

VCSU receives Frank Murray Leadership Recognition from the CAEP

Courtesy of VCSU
Valley City, ND - Valley City State University (VCSU) today announced the school was recognized for Leadership in Continuous Improvement by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP).

CAEP awarded the 2023 Frank Murray Leadership Recognition for Continuous Improvement to 21 educator preparation programs in 15 states and the United Arab Emirates. Winning schools provided evidence and data trends to achieve accreditation with no stipulations or areas for improvement.

“Once again our School of Education continues to stand out as one of the top teacher-educator programs in the nation,” President



Valley City State University staff pictured above. VCSU photo

Alan LaFave said. “Last year, our faculty and program were recognized as having no areas of concern and given full reaccreditation by CAEP. This is a significant achievement and reflects the high quality of our program.”

CAEP has accredited 541 educator preparation providers in 43 states. The organization

focuses on advancing equity and excellence through evidence-based accreditation.

“CAEP completed accreditation visits to 96 education preparation providers in 2023. VCSU appreciates being listed among the 21 institutions receiving the Frank Murray Recognition for Continuous Improvement. Our fac-

ulty prioritize helping every teacher candidate succeed in their content area, and this award reiterates the high-quality instruction and experience we offer,” Dean of the VCSU School of Education Allen Burgad said. “Our focus on instruction and authentic field experiences helps our students become successful educators.”

The Frank Murray Leadership Recognition for Continuous Improvement is named after the founding President of the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC). CAEP was created by the consolidation of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and TEAC.

To learn more about

CAEP, visit caepnet.org. For more information, or to arrange an interview about VCSU, contact Tammy Jo Anderson Taft by emailing TammyJo.Taft@vcsu.edu, or calling 701-845-7227.

PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
Otter Tail Power Company
Case No. PU-23-343
2024 Renewable Resource Cost Recovery Adj. Factor Rates
NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING
On November 2, 2023, Otter Tail Power Company (OTP) filed a request for approval of its 2024 Renewable Resource Cost Recovery Rider Adjustment Factor (RRCR). The RRCR recovers projected costs from January 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025, of the repowers to Langdon, Ashtabula I, Luverne, and Ashtabula III wind projects and includes the Merricourt Wind Energy Center (Merricourt) production tax credits. OTP proposes to decrease the rate of the RRCR from 12.157 percent to zero percent on January 1, 2024, and to increase the rate to 1.728 percent from April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025. A residential customer using 1,000 kWh would see a monthly bill decrease of \$8.32 on January 1, 2024, and an increase of \$1.18 beginning on April 1, 2024.
Also on November 2, 2023, OTP filed PU-23-342, 2023 Electric Rate Increase (General Rate Case), proposing to remove the costs of Merricourt and Ashtabula III from the RRCR to base rate recovery, incorporate the proposed capital structure into the RRCR, and update the E2 jurisdictional allocation factor used in the RRCR to that proposed in the General Rate Case effective on January 1, 2024.
The issues to be considered in this proceeding are:
1. Whether the investments and associated costs for the resources qualify for recovery,
2. Whether the incurred costs are reasonable and prudent, and
3. Whether the rate adjustments are consistent with the terms of Otter Tail's tariff.
Those interested are invited to comment on the application in writing. Persons desiring a hearing must file a written request identifying their interest in the proceeding and the reasons for requesting a hearing. Comments and requests for hearings must be received by January 12, 2024. If deemed appropriate, the Commission can determine the matter without a formal hearing.
For more information contact the Public Service Commission, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505, 701-328-2400; or Relay North Dakota 1-800-366-6888
TTY: If you require any auxiliary aids or services, such as readers, signers, or Braille materials please notify the Commission.
Issued: November 29, 2023
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
Sheri Haugen-Hoffart, Commissioner
Randy Christmann, Chair
Julie Fedorchak, Commissioner

(December 5, 2023)

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.
Case No. PU-23-339
Generation Resource Cost Recovery Rates
NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING
On October 31, 2023, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (MDU) filed a change to its Generation Resource Recovery (GRRR) rates to reflect 2024 amortization of Lewis & Clark Unit I and Heskett Units I and II regulatory assets.
The effect of the rate change on the bill for a residential customer using 800 kWh is a decrease of \$0.01 per month compared to the exiting GRRR rate.
The issues to consider in this proceeding are:
1. Whether the investment and associated costs for the resources qualify for recovery,
2. Whether the incurred costs are reasonable and prudent, and
3. Whether the rate adjustments are consistent with the terms of MDU's tariff?
Those interested are invited to comment on the application in writing. Persons desiring a hearing must file a written request identifying their interest in the proceeding and the reasons for requesting a hearing. Comments and requests for hearing must be received by January 8, 2024. If deemed appropriate, the Commission can determine the matter without a formal hearing.
For more information contact the Public Service Commission, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505, 701-328-2400; or Relay North Dakota 1-800-366-6888
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Your Health: National Influenza Vaccination week

