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## Register now!

See page 2 for details.

**MUI**  
**Day at the Capitol**

**Wednesday,  
 April 6**

**Join us virtually!**

# *In your* INTEREST

A POSITIVE, CREDIBLE AND INDEPENDENT VOICE FOR MINNESOTA UTILITY INVESTORS

## A busy 2022 Legislative Session begins

As the second year of the Biennium moves into March, nearly 1000 new bills have been introduced in the House and 800 in the Senate. Deadlines have been established by Legislative Leadership with the Third Committee deadline (all policy & finance bills have to pass in all Policy and Finance Committees) being April 8th. The last day to pass Legislation is May 22nd and adjournment is Monday, May 23rd.

### It's all about the money

One of the big looming topics at the Capitol is how big will the State Surplus be that legislators have to work with during this session. Although the legislature and Governor Walz agreed to a \$52 billion budget last June to fund state government through June of 2023, it is common for legislators and the governor to propose additional spending initiatives in the non-budget session based on surplus dollars available. The December forecast indicated a \$7.7 billion budget surplus; the February forecast will be released soon and it is anticipated to be even higher.

Also, many Legislative Committees are learning from State Agencies about federal money that is expected to flow in Minnesota's direction for a variety of initiatives. Unfortunately, there are still many unknowns coming from Washington on how the money can be spent.

And the last money topic: there will be Bonding bill this year but the question is how big will it be. A bonding bill is a piece of legislation that authorizes the issuing of bonds

to pay for certain construction projects and infrastructure upgrades. Eligible projects for this type of bonding must be publicly-owned and designated as infrastructure. These bonds come in the form of general obligation bonds and are guaranteed by the state. A bonding bill that uses general obligation bonds is the only type of legislation to need a higher threshold than a simple majority to pass – requiring a three-fifths vote in support in each chamber.

### Energy issues

So far this session in the House and Senate Energy Committees discussions have included topics such as solar energy; electric vehicles and electric charging stations as well as potential programs from the Department of Commerce with the upcoming money from the Federal Government. The Senate Energy Committee did pass SF 3023 which would allow some flexibility for the natural gas utilities to move forward on small infrastructure projects with out going through a full rate case. (MUI Supports).

We anticipate more legislation to begin moving forward in the next month with Committee deadlines looming in March/April. By the April 8th deadline, we will have a clearer picture of the issues moving forward because the Committees will have developed their Omnibus Bills.

### Redistricting

Impacting the Legislative Session – not

**Legislative Session Begins** cont. on page 4

**On pages 6-7 of this edition, you'll find the annual Edward Jones Data on Selected Utility Stocks**

# Minnesota's New Legislative and Congressional Maps Cause a Stir at the Capitol

A five-judge panel appointed by the chief justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court issued new congressional and legislative district maps on February 15th. These maps will be effective for the 2022 election through the 2030 election.

The new maps were issued by the judicial branch as a result of the legislature not passing new congressional and legislative district maps this session.

Based on the latest census data, the five judge panel crafted the maps due the legislature's failure to agree on a redistricting plan. The panel took a "least change" approach but due to population shifts, many Minnesotans - and incumbent legislators - are finding themselves in new legislative districts.

Last November the Court issued its principles and said the ideal U.S. House district would contain 713,312 people, a state Senate district 85,172 and ideal state House districts 42,586. The panel said it would aim to keep communities intact as much as possible, give heed to communities of interest and craft lines that are "reasonably compact."

In previous redistricting years when the new maps are released, some legislators have found themselves paired with another incumbent, sometimes of the same party and sometimes of the opposite party. The factor of legislator pairing or the potential for a district to become less politically advantageous for one political party often leads to legislators deciding to not seek re-election.

In over 11 of the new Senate districts and 16 of the new House districts, incumbent legislators are paired against each other. A few are matched with a member of the opposing party but most match ups are from the same party.

