

## Power line right-of-way is mostly private land

Minnesota Power maintains about 7,500 miles of power line right-of-ways in northern and central Minnesota, and most of it is owned by private parties.

Minnesota Power has been granted rights permitting the electric line to be constructed and maintained on the private land.

A right-of-way is not a public thoroughfare. If you use a right-of-way for snowmobiling, hunting or all-terrain vehicle riding, you must first obtain the landowner's permission.

Failure to get permission can be considered trespassing.



## Grants support diverse endeavors

Each year, the Minnesota Power Foundation supports a diverse group of organizations throughout Minnesota Power's service territory. From small grants to large grants of \$50,000 and more, these grants help organizations make life better for those in their communities.

Since its formation in 2006, the MP Foundation has distributed more than \$5.8 million. Here is a sampling of grant recipients in 2013.

**Damiano Center, Duluth:** The MP Foundation joined other community donors to support a major remodeling and expansion of the center and its soup kitchen.

**Great Lakes Aquarium, Duluth:** Support of the Aquarium's Discovery Center which includes classrooms and a teacher resource center.

**Bong Veterans Historical Center,**

**Superior, Wis.:** Grant to help pay for a new furnace and boiler system.

**FIRST Robotics:** Providing education in science, technology, engineering and math as well as a competition for more than 2,000 area high school students.

**Iron Range Science and Engineering Festival:** Seventh-graders from schools across the Iron Range learn more about science and engineering.

**Lutsen Fire Department:** A grant helped the department buy and equip a fire support trailer that will be used by volunteer fire departments in Cook and Lake counties.

In addition, there were grants to support many other arts, environmental, educational and human service organizations.

See [mnpower.com](http://mnpower.com) for more information.



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# Energizer News

WINTER 2014

## Energy-saving light bulbs are the bright stuff

The lighting aisle at your favorite store may look a little different the next time you go to buy light bulbs.

The popular 40- and 60-watt incandescent bulbs, longtime staples in the American home, are being phased out effective Jan. 1, 2014, in favor of other more efficient bulbs. The phaseout is because of the federal Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. Our Power of One® conservation program has a wealth of information about lighting options and rebates at [mnpower.com/lighting](http://mnpower.com/lighting).

The law doesn't eliminate incandescent light bulbs but does require that they be more energy efficient, and standard incandescent bulbs don't meet the new standard. They are inefficient, producing about 10 percent light and 90 percent heat. The 100- and 75-watt bulbs have already been phased out.

Stores will be able to sell existing inventory of the old incandescent bulbs, but they will be stocked alongside their replacements, including LED (light emitting diode), CFL (compact fluorescent light) and halogen bulbs.

When shopping for new bulbs, be sure to read the labels. The labels provide a lot of information, including a measure of brightness (lumens), projected bulb life, light appearance or color (Kelvins) and estimated annual energy cost.

You'll see that CFLs and LEDs are equally bright, come

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**and hello to rewards!**

Receive an additional \$50 reward on top of the standard \$50 reward when we round up and recycle your old working freezer through March 31, 2014. **That's a total of \$100 in your pocket!**

**[www.mnpower.com/roundup](http://www.mnpower.com/roundup)**  
**or call 1-866-552-6755**

**New Year, New Savings**

Check out our 2014 rebates at  
**[www.mnpower.com/Rebates](http://www.mnpower.com/Rebates)**  
or call 218-355-2843 (opt. 1) and request  
a copy of our Rebates & Savings flyer.

## Customer, Foundation generosity continue to warm homes

Our customers have long been able to contribute to the Salvation Army's HeatShare program through their Minnesota Power bill, and last year was no exception.

Customers helped their neighbors in need to keep warm in winter by donating more than \$43,000 to the program in 2013. In addition, the Minnesota Power Foundation made a \$25,000 donation toward funding HeatShare in 2014.

To learn more about HeatShare or how you can contribute, call us at 800-228-4966 or visit **[mnpower.com/customer-service/heatshare](http://mnpower.com/customer-service/heatshare)**.



## Do you generate your own electricity?

The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission requires Minnesota Power to buy all electric energy that qualified facilities offer for sale. The rules apply to small power producers who use renewable resources and cogenerators who produce electricity and steam.

Disputes that arise over interconnections, sales or purchases of power will be resolved by the MPUC.

For more information, call Minnesota Power at 800-228-4966.

## Get details on dual fuel option

The Dual Fuel interruptible service rate is designed for customers who heat their homes electrically. To qualify for this special low rate, your home must have a non-electric backup heating system.

The Dual Fuel system consists of an electric service entrance and panel connected only to your electric heating equipment. This separate electric service for heat has its own meter and a switch, called a socket interrupter.

When demand on Minnesota Power's electric system is high, Minnesota Power can interrupt your Dual Fuel service. When this happens, your non-electric backup system must be capable of meeting total space-heating needs.

However, your backup system will never be required to provide more than 30 percent of your heating during one year. Electric service for your other uses is not affected.

See **[mnpower.com/dualfuel](http://mnpower.com/dualfuel)** or call Annette at 1-877-535-0394 or 218-355-2644.

## Commerce takes applications for Minnesota-made solar

Thinking about going solar at your home or business? Check out a new program offered through the Minnesota Department of Commerce.

The Made in Minnesota Solar Incentive Program is part of last year's solar energy legislation. It provides incentives for eligible solar electric systems (also known as solar photovoltaic or PV) and solar thermal systems that are certified as manufactured in Minnesota.

Incentives are performance-based, established by a system's energy production, and paid over 10 years. Solar electric systems must be less than 40 kilowatts to qualify for incentives. Currently, modules certified for the program are available from two Minnesota companies: tenKsolar and Silicon Energy.

The program is available to residential and commercial customers of investor-owned electric utilities in Minnesota, including Minnesota Power.

The Commerce Department is accepting applications for the program between Jan. 1 and Feb. 28, starting in 2014 and then annually through 2023. Recipients will be selected by lottery each year.

Find more information and applications at **[mn.gov/commerce](http://mn.gov/commerce)**. Or call the Commerce Department's Energy Information line at 800-657-3710 or email questions to [solar.help@state.mn.us](mailto:solar.help@state.mn.us).

Minnesota Power's Power of One® conservation program also offers rebates to customers who install solar power. Learn about the SolarSense program at **[mnpower.com/SolarSense](http://mnpower.com/SolarSense)**.

## Read labels to make best lighting choice

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in warm colors, cost less to operate and last longer than standard incandescent bulbs. LEDs and CFLs use up to 75 percent less energy while giving the same amount of light as the standard bulbs they replace.

Lighting represents 10-15 percent of a typical home's electric usage, so switching to more efficient light bulbs can make a difference in your electric bill.

Visit **[mnpower.com/lighting](http://mnpower.com/lighting)** for more information and to see our Light Bulb Shopping Guide.