



**GREAT
RIVER
ENERGY®**

**Great River Energy's
North Dakota 10-Year Plan Report
For 2026-2036**

**Submitted to
The North Dakota Public Service Commission**

July 1, 2026

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July 1, 2026

VIA EMAIL AND EXPRESS MAIL

Mr. Steven Kahl
Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 E. Boulevard, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

RE: Great River Energy 10-Year Plan for 2026-2036

Dear Mr. Kahl:

In accordance with Chapter 69-06-02-02 of the North Dakota Administrative Code, Great River Energy (GRE) hereby gives notice that it has submitted its North Dakota Ten-Year Plan Report, 2026-2036 (Report) to the North Dakota Public Service Commission (Commission) as required under Chapter 49-22-04 of the North Dakota Century Code (NDCC).

The Report details Great River Energy's current electric generation and transmission facilities and future for infrastructure development.

A copy of the Report is available upon request.

Please contact me at (763) 445-6116 or zruzycki@greenergy.com if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

GREAT RIVER ENERGY

/S/ Zac Ruzycki

Zac Ruzycki
Director, resource planning

Cc: County auditors (8)
Certificate of Service list

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Introduction

This report was prepared in accordance with the North Dakota Public Service Commission's (Commission) Guidelines for compliance with the requirements of Chapter 49-22-04 of the North Dakota Century Code.

Great River Energy (GRE) is a not-for-profit generation and transmission cooperative that provides wholesale electric service to its member-owner cooperatives and customers through a diverse portfolio of generation, transmission, demand-side management, and market resources. GRE's resource planning objective is to provide affordable, reliable, and increasingly cleaner energy while maintaining flexibility to respond to changing member needs, market conditions, technology developments, and regulatory requirements.

This report describes GRE's existing electric generation and transmission facilities, planned infrastructure development, projected demand for service, and coordination efforts with regional utilities, environmental agencies, and land-use planning organizations. The report also summarizes GRE's current expectations regarding future resource additions and transmission development within the planning horizon.

GRE continues to evaluate future resource needs through its integrated resource planning (IRP) process and ongoing coordination with member-owner cooperatives, regional transmission organizations, and industry stakeholders. Resource decisions remain subject to future planning, regulatory review, market conditions, and evolving member requirements.

GRE offers to provide additional information to the Commission upon request.

SECTION 1: Owned Energy Conversion Facilities

A description of the general location, size, and type of all facilities to be owned or operated by the utility during the ensuing 10 years, as well as those facilities to be removed from service during the 10-year period.

GRE Power Supply

GRE's current power supply portfolio includes nine owned power plants, along with power purchase agreements (PPAs) from multiple wind farms and other resource and capacity contracts. Our current power supply portfolio consists of more than 3,300 MW of total nameplate generating capability. The portfolio reflects a diverse mix of resources, including wind, natural gas, fuel oil, hydroelectric generation, bilateral contracts, and coal. No GRE resources are scheduled to be removed from service during the ensuing 10-year period.

Table 1 lists GRE's power supply portfolio including both owned energy conversion facilities and current PPAs.

Table 1. GRE's Existing Electric Generation Facilities

Facility Name	Location	Resource Type	Unit Number (s)	Make/Model	Fuel	Max Capacity (MW)
Cambridge Station	Cambridge, MN	Combustion Turbine	1	GE (Frame 5)	FO	217
		Combustion Turbine	2	Siemens (V84.3A2)	NG/FO	
Elk River Peaking Station	Elk River, MN	Combustion Turbine	11	Siemens (SGT6-5000F4)	NG/FO	230
Lakefield Junction Station	Martin County, MN	Combustion Turbine	1-6	6 x General Electric (MS7001EA)	NG/FO	630
Pleasant Valley Station	Mower County, MN	Combustion Turbine	11,12	2 x Siemens (V84.3A2)	NG/FO	487
	Mower County, MN	Combustion Turbine	13	Siemens (501D5A)	NG/FO	
St. Bonifacius Station	St. Bonifacius, MN	Combustion Turbine	1	P&W FT4000	FO	75
Rock Lake Station	Pine City, MN	Combustion Turbine	1	GE (Frame 5)	FO	28.5
Maple Lake, MN	Maple Lake, MN	Combustion Turbine	1	GE (Frame 5)	FO	28.5
Spiritwood Station	Spiritwood, ND	Heat and Power	1	Siemens (SST 800)	NG/Coal	99
Arrowhead Station	Cook County, MN	Recip Engine	1-9	9 x Cummins (QSK60 G6)	FO	18
Ashtabula II	Barnes, Griggs, Steele, MN	Wind Turbine PPA	N/A	GE	Wind	51
Buffalo Ridge	Lincoln County, MN	Wind Turbine PPA	N/A	GE	Wind	105
Deuel Harvest	Deuel County, MN	Wind Turbine PPA	N/A	GE	Wind	200
Elm Creek	Jackson/Martin County, MN	Wind Turbine PPA	N/A	GE	Wind	99
Emmons-Logan Wind	Emmons/Logan County, ND	Wind Turbine PPA	N/A	GE	Wind	200
Endeavor I	Osceola County, IA	Wind Turbine PPA	N/A	GE	Wind	100
Prairie Star	Mower County, MN	Wind Turbine PPA	N/A	Vestas	Wind	100
Trimont	Jackson/Martin County, MN	Wind Turbine PPA	N/A	GE	Wind	105