There are also a significant number of open seats created by the new maps which may present opportunities for some legislators if they decide to move into a new district. Prior to the release of the new district lines, 26 legislators announced their retirement. That number is likely to go significantly up.

Legislators/Candidates must file their intent to run for election with the Secretary of State for the November elections by May 31st. ✧

JOIN US VIRTUALLY!



## Day at the Capitol

**Wednesday, April 6, 2022**

Once again, we are **ZOOMING MUI Day at the Capitol**. While this isn't ideal, it allows MUI members all over the nation to check in with activities at the Minnesota State Capitol.

### **SCHEDULE (10 -11:15 a.m.)**

- Welcome and update on issues
- Legislative speakers
- Door Prizes and BINGO!
- Adjourn

To receive the Day at the Capitol with Zoom log-in information and your BINGO sheets, **please register by MARCH 25TH.**

We will be holding in-person Advocacy Meetings following the MUI Day at the Capitol. Please see **page 3** for more information.

**REGISTER for this event by calling 651-227-7902  
or online at [www.mnutilityinvestors.org](http://www.mnutilityinvestors.org).**

**Make your  
voice heard**

# Stay engaged by attending one of MUI's new, in-person Spring Local Legislative Advocacy Meetings

These spring meetings are a new format for MUI members to be engaged in the legislative process that impacts your utility investments.

Attend one of these in-person local member meetings to learn about issues that are being debated prior to the May 23rd legislative adjournment. You will be briefed on the likely

Omnibus House and Senate Energy bills that will include provisions affecting the energy industry as shareholders and customers. We will provide talking points and materials to contact your legislators — to make your voices heard.

And, as always at these meetings there will be lunch and MUI BINGO. ✧

## Local Legislative Advocacy Meeting Schedule

CITY	DATE/TIME	LOCATION	ADDRESS
Alexandria	Thur, April 28 5:30 PM	Hampton Inn	2705 S Broadway St. Alexandria, MN 56308
Baxter Area	Wed, April 27 11:30 AM	Prairie Bay	15115 Edgewood Drive Baxter, MN 56425
Bloomington Area	Thur, April 21 11:30 AM	Bloomington Events Center Knights of Columbus	1114 American Blvd W Bloomington, MN 55420
Duluth Area	Tue, May 3 11:30 AM	Radisson Hotel Duluth Harborview	505 West Superior St. Duluth, MN 55802
Fergus Falls	Thur, April 28 11:30 AM	AmericInn (NEW LOCATION)	526 Western Avenue Fergus Falls, MN 56537
Mankato Area	Wed, May 4 11:30 AM	AmericInn (NEW LOCATION)	240 Stadium Road Mankato, MN 56001
NorthEast Metro Area	Wed, April 20 11:30 AM	North Metro Event Center	1000 Gramsie Rd Shoreview, MN
NW Metro	Fri, April 22 11:30 AM	Mpls Marriott West (NEW LOCATION)	9960 Wayzata Blvd St Louis Park, MN 55426
Rochester Area	Thur, May 5 11:30 AM	Country Inn & Suites	77 Wood Lake Drive SE Rochester, MN 55904
St. Cloud Area	Wed, April 27 5:30 PM	Coyote Moon Grille	Territory Golf Course, 480 55th Av SE St Cloud, MN 56304
St. Paul	Tue, April 26 11:30 AM	Joseph's Grill	140 South Wabasha St Paul, MN 55107

**You must register to attend a Local Legislative Advocacy Meeting.  
Register online at [www.mnutilityinvestors.org](http://www.mnutilityinvestors.org) or call 651-227-7902.**



# Nuclear power may be the key to least-cost, zero-emission electricity systems: a study

Nuclear power generation can play a crucial role in helping the world reach a key goal of zero carbon emissions by the middle of the century, especially in countries with low wind resources, according to new work in *Nature Energy* from Lei Duan and Ken Caldeira of the Carnegie's Department of Global Ecology.

