### Financial Assistance continued

### Lake County:

AEOA 218.749.2912 800.662.5711 Lake County Human Services 218.834.8400

### Mille Lacs County:

Lakes & Pines Community Action Council\* 320.679.1800 800.832.6082 Mille Lacs County Community Services 320.983.8208

### Morrison County:

Tri-County Community Action Program\* 320.632.3691 888.765.5597 Morrison County Social Services 320.632.2951

### Pine County:

Lakes & Pines Community Action Council\* 320.679.1800 800.832.6082 Pine County Health and Human Services 320.216.4100 800.450.7463

### St. Louis County:

AE0A

Outside of Duluth 800.662.5711 ext.3011
Duluth 218.623.3011
St.Louis County Public Health and Human Services (Duluth) 218.725.5210 800.450.9777
United Way Information & Referral 211 800.543.7709
Salvation Army

218.722.7934

### **Stearns County:**

Tri-County Community Action Program 320.251.1612 888.765.5597 Stearns County Human Services 320.656.6000 800.450.3663

### **Todd County:**

Todd County Social Services 320.732.4516 888.838.4066

#### Wadena County:

Mahube-Otwa Community Action Partnership 218.632.3600 Wadena County Human Services 218.631.7605

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Fond du Lac Reservation: 218.878.2658 800.365.1613

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe:

218.335.3783 866.864.8668

### Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe:

Office of Energy and Emergency Services: 320.532.7880

\*Weatherization programs available at no cost to you

### REQUEST FOR THIRD PARTY NOTIFICATION

our Name			
ddress			
ity	State	Zip	
hone (Home)	(Work)		
ccount Number (From your bill)			
ame of the person you want	us to notify		
Third Party)	Please Print		
ddress			
ity	State	Zip	
hone (Home)	(Work)_		
hird Party ignature			
linnesota Power has my permis Iformation to and accept inform		d party.	
our Signature			
ate			

Minnesota Power will make every effort to send a copy of the Notice of Proposed Disconnection to the party specified. Minnesota Power assumes no liability for failure of the third party to receive or act upon the notice.

Complete this form and return it with your Minnesota Power bill, or mail it to:

Minnesota Power 30 W. Superior St. Duluth, MN 55802

## **Third Party Notice**

If you want us to let someone else know—in addition to notifying you—that you are in danger of having your service disconnected for not paying your bill, we can provide this service. This *third party* can be any person or organization you choose: a friend, relative, church, or community agency.

Upon receiving the notice, the *third party* could contact Minnesota Power and confirm that you are unable to pay the bill. The *third party* could also arrange a payment schedule if you want them to. The *third party* would **not** be expected or required to pay the bill.

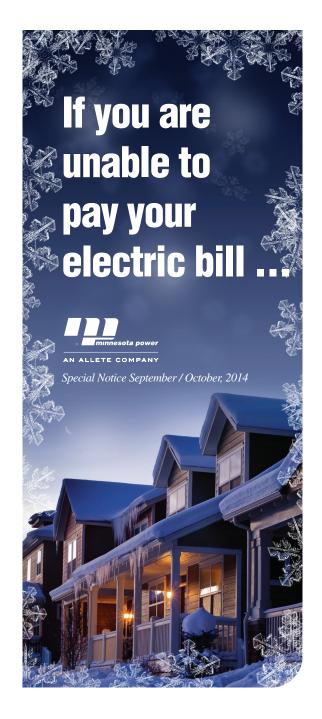
This *Third Party Notice* is especially helpful to those who are ill, elderly or live alone. If you would like to have this service, complete the attached tear-off form and return it to Minnesota Power. Be sure to have the *third party* sign the form.

## If you have questions ...

... about the Minnesota Cold Weather Rule, please write or call Minnesota Power at 1-800-228-4966, or visit our website: mnpower.com.

## **CARE**

If you are income eligible for the Energy Assistance Program you are also eligible for Minnesota Power's **Customer Affordability of Residential Electricity** (CARE) discount on your monthly electric bill. Contact the Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency (AEOA) at 218-749-2912 (ext. 7309) or 1-800-662-5711 to get enrolled or complete and submit your application online at mnpower.com, click on CARE.



# The Minnesota Cold Weather Rule

Some customers find it hard to pay their utility bills in the winter. The state of Minnesota set up the Cold Weather Rule to protect residential, heat-affected customers who are unable to pay their utility bills from disconnection of service between October 15 and April 15.

# **Avoiding Disconnection**

The Cold Weather Rule does not forbid winter shut-off. If you receive a shut-off notice this winter, you must act promptly and call Minnesota Power at 218-722-2625 or 1-800-228-4966 to apply for Cold Weather Rule protection and set up a payment plan.