Dispatchable Generation

GRE's dispatchable power supply resources (often referred to as peaking plants), consist primarily of natural gas combustion turbines with emergency fuel oil backup. GRE has just over 1,700 MW of peaking generation nameplate capacity in our portfolio, all of which are located in Minnesota. While dispatchable peaking plants supply a small amount of our member-owners' annual energy needs (historically 1% to 3% of our total annual energy production), they serve as GRE's primary accredited capacity resources to meet the Midcontinent Independent System Operator's (MISO's) seasonal accredited capacity requirements. In addition, they act as an energy hedge by offsetting our members' MISO market purchases during periods of elevated energy prices which often occur during the coldest and warmest days of the year and when variable renewable generation is limited or unavailable. These resources continue to support reliability MISO-wide as they are available for dispatch and energy production during Resource Adequacy (RA) hours and reliability events.

Renewable Generation

Wind is GRE's primary source of renewable energy generation and a foundational component of GRE's energy portfolio. Contracted under fixed-price PPAs, GRE's portfolio consists of 960 MW of nameplate wind capacity. These facilities are located in southern Minnesota, Iowa, South Dakota, and North Dakota. Wind generation also provides GRE with Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) needed to support future compliance with Minnesota's Eligible Energy Technology Standard (EETS) and Carbon Free Standard (CFS.) In addition to wind generation, GRE maintains a diversity exchange agreement with Manitoba Hydro, which includes seasonal accredited capacity benefits for our Members.

Load Modifying Resources and Demand-side Management

GRE has developed an extensive portfolio of load-modifying resources (LMRs) and demand-side management (DSM) over the past 40+ years in partnership with our member-owner cooperatives. These LMRs include a wide range of resources including thermal storage, interruptible hot water heating, controllable air conditioning, and interruptible agricultural irrigation systems. They provide significant value by reshaping demand rather than generating supply. Unlike dispatchable generation, which ramps up to meet peak demand, these resources reduce those peaks by shedding or shifting load and reducing cost during critical times, helping maintain reliability and affordability across the system.

GRE, in conjunction with our member-owners, has aggregated our fleet of LMRs to develop DSM programs which collectively serve to provide cost controls as well as capacity value to our power supply portfolio. Capacity accreditation values are determined annually through the MISO accreditation process. In 2026, GRE registered seasonal DSM programs with MISO having the ability to control up to 350 MW of load depending on seasonality. As a result of registering these programs' demand reduction capability with MISO, GRE receives zonal resource credits (ZRCs) which are a fungible commodity equivalent to the capacity awarded to various asset classes in MISO. GRE now uses the LMR capacity credits to help meet MISO's resource adequacy requirements.

Rainbow Energy Center

In May of 2021, GRE sold Coal Creek Station (CCS) to Rainbow Energy Center, LLC (Rainbow) and its associated high-voltage direct-current (HVDC) transmission line to Nexus Line, LLC (Nexus). GRE continues to operate and maintain the HVDC transmission line. As part of the CCS sale, an initial 1,050 MW PPA was also established with Rainbow, including financially settled energy in Minnesota and MISO Zonal Resource Credits (ZRCs) for capacity. The original PPA continues to step down in scheduled increments over the 10-year contract term and ends in 2031.