Human activity is spewing carbon pollution into the atmosphere, affecting the global carbon cycle and causing warming, as well as altered precipitation patterns. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, to minimize catastrophic climate impacts, it's important that humanity work to keep the global mean temperature increase under 1.5 degrees Celsius relative to pre-industrial levels. To achieve this goal, the panel said carbon emissions from across the energy system would have to reach zero by the middle of this century.

"Renewable energy sources like wind and solar are great for reducing carbon-emissions," Duan said. "However, the wind and sun have natural variation in their availability from day to day, as well as across geographic regions, and this creates complications for total emissions reduction."

Today, gaps in the energy that wind and solar provide can be made up by power generation from natural gas. However, in a zero-emission electricity system, another way is needed to provide electricity when the sun is not shining, and the wind is not blowing.

Previous studies have shown that curbing 80 percent of carbon emissions can be achieved by ramping up wind and solar power harvesting installations. However, gaps between supply and demand created by this variability in natural resources would require significant infrastructure changes—massive expansions in energy storage and transmission capabilities, as well as in energy generating infrastructure—in order to achieve 100 percent curtailment.

"To nail down that last 10 or 20 percent of decarbonization, we need to have more tools in our toolbox, and not just wind and solar," Caldeira explained.

To assess the possibility of nuclear power to serve this need, Duan and Caldeira, along with Robert Petroski of TerraPower LLC and Lowell Wood of Gates Ventures LLC, investigated the wind and solar resources of 42 countries and used this information to evaluate nuclear power's ability to

provide low-cost energy and replace natural gas as a backup energy source. Their analysis focused on identifying which countries would benefit from exploring nuclear power as an option for their energy suite sooner rather than later.

They found that in countries such as the U.S., which have the right geographic and climate conditions for generating ample wind power, nuclear would not be deployed until it was needed to get over the last remaining hurdles of decarbonization. But in countries with poorer wind resources, such as Brazil, strategic use of nuclear power could enable a faster transition away from carbon.

"Under strict greenhouse gas emission controls, reliable power generation provided by nuclear power has a lot of potential value in the electricity grid for most nations," Duan concluded. "Places with poor wind resources can benefit from nuclear earlier in the path to zero emissions, whereas places with very good wind resources would only need it to get rid of the last traces of carbon emissions."

Added Caldeira: "Our analysis looked at the cheapest way to eliminate carbon dioxide emissions assuming today's prices. We found that at today's price, nuclear is the cheapest way to eliminate all electricity-system carbon emissions nearly everywhere. However, if energy storage technologies became very cheap, then wind and solar could potentially be the least-cost path to a zero-emission electricity system."

*SOURCE: Techxplore.com; by Carnegie Institution for Science; February 14, 2022* ✧

## Legislative Session Begins cont. from page 1

in policy-making but in politics: the new Legislative and Congressional Lines are becoming clearer and legislators are making decisions about their future. Some have decided to retire, run against a colleague that is now in the same legislative district or run for another office. The deadline to file for political office is May 31, 2022.

MUI will continue to keep you updated as issues start moving forward. Please consider joining us by ZOOM on April 6th for our Day at the Capitol or at any of our Local Advocacy Meetings scheduled in April and May to keep fully informed. ✧

# Will electric vehicles pay their fair share for Minnesota's road costs?

Steve Whiteman of Mankato was gassing up his car recently when an electric vehicle pulled up at the service station and plugged in nearby.

This got him thinking: If he's paying a gas tax for the fuel his car consumes, what do electric vehicle (EV) owners pay given that their vehicles don't use gas? And if gas taxes help fund Minnesota's roads and bridges, shouldn't EV owners pitch in for that, too?

Whiteman and several other readers sought answers about this quirk of highway finance from *Curious Minnesota*, the *Star Tribune's* reporting project fueled by great reader questions.

The question will likely become more pressing in the future as more Minnesotans buy electric vehicles — whether they're all-electric or hybrid models.

