

## CLEAN ENERGY, NEW TECH DRIVING BIG CHANGES

*You don't notice it when you plug in your toaster or charge your phone, but the way electricity is produced and used is changing rapidly.*

*Nationwide, about 20% of electricity is generated by renewable resources. Minnesota has a goal of 25% renewables by 2025. Our wholesale power provider, Great River Energy, has pledged to go even further. The cooperative is targeting 50% renewables by 2030 - and it's on track to get there early.*



### KEY APPROVALS ADVANCE ENERGY PORTFOLIO TRANSITION

Recent actions by energy regulators in St. Paul and Washington, D.C., have moved Great River Energy further along in the transition of its power supply portfolio. Approvals by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission will help facilitate Great River Energy's sale of Coal Creek Station and its high-voltage direct-current (HVDC) transmission system to Rainbow Energy Center and Nexus Line, respectively.

The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission on Jan. 6 approved the transfer from Great River Energy to Nexus Line of the construction permit for the Minnesota portion of the HVDC system that spans between central North Dakota and the Twin Cities. The Commission is expected to issue a final order confirming its approval in the near future.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on Dec. 30 issued an order effective on Jan. 1 approving an amended generator interconnection agreement between Great River Energy and the region's grid operator that changes Coal Creek Station's point of interconnection. Great River Energy's rights under the amended generator interconnection agreement will be transferred to Rainbow Energy Center at the closing of the sale.

Included in the sale, is an arrangement for Rainbow Energy Center and Nexus Line to provide Great River Energy with the right to interconnect to the HVDC system and transmit 400 MW of wind energy that would be delivered in Minnesota.

Great River Energy will continue to operate and maintain the HVDC system under a 20-year contract with Nexus Line. Closing

of the transaction to sell Coal Creek Station and the HVDC system is expected no earlier than May 1 and is subject to the approval of Great River Energy's members.

### 400-MEGAWATT DISCOVERY WIND

Great River Energy has reached an agreement in principle with Apex Clean Energy to receive renewable energy from a 400-megawatt (MW) wind energy project in McLean County, North Dakota.

The Discovery Wind project, expected to reach commercial operations in 2025, will be the single largest wind project in North Dakota and will deliver renewable energy over the 436-mile high-voltage direct-current transmission (HVDC) system.

The project will fulfill a significant portion of the renewable energy needs for Great River Energy's power supply transition. The electric cooperative announced in 2020 plans to phase out the remaining coal in its power supply portfolio and more than double its renewable energy.

"We are transforming the way we produce electricity and serve our member-owner cooperatives," said Great River Energy President and Chief Executive Officer David Saggau. "Our members will enjoy stable wholesale electric rates for years while providing clean and reliable energy to Minnesota and parts of Wisconsin."

Great River Energy is also converting the coal-based Spiritwood Station power plant located near Jamestown, North Dakota, to be fueled primarily with natural gas and developing a 1-MW, multi-day grid battery in Cambridge, Minnesota.

# STUDENTS LEARN VALUABLE TECH SKILLS THROUGH SUMMER CAMPS FUNDED BY OPERATION ROUND UP PROGRAM

Since 1953, Arrowhead Cooperative has been committed to improving our members' quality of life. This tradition continues through our community service program called Operation Round Up.

Arrowhead Cooperative members and Arrowhead Broadband subscribers participate by agreeing to have their monthly bill amount rounded up to the next whole dollar. Members make a tax-deductible donation of \$.01 to \$.99 per month, a maximum annual donation of \$11.88 a year. On average, our members each donate \$6 a year. Yet, taken together, these contributions add up to something pretty remarkable: thousands of dollars in grants that improve the quality of life in our community.

In 2021, Boreal Community Media was one of eight local organizations to benefit from this grant program. They received a \$5,000 grant to support three summer technology camps for youth. "For the second year now, Boreal Community Media has partnered with Cook County Higher Education and North Point Youth Center to bring these summer camps to Cook County youth."



shared Boreal Community Media Executive Director, Lisa Bauer. "We used the Operation Round Up funds to cover instructor fees and expenses. We were also able to waive camp fees for local youth whose families may not have been otherwise able to send their children to camp and provide snacks for all attendees."



## BE READY TO STREAM THE SUPER BOWL WITH ARROWHEAD BROADBAND

Time to put in your order for wings and beer and scope out your favorite spot on the couch. That's right, football's biggest night is almost here! You'll be able to catch all the action - as it's really easy to get a Super Bowl 2022 live stream with the help of Arrowhead Broadband.