SECTION 2: Energy Conversion Facilities and Transmission Under Construction

An identification of the location of the tentative preferred site for all electric energy conversion facilities and the tentative location of all electric transmission facilities on which construction is intended to be commenced within the ensuing five years and such other information as may be required by the Commission. The site and corridor identification shall be made in compliance with the criteria published by the Commission pursuant to section 49-22-05.1.

Planned Power Supply Resources

In addition to GRE's owned and contracted power supply resources, our IRP also includes additional resources that are currently under contract for future construction and operation. These resources include over 1,100 MW of wind generation expected to be operational by the end of 2029 and 140 MW of 4-hour energy storage expected to be operational by the end of 2026 (Figure 1).

Emmons-Logan Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

GRE's first major investment in grid-scale energy storage will be at the Emmons-Logan Wind Project in North Dakota. This project is being developed in conjunction with NextEra. NextEra will lead permitting, construction, and ongoing maintenance activities, while GRE will retain autonomy in the day-to-day market operations of the facility. This project will deploy 140 MW of four-hour lithium-ion batteries. Upon completion by January 2027, it will be one of the largest energy storage facilities in MISO. Through this project, we expect to gain operational experience and a further understanding of the local economic benefits of battery storage resources. GRE is unaware of a widely accepted national job-per-MW formula specific to battery storage construction projects as the technology is still scaling rapidly and project scopes vary.¹ However, Emmons-Logan BESS, in conjunction with Emmons-Logan Wind, will continue to support the local economy by providing employment opportunities, property taxes revenue, and landowner lease payments. Upon completion, the project is expected to support approximately 6–8 full-time operations positions. GRE will continue coordinating with NextEra to document local economic impacts and integrate those results into future storage project planning and deployment strategies.

Big Bend Wind

GRE is working in conjunction with Apex Clean Energy (Apex) to develop the 300 MW Big Bend Wind project located north of Mountain Lake, Minnesota.² Apex estimates approximately 316 personnel will be required at peak employment during construction of the project, and approximately 14 permanent personnel will be required for operation and maintenance of the project over its projected 30-year project lifetime. Apex maintains a strong preference for bids that utilize local union construction craft employees to the greatest extent feasible to maximize the local economic benefits of the project. In addition to employment opportunities, Big Bend Wind will pay revenue to local units of government based on its annual energy production. Apex estimates approximately \$35.7 million in local tax revenue contributions over the life of the project.

New Salem Wind

GRE is working in conjunction with NextEra Energy Resources (NextEra) to develop the 426 MW New Salem Wind project located southwest of New Salem, North Dakota.³ The project is estimated to support approximately 300 construction jobs and approximately 11 full-time operations jobs upon completion. New Salem Wind represents an approximately \$1.2 billion capital investment with estimated tax payments of \$43 million over the first 30 years of the project's operation.

¹ <https://www.nlr.gov/state-local-tribal/state-employment-projection-support>

² https://www.bigbendwind.com/about_big_bend_wind

³ <https://www.nexteraenergyresources.com/new-salem-wind/project-overview.html>

Three Waters Wind

GRE is working in conjunction with NextEra to develop the 151 MW Three Waters Wind project located in Southern Minnesota.⁴ The project is estimated to support approximately 300 construction jobs and approximately 3-5 full-time operations jobs upon completion. Three Waters Wind will solicit bids for an engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) contractor to construct the project and will prioritize EPC contractor bids that utilize local union construction personnel to the greatest extent feasible. The project is estimated to contribute approximately \$600,000/yr to the county and \$150,000/yr split between the townships that will be hosting turbines. The tax rate and distribution between county and township is based on the Minnesota Department of Revenue's Wind Energy Production Tax guidelines.

Dodge County Wind

GRE is working in conjunction with NextEra to develop the 228 MW Dodge County Wind project located south of Claremont, Minnesota. This project is estimated to support up to 400 construction jobs and 370 professional services jobs with \$200 million in economic development during construction. In addition, the project will support 5-8 full-time jobs upon project completion. Dodge County Wind is anticipated to provide approximately \$83 million in payments to Dodge, Mower, and Steele counties landowners over its 30-year operational life. In addition, the project is anticipated to provide \$750,000-\$1 million in tax annual revenue for Dodge County.⁵

Form Energy battery storage pilot project

Since 2020, GRE has partnered with Form Energy to develop and commission its first commercial long-duration energy storage deployment.⁶ This 1 MW pilot project is designed to deliver rated power continuously for 100 hours. Final commissioning is planned for completion by the end of 2026, after which GRE and Form Energy will continue operating and testing the technology.

