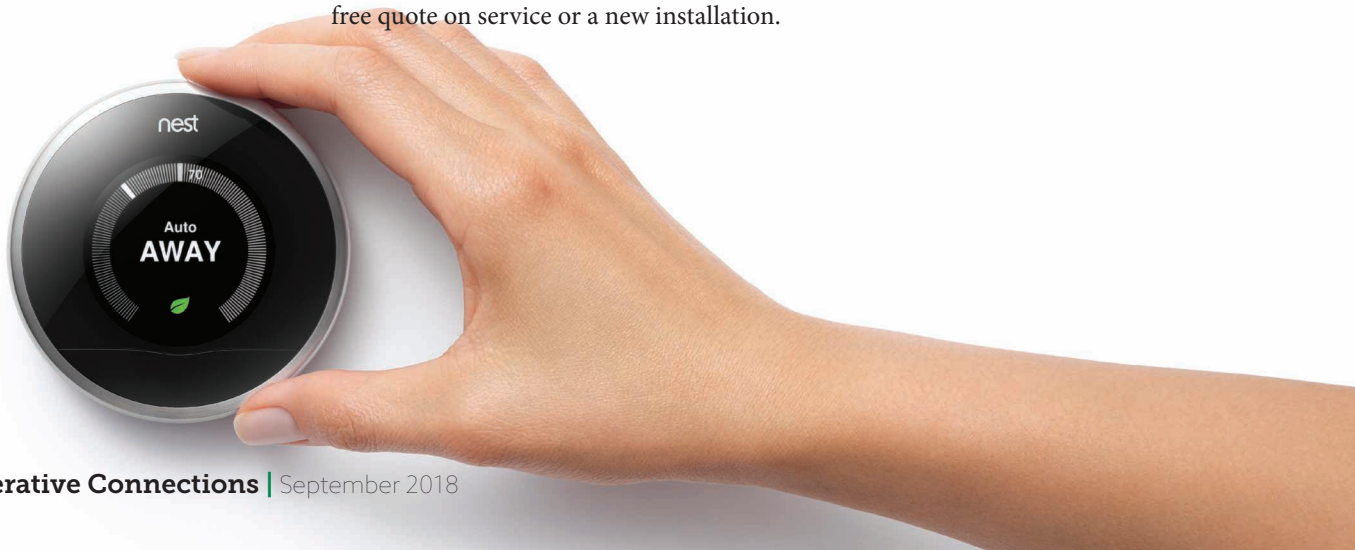
Keep the sunshine outdoors.

We all know the difference from returning to a car that was parked in the sun as opposed to the shade. The same is true when sun pours into your home through the windows. Shades, blinds and drapes are a great way to block heat that is a result of direct sunlight.

Maximize air flow.

Purchase a jumbo pack of new HVAC air filters and replace your old filters monthly. Remove anything that may be blocking the return air grill, including dust build-up. Having maximum air flow will make your home more comfortable and increase efficiency.

If you think you may be experiencing other issues with your heating and cooling system, we have the qualified technicians to serve you. Contact me at 800-477-2892 or 605-996-7516 or visit www.centralec.coop. We can provide a free quote on service or a new installation.



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June - September Thursdays

Mitchell Farmers Market, 4:30 to 7 p.m., Corn Palace Plaza, Mitchell, SD, Contact Maria Payne at 605-995-8048 or mpayne@cityofmitchell.org (no event Aug. 23)

August 25-26

Fall River Hot Air Balloon Festival, Sunrise each day at airport, Activities all day, Night Glow Saturday at 7:30 p.m., Hot Springs, SD 605-745-4140

August 25, September 8 and 22, October 6

Lawn Mower Races, Pukwana, SD, 605-680-1718 or 605-682-9781

August 30

Value Added Ag Day and Specialty Crop Workshops at the State Fair, SD Value Added Ag Development Center and SD Specialty Producers, Huron, SD, 605-681-6793 or SDSPAinfo@gmail.com

September 2

Studebaker Car Show, Custer, SD, 605-673-2244

September 2

Billy Bolander Memorial Demolition Derby, Winner, SD, 605-469-6232

September 6-9

Senior State Games, Sioux Falls, SD, Howard Bich at 605-491-0635 or visit southdakotaseniorgames.org

September 7-9

Sixth Annual S.D. Fiddle Festival & Contest, 4-H Grounds, 901 Whiting Drive, Yankton, SD, fiddlersofsouthdakota.com



August 30-September 3
South Dakota State Fair, Huron, SD, 605-353-7340

September 7-9

James Valley Threshing and Tractor Show, Andover, SD, jvthreshers@gmail.com

September 8

Sidewalk Arts Festival, Sioux Falls, SD, 605-367-7397

September 8

Eggs, Mushrooms and Microgreens Tours, Noon to 4:30 p.m., Free, Brandon, SD, Contact 605-681-6793 or SDSPAinfo@gmail.com

September 8-9

Fifth Annual Grape Stomp Festival, With the Wind Winery, Rosholt, SD, 605-212-5166,

September 8-9

Twin Rivers Old Iron & Kuchen Festival, Delmont, SD, Contact George Sandhoff at 605-505-0535

September 8-9

Quilt Show, Hill City, SD, 605-574-2810

September 9

Antique Car and Tractor Parade, Registration 10 a.m. to Noon, Parade 1 p.m., Farmer, SD, Contact Vonnie at 605-239-4498

September 11

S.D. Co-op Hall of Fame Induction Banquet, The Lodge, Deadwood, SD, 605-945-2548

September 13-15

St. Joseph's Indian School Annual Powwow, Chamberlain, SD, 605-234-3452

September 14-15

NESD Celtic Faire and Games, Aberdeen, SD, 605-380-5828

September 14-16

North Country Fiber Fair, Watertown, SD, 605-956-7909

September 14-16

Dakota Western Heritage Festival, Fort Pierre, SD, 605-222-0079

September 21-22

Holiday Arts Fall Craft Show, Masonic Temple, Mitchell, SD, 605-359-2049

September 21-23

14th Annual OutKasts Car Show, Saturday 11 a.m. Show, 8 p.m. Dance, Corn Palace, Mitchell, SD, Call Dave at 605-996-7913 or Dan at 605-999-9134

To have your event listed on this page, send complete information, including date, event, place and contact to your local electric cooperative. Include your name, address and daytime telephone number. Information must be submitted at least eight weeks prior to your event. Please call ahead to confirm date, time and location of event.