EVs are fast becoming mainstream, if the volume of advertising during the Super Bowl last weekend is any indication. Of the seven automakers that ran a TV ad during the world's most-watched sporting event, six featured an EV, according to *Cars.com*. So, let's do the math.

Minnesotans pay 28.5 cents a gallon in state fuel taxes — money that may only be used for roads and bridges, according to the state constitution. We also pay 18.4 cents per gallon in federal gas taxes.

EVs don't consume gas, but owners do pay an annual \$75 fee in lieu of the state gas tax. Some Republicans at the state Capitol would like to increase that annual fee to \$229 a year for all-electric vehicles and half that amount for plug-in hybrids.

## 'A fair amount'

But the gas tax is merely one way that vehicle owners help pay for road maintenance.

Like owners of traditional vehicles, EV owners pay the motor vehicle sales tax when they purchase the car or truck, as well as annual license tab renewals. They also pay the state sales tax when they make general purchases. All contribute to the state's fund that is allocated to road maintenance and construction.

The average price of an EV — \$52,486, according to Kelley's Blue Book — is about \$10,000 more than a comparable gas-powered vehicle. As a result, EV owners tend to pay more in motor vehicle sales tax and tab renewal fees. So the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) says that it all evens out in the end — at least for now.

"The way we're viewing things at the moment is that EVs in general are paying a similar amount or more when compared to a gas-fired vehicle," said Tim Sexton, MnDOT's assistant commissioner for Sustainability and Public Health.

But MnDOT is keeping an eye on the situation, especially because the state gas tax accounts for more than a third of the state's roads and bridges fund. That amounted to \$846 million in the 2021 fiscal year.

"It's important for us to be able to maintain our system, and we want to make sure that all vehicles are contributing a fair amount," Sexton said in an interview.

EVs account for less than 1% of the vehicles currently registered in Minnesota. But that number will likely increase in coming years as automakers introduce more EV models, prices for the vehicles decline, and public charging infrastructure expands across the state.

## A new kind of fee

The annual fees charged to EV owners across the country vary from \$50 to \$225, according to the National Conference

**Minnesota EVs** cont. on page 10

**This edition includes the Edward Jones Data on Selected Utility Stocks.  
IT'S ON THE NEXT PAGE! DON'T MISS IT!**

**The Edward Jones report is just ONE of the many great reasons to maintain your Supporting Membership.** As a Supporting Member you can take advantage of all of the valuable benefits below throughout the year! As the chart demonstrates, the benefits far outweigh the investment.

# Recent Utility Company News

## MDU Resources Subsidiary Finishes Construction, Begins Transporting Natural Gas on ND Pipeline

MP

WBI Energy, Inc., a subsidiary of MDU Resources Group, Inc. (NYSE: MDU), recently put the North Bakken Expansion project into service after completing construction and testing on the natural gas pipeline. The expansion has capacity to transport 250 million cubic feet of natural gas per day from the Bakken production area in North Dakota, with the potential to be increased up to 625 million cubic feet per day through additional compression if needed to meet growing customer demand.

As part of the project, WBI Energy and its main contractor, Michels Corp., completed a 15,426-foot horizontal directional drill of a 24-inch pipeline crossing Lake Sakakawea on the Missouri River in North Dakota. The crossing of just less than 3 miles is one of the longest of its kind.

“We are excited to put this project into service and help producers move more natural gas to market while reducing flaring in the Bakken region,” said David L. Goodin, president and CEO of MDU Resources. “With this project, WBI Energy’s total pipeline system capacity is more than 2.4 billion cubic feet of natural gas per day, and its strategic location within the Bakken provides further opportunities to continue expanding to serve projected production growth. We appreciate the ongoing support from federal, state and local officials for these types of projects and the economic and environmental benefits they provide.”

WBI Energy and its contractors completed the North Bakken Expansion project under a shortened timeframe, reducing the original construction schedule by two months, after a delay in receiving approval from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to proceed.

The North Bakken Expansion project included construction of approximately 100 miles of natural gas pipeline, a compressor station expansion, a new compressor station and additional associated infrastructure in northwestern North Dakota.