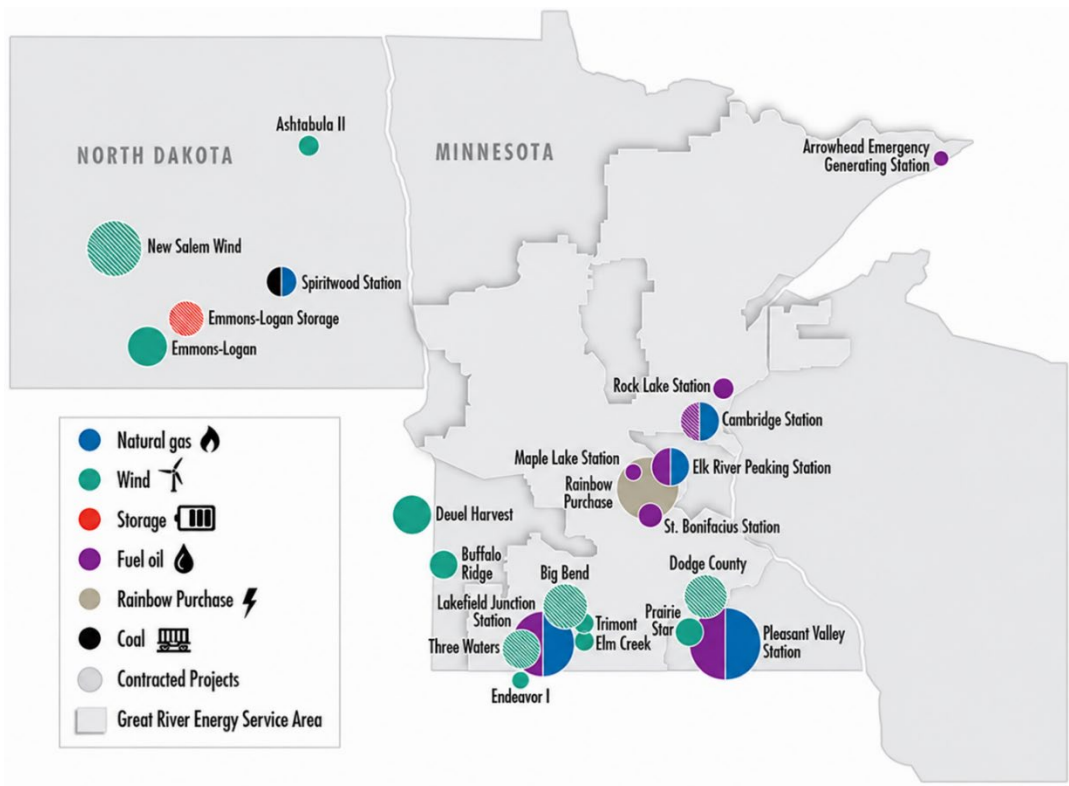
Figure 1 depicts GRE's current and planned (indicated by hash marks) power supply resource locations, types, and relative size of their nameplate generating capacity.

⁴ <https://www.nexteraenergyresources.com/three-waters-wind.html>

⁵ <https://www.nexteraenergyresources.com/dodge-county-wind/project-overview.html>

⁶ <https://formenergy.com>

Figure 1. GRE’s owned, contracted, and planned energy conversion facility locations



New Power Supply Resources

In addition to GRE’s planned power supply resources, our 10-year plan also includes the addition of new generating and storage resources.

420 MW of new dispatchable combustion turbines

In response to growing needs for capacity in our power supply portfolio, GRE’s IRP is prioritizing the development of reliability resources for up to 420 MW of dispatchable combustion turbine capacity. These turbines will likely be a mix of highly efficient and flexible aeroderivative and/or large-frame simple-cycle units, utilizing natural gas with emergency fuel oil backup. These state-of-the-art turbines will feature best-available control technologies and class-leading heat rates, providing needed capacity, a hedge against extreme market prices during periods of high energy demand, and robust local reliability benefits. Due to the dynamic nature of current power supply equipment markets, GRE will continue to assess the optimal combustion turbine resource mix that best serves our members. The locations of GRE’s new combustion turbine facilities have not yet been determined.

