



# Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



## Current News

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### Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative, Inc.

202 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. W. – PO Box 297  
Flasher, N.D. 58535-0297  
Phone: 701-597-3301  
701-663-0297  
Toll-free: 1-800-750-8212  
Fax: 701-597-3915

Email us: [info@morgransou.com](mailto:info@morgransou.com)

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

### 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](http://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.*

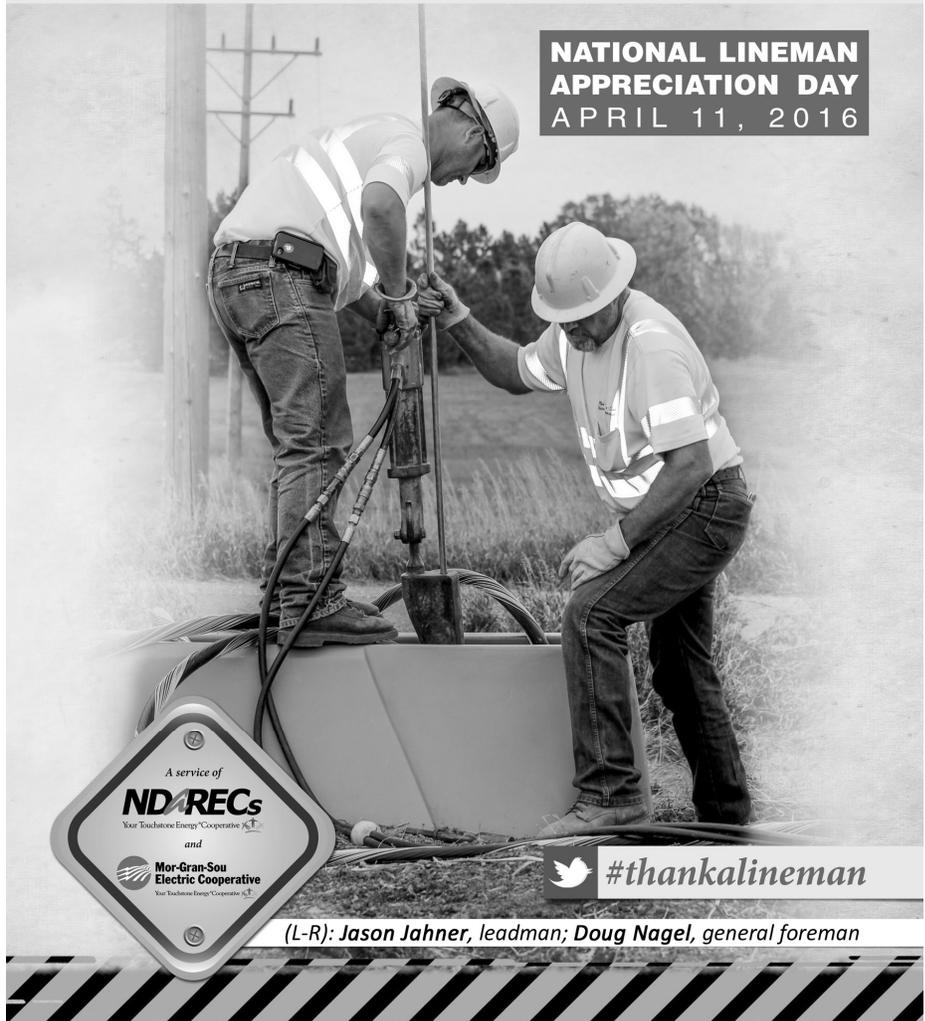
*We also aspire to meet the four Touchstone Energy core values of integrity, innovation, accountability and commitment to community.*

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

**TOGETHERWESAVE.COM**

## PLAN TOGETHER. STAY SAFE TOGETHER.

**NATIONAL LINEMAN APPRECIATION DAY**  
APRIL 11, 2016



## Keeping our electric system as reliable as possible



Tree trimming is a regular part of your electric cooperative’s operations.

Mor-Gran-Sou, like all electric utilities, is required to maintain appropriate clearance between trees and electric transmission and distribution lines. Trees need to be trimmed, and in some cases removed, to minimize potential power outages and to eliminate fire and safety hazards due to trees contacting energized electric lines.

Mor-Gran-Sou typically uses local contract tree-trimming crews to perform this task. Please know they are working on your cooperative’s behalf to help keep our electric system as reliable and safe as possible.



## Mor-Gran-Sou partners with Summit Utility Services for locates

Calling North Dakota One Call is free, easy — and it's the law — prior to digging or excavating on your property. By contacting 811, you request a locate of the underground utility lines.

Mor-Gran-Sou is partnering with Summit Utility Services to provide locates on behalf of the co-op. Randy Ressler, manager of operations for Mor-Gran-Sou, says it makes sense to outsource this seasonal job.

In the April local pages of *North Dakota Living*, learn about the locating process — and why it is important and necessary in protecting public safety.



## ANNUAL MEETING July 15, 2016

Prairie Knights Casino and Resort,  
Fort Yates

## Youth Tour: Becker's next step in making a difference

Six years ago when the April 2010 snow and ice storm devastated the Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative power system, Caitlyn Becker and her family went without power for two-and-a-half weeks. What she remembers most about that time wasn't the lack of heat, lights, or the ability to charge her cell phone and other electronic devices. It was the moment she and her mother were driving away from their home and they saw some Mor-Gran-Sou linemen eating lunch in their truck on the side of the road. Despite the inconveniences the Becker family had been experiencing on their farm, her mother insisted on stopping to thank the men for their continued efforts. That kindness and understanding left a lasting impression.



Prior to the storm, Caitlyn, a junior at Flasher Public School, didn't know much about electric cooperatives, other than one provided power to her home north of Flasher. But from that moment forward, she learned the benefits (and sometimes challenges) of being a member-owner — and that accountability and commitment to community are more than words spoken at Mor-Gran-Sou. These Touchstone Energy® Cooperative values can be seen every day in the actions of the employees who work together to provide safe, affordable and reliable electric service every day.

Caitlyn has since learned a lot about her family's electric cooperative. The daughter of members Joe and Jackie Becker, Caitlyn entered the annual Electric Cooperative Youth Tour essay-writing contest and earned a free trip to Washington, D.C. She answered the question, "*Pick one of the four Touchstone Energy core values — innovation, integrity, accountability or commitment to community — and describe how you see this in action at Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative.*"

In Mor-Gran-Sou's April *North Dakota Living* local pages, read excerpts from Caitlyn's essay and learn what she will experience on this year's Youth Tour, scheduled from June 11 to 17 in Washington, D.C.

## Watch for spring hazards in the field

Many farmers are busy preparing tillage equipment, sprayers and planters for spring fieldwork. Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative urges farmers to look for electric hazards around the farm as they prepare for planting.

The most common cause of contact with overhead power lines is operating machinery such as large tractors with front loaders, portable grain augers, fold-up cultivators, grain elevators and any equipment with an antenna. Handling long items such as irrigation pipe, ladders and rods also poses the risk of contact with power lines.

Overhead power lines are necessary to deliver electricity to farmsteads and rural homes, but the electricity can be deadly if wires are touched by large equipment.

Farmers should be aware of power lines while using large equipment for spring tillage. Farmers and their equipment should always be 10 feet away from power lines on all sides. Practice extreme caution and use a spotter to make sure you stay far away from power lines when you use tall equipment.

### Also in the APRIL issue of *North Dakota Living*:

- Mor-Gran-Sou remembers former board director Emil Riehl
- Board meeting minutes and more