

NorVal Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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Happy New Year !!



The Future of Reliable Electricity

As our country's economy continues to grow, so too does the demand for reliable electricity. Data centers, new manufacturing facilities and our daily lives are requiring more and more electricity. In fact, U.S. power consumption is expected to rise to record highs this year and next, and the demand for electricity in the U.S. is expected to at least double by 2050.

Meanwhile, our supply of electricity is critical. That's why NorVal Electric already decreasing as alwaysavailable power plants are being prematurely shut down. The North American Electric Reliability Corporation has warned that 19 states could see rolling blackouts during times of high electrical usage over the next five years. We all know what happens when supply can't meet demand--prices go up, and the lights go off.

NorVal Electric Cooperative is planning ahead to ensure local families and businesses have access to an affordable, reliable supply of electricity.

Meeting the challenge

To meet these challenges, NorVal Electric Cooperative is utilizing a balanced mix of always-available energy sources as a safeguard to

maintain a reliable energy supply. We're also investing in innovative technologies to bolster grid resilience and enhance data management to improve operational efficiency, expedite outage response times and minimize service disruptions.

As electricity demand in the U.S. continues to rise, upgrading and building new infrastructure will be

Cooperative is collaborating with other electric co-ops by pooling resources and expertise on projects that advance technology, security, infrastructure and innovative energy sources to meet the increasing needs of our communities.

As a co-op, this collaborative approach is a core strength of NorVal Electric Cooperative and enables us to deliver affordable energy to local As we prepare for this rising demand, families and businesses. Our priority is ensuring energy solutions that are tailored to the unique needs of our community to help it thrive now and in the future.

> NorVal Electric Cooperative was built by the community it serves. providing essential services that drive growth and pave the way for an energy future that prioritizes reliable electricity at a cost local families and businesses can afford.



The NorVal, MECA and Basin Scholarship deadline is February 1st, 2025!

For application, scholarship information and instructions, please visit norval.coop or your school office!!

A Balancing Act: ELECTRICITY SUPPLY AND DEMAND

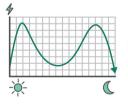
Behind the scenes, a network of people and facilities work together to ensure you have electricity when you flip the switch.



The amount of electricity generated and how much is sent to where it's needed are typically coordinated and monitored by regional grid operators that essentially act as energy traffic managers. Electricity is generated at a power plant, then sent across the grid to homes, schools and businesses.

Regional Grid Operators





As electricity demand varies throughout the day, grid operators, power plant operators and electric utilities work to forecast, plan and purchase enough electricity for everyone.

Ensuring communities have the exact amount of electricity they need is a challenging task, but behind the scenes, a network of industry experts make it happen every day.



Factors that Impact Electricity Supply and Demand

- Demand Surges
- Extreme Temperatures
- Infrastructure Costs and Availability
- Supply Chain Challenges
- Fuel Costs
- Federal and State Regulations

Statement of NonDiscrimination:

NorVal Electric Cooperative, Inc., led by President Chris Christensen, has filed a compliance assurance with the Federal Government, assuring the Rural Electrification Administration that it will fully comply with all requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the associated Rules and Regulations issued by the Department of Agriculture. This assurance guarantees that no person in the United States will be excluded from participation in, denied admission to, or denied the benefits of any of the organization's programs or activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, or handicap. Under this assurance, NorVal Electric Cooperative is committed to preventing discrimination based on these factors in its policies and practices regarding service applications, rates, conditions, extensions of service, use of its facilities, and participation in meetings or activities involving its beneficiaries. The organization also guarantees that individuals will not be denied their rights in the conduct of its operations. Any person who believes they or a specific group have been subjected to discrimination prohibited by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, and the corresponding Rules and Regulations, may file a complaint with the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Electrification Administration, or NorVal Electric Cooperative, Attention: Ms. Gretchen Boardman. Complaints must be filed within 180 days of the alleged occurrence. The identity of complainants will remain confidential, except when necessary to fulfill the purpose of the Rules and Regulations.

Chris Christensen

Board of Director President

Energy Efficiency Tip Of the Month!

During winter months, ensure your home is well sealed and properly insulated to reduce the need for excessive heating. Seal air leaks around your home and add insulation where needed to save up to 10% on annual energy bills.

Install weather stripping on exterior doors and apply caulk around windows. Check attic insulation levels and hire a qualified contractor if additional insulation is needed. Source: <u>energystar.gov</u>