250 MW new wind generation

In addition to the 1,105 MW of planned wind generation, GRE will also procure an additional 250 MW of new wind generation by 2029. This expansion remains central to our Preferred Plan and will produce additional Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) that help ensure compliance with both Minnesota’s EETS and CFS. The location of GRE’s new wind generation resources have not yet been determined.

420 MW new energy storage

GRE's first major step into grid-connected energy storage will be at the Emmons-Logan Wind Project in North Dakota. As stated above, we expect to gain crucial operational experience and further understanding of its local economic benefits. As a result of our new Preferred Plan, GRE anticipates the need for an additional 420 MW of energy storage resources by 2029 to replace lost capacity resources and provide new accredited capacity for continued compliance with MISO's planning reserve margin (PRM). The locations of GRE's planned energy storage facilities have not yet been determined.

Our resource planning, generation engineering, land rights, transmission, and environmental teams are currently evaluating potential sites for these resources. During this site identification process, we consider a list of variables including local community and land-owner support, environmental site conditions, environmental justice areas, interconnection processes, and the opportunity to leverage existing transmission and natural gas infrastructure. Ongoing studies will determine the optimal locations and final size of these individual facilities, ensuring the best balance of capacity, reliability, affordability, and environmental stewardship for our member-owners.

While identifying potential site locations, GRE continues to keep our member-owners informed, ensuring they have the most up-to-date information needed to make our final resource decisions. As we progress toward contractual commitments, interconnection milestones, and construction, we will also determine local economic impacts and employment potential for full-time operational roles upon commissioning.

5-Year Power Supply Action Plan

Below is a list of the key activities, including the development of the new resources identified within our Preferred Plan over the next 5 years.

GRE's Five-year (2026-2030) Action Plan:

- ▶ Continue collaboration with our member-owners regarding large load additions within their service territories and further confirm their feasibility, size, timing, power demand requirements (2026 and beyond), and resources these large load customers may bring with them
- ▶ Continue operation and maintenance of all existing owned generation facilities (2026 and beyond)
- ▶ Continue operation and maintenance of the Nexus Line, LLC. (Nexus) HVDC transmission line (2026 and beyond)
- ▶ Continue to study transmission availability and capacity augmentation opportunities at current power supply facilities (2026)
- ▶ Commission our Form Energy long-duration storage pilot project and begin testing to validate performance by the end of (2026)
- ▶ Work toward commercial operation of over 1,100 MW of planned and executed wind PPAs by 2030
- ▶ Procure an additional 250 MW wind PPA
- ▶ Procure or construct up to an additional 420 MW of energy storage by 2029
 - Assess and identify optimal storage technology and locations based on load and transmission (2026-2027)
 - Conduct feasibility and site studies (2026-2027)
 - Analyze self-build and contracted resource option (2027)
 - Develop specifications and initiate RFPs if desired (2027-2028)
 - Finalize vendor selection and contracting (2027-2028)
 - Oversee construction, interconnection, and commissioning phases (2028-2029)
 - Implement operational integration and performance monitoring (2029 and beyond)

- D Develop up to an additional 420 MW of natural gas combustion turbine reliability resources with emergency fuel oil backup (2031-2032)⁷
 - Identify and secure suitable land including consideration of options in or near GRE's member-owner territory or existing power supply resource locations (2026-2027)
 - Conduct environmental review (2026-2027)
 - Initiate the interconnection process with MISO (2026-2027)
 - Develop and submit the necessary regulatory filings in relevant jurisdictions (2026 - 2028)
 - Initiate long lead equipment procurement and finalize vendor selection (2026-2030)
 - Partner with consultants and contractors to refine our plans, estimates, and schedules for rapid deployment (2028-2030)
 - Oversee construction, interconnection, commissioning, and operations integration (2030-2032)
- D Ensure our evolving power supply portfolio remains in compliance with all current and future MISO resource adequacy requirements, state legislative and administrative requirements, and federal environmental requirements (2026 and beyond).

