



Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



Current News

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Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Chair.....Leland “Judge” Barth
Vice Chair.....Casey Wells
Secretary-Treasurer.....Pam Geiger

Directors:

Mark Doll
Vern Frederick
Lance Froelich
Chad Harrison
Bob J. Leingang
Bonnie Tomac

Co-General Managers/CEOs:

Chris Baumgartner
Donald A. Franklund

www.morgransou.com

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Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative is dedicated to providing affordable, reliable energy and services that support and unite our member-owners.

We also aspire to meet the four Touchstone Energy core values of integrity, innovation, accountability and commitment to community.

Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative, Inc., is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

TOGETHERWESAVE.COM

It’s annual meeting time! Join your electric cooperative for the message, meal, director election and much more

Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative’s annual meeting will be held on Friday, July 15, at Prairie Knights Casino and Resort. The address is 7932 Hwy. 24, Fort Yates.

This year, three Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative members are vying for one of three board director positions up for election. The positions include one Grant County position, one for the Mandan Area position, and one for the Morton County position.

The Mor-Gran-Sou board of directors approved the following list of candidates. Please cast your vote on July 15!

Grant County:

Vernard Frederick, Flasher
Delwin Petrick, Elgin

Mandan Area:

Leland Barth, Mandan
Cody J. Hatzenbuhler, Mandan
Clyde Howe, Mandan

Morton County:

Dennis Dutke, Mandan
Jay Larson, Almont
Travis Wolf, Mandan

Please note the meeting schedule:

3:30 p.m. CT – Registration begins
5:30 p.m. CT – Business meeting call to order; election of candidates
6:00 p.m. CT – Business meeting recessed; banquet served
7:00 p.m. CT – Business meeting reconvenes

PLEASE NOTE: On July 15th, when the meeting is called to order at 5:30 pm CT, no further ballots will be distributed at the registration table. However, meal tickets will be available until 6 p.m. Please plan on being there in time to vote.

Head west for less!

Some of North Dakota’s Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives are making it more affordable to take their families west, including Mor-Gran-Sou. This summer, head to Medora, where electric cooperative members are eligible for a **15-percent discount** in association with:

- Tickets to the Medora Musical
- A Pitchfork Steak Fondue
- Lodging at the Bunkhouse Motel, Badlands Motel or Rough Riders Hotel
- Bully Pulpit Golf Course

Mor-Gran-Sou members, if you travel to beautiful Medora anytime this summer, call 1-800-MEDORA-1 for reservations and use the code TOUCH2016 to receive your 15-percent savings. Members also receive 20 percent off at the Cowboy Hall of Fame by providing the discount code TOUCH2016 at the door.



Julie Armijo promoted

Mor-Gran-Sou announces the promotion of Julie Armijo, former member services clerk, who started serving as the co-op's member services representative II in April. Julie works in Flasher.



Julie represents the cooperative at educational events and trade shows, promote youth opportunities and electrical safety, and meets with members. Following some restructuring in the office, Julie has become more involved in working with service orders, delinquent accounts, billing and more.

"I enjoy learning as part of my job," she recently said.

Mor-Gran-Sou congratulates Julie Armijo on her well-deserved promotion.

JULY 27: KX/CO-OP DAY at the N.D. State Fair

The KX/Co-op Day at the N.D. State Fair will be held July 27 in Minot. If you plan to attend the fair on July 27, please stop by the Flasher office or the Mandan Service Center (2816 37th St. N.W.) and pick up reduced-price tickets for \$1 off gate admission, a free breakfast served near the Commercial II Building on the fairgrounds, \$5 off unlimited-ride wristbands for carnival rides, \$1 off the Ranch Rodeo admission and a free ice cream social at the KX/co-op tent.

Make and haul hay with safety in mind

Electricity can be deadly if overhead power lines are touched by large equipment. Ranchers should always be 10 feet away from power lines on all sides while making and hauling hay.

Practice extreme caution and use a spotter to make sure you and your tall equipment have adequate clearance.

Another electrical hazard on the farm or ranch: Guy wires, used to stabilize utility poles, are grounded. When one of the guy wires is broken, it can become charged with electricity. If you break a guy wire, call Mor-Gran-Sou. Don't attempt to fix it.

G&T REPORTS

Each year, Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative asks our power suppliers, Basin Electric Power Cooperative and Western Area Power Administration, to update our members on the accomplishments and challenges of our generation and transmission cooperatives. The following is a condensed update. The full reports can be read in the July local pages of *North Dakota Living*.

BASIN ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATIVE

No matter what challenges Basin Electric faces, our defined purpose will always be doing what's best to serve our members.

Last year, Basin Electric's board of directors and staff strategized to define the cooperative's course. Three external elements were key considerations in setting the plan: living in a carbon-constrained world; dealing with rapidly evolving technology, particularly in the form of distributed generation; and mitigating the risks of commodity prices.

Basin Electric marked a number of defining milestones, and having transparent goals was vital. We completed integration into Southwest Power Pool (SPP) and bought out of the Rural Utilities Service (RUS).

This year, in partnership with Western Fuels Association, we reached a settlement with BNSF Railway on a rate case dating back to 2004. We are also pleased with how Basin Electric's Our Power, My Safety initiative is growing across the cooperative's facilities.

One of our largest challenges is the Environmental Protection Agency's final Clean Power Plan rule. We continue to work through the process legally, legislatively and publically.

While we know there are more challenges ahead, as long as we remain true to our values, mission and members, Basin Electric will continue to be a strong, stable cooperative for many years.

WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION

We are living in amazing times in the energy business. The changes in technology, the innovation in markets and the shifting sands of electricity production present us with challenges and opportunities not seen in the last 50 years. This year is particularly exciting for Upper Great Plains (UGP).

We've taken many strides over the past year. Some of the many include:

- Launching The Source at www.wapa.gov. The Source provides our customers with one-stop shopping for operational data and financial information.
- Updating Western's logo and modernizing our identity.
- Instituting longer contract terms for our customers.
- Joining the Southwest Power Pool and achieving full membership in a Regional Transmission Organization.
- Making system upgrades in the Mor-Gran-Sou service area.

Greatly influenced by water conditions, firm power rates have been stable since 2010. The 2015 minor rate adjustment modified the drought adder and base rate components with no change to the overall rate. A decrease to the drought adder is projected for January 2017, and based on current conditions, the drought debt along with its associated interest cost could be paid off as early as 2018. We will continue to monitor water conditions throughout the year.

2016 will be an important year for UGP. With support from Mor-Gran-Sou and the other Pick-Sloan customers, we will create a successful future for Western, UGP and our customers.

Also in the JULY issue of *North Dakota Living*:

- Line conversion increases system reliability
- Meeting minutes & more