Arrowhead Broadband brings you a superior internet connection with packages starting at 100Mbps so you have enough bandwidth for streaming high-quality content like the Superbowl on your HD TV! A strong internet connection and quality speed are vital to using streaming services, especially for big events like the Super Bowl. Arrowhead Broadband offers both, and exceptional customer service. **Visit [www.arrowheadcoop.com](http://www.arrowheadcoop.com) for more information or call us at (218) 663-9030 or (877) 602-7769 and sign up today so you don't miss the big game!**

The 2022 Super Bowl will be available live on Peacock, SlingTV, fuboTV, NFL app, YouTubeTV, and Hulu Plus.

Three camps were held over the summer. The first two sessions were led by instructor Mike Wiens, who is the Director of Technology at Legacy Christian Academy in Andover, MN as well as an adjunct instructor at Hennepin Technical College. Assisting Michael for the week was local Boreal technology guru/intern, Tristan Surbaugh. In the first camps, participating students learned about computers, networks, wireless connectivity, coding, and then created their own movies and presented them to the group.

The second camp session was led by Jaye White. This camp session focused on learning and expanding photography, videography, and production skills.

“Arrowhead Cooperative has always generously given back to the community. We are extremely grateful that we were chosen to receive the Operation Round Up grant funds, as it allowed us to give back to local youth and their families by providing them with a fun and educational summer camp experience,” said Bauer.

Arrowhead Cooperative’s Operation Round Up® program has awarded over \$400 thousand to over 100 local non-profit organizations and community service programs since the program’s inception in 2003.



## 2022 OPERATION ROUND UP APPLICATION DEADLINE APPROACHING SOON

The deadline to submit applications for the next grant cycle is Friday, April 22, 2022, by 4:30 p.m. Operation Round Up funds are given to local civic organizations and worthy causes through an application and selection process. For further information or to obtain an application form, visit [www.arrowheadcoop.com](http://www.arrowheadcoop.com) or call (800) 864-3744.

## CO-OP NEWS

### CALENDARS

The 2022 Arrowhead Cooperative calendar, featuring photography by our members of the beautiful area we call home, was mailed to all members at the beginning of January. If you didn’t receive a copy call our office at (800) 864-3744 or stop in and pick up a copy.

### CAPITAL CREDIT CHECKS

The Arrowhead Cooperative Board of Directors approved the retirement of capital credits in the amount of \$448,234.79. In February, Arrowhead Cooperative mailed approximately 2,300 capital credit checks to members that purchased electricity from the Cooperative in 1995 and 1996 (Arrowhead Cooperative Operation Allocations), as well as 1990 and a part of 1991 (Great River Energy Patronage Allocations).

### NEXT BOARD MEETING

February 24, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.



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# WIN A FREE TRIP TO THE NATION'S CAPITOL

**Arrowhead Cooperative is looking for two high school juniors (11th grade) to send on an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. to experience the Rural Electric Youth Tour. This opportunity is available because we believe that students should see their nation's capital up close, learn about the political process and interact with their elected officials.**

Each year, rural electric cooperatives across the nation sponsor roughly 1,900 students on the Rural Electric Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. The Youth Tour program continues to foster the grassroots spirit of the rural electric cooperatives by demonstrating to high school juniors and seniors how our government works and what the electric cooperative business model is all about.

Nearly 50,000 students from rural areas and small towns across America have participated in this program. The Youth Tour has brought high school students to Washington, D.C. for a week in June nearly every year since the late 1950s. Students gain a personal understanding of American history and their role as a citizen by meeting their Representatives and Senators.

In a time when energy is at the forefront of our nation's issues, this is a great opportunity to be an electric cooperative advocate!

In 2022, Arrowhead Cooperative will sponsor an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. to two qualifying candidates. The contest is open to any current high school junior who lives in Cook County.

The selected students will visit with congressional representatives, tour some of the most famous museums and monuments in the world, and make memories and friends that will last a lifetime. **The 2022 Tour takes place June 14-19.**

Interested students must submit a completed application and a 1,500-word essay about the importance of electric cooperatives in today's world by 4:00 p.m. Friday, February 18 to be considered for selection. If you know a high school junior that wants to be part of this fun (free!) week in Washington, D.C., **download the application at [www.arrowheadcoop.com](http://www.arrowheadcoop.com)**. If you have questions please contact our office at (800) 864-3744, or email us at [newsletter@arrowhead.coop](mailto:newsletter@arrowhead.coop).

**APPLY NOW! APPLICATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 18, 2022**



## FEBRUARY CALENDAR WINNER

*Submitted by: Julie Thomas*



## SAFETY TIP

*Without proper air circulation, electrical equipment can overheat and short out, and can become a fire hazard. Make sure your appliances have proper air circulation and avoid running electrical equipment in enclosed cabinets. It's also important to store flammable objects away from appliances and electronics.*

## ARROWHEAD COOPERATIVE

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