

# CURRENT NEWS

## What's Happening



**AUGUST 11**

National Safe Digging  
(811) Day



**SEPTEMBER 1**

Office closed for Labor Day



Kailee Gussey returns from the Electric Youth Tour. Read more about her experience on C2 of our local pages in the August issue of *North Dakota Living*.

## 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. Slope 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*.

### A message from WAPA

The Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) strives to keep pace with changes in the electric industry.

This ensures WAPA can fulfill our mission to safely provide reliable, cost-based hydropower and transmission to its customers and the communities it serves. Read more on C4 of our local pages in the August issue of *North Dakota Living* or by scanning the QR code.



**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.



### BASE CHARGE:

You'll notice a base 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 IMPACT 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.