## Otter Tail Corporation Increases Quarterly Dividend

OTTR

Otter Tail Corporation (NASDAQ: OTTR) recently announced the Board of Directors increased the company’s quarterly common stock dividend to \$0.4125 per share. The

increase brings the annual indicated dividend rate to \$1.65 per share, a \$.09 increase over the 2021 rate. The dividend is payable on March 10, 2022 to shareholders of record on February 15, 2022.

This 5.8 percent increase demonstrates our strong commitment to our shareholders and shows the confidence the board of directors has in our ability to deliver sustainable earnings and cash flows. We expect future dividend increases to be in line with earnings growth while maintaining a long-term targeted payout ratio in the range of 60 to 70 percent.

This represents the 83rd year (333 consecutive quarters) dividends have been paid on common stock.

## ALLETE Board of Directors Raises Quarterly Common Stock Dividend

ALE

ALLETE, Inc. (NYSE: ALE) recently announced that its Board of Directors has increased the quarterly dividend on the company’s common stock to 65 cents per share, a 3% percent increase.

“ALLETE’s board is confident with this dividend increase given our growth outlook for ALLETE,” said ALLETE Chair, President and CEO Bethany Owen. “We are pleased to deliver another dividend increase to our shareholders, and this adds to our track record of over 72 consecutive years of dividends paid.”

On an annual basis the increased dividend is equivalent to \$2.60 per share. The regular quarterly dividend is payable Mar. 1 to common shareholders of record at the close of business Feb. 15, 2022.

## WEC Energy Group announces hydrogen power pilot program

WEC

WEC Energy Group (NYSE: WEC) recently announced that it is leading a pilot project to test hydrogen as a fuel source for power generation. The company will test co-firing hydrogen with natural gas at one of its power generation plants in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. This is one of the first hydrogen power pilot programs of its kind in the United States.

WEC Energy Group has set some of the most aggressive environmental goals in the energy industry, including net-

**Company Briefs** cont. on page 9



zero carbon emissions from electric generation by 2050 and net-zero methane emissions from natural gas distribution by the end of 2030. This pilot continues that industry leadership and could help create another viable option for decarbonizing the economy.

“We’re pleased to take a leading role in testing hydrogen in our modern natural gas fueled generation units,” said Gale Klappa, executive chairman. “As we bring more renewable energy online, we must ensure that we can keep the lights on when the sun is not shining and the wind is not blowing. The potential of adding hydrogen as a clean generating fuel to our fleet of dispatchable plants is an important step as we bridge to a bright, sustainable future.”

During the pilot project, hydrogen and natural gas will be mixed up to a 25/75 percent blend to power one of the generating units that serves customers of Upper Michigan Energy Resources, a WEC Energy Group subsidiary. The units use a technology known as RICE — reciprocating internal combustion engines. The engines were manufactured by technology company Wärtsilä and began service in 2019.

WEC Energy Group is partnering with the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), the world’s preeminent independent, non-profit energy research and development organization, driving innovation to ensure the public has clean, safe, reliable, affordable, and equitable access to electricity across the globe.

EPRI will lead the technical implementation of the project and share results to further educate the energy industry about how to successfully use hydrogen for power generation to support reducing carbon emissions.

“Demonstration projects like this one are critical to advancing clean energy technologies needed to meet net-zero goals,” said EPRI CEO Arshad Mansoor. “This project will provide key insights on how this could be replicated throughout the country, providing energy companies with a suite of solutions to reduce carbon emissions. We look forward to working with WEC Energy Group and other energy stakeholders throughout the clean energy transition.”

## **Xcel Energy Named a World’s Most Admired Company for Ninth Consecutive Year**

***Minneapolis-based utility recognized by Fortune magazine for innovation, social responsibility and more***

For the ninth year in a row, Xcel Energy has been honored as one of the World’s Most Admired Companies by Fortune magazine. The Minneapolis-based utility ranked

**XEL**

second among the most admired gas and electric companies in the country.

