



# ENERGY EFFICIENCY and CONSERVATION REBATE program continues

## SEPTEMBER 2010 MORE INSIDE

- Rate increase implemented
- Rebate program continues
- Don't be in the dark about generator safety

## Rate INCREASE implemented

**B**urke-Divide Electric Cooperative is committed to providing its members with reliable, affordable electric service. Providing dependable service at the most reasonable price possible remains the cornerstone of our business. With that in mind, we must also protect the integrity and financial stability of the cooperative.

To maintain the quality, reliability and integrity of the services we provide and to meet the growing needs of our membership, it is necessary for us to adjust our pricing structure from time to time. While virtually all aspects of today's cost of living continue to rise, Burke-Divide Electric Cooperative prides itself in minimizing rate increases. We believe that reliable electric service at a reasonable price is something members can count on and that is delivered on a daily basis.

On June 30, the board of directors approved a new structure of electric rates. The new rate structure is based on numerous factors, including a study of the cost to deliver electric service, the cooperative's financial forecast and the increasing cost to purchase wholesale power.

The new rates apply to energy usage beginning Aug. 1 and will be reflected on bills received in September. Detailed rate schedules are available on the cooperative's Web site at [www.bdec.coop](http://www.bdec.coop). Members may also request copies of applicable rate schedules by e-mailing [bdec@bdec.coop](mailto:bdec@bdec.coop) or by calling the office.

Burke-Divide Electric is committed to maintaining the quality, reliability and integrity of our systems and services. The board of directors continues to be proactive in planning for the future needs of your cooperative and the challenges it may face along the way.

Members with questions regarding implementation of the new rates are encouraged

to contact Burke-Divide Electric by phone at (701) 939-6671 or e-mail at [bdec@bdec.coop](mailto:bdec@bdec.coop).

**EMAIL**



## \$\$\$ available for energy efficiency updates and conservation

**A**s energy costs continue to increase, it's more important than ever to save energy in your home or business. Taking steps to replace old, inefficient appliances and equipment with newer, energy-efficient models can save you money. You have the power to save by using the most efficient appliances and equipment available, and Burke-Divide Electric has programs to help.

### Energy efficiency and conservation rebate program continued

Burke-Divide Electric Cooperative continues to partner with Basin Electric Power Cooperative to offer the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Rebate Program. The program encourages members to reduce the use of electricity by installing the most energy-efficient equipment possible.

"Burke-Divide Electric recognizes the need to help our members save energy and save money," says Manager Jason Brothen. "This commitment of resources for energy efficiency and conservation fits well with the overall mission of electric cooperatives."

To take advantage of the Burke-Divide/Basin rebate program, each installation must meet minimum energy-efficiency standards. Appliances, for example, must carry the Energy Star. See the accompanying chart for rebate amounts.

The program is available to members until Dec. 31, 2010, or the budgeted amount is rebated to members. Contact Heidi with questions at (701) 939-6671 or [heidi@bdec.coop](mailto:heidi@bdec.coop).

# Burke-Divide Electric Cooperative

## ELECTRIC ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION

# REBATE PROGRAM

### REBATES AVAILABLE

ELIGIBLE INSTALLATION	MAX REBATE AMOUNT	REQUIRED MINIMUM EFFICIENCY
GROUND-SOURCE HEAT PUMPS	\$400	OPEN LOOP: >=3.6 COP; >=16.2 EER CLOSED LOOP: >=3.3 COP; >3.5 COP; >=14.1 EER DIRECT EXPANSION (DX): >=3.5 COP; >=15 EER
AIR-SOURCE HEAT PUMPS	\$400	SPLIT SYSTEMS: >=8.2 HSPF/>14.5 SEER/>=12 EER SINGLE PACKAGE EQUIPMENT: >=8.0 HSPF/>=14 SEER/>=11 EER
MOTORS	\$100	EQUIVALENT TO NEMA PREMIUM EFFICIENCY
ELECTRIC WATER HEATERS	\$100	>.90 ENERGY FACTOR
<b>APPLIANCES:</b> CLOTHES WASHER DISHWASHER REFRIGERATOR FREEZER	\$100 \$30 \$30 \$30	Must carry the Energy Star rating
COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHTS (CFLs)	\$2	

Must provide a copy of the product receipt to be eligible for rebate.