GRE's Preferred Plan and 5-year action plan have been developed within a unique era of power supply uncertainty, including:

- Evolving MISO seasonal accredited capacity rules and MISO seasonal planning reserve margins
- Fluctuating capital costs and delivery timelines for all power supply resources
- Large load additions or reductions (e.g., data centers)
- Transmission buildout and increasing grid interconnection costs
- Supply chain constraints and federal tariff policy impacting imports and construction components
- Planning for future regulatory policy shifts at both state and federal levels

Additionally, the technical readiness levels of new and emerging power supply technologies, such as longer-duration energy storage, remain a significant variable. Utility resource planning is forward-looking, and GRE and its members take into consideration short-term developments and market changes. However, despite the dynamic nature of today's power supply and utility business environment, GRE remains focused on maintaining its current strategic mission and vision and planning for an affordable, reliable, and sustainable generation and transmission system.

Transmission

GRE's electric transmission system consists of high-voltage power lines that transmit electricity from power generation facilities to our member-owner cooperatives. Unlike vertically integrated utilities, GRE operates, owns, and constructs regional transmission lines. GRE's system includes over 5,000 miles of transmission lines and over 100 substations and is part of the overall regional transmission grid. GRE's system operates in coordination with transmission owners throughout the Upper Midwest and eastern United States.

Maximizing Existing Transmission Capacity

GRE has multiple ongoing efforts to maximize capacity of the existing transmission grid in conjunction with its power supply. GRE's dynamic line rating program developed in partnership with Heimdall Power received global recognition as the energy tech company's "Neurons" were included among *Time* magazine's "Best Inventions of 2025." The Neuron is a sphere-shaped transmission line rating sensor that collects real-time information about the line and its environment with the goal of increasing transmission capacity, or the amount of electricity that can flow down the line. In 2024, GRE installed 87 Heimdall Neurons on 10 transmission lines spanning 175 miles of

⁷ Commercial operation date (COD) beyond 5-year timeline

monitored grid to unlock additional transmission capacity beyond static seasonal line ratings. GRE plans to continue to expand its dynamic line rating program to additional transmission lines.

GRE also began a pilot project with Prisma Photonics to deploy its PrismaPower monitoring technology across approximately 90 miles of transmission lines. This multi-year project will implement Prisma's technology solutions across five critical transmission lines connected to four substations through fiber optic lines to strengthen grid resilience. Unlike traditional monitoring solutions that require installing physical sensors on power lines, Prisma's solutions transform existing optical fiber infrastructure into an advanced sensing system. This approach enables seamless and rapid deployment without service interruption or the need for specialized installation crews. This technology covers every section of the monitored lines in all weather conditions and delivers real-time alerts for various grid events, including electrical faults, physical disturbances, and severe weather conditions with precise location information down to the specific tower. This enhances operators' visibility into grid conditions and enables maintenance crews to respond more efficiently, reducing downtime and improving overall grid reliability.

Load Serving Transmission

GRE utilizes its own transmission facilities and also contracts to use transmission facilities of other transmission owners. GRE delivers energy to distribution substations owned and operated by its member-owned cooperatives across six MISO transmission pricing zones in Minnesota and western Wisconsin. GRE operates a local balancing authority area through its primary North American Reliability Corporation (NERC) registered control center that is supplemented by a back-up control center.

GRE supports member and customer reliability through substantial annual investments in the maintenance, replacement, and upgrade of its transmission facilities. Historically, GRE's transmission system has maintained 99.99% reliability. GRE also continues to improve system resilience in response to the increasing frequency and duration of outages, using findings from studies of future weather-related risks and lessons learned from major storm responses to help prioritize line rebuild projects. GRE's goal is to replace 55 to 80 miles of aging transmission infrastructure annually. Additional information on ongoing transmission projects is available on GRE's website (greatriverenergy.com).

Regional Transmission

In addition to improving resiliency and reliability of its load serving transmission system, regional transmission solutions are being developed in collaboration with neighboring utilities to maintain reliable and resilient regional power as new generation is brought online, existing power plants are retired, demand for electricity continues to grow, and extreme weather events become more impactful.

Maple River to Cuyuna

This is a joint project between GRE, Minnesota Power and Otter Tail Power that consists of approximately 160 miles of double-circuit capable, 345-kV line from Cass County, North Dakota, to Crow Wing County, Minnesota. The North Dakota Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity application for the project is expected to be filed in Q3 2026. Additional information can be found at www.mrctransmissionproject.com.