The ranking is based on nine criteria including innovation, social responsibility, financial soundness, long term investment value and quality of management.

“Xcel Energy is honored to make Fortune magazine’s list of the World’s Most Admired Companies. Thanks to our dedicated employees who continue to deliver for our customers and communities,” said Bob Frenzel, chairman, president and CEO of Xcel Energy. “It’s rewarding to be recognized by our peers and stakeholders as leaders of the clean energy transition while we keep our service reliable, our system resilient, and customer bills low.”

Xcel Energy is the first major U.S. utility to announce a commitment to reducing carbon emissions by 80% (from 2005 levels) by 2030, with a vision of delivering 100% carbon-free electricity by 2050. The company is more than halfway to that interim goal.

Fortune magazine partnered with Korn Ferry to conduct the survey on corporate reputation, focusing on large companies with revenue of \$10 billion or more

## **CenterPoint Energy completes sale of its Arkansas and Oklahoma natural gas distribution businesses to Summit Utilities**

**CNP**

CenterPoint Energy, Inc. (NYSE: CNP) recently announced that it has successfully completed the previously announced sale of its natural gas distribution utilities in Arkansas and Oklahoma to Summit Utilities, Inc. The assets include approximately 17,000 miles of main pipeline in Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texarkana, serving more than 500,000 residential and business customers.

The transaction received all necessary federal and state regulatory approvals, including from the Arkansas Public Service Commission, Oklahoma Corporation Commission and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Summit will immediately assume responsibility for serving CenterPoint Energy’s former customers in Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texarkana.

CenterPoint Energy Executive Vice President, Utility Operations Scott Doyle said, “We want to thank our employees and those of Summit for the successful completion of this transaction. We will be working together for a seamless transition for the benefit of the customers throughout the service territories.”

**Company Briefs** cont. on page 11

# Why Are Wind Turbines Getting Larger?

As the demand for renewable energy increased, wind turbines grew in size. When individuals drive through flat, rural areas, they can spot turbines from miles away. Turbines are becoming taller, and their blades are spanning longer distances.

Larger devices produce more emission-free electricity than smaller variants. Sustainability policies and regulations, like the United Nations (UN) Paris Agreement, may influence wind power's continuous expansion. Larger turbines can help countries meet their conservation goals and lower their energy costs.

## The Evolution of Turbines

Wind turbine technology has changed exponentially since the '90s. In 1990, turbines typically extended 98 feet high and produced 0.2 megawatts (MWs) of electricity. Ten years later, environmental engineers have created the modern onshore wind turbine.

The first version was 190 feet tall and produced 0.9 MWs of emission-free electricity. Today, onshore turbines reach 295 feet high and create 3 MWs of energy. Offshore versions are slightly taller, extending 328 feet high and generating 6

MWs of clean electricity.

Turbine manufacturers continue developing taller devices to capture more wind. Different zones of the environment produce varying wind shears. As turbines extend higher, they can experience variations in wind velocities which exert more energy.

The height and rotor diameter of a turbine influences its energy production efficiency. In 2010, rotors were smaller than 380 feet and limited a turbine's general reach. Today, the component is nearly 410 feet and increases power production capabilities.

Offshore wind production is experiencing the most growth of any sector in the renewable energy industry. In 2020, offshore turbines generated nearly 1,592 TeraWatt hours (TWh) of emission-free electricity. Turbine technology is expanding to help environmentalists access more clean energy and minimize fossil fuel uses.

*SOURCE: Altenergymag.com; Emily Newton, Revolutionized; February 18, 2022* ✧

## Minnesota EVs cont. from page 5

of State Legislatures. Some states such as Utah and Oregon charge a fee by the mile, until a specified amount is reached.