**Please contact Burke-Divide Electric Cooperative at (701) 939-6671 or (800) 472-2983 to learn if your planned investments will meet the standards. Once the requirements are met, you may apply for the rebates.**

## Energy improvements can reduce taxes, too

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 provides a homeowner with a tax credit up to \$1,500, or 30 percent, of the cost for new energy upgrades, including weatherization activities as well as installation of efficient heating, ventilation and air-conditioning.

### Tax credits available in 2010 include:

- Existing homes only
- Windows and doors, insulation, roofs, water heaters, HVAC systems
- Existing and new homes
- Geothermal heat pumps, solar panels, small wind energy systems

For more information, visit [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov) or consult your tax professional.

**Contact Heidi at [heidi@bdec.coop](mailto:heidi@bdec.coop)  
or (701) 939-6671  
for more information on rebates.**

# Burke-Divide Electric Cooperative connects members to stimulus money

The N.D. Department of Commerce launched the N.D. Utility Rebate Program June 1. Funds for the program were made available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. More than \$2 million has been set aside for electric cooperative members in North Dakota, making NOW the smartest, most economical time to make residential and commercial energy-efficiency improvements.

## RESIDENTIAL REBATES

Residential members can apply for more than one category of rebate, but the total residential rebate maximum is \$5,000. Consider upgrading or retrofitting with Energy Star-rated products or renewable energy systems including an air-source heat pump, a central air conditioner, a heat pump water heater, a geothermal heat pump, and solar applications and wind turbines (subject to utility interconnect policy). Rebates are also available to help with the costs of an energy audit and to add attic and wall insulation.

## COMMERCIAL REBATES

Commercial members can apply for up to \$15,000 in utility rebates on energy-efficient products and services including lighting, motors, central air conditioners, building recommission-

ing, custom design, energy audits, geothermal heat pumps, solar applications and wind turbines. (subject to utility interconnect policy). To receive certain commercial rebates, an applicant must include documentation that federally approved Davis-Bacon wages were paid on the project.

### To take advantage of this generous rebate program:

1. Members and contractors should stop by Burke-Divide Electric headquarters, or contact us.
2. Get the applicable rebate form.
3. Study the specific product requirements.
4. Talk to cooperative staff to make sure a product meets those specific requirements.
5. Ask the co-op to verify that there is still money available through the utility rebate program.
6. Purchase and install the energy-efficiency product.
7. Fill out the rebate application and return the completed paperwork to Burke-Divide Electric.

To be eligible for a rebate, a

consumer must purchase the equipment or product on or after June 1, 2010, and provide a dated receipt to receive the rebate. Once the paperwork is completed and returned, it will then be submitted to the N.D. Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives (NDAREC), which will review the information for eligibility. NDAREC will then issue a rebate check and forward it to Burke-Divide Electric for delivery to the consumer. All rebates will be handled on a first-come, first-served basis. The program is open to all electric co-op members in North Dakota. The program ends when the money runs out, or on Dec. 31, 2011, whichever comes first.

This program, combined with current tax credits for energy efficiency and Burke-Divide Electric's other programs, will mean plenty of energy investment dollars going back into your pocket. There has probably never been a smarter time to make energy efficiency investments. By installing high-efficiency energy systems or renewable-energy technologies, Burke-Divide Electric members will save immediately with the rebates and credits and receive future benefits from lower energy bills.

Contact Heidi at Burke-Divide Electric today to discuss your planned energy-efficiency improvements, (701) 939-6671 or [heidi@bdec.coop](mailto:heidi@bdec.coop).

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## ***Burke-Divide Electric can help you...***

Do you want to make some energy-efficiency improvements to your home or business, but your dollar is stretched thin? If so, Burke-Divide Electric Cooperative may be able to assist you with an Energy Resource Conservation loan.

Burke-Divide Electric Cooperative offers a loan program to qualified members to assist them with installation of energy conservation measures, electric heating, dual-heating equipment, air conditioning, heat pumps, ground-source heat pumps, electric crop drying, major appliances and other equipment.

