

FARMERS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Open Lines

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2026

REQUIRED STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

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Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information should contact the USDA TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY); or the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

YOUTH TOUR PARTICIPANT ENJOYS WEEK IN WASHINGTON, D.C.



Michidel Mercado of Greenfield enjoyed a week in the nation's capital in June for the Iowa Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. She is pictured above, front right, at the famous Ben's Chili Bowl with other Youth Tour participants from Iowa. At right, Michidel poses at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt monument.



Statement, continued

To file a program discrimination complaint, a complainant should complete a Form, AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, which can be obtained online at <https://www.usda.gov/forms/electronic-forms>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of the alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by mailing to U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; faxing to (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or email to program.intake@usda.gov. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

2024 CIPCO POWER SUPPLY REPORT: ACTION TODAY, IMPACT TOMORROW

As a representative of Farmers Electric Cooperative, on the Central Iowa Power Cooperative Board of Directors, I’ve had the opportunity to see firsthand the significant progress CIPCO made in 2025 to strengthen the reliability and future of our power supply system. In recent years, CIPCO has been committed to pursuing cooperative solutions to the generation challenges facing us. Today, that commitment is turning into action.

Guided by its Integrated Resource Plan, CIPCO moved forward with several major generation projects last year that will help meet growing energy demand, support economic development, and ensure long-term reliability for the communities it serves. Together, these projects will add nearly 400 MW of generation resources to CIPCO’s portfolio in the years ahead.

One of the most important developments was the announcement of a new 240 MW natural gas-fired peaking facility in eastern Iowa. This plant will provide dependable energy during periods of high demand and help balance intermittent resources like wind and solar generation. Significant progress has already been made and, once completed, the plant will become the largest capital project in CIPCO’s history and a critical reliability resource for Farmers Electric.

CIPCO also reaffirmed its commitment to the Coggon Solar project, a 100 MW solar facility in Linn County. After overcoming regulatory and legal hurdles, the project is now moving forward with construction expected to begin soon and completion targeted for 2028. This project reflects CIPCO’s continued commitment to a balanced, all-of-the-above generation strategy.

Another major milestone came with the announcement that Duane Arnold Energy Center, Iowa’s only nuclear facility, will return to service through a collaboration involving CIPCO, NextEra Energy, and Google. CIPCO secured a long-term agreement to purchase a portion of the plant’s output once operations resume in 2029. Nuclear energy has long played an important role in Iowa’s energy mix, and restarting DAEC will provide CIPCO Member-owners like Farmers Electric with reliable, carbon-free baseload generation for decades to come.

CIPCO’s strong financial performance in 2025 also demonstrates responsible stewardship of member resources. Strong margins allowed CIPCO to defer revenue and create financial flexibility that will help maintain stable and affordable rates while these major investments move forward. Both Standard & Poor’s and Fitch Ratings affirmed CIPCO’s ‘A’ rating as a result of this financial strength. In 2025, CIPCO realized a net margin of \$28 million, well ahead of budget. This in turn allowed margins to be returned to CIPCO Member-owners in the form

of patronage, a key component of the cooperative business model. For 2025, CIPCO returned patronage totaling \$354,515 to our cooperative.

