**Commitment to Grid Reliability Fuels Changes to Winter Load Management**

Grid reliability is at the forefront of strategic planning for utilities – from the regional Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) all the way down to Bayfield Electric’s system. To ensure generation resources are adequately available year-round, MISO recently changed their requirements for power providers, including our wholesale power provider Dairyland Power Cooperative. This has resulted in modifications to our load management program.

As of Nov. 1, 2022, residential electric water heaters and auto-start generators enrolled in the load management program will no longer be part of the Peak Alert/Full Load Control schedule. Instead, they will be controlled in the following situations:

* During a Maximum Generation (Max Gen) Event a maximum of 16 times per year and no less than four times per year (once each season)
  + A Max Gen Event can be declared at any time of the year. Participants will receive a notice at least two hours before their devices would be controlled
* Enrolled water heaters will still participate in economic control events when electricity prices are high in the MISO market, and local reliability events

Residential water heaters and other accounts that are enrolled in Daily Energy Storage programs **will not** be affected by this full load control schedule change.

Additionally, winter full load control events will be split into morning and evening events December through February. A review of electricity peaks in the MISO system revealed that 60 percent of peaks occurred in the morning. To successfully reduce our electricity needs during the time of highest demands, enrolled dual fuel loads will be managed in the mornings, beginning at 6:55 a.m., with restoral starting at 10:05 a.m. Enrolled dairy water heaters, grain dryers and manual stand-by generators will remain on the traditional winter schedule of 4:55 p.m., with restoral beginning at 8:05 p.m.

The summer full load control program will remain unchanged (June through August) with the exception that residential electric water heaters will not be managed in the summer as they will be on the seasonal/Max Gen program.

For more information or to enroll in Bayfield Electric’s load management program, contact our office.