Loan payments can be automatically deducted from your checking account, along with your electric bill. It's that easy. **Contact Heidi to find out if you qualify, (701) 939-6671 or [heidi@bdec.coop](mailto:heidi@bdec.coop).**



# N.D. UTILITY REBATE PROGRAM MENU

## RESIDENTIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY (\$5,000 MAXIMUM REBATE)

APPLIANCE/SERVICE	REQUIREMENTS	REBATE LEVEL
AIR CONDITIONER - Central	Tier 1: $\geq 14.5$ SEER/ $\geq 12$ EER: Tier 2: $\geq 16$ SEER/ $\geq 13$ EER:	\$100 per ton (5.5 ton max.) \$200 per ton (5.5 ton max.)
AIR-SOURCE HEAT PUMP - Central or Mini-Split	Tier 1: 8.2 HSPF/ $\geq 14.5$ SEER/ $\geq 12$ EER: Tier 2: 8.5 HSPF/ $\geq 15$ SEER/ $\geq 12.5$ EER:	\$200 per ton (5.5 ton max.) \$400 per ton (5.5 ton max.)
WATER HEATER - HEAT PUMP	$> 2.0$ COP:	\$250 per unit
ENERGY AUDIT	Must be done by primary utility; consult gas utility for rebate if heated primarily with gas:	\$30 minimum to be paid by consumer; \$125 maximum rebate payable
INSULATION - Existing Attic  - Existing Wall	Energy audit required for self-install; must be less than R-20 insulated to at least R-49:  Energy audit required for self-install; must be R-0 in wall and insulating to R-10 and air sealing rim joists:	50% up to \$200 for self-install; 50% up to \$400 for contractor install  50% up to \$200 for self-install; 50% up to \$400 for contractor install.
WATER HEATER - THERMAL STORAGE	Must be off-peak program; $\geq 80$ gallons: $\geq 100$ gallons:	\$125 \$150
THERMAL STORAGE CENTRAL FURNACE	Must be off-peak program; Must be coupled with Energy Star® air-source heat pump:	\$60 per kilowatt (kW)

## RESIDENTIAL RENEWABLE ENERGY (\$5,000 MAXIMUM REBATE)

PHOTOVOLTAICS	Subject to co-op interconnect policy; 60 kW max:	10% of installed cost up to \$5,000
WIND TURBINES	Subject to co-op interconnect policy; 20 kW max:	10% of installed cost up to \$5,000
GEOHERMAL HEAT PUMP	Closed loop; 5.5 ton max.; $\geq 14.1$ EER/ $\geq 3.3$ COP:	\$600 per ton

## COMMERCIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY (\$15,000 MAXIMUM REBATE)

LIGHTING	Replacement only; no screw-in CFLs:	\$.40 per watt saved
MOTORS	NEMA premium new motor: NEMA premium replacement motor:	\$4 per HP \$15 per HP
VARIABLE SPEED DRIVES	Limited to pumps and fans:	\$30 per HP
AIR CONDITIONER – central split	Tier 1: $\geq 14.5$ SEER/ $\geq 12$ EER: Tier 2: $\geq 16$ SEER/ $\geq 13$ EER:	\$100 per ton \$200 per ton
AIR-SOURCE HEAT PUMP - Central Split	Tier 1: 8.2 HSPF/ $\geq 14.5$ SEER/ $\geq 12$ EER: Tier 2: 8.5 HSPF/ $\geq 15$ SEER/ $\geq 12.5$ EER:	\$200 per ton \$400 per ton
AIR-SOURCE HEAT PUMP - Package	Tier 1: 8 HSPF/ $\geq 14$ SEER/ $\geq 11$ EER: Tier 2: 8 HSPF/ $\geq 14$ SEER/ $\geq 12$ EER:	\$200 per ton \$400 per ton
RECOMMISSIONING CUSTOM DESIGN/ENERGY AUDIT	Must be pre-approved by co-op:	50% of cost up to \$15,000
WATER HEATER - Thermal Storage	Must be off-peak program; $\geq 80$ gallons: $\geq 100$ gallons:	\$125 \$150
THERMAL STORAGE CENTRAL FURNACE	Must be off-peak program; Must be coupled with Energy Star® air-source heat pump:	\$60 per kilowatt (kW)

## COMMERCIAL RENEWABLE ENERGY (\$15,000 MAXIMUM REBATE)

PHOTOVOLTAICS	Subject to co-op interconnect policy; 60 kW max:	10% of installed cost up to \$5,000
WIND TURBINES	Subject to co-op interconnect policy; 20 kW max:	10% of installed cost up to \$5,000
GEOHERMAL HEAT PUMP	Closed loop; 5.5 ton max.; $\geq 14.1$ EER/ $\geq 3.3$ COP:	\$600 per ton

SEER=Seasonal Energy Efficiency Rating; EER=Energy Efficiency Rating; COP=Coefficient Of Performance; HSPF=Heating Seasonal Performance Factor.



### WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE

As a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, there's still money available to help Americans weatherize homes and make energy-efficiency improvements. The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program set a goal of weatherizing 1 million homes per year. To apply for the weatherization services in North Dakota, eligible members should contact Cal Steiner at (701) 227-7415 or visit [www.ndwap.com](http://www.ndwap.com) to complete the weatherization assistance application form online.



## Don't be in the dark about **GENERATOR SAFETY**

Your electric cooperative strives to provide you with reliable, uninterrupted service every day of the year, but sometimes Mother Nature creates unavoidable power outages. Then, many homeowners use portable electric generators until power is restored.

"Portable electric generators are a good source of power during electrical outages. However, generators that are improperly installed or operated can become deadly," noted Michael Clendenin, executive director of the Electrical Safety Foundation International.

A qualified, licensed electrician should install your generator to ensure that it meets local electrical codes.

Do not connect generators directly to household wiring. For everyone's sake — yours and the co-op's line crews — generators need to be isolated from the electric co-op's power lines. This means you should install a double-throw switch on your generator. Otherwise, the generator could feed power back into utility lines as power crews

work to restore your electric service, putting their lives at risk!

Portable generators can be very helpful to consumers during outages. But we urge you to follow these safety guidelines:

- Make sure your generator is properly grounded.
- Keep the generator dry.
- Make sure extension cords used with generators are rated for the load, and are free of cuts or worn insulation, and have three-pronged plugs.
- Do not overload the generator.
- Do not operate the generator in enclosed or partially enclosed spaces. Generators can produce high levels of carbon monoxide very quickly, which can be deadly.
- Do not refuel a generator while it is running.
- Turn off all appliances powered by the generator before shutting down the generator.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for safe operation and maintenance.

# GETTING THE MOST OUT OF PORTABLE GENERATORS

Portable generators can keep the convenience of electricity flowing during a power outage. For some, these devices become an absolute necessity.

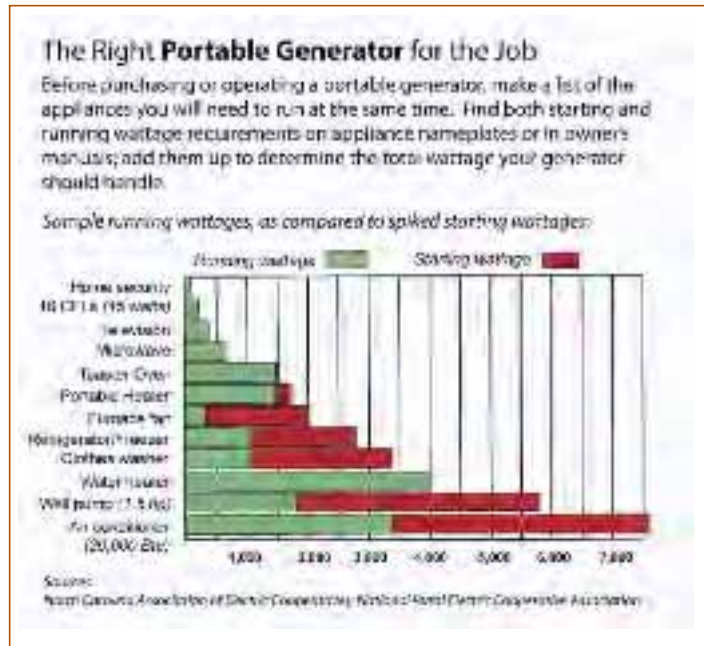
The efficient use of portable generators can keep temporary power flowing in your residence during an outage. The first and most important step starts long before the power goes out: properly sizing the generator. The larger the generator, the more fuel it requires to operate, regardless of load.

To determine the size you'll need, make a list of the appliances you want to operate in the event of an outage. Find both starting and running wattage requirements on appliance nameplates or in owner's manuals; then add them up to determine the total wattage. Although the starting wattage will last for only a few seconds, the generator must be able to meet it to run safely.

