

GROWING WITH OUR COMMUNITIES

Dear Member:

Electric cooperatives are as local and community-centered as a business can be. Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative was built by local members who came together to serve a need: bringing electricity to our rural communities. By nature, cooperatives are conveners for the common good. Your electric co-op exists to provide safe, reliable, and affordable energy to you, our members. Equally important is our mission to enrich the lives of the members we serve.

As a co-op, we are prepared to meet the needs of the communities we serve because we are locally governed. MLEC's leadership team and employees live right here in our communities. Our board members, who help set long-term priorities for the co-op, live on co-op lines. These directors have been elected to their positions by neighbors like you.

Our close connection to our communities ensures we get a first-hand perspective on local priorities, thereby enabling us to make more informed decisions on long-term strategic commitments and investments. Recently, our board of directors and management team has investigated the feasibility of building a new operations center. Our current facility is preventing us from efficiently serving our members due to space constraints, poor building functionality, and the inability to effectively expand or remodel.

I understand that some of our members are skeptical of this need and are resistant to changing our location; but I can assure you that our dedication to our members, communities, and local businesses will stay the same. We will continue to shop, service equipment, eat, bank, donate, and volunteer locally. Commitment to community is one of our Seven Cooperative Principles, and we take that responsibility to heart. We hope you will think of MLEC as more than your energy provider, and see us as a local business that supports our communities and powers economic development and prosperity for our people.

The time is right to think of Mille Lacs Energy's future. In 80 years, we have gone from providing a single lightbulb in a barn to connecting you to the world. We are in a unique

financial position that will allow the construction of a new operations center without a planned rate adjustment for our membership. Our organization is thriving and needs to grow – and we are committed to growing WITH, not away from, our communities. We will continue to learn from our members about their priorities so that we can better serve you – because your electric co-op was built by our communities, for our communities.

Take care and stay safe.




Sarah Cron
CEO

PREMIUM WI-FI SERVICE

Get fast and reliable Wi-Fi with extended range and coverage!

If you're looking for a way to manage your MLEC Fiber Internet service, look no further than Premium Wi-Fi. We understand that you need a wireless connection that's reliable and secure to power your various devices. Premium Wi-Fi ensures that your Internet connection will reach all areas of your home or business. Premium Wi-Fi includes local service and support, extended range and coverage, and first-class equipment.

MLEC does the hard work for you by managing your Wi-Fi remotely. We will make sure that software upgrades are performed at regular intervals to keep your router performing its best. Also, if your router fails, MLEC Fiber will replace it at no additional cost.

MLEC fiber
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