

## Cold weather rule can keep the heat on

The Cold Weather Rule regulates the conditions under which gas and electric utilities may disconnect residential service in the winter—between Oct. 15 and April 15.

The rule requires that customers who have difficulty paying utility bills contact their utility to work out a mutually acceptable payment plan to keep their heat on.

Should you receive a disconnection notice from Minnesota Power, you must contact us to set up a payment plan to avoid disconnection. Call 1-800-228-4966.

You also might want to contact the state's Energy Assistance Hotline at 1-800-657-3710 to find out if you qualify for help in paying your electric bill.



### Scholarship applications open

Minnesota Power honors outstanding college and high school students through the New Generation Scholarship and the Community Involvement Scholarship.

The New Generation Scholarship program distributes up to \$50,000 to students at two-year or four-year colleges.

Applications are due Feb. 1. Twenty-five high school seniors receive \$2,500 Community Involvement Scholarships. Those applications are due Jan. 15.

Applications for the Learn more and apply at [mnpower.com/scholarships](http://mnpower.com/scholarships).



*Employees volunteered in shifts to package items for four nonprofits during Minnesota Power's "Power Volunteering" on the plaza next to the company's headquarters in downtown Duluth.*

## 'Power Volunteering' kicks off United Way campaign in Duluth

Minnesota Power/ALLETE employees kicked off the company's United Way payroll pledge campaign this fall with "Power Volunteering"—four quick projects completed in one day to benefit four nonprofits.

About 90 employees joined one of four assembly lines set up in a tent on the plaza outside the company's downtown Duluth offices. For 2½ hours, employees worked in shifts to help package items for distribution through the nonprofits. The volunteers packed 1,000 dental care kits for Just Kids Dental, 600 snack bags for the Boys and Girls Club and 600 weekend meal bags for Lifehouse. They also packaged about 2,000 pounds of laundry soap into smaller containers for families at CHUM.

Aimee Curtis, Minnesota Power Foundation administrator, said Power Volunteering was a chance for employees to volunteer in a relaxed environment while raising awareness about United Way.



# Energizer News

FALL 2014

## MP to catch sun's rays in major solar project at Camp Ripley

Minnesota Power and the Minnesota National Guard plan to build a major solar energy project at Camp Ripley, a regional training facility for the Guard near Little Falls, Minn.

The 10-megawatt utility-scale array will be the largest solar energy installation on military property in the state and the largest at any National Guard base in the country. It will be among Minnesota's largest single-site solar arrays.

ALLETE Chairman, President and CEO Al Hodnik and Minnesota National Guard Maj. Gen. Richard C. Nash signed a memorandum of understanding outlining the plans during a ceremony in late summer at Camp Ripley.

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*Photo of Caribou Lake near Duluth by Dennis O'Hara*

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## CARE discount available for eligible households

Minnesota Power is accepting applications for its CARE program which offers income-qualified households a discount on monthly electric bills.

The program goes into effect Oct. 1 each year. It also helps households establish a budget payment plan.

The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission oversees CARE, which is administered by the Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency, or AEOA, on behalf of Minnesota Power.

### How to apply

1. Complete a LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) application with your local energy assistance provider.
2. Complete the program application at [mnpower.com/CARE](http://mnpower.com/CARE).
3. First-time applicants must also complete and submit the Your Home Energy Report survey found on the application.

### Where to complete the forms

- Online at [www.mnpower.com/CARE](http://www.mnpower.com/CARE).
- Over the phone by calling AEOA at 218-749-2912, ext. 277, or 800-662-5711.
- In person at the AEOA office at 702 Third Ave. S., Virginia, Minn.

## 10-megawatt project among state's largest

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The solar project envisioned by Minnesota Power and the Guard, subject to regulatory approval, would cover nearly 100 acres of underutilized government property at the Camp with photovoltaic panels on racks. Projected to cost \$25 million, the project could be completed in 2015 or 2016.

Energy generated by the solar array will help Minnesota Power achieve about one-third of its requirement under the state's new solar mandate. The law, enacted in 2013 by the Minnesota Legislature, requires investor-owned companies like Minnesota Power to get 1.5 percent of their energy from the sun.

"To provide cleaner energy forms is the mission, and both Minnesota Power and our National Guard are on the front lines," Al Hodnik, ALLETE chairman, president and CEO said at the signing ceremony in late August.

## 'Slam the Scam' launched to raise customer awareness

Minnesota Power is among 14 utilities participating in "Slam the Scam," an awareness campaign aimed at warning customers and preventing scams.

The coalition encourages customers who think



*Minnesota National Guard Maj. Gen. Richard C. Nash (left) and Maj. John Donovan (right) listen as ALLETE Chairman, President and CEO Al Hodnik addresses the crowd at the solar project signing ceremony in August at Camp Ripley.*

As part of the project, Minnesota Power also will help Camp Ripley identify ways to decrease its energy consumption by 30 percent from 2003 levels and install backup generation powered by diesel or natural gas engines to allow the base

to operate off the power grid during an emergency. Those same engines would provide capacity and peaking energy to Minnesota Power, operated through remote dispatch during periods when energy market conditions call for it.

they are being targeted by a scammer to simply end the conversation—"slam" down the phone and report the incident to local law enforcement.

For tips on how to avoid being victimized, go to **[mnpower.com/alerts](http://mnpower.com/alerts)**.