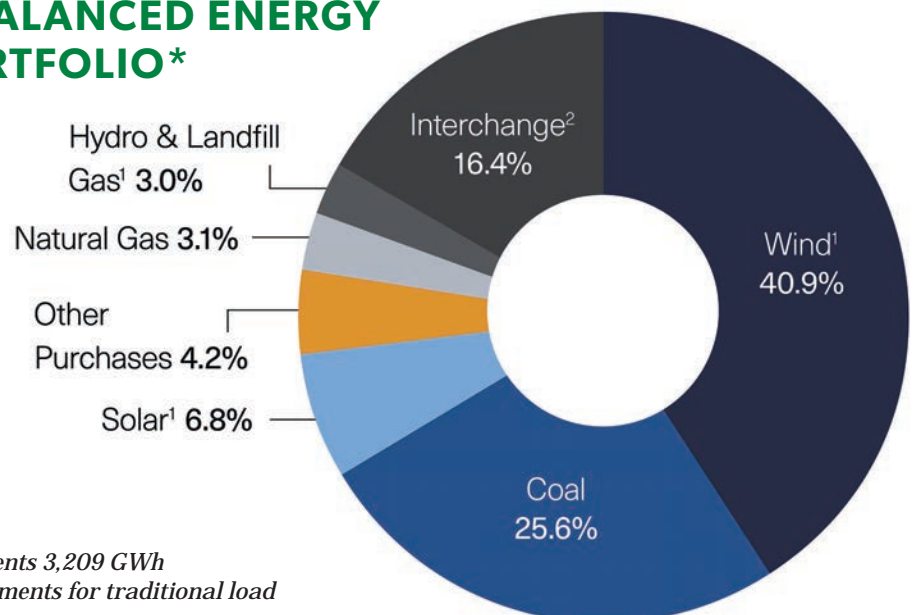
We are already seeing the impact of increased electric demand throughout our communities. CIPCO’s energy sales reached an all-time high in 2025, driven by growth and economic development opportunities across the system. With this in mind, CIPCO maintained an overall outage rate of 0.26 per consumer, well under the target of 1.00 hour per consumer. In 2025 Farmers Electric’s was 0.00 hours per member.

At the heart of all this progress is cooperation. CIPCO exists to serve its Member-owner cooperatives, and these accomplishments reflect what can be achieved when cooperatives work together with a shared purpose. I am confident that together, CIPCO and Farmers Electric will remain steadfast in delivering stable power at stable rates today and in the decades to come.



DAN WESTPHAL
Representative on
the CIPCO Board
of Directors

A BALANCED ENERGY PORTFOLIO*



Represents 3,209 GWh requirements for traditional load

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Running multiple major appliances at the same time – like your dishwasher, laundry machines and oven – can spike energy demand and strain the electric grid, especially during peak hours (typically late afternoon to early evening).



Instead of stacking appliance use, spread it out throughout the day or shift chores to off-peak hours when energy demand is lower. This not only helps improve overall efficiency, but can also reduce your energy costs. A simple habit change, like doing laundry in the morning and running the dishwasher overnight, can make a meaningful difference for both your wallet and energy reliability.

BEAT THE PEAK

Use the same power
just at a different hour

- Run the dishwasher before you go to bed
- Air-dry clothes
- Use a smart thermostat

REDUCE YOUR USE
BETWEEN 4 PM & 9 PM

HAVE YOU MOVED? YOUR CAPITAL CREDITS CHECK MAY BE WAITING

Farmers Electric Cooperative is looking for former members whose capital credit checks have not been cashed. The names listed below represent individuals for whom checks have been issued but have not been cashed or delivered. If you have information that may help us contact one of these individuals, please get in touch with us. Your help ensures that these member-owned funds are returned to the people who earned them. Thank you!

AFTON

McKnight, Jim
Reidesel, George S.
Shimer, Claires A.

ANITA

Trausch Farms
Brown Land And Cattle
Mullen, Shannon L.

ATLANTIC

Deets, Gerald E.

CASEY

Maas, Kevin

CRESTON

Hefel, Reta M.
Lindsay, Mary Ann
Saxton, Jeff
Street, Larry

CUMBERLAND

Westphal, Brad A.

FONTANELLE

Emerson, John R.
Henson, Dustin H.

GREENFIELD

Lambi Family Farm
Raum, Roger J.

LORIMOR

Beougher, Thomas L.
Evans, Linda E.
Kirchner, Karl
Moore, Dwell L.
Summerville, Veronaka N.

MASSENA

Krause, Francis

MENLO

Reynolds, Andrew L.
Thomas, Duane L.

ORIENT

Woosley, Ryan L.
Zimmerman, Dana S.

PERU

De Long, Dave A.
Hamilton, Larry

SAINT CHARLES

Corneto-Bluthardt, Danielle
Edwards, Megan M.
Strawn, Charles

STUART

Freestone, Kenna C.
Pepper, Kelsey R.
Pruitt, Curtis L.
Shepherd, Julie A.
Skellenger, Eugene
Smothers, Richard R.
Weissinger, Robert E.

