

# CURRENT NEWS



## What's Happening

Addyson Erbele returns from the Electric Youth Tour. Read more about her experience on C4 of our local pages in the August issue of *North Dakota Living*.



**SEPT. 1**

Office closed for Labor Day



**SEPT. 30**

The next Operation Round Up application deadline

## In case you missed it...

### Factors that impact your rates

One topic that frequents the boardroom is rates and the impact those rates have on our membership. KEM Electric Cooperative is dedicated to keeping rates affordable, while ensuring reliable service for all of our members. Through strategic investments in infrastructure and technology, we aim to enhance our efficiency and minimize costs, ultimately benefiting you, our valued members. Read more on C3 of our local pages in the August issue of *North Dakota Living*.

### Touchstone Energy Student of the Month begins

As we begin the 2025-26 school year, we are excited to once again announce our Touchstone Energy® Student of Month program. Read more on C5 of our local pages in the August issue of *North Dakota Living*.

**Read these stories and more in this month's issue of *North Dakota Living*.**

# UNDERSTANDING YOUR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE'S ENERGY COSTS

## YOUR BILL IS PRIMARILY MADE UP OF 2 COMPONENTS



### ELECTRIC CONSUMPTION:

Your energy usage is measured in kilowatt-hours (kWh). Think of it as the amount of electricity you use over time. For example, leaving a 1,000-watt appliance running, like a hairdryer, for one hour consumes one kWh. The more appliances and devices you use, the higher your kWh consumption. We encourage energy efficiency to help you lower your usage and save on your bills.



### BASIC CHARGE:

You'll notice a basic charge on your bill. This charge covers system maintenance, upgrades and maintaining and operating our infrastructure, including power lines, substations and equipment. It ensures reliable service regardless of your energy usage. The charge is crucial to ensure reliable electricity delivery.

## FACTORS THAT IMPACTS RATES

### Wholesale Electric Provider

Changes in rates charged by wholesale providers directly impact our costs.



### Market Conditions

Fluctuations in the market influence wholesale rates and, consequently, member rates.



### Contractual Agreements

Long-term contracts with providers shape rate stability or volatility.



### Inflation

Inflation rates have impacted the costs of materials, labor, and equipment needed for infrastructure maintenance and upgrades.



### Weather

Extreme weather conditions can affect energy demand and supply, impacting rates.