Rep. Steve Elkins, DFL-Bloomington, has introduced legislation at the Capitol that would eliminate the \$75 fee and create a new mileage-based fee. That would likely rely on a tracking device in the vehicle, similar to programs in Utah and Oregon. The fee would be adjusted each year, so the amount collected would be on par with gas tax revenue. "I have an EV myself and I want to pay my fair share, but not more than my fair share," said Elkins, who owns a Tesla.

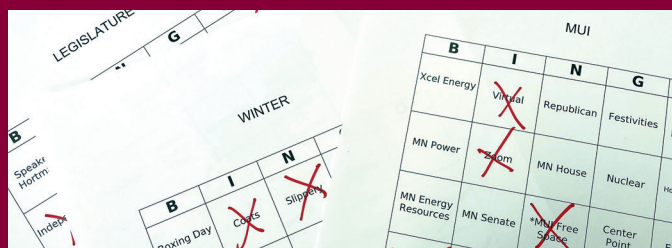
But others, like Rep. Pat Garofalo, R-Farmington, have

privacy concerns. He questions whether the state should know our itineraries. (Elkins notes the fees would be collected through a secure, third-party vendor.)

Garofalo, who also owns a Tesla, is in favor of diverting existing sales tax on electricity to support road maintenance. But for now, he's OK with the \$75 flat fee. "We have a \$7.7 billion surplus," he said. "We shouldn't be looking at new taxes or fees."

Whiteman — the reader who asked this question — said he was surprised there was so much debate about EVs, gas taxes and paying for road maintenance. "It seems pretty involved," he said.

*SOURCE: Star Tribune, February 18, 2022, Janet Moore* ✧



## Congratulations!

MUI members across the US scoured their three MUI BINGO sheets at our Holiday Zoom BINGO meeting in December 2021. **Over 20 MUI members were winners!**



# Accolades to recent MUI Supporting Members

**T**hank you to our MUI Supporting Members for their continued support! Those listed below represent members who have RENEWED their membership between November 10, 2021 – February 21, 2022. The list is organized by state and then alphabetized by FIRST name. Members that are italicized have renewed for three year – the rest for one year.

## RENEWING MUI SUPPORTING MEMBERS

**CALIFORNIA:** Thomas and Helen Riker; **FLORIDA:** Harry E. Hodges, Jr.; **INDIANA:** Carolyn Kanze; **MICHIGAN:** Richard Josten; **MINNESOTA:** Al and Barbara Paulson, *Al and Joan Sanford*, Albert and Vi Parson, *Allan Apter and Brenda Ion*, Barbara Chopp, Betty Anderson, *Betty Schaumburg*, *Bill and (Carol) Nancy Swenson*, *Bonnie and Dean Birnstengel*, *Bonnie Gentry*, *Bruce and Melinda Adams*, Carol Burgess, Carol Porter, Catherine Westman, *Charles and Mary Rudstrom*, Charles Burton, Clyde and Judy Anderson, *Craig and Lori Schellberg*, *Curt and Marie Mecklenburg*, Dale Fredrickson, *Dale Kennen*, David and Bev Maier, Deloris Fligge, *Dennis and Laurel Lamke*, *Dennis Ganz*, *Derald and Linda Shaw*, Doris E. Johnson, *Dorothy Kirk*, Ed and Helen Maier, Edward and Sue Erickson, Eldon Person, Ethel Woestehoff, Freeland and Lorraine Pletcher, *Gary and Kathleen Reinecke*, Gene and Deb Danneman, *George and Linda Beckers*, Gerald and Joan Reisem, Geraldine Richter, Gladys Walcker, Harland Kuhlman, *J Buford Johnson*, *James and Louise Casey*, *James and Marlys Wilson*, Jerome and Bernie Dolinsky, Jim and Kilbride, *John and Donna Ward*, *John and Kim Erickson*, John and Marlene Kjera, *John and Mary DeVoe*, John and Roberta Olson, *John and Sandra Stephanie*, *Joyce and Ronald Hetland*, *Judith Moe*, Ken and Pat Olson, *Ken and Rita Kiefer*, *Leonard and Mickey Pederson*, Margaret Ewert, *Margaret Lutz and Terry Shima*, Marie Meyer, Marlene

