



AN ALLETE COMPANY

EnergizerNews

SUMMER 2017

A powerful package: wind+solar+natural gas

A resource package of wind energy, solar power and construction of a state-of-the-art natural gas power plant is the next step in Minnesota Power's EnergyForward strategy. The package continues the company's transformation to a more balanced energy mix while maintaining reliable and affordable power for customers.

The resource package includes 250 megawatts of natural gas generation from a combined-cycle natural gas power plant to be built in Superior, Wisconsin, by Minnesota Power in partnership with Dairyland Power Cooperative. It also includes power purchase agreements for 250 megawatts of wind energy and 10 megawatts of solar energy. The package will be filed with

regulators later this summer.

Together with the company's existing renewable resources, the package will result in renewable resources providing 44 percent of the company's energy supply by 2025, further reducing carbon emissions while keeping rates affordable.



+10
MEGAWATTS



+250
MEGAWATTS



+250
MEGAWATTS

Addition of the resources to our system will be staggered with the solar power expected to be online in 2019, the wind

power in 2020 and the natural gas power plant in 2025.

The three components will complement each other, with flexible and on-demand natural gas providing critical backup to intermittent renewable sources when the sun doesn't shine and the wind doesn't blow. Without the natural gas plant, Minnesota Power would be reliant on fluctuating wholesale market prices when sun and wind resources aren't available, increasing overall costs over the long run.

Minnesota Power's long-term goal is to have a combined balance of two-thirds renewable energy and renewable-enabling natural gas and one-third environmentally compliant baseload coal. ■

Sunlight powers charging station for electric cars

Owners of electric vehicles have a new place to charge their car's battery. Minnesota Power partnered with the city of Duluth, Enbridge and Hunt Electric to build the first solar-powered electric vehicle (EV) charging station for public use in the region. The charging station, which officially became operational in June, brings nine EV chargers covered by a 54-kilowatt solar panel canopy to the Endion Station parking lot in Duluth's Canal Park. But the solar array isn't just about electric vehicles. It produces enough energy to supply about eight homes, and when the vehicle chargers aren't in use that energy feeds into the electric grid, making the charging carport a net zero energy user. ■



ALLETE/MP recognized for support of service members and family

The state Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve honored ALLETE/Minnesota Power at an awards ceremony in May in Minneapolis. The "Above and Beyond Award" recognizes employers who offer employees who are members of the National Guard and Reserve additional benefits above the legal requirements of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act. ■



See peregrine falcon chicks at FalconCam

Bird lovers from around the world can watch peregrine falcons at two of Minnesota Power's power plants raise their young by checking in at mnpower.com/Falconcam.

In late May, three of four eggs at Hibbard Renewable Energy Center in Duluth had hatched. Meanwhile, up at the Boswell Energy Center in Cohasset, incubation of three eggs was still underway at Energizer News press time in early June.



FalconCam Screen Shot, 06-12-2017

Discover how we are moving **EnergyForward**



mnpower.com/energyforward

Rebates, tips and online energy tool add up for summer comfort, savings

Cool off in the heat of summer by following our energy and money-saving tips, taking advantage of appliance rebates and signing up for MyAccount, our new online energy use and payment tool.

With MyAccount, you can track your energy use monthly, weekly or, in some cases, even hourly, to learn when you and your family are using the most electricity. Armed with that information you can make decisions about when and how you want to use energy. You can even set energy markers to note events or upgrades that may affect your energy use, such as purchasing a new energy-efficient appliance or installing a programmable thermostat.

Say you decide to buy a new dehumidifier. Set an energy marker with MyAccount and watch how the new energy-efficient appliance affects your energy usage.

And don't forget to check out our rebates at mnpower.com/Rebates to get money back for qualifying dehumidifiers. We also offer rebates on some programmable thermostats, central air conditioning, air source heat pumps and more.

How to sign up for MyAccount

Go to mnpower.com to get started. You'll need the last four digits of the primary phone number listed on your account, your name exactly as it appears on your bill, your account number and your email address. ■

Tips to conserve energy

- **Grill outdoors** or use a slow cooker or microwave instead of the stove or oven.
- **Set the air conditioning thermostat at 78 degrees or higher.**
- **Use curtains, blinds or shades** to keep the sunlight out and the cool air in.
- **Ventilate your attic**—proper ventilation reduces temperatures and prevents moisture buildup.
- **Turn off all unnecessary lights.** Light bulbs generate heat when left on.
- **Consider using a whole house fan** to ventilate your home by replacing old air with fresh outdoor air.
- **Turn off the AC and open the windows** when it cools off at night.
- **Turn off unused electronics** such as TVs and computers. When left on, these things use energy and generate heat. Consider using a smart power strip in offices and home entertainment areas.
- **Remember to look for the ENERGY STAR® label** when purchasing new appliances.



Outdoor safety reminders

- **Never touch or approach downed power lines.** Always assume that downed wires are energized. *Call us immediately to report downed wires at 1-800-228-4966.*
- **Remember to look up.** Keep ladders, antennas, long-handled equipment and other conductive objects away from power lines.
- **Never use electric tools near water** or in the rain.
- **Don't fly kites near electric lines.** If kite string gets caught in a power line, leave it alone; don't try to remove the string from the line. Call us for assistance.
- **Never climb a utility pole** or a tree that is near electric wires.
- **Never enter a substation** or fenced enclosure that surrounds electrical equipment. Fenced-off areas are extremely dangerous. ■

Energizing our community

27 students receive MP Foundation scholarships

The Minnesota Power Foundation awarded 27 scholarships to area high school and college students this spring. Recipients were selected by judges from the Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation. The complete list of recipients is at mnpower.com/scholarships.

In the past 19 years, more than 825 students have received MP Foundation scholarships totaling more than \$2 million. ■



Boy Scouts help plant trees in Little Falls park

Minnesota Power's Rajala Woods Forest Legacy Initiative was in Little Falls in May as we continue to advance our vision of planting 3 million pine and spruce seedlings across thousands of acres in central and northern Minnesota. Members of Boy Scout Troop 65, Little Falls city officials and MP representatives were on hand to plant 750 red and white pine seedlings at Mill Park and several other sites around the city. ■

Do you know what to do if the power goes out?

Ask Us

mnpower.com/OutageCenter