WINTERSET

Borcherding, Samantha J.
Chapman, Jeff
Coridan, Thomas
Crowe, Kevin R.
De Ronde, Kevin L.
Dodd, William J.
Dunbar, Levi J.
Faux, Russell E.
Gadberry, Jason D.
Hacker, Jerry
Houg, Tyler L.
Hutchison, Jeff
Jack, Thomas S.
Jones, Brad
Kerns, Bart
Luke, Darrell R.
Mescher, Bryan
Murphy, Josephine M.
Noble, David J.
Sampson, David D.
Smith, Suzanne
Stalzer, Steven M.
Van Laar, Ryan M.
Woody, Jennifer R.
Zimmerman, Robert L.

WIOTA

Digilio, Salvatore
Hultgren, Mark
Humphrey, Ben

PARKVILLE (Mo.)

Raffel, Patricia E.

** (from pg. 2): ¹ CIPCO invests in the development of renewable energy projects in several ways. We operate six small-scale solar arrays near communities we serve and retain the renewable energy certificates associated with each. We also contract with energy producers for the electricity output from wind, solar, hydro, and methane gas from a landfill (converted into electricity). CIPCO cannot claim these resources as renewable within our supply portfolio as we have either sold to third parties or do not receive the renewable attributes associated with the electricity produced from these renewable power sources. By selling these attributes (RECs), we not only support other organizations in meeting their renewable energy goals, we also generate revenue to help us lower our wholesale power rate to our 12 Member-owner distribution cooperatives and 15 municipalities.*

² A percentage of market purchases exist within the portfolio to meet additional supply needs not covered by existing contracts or CIPCO-produced generation. Weather volatility and unplanned operational events at power plants may also impact market purchases.



diethood.com

FAJITA STEAK ROLL UPS

- 1 lb. thinly sliced sirloin tip steak
- 2 T. olive oil
- 1 T. fajita seasoning
- 3 mixed color bell peppers, thinly sliced
- 1 large yellow onion, sliced
- 1 lime, juiced
- Chopped fresh parsley or cilantro, optional
- Prepared guacamole or salsa for serving, optional

Cut steak into 2"x 6" long strips. Rub fajita seasoning onto strips and set aside. Add 1 T. olive oil to grill-safe pan on grill over medium-high heat. Add peppers and onions; season with salt and pepper to taste, and sprinkle with fajita seasoning. Cook for 4-5 minutes or until tender. Remove from heat and let cool. Top each slice of steak with the vegetables, then roll them up and secure with a toothpick. Add remaining oil to grill-safe pan and allow to heat up. Add roll ups to the pan and cook until browned, about 2-3 minutes per side. Remove from heat, remove toothpicks and transfer to serving plate. Squeeze lime juice over the roll ups and garnish with parsley or cilantro if desired. Serve with guacamole or salsa.



chefsavvy.com

GRILLED CAPRESE CHICKEN

- 4 chicken breasts, trimmed
- 1 tsp. Italian seasoning
- 1/2 tsp. garlic powder
- 1/2 tsp. onion powder
- Salt and pepper
- 4 slices mozzarella
- 4 slices tomato
- 2 T. basil, sliced
- 1/2 c. balsamic vinegar
- 2 T. light brown sugar

Prepare balsamic reduction by adding balsamic vinegar and brown sugar to small saucepan. Stir and simmer for 10 minutes until sauce has reduced by half. Keep warm until ready to use. Next, preheat grill to medium-high heat. Season chicken breasts on both sides with seasoning, garlic and onion powder. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Spray grill with nonstick spray and cook chicken until they are almost fully cooked. Top each chicken breast with a slice of mozzarella. Close grill and allow to cook for a few additional minutes to melt cheese. Remove from grill and top with tomato and basil. Drizzle with balsamic reduction before serving.

CALL FOR RECIPES

Each month, Farmers Electric invites readers and members to submit their favorite recipe for publication in this newsletter and a chance to get \$5 off their next electric bill.

To enter, mail your recipe with your bill to: Farmers Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 330, Greenfield, IA 50849; or email it to: HWeston@farmersrec.com.

AUGUST: Vegetables

SEPTEMBER: None

ABOUT US



Farmers Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Farmers Electric Cooperative, Inc., is a not-for-profit, member-owned electric cooperative, governed by an elected Board of Directors. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

The mission of Farmers Electric Cooperative, Inc., is to deliver safe, reliable, affordable electricity and other services to improve the quality of life within our communities.

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