

MANAGER'S MESSAGE: EPA RULING CAN IMPACT RELIABILITY



As an electric cooperative, our primary concern is the reliability of the service we provide to our valued members. It is with this commitment in mind we share with our members the deep concern regarding recent developments that threaten our local power supply and, consequently, our way of life. Our cooperative, along with the North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives, stands firmly against the new power plant

rules released by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on April 25.

These rules, while purportedly aiming to cut emissions from power plants, pose a dire risk to the reliability of our electric grid. They would force the premature retirement of reliable, dispatchable, baseload electric generation assets, putting the security of our power supply in jeopardy.

The timelines set forth by the EPA are unrealistic, and the technologies required are not yet deployable. For instance, existing coal-fired power plants would be required to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by a staggering 90% by 2032, necessitating the use of carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) technologies. While CCS shows promise and is actively being pursued by organizations like Minnkota Power Cooperative, it is not yet proven or commercially available.

Furthermore, while existing natural gas plants are exempt from immediate compliance, new natural gas units must

adhere to strict greenhouse gas standards outlined in the new rule. This regulatory environment threatens the very foundation of our energy infrastructure.

Looking ahead to 2032, the prospect of a future without coal is deeply troubling. As demand for electricity continues to rise, these EPA rules threaten to exacerbate reliability challenges, as highlighted by the North American Reliability Corporation. The North American Reliability Corporation, a not-for-profit international regulatory authority whose mission is to assure the effective and efficient reduction of risks to the reliability and security of the electric grid, estimates the demand for electricity will grow 10% through 2032, while the electric generation to meet that demand is projected to grow only 4% in that time.

As a community, we pride ourselves on innovation and progress. Our electric cooperatives have diversified and made strides forward, but we cannot compromise on reliability. The implications of these regulations are dire: more blackouts, higher costs and increased uncertainty for families and businesses.

We urge our policymakers to consider the practical implications of these rules and prioritize the reliability of our power supply. It is essential we work together to ensure a sustainable energy future without sacrificing the reliability and security of our local grid.

Jason Bentz, Co-General Manager/ CEO

JOIN US AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

-  Thursday, June 13
-  Mandan Service Center, 2719 34th St NW
-  5 p.m. (CT) Registration & Picnic Meal
- 5:15 p.m. Entertainment
- 6 p.m. Business Meeting



Mor-Gran-Sou Electric
202 6th Ave. W. – P.O. Box 297
Flasher, ND 58535-0297
701-597-3301 | 701-663-0297
1-800-750-8212
info@morgransou.com

Underground Line Locates
Toll-free: 1-800-795-0555 or 811

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Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



BISMARCK LARKS

GROUP OUTING

TOUCHSTONE ENERGY MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY



JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OUT AT THE BALLPARK

DATE: MONDAY, JULY 8TH

TIME: 6:35 PM (GATES OPEN AT 5:35 PM)

LOCATION: BISMARCK MUNICIPAL BALLPARK



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TICKET OPTIONS

Ticket options are on a first come, first serve basis. Secure your ticket today!
Tickets include a bleacher seat and Larks hat!

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Scan the QR code to the right to claim your \$5 ticket!



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EXPLORE IT, ADORE IT AND SAVE!

In partnership with the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation, Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative is once again making excursions to Medora more affordable for families.

This summer, our members are eligible for a 15% discount off the following reservations:

- Tickets to the Medora Musical
- Pitchfork Steak Fondue
- Gospel Brunch Tickets
- Bully Pulpit Golf Course
- Old Town Theater shows

Lodging at any of the following:

- Badlands Motel
- Elkhorn Quarters
- Rough Riders Hotel

Mor-Gran-Sou Electric members can use the code "TOUCH2024" for the discount. The code is good for reservations by phone, website or in-person.