



Hutchinson
Utilities
Commission

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Putting All of Our Energy into Serving You

Date: June 24, 2022
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NEWSPAPER/FACEBOOK/WEBSITE STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MISO Forecasts Insufficient Firm Generation Resources to meet Summer Demand

The Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) is responsible for operating the bulk power grid across 15 U.S. states and the Canadian Province of Manitoba. 42 Million people depend on MISO to generate and transmit the right amount of electricity every minute of every day to maintain the reliability and integrity of the bulk power grid. The City of Hutchinson & Hutchinson Utilities Commission (HUC) are part of this regional energy market.

In MISO's latest summer assessment, it forecasts insufficient firm generating resources to cover the summer peak electric load for the region. Because of the forecasted imbalance between load and firm generation resources HUC has implemented an operating procedure in case MISO requires load serving entities like HUC to shed load in the region to maintain the integrity of the bulk power grid.

HUC has planned for 10%, 20%, and 30% load shed scenarios for the City of Hutchinson if called upon by MISO to reduce electric load. In a load shed event, HUC hopes to receive a 30-minute window to notify prospective impacted customers to reduce load. However, MISO operates in real-time so a prior notice may not always be possible.

If MISO calls upon HUC to reduce load under a 20% load shed event, based on a priority system, various parts of the community (residential & business customers) will have their power shut down in increments no longer than 1 hour. HUC's priority system has one goal in mind, to minimize impacts to life, safety, and property damage. To view a map of potentially affected areas within the community please visit HUC's website at www.hutchinsonutilities.com or HUC's Facebook page @hutchinsonutilitiescommission.

As part of HUC's contingency plan, HUC will have communication messages ready to send out to affected customers via radio, social media, and a phone system. If a customer does not have a current phone number listed on their utility account please consider calling HUC's customer service department at (320) 587-4746 to have a phone number added. This will be an important communication channel.

If a customer is on any kind of life support equipment please notify HUC's customer service department at (320) 587-4746 so proper arrangements can be planned for if an emergency load shed event occurs.

HUC is cognizant of the concerns and inconveniences a load shed event will have on customers and will assist MISO in every way possible to minimize the need to load shed in HUC's region.

#End#

SOCIAL MEDIA/WEBSITE RELEASE