

Spotlight

July 2023



Let's Do the Summer Shift

As temperatures rise, so does the demand for electricity. Dunn Energy Cooperative has a summer heavy energy load. Members use more energy during the hot days of summer than the rest of the year – the heating season included. The Summer Shift program was started many years ago by Dairyland Power Cooperative, our energy wholesaler, to help move energy usage outside of peak demand times to help lower the cost of purchasing power. This is a voluntary program designed to shift nonessential electricity use to before 1 p.m. or after 7 p.m. June through August. These are times when electricity use is not at its peak and not as expensive.

If a member shifts their electricity use, they may not necessarily save energy. They could use the same amount of electricity, just at a different time of the day. That is still beneficial because it means the cooperative's wholesale power provider did not have to purchase that power when electricity costs are more expensive. When the cooperative saves, so do members. This shift will help to keep rates reasonable over time.

The price of electricity purchased on the grid changes continuously during the day. This change is

based on the need for electricity balanced with available generation resources. As energy needs rise during the day, the price of electricity increases. This is because more generation resources, like power plants, solar arrays, and wind turbines, are needed to power the homes, farms, and businesses on our lines. When temperatures cool in the evening, electricity demand drops and the price of electricity reflects that, becoming cheaper.

When a member chooses to shift their electricity use, it helps spread the electricity use throughout the day. The less electricity cooperative members use when prices are at their highest, the more stable Dunn Energy Cooperative can keep our rates. The more members who choose to participate, the more impactful these savings become.

If you want to help, you can watch our social media channels for alerts. There will also be radio ads and email notifications to alert you to the need for load shifting.

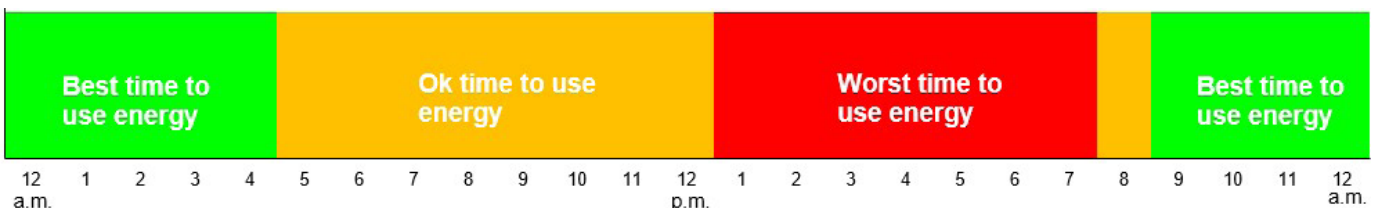
Tips to do the Summer Shift

- Set your thermostat to 78 degrees (or a level that is comfortable for the home, but



a couple of degrees higher than normal).

- Closing curtains and shades will help the home feel cooler, longer.
- A ceiling fan or table fan throughout the afternoon will help circulate air – but remember that fans cool people, not air, so only use them if you're in the room.
- Set up a schedule for your smart thermostat and smart lighting options, ensuring a minimal amount of energy is used between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.
- Charge electric vehicles overnight.
- Set your water heater to 120 degrees.
- If possible, dry clothes outside





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To enroll in Auto Pay, login to your SmartHub account by visiting www.dunnenenergy.com. Once logged in click on the "Billing & Payments" tab and choose "Auto Pay Program." Questions? Visit us at www.dunnenergy.com or call us at 715-232-6240.



FROM THE BOARD ROOM May 2023 Board Meeting Highlights



Monthly Reports:

Operations gave updates on several large projects including County Highway T, Country Jam, Rock Falls, and County Road H. It was also noted that the Cooperative has hired two seasonal apprentice linemen. The track vehicle has been updated and is back at the cooperative. Crews are all busy with summer construction in full swing.

The Energy Services report contained an update on the next shipment of meters, tentatively scheduled to arrive in October. The summer load control season begins June 1 with control times from 2-6 p.m. There are currently 10 renewable energy applications in the queue and all of the SunDEC Community Solar shares have been sold.

The CFO reported that year-to-date kWh sales were 4.63% below budget, bringing the year-to-date energy sales roughly 3% below budget. Revenues were 1.19% below budget as we continue to see power cost adjustments credits (PCA's) from Dairyland. Year-to-date revenue is 2% below budget. However, the income and expense statements look strong this month as we saw additional revenue from our pole attachments and lower expenses in our Operations area.

The CEO/General Manager led a discussion on possible changes to the way capital credits are paid to members. Currently, all members (current and prior) receive a check if their retirement is \$5 or more, and they do not owe an unpaid debt. Roughly 8% of the 12,230 checks mailed went uncashed in 2021. Other cooperatives have found success in applying capital credits as a bill credit for active members; saving the cost of printing over 7,300 checks. Board will discuss this further in future meetings.

The following items were approved:

- Minutes of the April 2023 Board meeting
- Capital credit estate payout for deceased members.
- Audit committee report of all checks, ACH payments, wire transfers, credit card statements, and investment accounts.

Other Business:

Director Zwiefelhofer reported on Dairyland Power activities for the month.

Reviewed the monthly report of new Cooperative members.

Reviewed the monthly governance video that discussed Fiduciary Responsibility of Board Members