Fargo to Alexandria

This project is being co-developed between GRE, Minnesota Power, Missouri River Energy Services, Otter Tail Power Company, and Xcel Energy. It consists of stringing the second circuit of an existing 136-mile, 345-kV line from Cass County, North Dakota to Douglas County, Minnesota. The North Dakota Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity application for the project is expected to be filed in late 2026. Additional information can be found at www.fargotoalexandria.com.

Nelson Lake

GRE and Minnesota Power (MP) are jointly developing a new substation named Nelson Lake located in Oliver County, North Dakota as part of MP's HVDC modernization project. The project involves modernizing and upgrading MP's existing HVDC terminal, located near the existing Center HVDC Converter in Center, North Dakota, and will include the construction of a new Nelson Lake 230/345-kV Substation that will be designed to tie together MP's existing Square Butte East to Bison 230-kV Line and GRE's existing Square Butte to Stanton 230-kV Line. The Nelson Lake Substation is the first step in a multi-stage effort to establish greater connectivity between MISO transmission owners in North Dakota, facilitate new renewable energy interconnections, provide a point of interconnection for MP's relocated and upgraded HVDC converter stations, and support regional transmission expansion planning needs.

MISO MTEP26 Midwest LRTP

GRE and other North Dakota transmission owners are actively engaged in MISO's ongoing Long-Range Transmission plan (LRTP) modeling which may identify the need for transmission expansion in North Dakota within the next 10 years.

North Dakota transmission facilities

Summary information for GRE's North Dakota transmission facilities is provided in Table 2. Certain information concerning GRE's transmission facilities is qualified as Critical Energy Infrastructure Information (CEII). A map of transmission facilities owned and operated by GRE in North Dakota will be made available upon request as noted in Appendix 3, subject to the requirements applicable to CEII. GRE transferred ownership of the CCS HVDC system to Nexus Line LLC. As such, those facilities are no longer reported by GRE in Table 2.

Table 1. GRE's Existing Electric Transmission Facilities in North Dakota

Facility	Voltage	AC/DC	Install Year
Stanton – Leland Olds	230	AC	1966
Stanton – McHenry Tap	230	AC	1966
McHenry Tap – McHenry	230	AC	1966
McHenry – Balta	230	AC	1966
Balta – Ramsey	230	AC	1966
Ramsey – Prairie	230	AC	1966
Stanton – Square Butte	230	AC	1966
McHenry Tap – Coal Creek	230	AC	1979
Stanton – Coal Creek	230	AC	1979

SECTION 3: Coordinated Regional Plan for Meeting Utility Needs

A description of the efforts by the utility to coordinate the plan with other utilities so as to provide a coordinated regional plan for meeting the utility needs of the region.

Because the electric grid is highly interconnected, generation and transmission must be planned and operated on a regional basis to maintain reliability and control costs. GRE coordinates its planning activities with neighboring utilities and regional organizations and participates directly in several generation and transmission planning entities, as described below.

Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO)

MISO is an independent, not-for-profit, member-based organization responsible for operating the power grid across 15 U.S. states and the Canadian province of Manitoba. GRE works very closely with MISO, our region's grid operator, to ensure plans for the electric system reliably serve our members in an affordable manner via several ongoing efforts:

MISO Transmission Expansion Plan

This MISO plan is developed through an inclusive and transparent stakeholder process in which GRE is a stakeholder. MISO also conducts sub-regional planning meetings to encourage an open and transparent planning process and to provide a forum for coordination and discussion of transmission issues and proposed projects among utilities and other interested stakeholders.

MISO Long-Range Transmission Plan (LRTP)

The LRTP enables MISO to address fleet change, extreme weather events, and other challenges facing the region. The LRTP is one of MISO's four elements in its reliability imperative and establishes a roadmap for long-term energy security. More information on MISO and its ongoing reliability initiatives can be found at misoenergy.org.

Minnesota Transmission Owners (MTO)

A consortium of 16 sponsoring utilities and three participating government agencies, MTO fulfills the utilities' statutory obligations for transmission planning in the State of Minnesota. These obligations include the development of the Minnesota Biennial Transmission Plan as well as studies associated with meeting the Minnesota Renewable Energy Standard requirements. Further information about the MTO group is available at minnelectrans.com.

