

Midwest Energy, Inc.

Current Comments

May 2026

Making energy work for YOU

Summer Demand Rates in Effect Starting June 1 Reduce Demand by Spreading Out Use of Large Appliances

When you flip a switch or power up your appliances, electricity flows instantly to meet your needs. Behind the scenes, however, Midwest Energy is working around the clock to ensure there is enough power available at every moment. One of the most important concepts in making that happen is electric demand.

Electric demand refers to the amount of electrical power (measured in kilowatts, or kW) being used at a

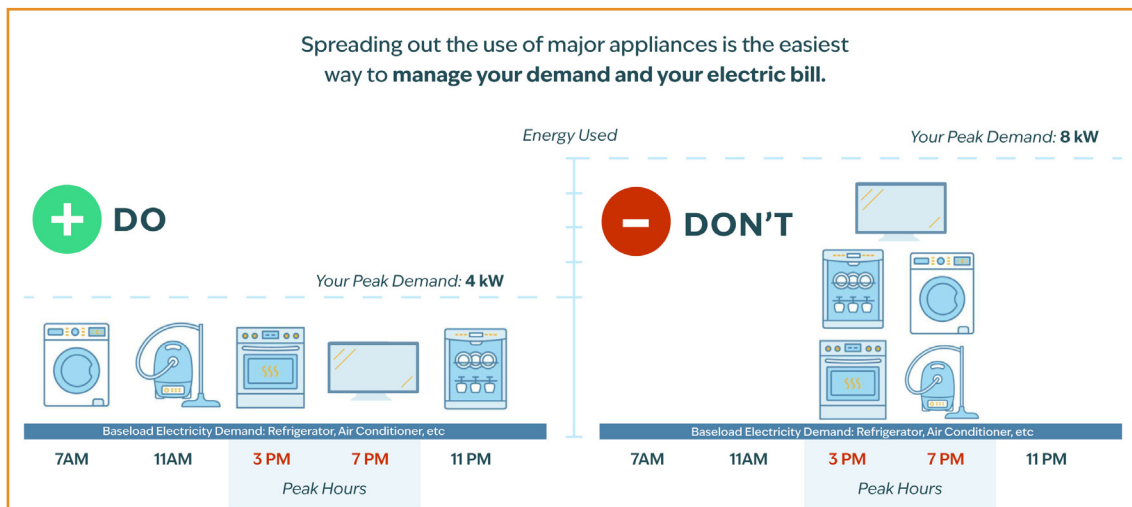
given time. Since 2023, customers have seen “Billing Demand” listed on their bills. This represents your peak demand, or the highest number of kilowatts you used during a 15-minute period within the billing cycle.

During the summer months of June through September, demand is measured differently. Instead of tracking usage all day, it is only measured during a four-hour window between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. CST, when overall electricity use tends to be highest. Beginning June 1, 2026, the summer demand charge will increase to \$6 per kW. After Sept. 30, demand

will once again be measured throughout the day, and the rate will return to \$3 per kW for the remainder of 2026.

The good news is that you can take simple steps to manage and lower your demand. The key is to

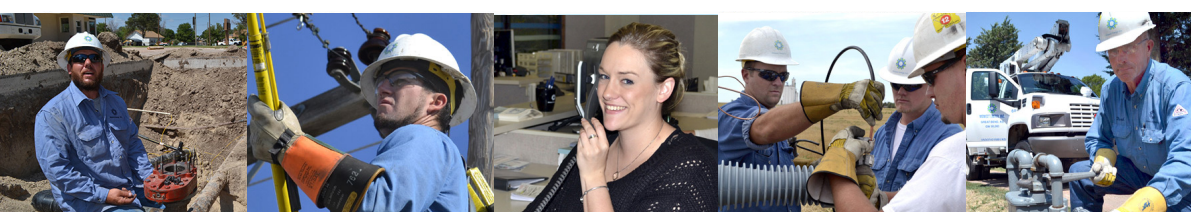
spread out your electricity use, especially during peak hours. Large, heat-generating appliances like clothes dryers, electric ovens, and electric water heaters typically



**DEMAND RATES INCREASE TO \$6/KW
JUNE 1 - SEPT. 30**

have a demand between 4 and 5 kW each. Running several of these at the same time can quickly raise your peak demand.

To lower your demand, try limiting the use of these appliances between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. If you do need to use multiple appliances, consider spacing them out over the four-hour window rather than running them all at once. Small adjustments like these can make a noticeable difference on your bill while helping reduce the overall demand on the electric grid. For more information on demand, visit our website at www.mwenergy.com.



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A Simple Step for a Safer Harvest: Look Up

Harvest season is a busy time, and with it brings safety risks, especially when working around overhead utility lines and poles. Large machinery and tall loads can increase the chance of accidental contact with power lines.

One of the most important harvest safety habits is simple: look up. Before moving or raising equipment, take a moment to identify nearby power lines and utility poles. Folding down augers and spraying booms whenever possible and planning routes that avoid overhead lines can signifi-

cantly reduce risk. Even a brief brush with a power line can cause serious injury, equipment damage, outages,

around utility lines and poles, you can help ensure a safe and successful harvest season.



If your machinery does come in contact with a line, stay inside the vehicle and call 911. Warn others in the area to stay 30 feet away from the line and vehicle. If you must exit the vehicle due to fire, keep your hands at your sides and jump

clear of the vehicle, so you are not touching the car when your feet hit the ground. Keep both feet close together and shuffle away from the vehicle without picking up your feet.

or worse, a fatal shock.

Harvest safety is about protecting lives, equipment, and communities. By slowing down, looking up, and maintaining proper clearance

2026 Board of Director Nominations Due July 7

Now is the time to submit nominations for anyone interested in running for the Midwest Energy Board of Directors. Director positions and represented districts up for re-election include:

District 1 (1 position): Counties of Cheyenne, Greeley, Hamilton, Logan, Rawlins, Sherman, Thomas, Wallace and Wichita.

District 2 (1 position): Counties of Decatur, Gove, Norton and Sheridan

District 4 (1 position): Counties of Ellis, Graham and Trego.

Nominees must be a resident in one of the counties in the district for which he or she is nominated and receive retail electric or natural gas

service from Midwest Energy.

Nominations may be submitted online by July 7, 2026 at www.mwenergy.com by clicking "About," and then the "Board of Directors Elections" link. Additionally, nominations may be made in writing by sending the nominee's name, address and phone number to:

Judy Thurman
c/o Midwest Energy, Inc.
1330 Canterbury
Hays, KS 67601

The nominating committee will select candidates from the names submitted. Nominees will be notified by the end of July whether or not they have been selected. Winners of the elec-

tion to the Board of Directors will be announced at the Annual Meeting, on October 19, 2026 in Hays.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

As temperatures start to rise, many homeowners focus on staying cool. Don't forget about the small gaps around windows and doors. While air sealing is often associated with keeping cold air out during winter, it's just as important during summer. Tiny cracks and worn weatherstripping allow cool, conditioned air to escape and hot, humid air to seep indoors. This forces your air conditioner to work harder than necessary and increases energy costs. Take a few minutes to check for drafts, replace weatherstripping and seal leaks. A tighter home keeps you more comfortable and helps manage energy use.

Source: energy.gov

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