By Sam, LPN
There is still time to protect against the flu. The holidays are here, and while that means more opportunities for spreading cheer, there is also more opportunity for spreading flu and other respiratory viruses as people travel and gather with family and friends. This week, December 4-8, is National Influenza Vaccination Week. Now is a good time to ask yourself, have I gotten my flu vaccine? If not, you still have time to get vaccinated before the holiday season.
Ideally, we encourage people to get vaccinated by the end of October. The flu vaccine takes two

weeks to be effective so we encourage everyone to get vaccinated by the end of October so they are ready for Thanksgiving. Ultimately, it is important to get a flu vaccine before the virus starts spreading in the community so getting vaccinated later is still beneficial during most seasons. Flu most commonly peaks in February and significant activity can continue into May, so there is still time to get vaccinated if you haven't already.
Really everyone 6 months of age and older should receive an influenza vaccine, including, woman who are or will be pregnant during the

influenza season.
Adults with asthma, heart disease, diabetes and certain other chronic health conditions are at higher risk of developing potentially serious flu complications, including hospitalization or even death. In past flu seasons, 9 out of 10 adults hospitalized with the flu had at least one reported underlying medical condition.
Even more concerning is that heart disease and diabetes were the most common chronic conditions among hospitalized adults with flu during recent seasons. About half of adults hospitalized with flu had heart dis-

ease, and about 30% had diabetes. So, if you or a loved one has a chronic condition like asthma, heart disease, diabetes or had a stroke, please get your flu vaccine.
Typically, many healthy individuals feel they do not need to get the flu vaccine as they have never had the flu. However, be considerate and protect the individuals around you and get vaccinated.
Flu viruses are constantly changing, and multiple flu viruses can circulate at the same time during any given flu season. Because of this, flu vaccines are reviewed each year and updated as

needed.
Getting an annual flu vaccine is recommended for everyone 6 months and older and is the best way to help protect against flu. There's still time for you and your loved ones to get vaccinated; get your flu vaccine today
Flu vaccines are available at local clinics, pharmacies and your local public health unit: City-County Health District.
Sam is a licensed practical nurse working at City-County Health District
Your Health is coordinated by City-County Health District.

Weekly message from Valley City Mayor Dave Carlsrud

We have certainly been Blessed with beautiful late fall weather. A few years ago winter arrived early in October forcing construction to stop. From that, a segment of gravel road all winter on Main by the Rosebud Center. Oh well, that is how we get averages! Enjoy the above average temperatures for a while.
December is a month of celebrations for many. Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and Christmas are three identified on my calendar. During this time of the year, many homes and



By Mayor Carlsrud
businesses have decorative lighting and religious scenes. With the nice weather, more decorations are showing up almost daily, go for a walk or drive and enjoy the beauty.
Light has shown to be a positive therapy

for good mental health. While outdoor light is the best, winter days are short, so those of you who have decorative lighting in your yards may be “making someone's day”. Thank you.
Last week the Valley City - Barnes County Development Corporation (VCBCDC) held its Annual Banquet at the Eagles Club. There was a nice social, a good meal and an informative program. Representatives from Freedom Machine Group and John Deere Seeding Group shared how

the VCBCDC helped bring their businesses here and ways it helps retain businesses.
Information about “Community Engagement” opportunities was presented. There are numerous VCBCDC events where help is needed with many of them being fun. Contact Trinity at 701-490-9010 to see if there is something you would like.
We had four power outages in November all caused by, guess what, squirrels! Kudos to Public Power, in spite of the squirrels,

our power was “on” 99.9999% of the time. Thank you.
December 21, 2023 the Winter Solstice occurs at 9:27 PM. That means the days will become longer beginning the 22nd, YAY!
Thanks to all who provide and proof material for this article.
“All you need is love. But a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt.” ~ Charles M. Schultz
Blessings, Pray, be Grateful and Respectful,
Valley City Mayor, Dave Carlsrud

Valley City Green Dot works to keep Valley City safe

Courtesy of VC Green Dot
“Give a Green Dot” all December! In other words, help keep Valley City safe and joyful during the season of giving with Valley City Green Dot. Find little ways to spread kindness and be proactive in keeping our community safe every day this month. Give the gift of a safe community to your neighbors and yourself.
Valley City Green Dot is inviting you to join us once again in our December efforts to “Give a Green Dot”. Give as many green dots or moments of kindness as you can this holiday season. Giving a Green Dot means making small decisions every day that help keep our community safe. Green

Dots are the little choices we each make to watch out for one another in our community and to make clear that we in Valley City don't tolerate violence.
Over the last two years, we recorded over 500 Green Dots, or moments of kindness given within our community in the last two Decembers. VC Green Dot wants to see that same level of kindness again! Our goal is to record another 300 proactive Green Dots this month. That's 300 small moments that could include sharing with someone what VC Green Dot is, supporting organizations like APOC, signing up or inviting people to our February 27th Bystander Training, telling people about the

3Ds and other Bystander tips, sharing bystander videos on your social media, gifting a Green Dot ornament with info about violence prevention, or simply encouraging people to look out for one another and to keep Valley City safe.
You can participate in “Give a Green Dot” by doing any of the things above, sharing VC Green Dot posts throughout the month, or letting VC Green Dot know when you've given a Green Dot by commenting on posts using the hashtag #GiveaGreenDot or emailing your “Give a Green Dot” story to VCGreenDot@gmail.com.

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