Once you have a total, scale the generator up a size or two to ensure safe, efficient operation.

"Most of the portable generators you'll find in hardware stores use 'gaseous engines,' which run on gasoline. They're originally designed for lawn mowers, wood chippers and automobiles," explains Deborah Fish, senior program manager with the Arlington, Va.-based Cooperative Research Network. "These engines are designed to operate running at 2,200 rpm out of a possible 3,600 rpm — about 60 percent of capacity."

Fuel is another consideration. Generators typically use one



of four fuel types: gasoline, diesel, propane or natural gas.

Gasoline remains the most common fuel source for residential portable generators. However, gasoline is highly flammable, has a short shelf life, and doesn't burn as efficiently as diesel. Home generators for loads larger than 30 kilowatts are essentially car engines, produced by Ford or General Motors. Diesel is a less expensive option for this size load.

Diesel is the least flammable source and

generally can be obtained in an emergency because of its military, trucking and farming uses. Diesel also has a longer shelf life than gasoline, although diesel engine noise can be louder compared to gasoline, with the engines subject to smoke if not properly maintained.

"A typical 20-kilowatt diesel generator can run a large home," Fish says. "If that unit is fully loaded, it will burn about 1.6 gallons of diesel fuel per hour. If the generator is only loaded to one-quarter of its capacity (roughly five kilowatts), it will typically burn about 0.6 gallons of diesel fuel per hour."

She concludes: "The bottom line is, each generator has different efficiencies and will produce different results. Do your homework ahead of time to find the right generator for your needs. And once you bring that perfect model home, invest in at least quarterly maintenance inspections by a qualified generator contractor."

## Is your standby generator standing by?

If your standby electricity generator has been in storage since last winter, now is the time to make sure it is still operating properly — before an outage occurs.

Test your generator now to make sure it's working, and follow the manufacturer's instructions on engine maintenance.

The fuel should be fresh,

battery charged, electrical connections good, filters clean and cooling system well-maintained.

"You also need to take into account electrical safety considerations with a standby generator," says George Maher, an agricultural safety specialist with the North Dakota State University Extension

Service. "Most important is the transfer switch that disconnects the farm or home from the power line and connects it to the generator. It must be a double-throw transfer switch which prevents the generator from feeding electricity back into the power line. This protects the linemen who may be working

to restore your service."

Always follow the manufacturer's recommendations on how to use your generator. If you have additional questions, please call your electric cooperative. We will be glad to work with you to make sure your generator is used properly.



## Attention heat meter owners:

Do you have a heat meter? If you have a sub meter installed for electric heat, please make sure the breaker to this meter remains on at all times. Heat meters not energized cause problems in the meter reading system.

Burke-Divide Electric recommends sub meters be installed on the outside of structures for easy maintenance and repair. Members with meters installed inside a home or other building are encouraged to contact an electrician to relocate the equipment. Your assistance is appreciated.

## CELEBRATE CO-OP MONTH

October is Co-op Month. Events will be posted on the Web site [www.bdec.coop](http://www.bdec.coop) and Facebook [www.facebook.com/BurkeDivideElectric](http://www.facebook.com/BurkeDivideElectric)



## WORKING FOR YOU

I have the greatest neighbors in town community that means the world to me driving desire to help people electric cooperative that's looking out for me and my community.

**COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY.** That's just one of the Touchstone Energy® principles. It means your electric cooperative is committed to providing power and opportunity to the many communities our members call home.

At Burke-Divide Electric Cooperative, our members and the communities they live in are our single greatest investment. We help communities like ours grow stronger every day. Together, we'll always be looking out for you, your family and your community.

You're more than a customer. You're a member  
And that's why we're always looking out for you.

## OFFICES CLOSED LABOR DAY

Burke-Divide Electric Cooperative offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 6, in honor of Labor Day. In the event of a power outage, phones will be answered and crews will be dispatched.

## BURKE-DIVIDE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Box 6 - 9549 Hwy. 5  
Columbus, N.D.  
58727-0006



### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**Office Hours Monday through Friday**  
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**Local calls during office hours only—**  
**939-6671**

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Information concerning accounts, payments and bills is available only during the office hours of 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except holidays.