Your service will be subject to disconnection without further notice if you do not make the agreed upon payments. If you cannot keep your original payment plan, call Minnesota Power immediately and make a new payment plan to avoid disconnection.

### **Reconnection**

If your power is disconnected on October 15 when the Cold Weather Rule takes effect, you can have your power reconnected by calling Minnesota Power at 218-722-2625 or 1-800-228-4966 to set up a payment plan.

You must keep your payment plan to avoid future disconnection. Call Minnesota Power immediately if you cannot keep your payment plan and make a new payment plan to avoid disconnection.

# **Payment Plan**

If your household income is:

- at or below 50 percent of the state median income, you are not required to pay more than 10 percent of your monthly household income.
- more than 50 percent of the state median income, you may make a payment plan with Minnesota Power.

Cold Weather Rule payment plans last until April 15 unless you make other arrangements with Minnesota Power. Your service could be shut off if you have a past-due balance on April 15 and do not make and keep a new payment plan.

### **EAP Maximum Income Guidelines for FFY2015**

Greater of 50% SMI or 110% Federal Poverty Guideline

HH Size	Annual Income 50% SMI	3 Month 50% SMI	HH Size	Annual Income 50% SMI	3 Month 50% SMI
1	\$23,354	\$5,838	11	\$66,021	\$16,505
2	\$30,540	\$7,635	12	\$67,368	\$16,842
3	\$37,726	\$9,431	13	\$68,715	\$17,178
4	\$44,912	\$11,228	14*	\$70,895	\$17,723
5	\$52,098	\$13,024	15*	\$75,361	\$18,840
6	\$59,284	\$14,821	16*	\$79,827	\$19,956
7	\$60,631	\$15,157	17*	\$84,293	\$21,073
8	\$61,979	\$15,494	18*	\$88,759	\$22,189
9	\$63,326	\$15,831	19*	\$93,225	\$23,306
10	\$64,673	\$16,168	20*	\$97,691	\$24,422

<sup>\*100%</sup> of Federal Poverty Guideline is greater and displayed

# **Right to Appeal**

If you and Minnesota Power cannot agree on a payment plan, you have 10 days to appeal to the Public Utilities Commission. The Commission will help you set up a payment plan, and your service will stay on during the appeal process.

# You can use Budget Billing

If you choose, you can spread a year's electricity bills evenly across 12 months.

This helps you avoid the higher-thanaverage monthly bills that often come with cold weather.

It also makes it easier for you to budget your money because you know exactly what your monthly Minnesota Power bill will be.

This service is called Budget Billing. Here is how it works:

First, we estimate the total cost of the electric energy we anticipate you will use in the next year. Next, we divide that total into 12 equal monthly payments—then you know exactly what your bill will be each month.

Your account is reviewed from time to time and adjusted to correct for any underpayment or overpayment.

# Other fuel or heating assistance resources

www.staywarm.mn.gov or Energy Assistance Hotline at 1-800-657-3710 or First Call for Help at United Way 211

### **Financial Assistance**

If you need help paying your utility bills, you may qualify for state or federal fuel assistance. For complete information, contact a social service agency for your area listed below:

#### Aitkin County

Lakes & Pines Community Action Council' 320.679.1800 800.832.6082 Aitkin Health & Human Services 218.927.7200 800.328.3744

### Benton County:

Tri-County Community Action Program 320.251.1612 888.765.5597 Benton County Human Services 320.968.5087

#### Carlton County:

Lakes & Pines Community Action Council\* 320.679.1800 800.832.6082 Carlton County Human Services 218.879.4583 800.642.9082 Cloquet & Moose Lake 218.485.8520 888.485.8520

### Cass County:

Bi-County Community Action Program 800.332.7135 Cass County Social Services 218.547.1340

### Crow Wing County:

Lutheran Social Services 218.829.5000 800.829.5902 (Brainerd) Crow Wing County Community Services 218.824.1250 888.772.8212 Tri County Community Action Program\* 218.829.2410

### **Hubbard County:**

Mahube-Otwa Community Action Partnership 218.732.7204 Hubbard County Social Services 218.732.1451 877.450.1451

### Isanti County:

Lakes & Pines Community Action Council<sup>1</sup> 320.679.1800 800.832.6082 Isanti County Family Services 763.689.1711

#### **Itasca County:**

Kootasca Community Action Council\* 218.999.0824 877.687.1163 888.249.8879 (nights and weekends) Itasca County Health and Human Services 218.327.2941

### **Koochiching County:**

Kootasca Community Action Council\* 218.999.0824 877.687.1163 888.249.8879 (nights and weekends) Koochiching County Community Services 218.283.7000 800.950.4630