Brooks, Marilyn Cummings-Kirby and Don Kirby, Merlin and Alfrieda Dornbush, *Michael Schwab*, *Nancy Wettstein*, *Patrick and Dianne O'Keefe*, *Phillip and Myra Toconita*, Richard and Delores Widholm, *Rita and Roland Donnay*, Robert and Susan Johnson, Rod and Nancy Smith, Rolland and Colleen Eck, Ronald and Darlene Hansen, Ronald Steinberg, Sandra Chase, Sheila Stolpe, Stephen and Kathleen Sabel, Stephen Johnson, *Sylvester Davis*, Sylvia Jenness Coklas, *Thomas and Kathleen Grendzinski*, *Thomas and Susan Harper*, *Tim and Susan Neibling*, Tom Brandl, *Vern and May Nordling*, Victor and Joyce Hengel, *William Krings*; **NORTH DAKOTA:** Jeff and Renae Legge; **SOUTH DAKOTA:** Lawrence and Susan Abel; **VIRGINIA:** Walter and Andrea Baumann; **WISCONSIN:** Jerry and Jeanette Schmidt, Peter Mahoney. ✧

## Company Briefs cont. from page 9

CenterPoint Energy President and CEO Dave Lesar said, “Completing the sale of these natural gas distribution businesses will help us achieve a number of our strategic goals, including efficiently funding our long-term capital investment plans across our regulated utility businesses without issuing external equity, driving industry-leading rate base growth, and allowing us to focus our efforts on executing our plan across fewer jurisdictions.”

Lesar added, “At our recent Analyst Day, we outlined a pathway towards becoming a premium utility, including an updated five-year capital plan of more than \$18 billion, as well as a first-ever 10-year capital plan of more than \$40 billion to serve our growing customer base. These investments will be dedicated to safety, reliability, growth and enabling clean energy investments to benefit our customers and investors.” ✧

## Thank You to Our MUI Associate Members

- Dorsey & Whitney
- Lignite Energy Council
- Messerli & Kramer
- Tri-State Drilling, Inc.

## Check out MUI on Facebook



Search for Minnesota Utility Investors and “LIKE” us. Check in regularly to stay up-to-date information and event pictures.

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## Help your family and friends become energy insiders! Pass along this application.

### 2022 Opportunities for Supporting Members

Join now to take advantage of the following:

- FREE Meeting attendance to ALL of our meetings for your household (*valued well above the cost of an annual membership!*)
- Free Edward Jones Selected Utility Data chart updated annually
- Opportunities to go on EXCLUSIVE MUI Member Energy Plant Tours
- Quarterly print newsletter delivered to your home
- Print invitations for all MUI events and opportunities

**Great 3-year membership gifts!**



**TO JOIN** simply complete this form and return with payment.  
Or call MUI at 651-227-7902.

NAME

SPOUSE'S NAME (IF APPLICABLE)

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL

#### Member Dues

Two people per household included per membership. (*Select one*)

- ☐ Annual Membership (\$20)  
☐ 3-year Membership (\$50)\*

#### \*3-year Membership Gift

Those that select 3-year Membership earn a free gift. (*Select one*)

- ☐ MUI Collapsible Tote  
☐ MUI Fabric Cooler

#### Membership Qualification

I have investments in the one or more of these Minnesota Investor-Owned Energy Utilities: (*Check all that apply*)

- ☐ ALLETE  
☐ CenterPoint Energy  
☐ MDU Resources Group  
☐ Otter Tail Corporation  
☐ WEC Energy Group  
☐ Xcel Energy

#### How to Join

Complete this form and return with a check (*make payable to MUI*) or call us to pay with a credit card at 651-227-7902.

#### Please Mail to:

Minnesota Utility Investors  
3460 Washington Drive #210  
Eagan, MN 55122

**Our Supporting Members are Informed, Involved, and Engaged Investors.**