Grid North Partners

Grid North Partners, an evolution of CapX2020, is a broad mix of 10 investor-owned, not-for-profit cooperative, and municipal utilities working together to ensure continued safe, reliable, and affordable electric service. All partners serve customers in the Upper Midwest and own and operate transmission infrastructure throughout their respective service territories. More information on Grid North Partners can be found at gridnorthpartners.com.

Midwest Reliability Organization (MRO)

The MRO is a nonprofit organization of regional utilities established to develop regional reliability standards and ensure compliance with standards of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) as well as its own standards. Further information about MRO is available at mro.net. Further information about NERC can be found nerc.com.

Integrated resource plan (IRP)

GRE develops and updates an IRP every two to three years. This process utilizes GRE's member load forecasts and pairs load with generation capacity needs. While this process incorporates input from various additional stakeholders, the size, type, and timing of generation capacity need reflect the projected load growth of GRE's

member-owners and customers. The IRP does not consider regional energy needs outside of GRE's service territory. GRE's latest IRP update was filed on April 1, 2026, with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. More information on the IRP can be found at [greatriverenergy.com](https://www.greatriverenergy.com).

MISO Regional Resource Assessment (RRA)

MISO is continuing its RRA effort that uses publicly shared IRPs and goals of the region's electric utilities to develop a 20-year view of the evolving resource mix across the MISO region. This collection of data will provide utilities, state regulatory agencies, and MISO with better insight into the expected resource changes over the coming years. This, in turn, will provide stakeholders with the critical information needed to plan the grid of the future and ensure the continued flow of reliable, low-cost electricity. GRE is a participant in MISO's RRA efforts.

MISO Futures Development

Great River Energy actively participates in MISO's Futures development process as a market participant by providing load forecasts, resource plans, and other system information; reviewing assumptions and modeling results; and participating in stakeholder discussions throughout the process. This involvement helps ensure that MISO's long-term planning scenarios appropriately reflect Great River Energy's existing and planned generation, demand-side resources, anticipated load growth, and relevant state policy requirements. Great River Energy also evaluates the resulting MISO Futures portfolios and transmission needs alongside its own integrated resource planning and long-term system planning activities.

Minnesota Resource Planners

GRE meets quarterly with resource planners from other regional utilities to discuss generation, transmission, planning, and policy.

SECTION 4: Environmental Protection and Land-Use Planning

A description of the efforts to involve environmental protection and land-use planning agencies in the planning process, as well as other efforts to identify and minimize environmental problems at the earliest possible stage in the planning process.

GRE employs a robust stakeholder process when planning new energy resources, while engaging in and complying with all applicable local, state, and federal agencies prior to siting any new resources or facilities. For over 25 years, GRE has conformed to ISO's 14001 environmental management system (EMS). This EMS framework builds upon a rigorous compliance foundation for existing facilities. It also strives to continually improve environmental performance over the long term.

For new energy resources and transmission facilities, GRE leverages its EMS compliance systems early in the planning process. Prior to any property acquisition, initial sites are screened for potential environmental issues. Specifically, GRE maintains a GIS system with wetlands, endangered species, and environmental justice layers, as examples, for project engineers and planners. GRE environmental staff are also integrated into early planning meetings to help flag issues. These environmental considerations are weighed together with proximity to transmission and fuel lines, among other criteria, in determining possible sites. Once several sites are selected, staff begin initial stakeholder engagements while also performing Phase I/II site assessments that occur prior to any land acquisition.

Once site assessments are complete, staff then work with numerous regulatory agencies on project permitting and approval. Importantly, for existing facilities, GRE's EMS has captured the types of permits, requirements, procedures and agency contacts that allow for accurate and relatively efficient approvals for new facilities. As a key part of these regulatory and permit approvals, there are opportunities for external stakeholder input. For transmission route permits, as an example, GRE holds several public meetings in affected areas and provides alternative routes, project information and welcomes comments on a public facing website. This stakeholder process plays a critical role in determining final route transmission selection.

GRE has a triple bottom line of rates, reliability and environmental stewardship. These three pillars are equal parts in evaluating new facilities, operating existing facilities and ensuring our company's long-term success.

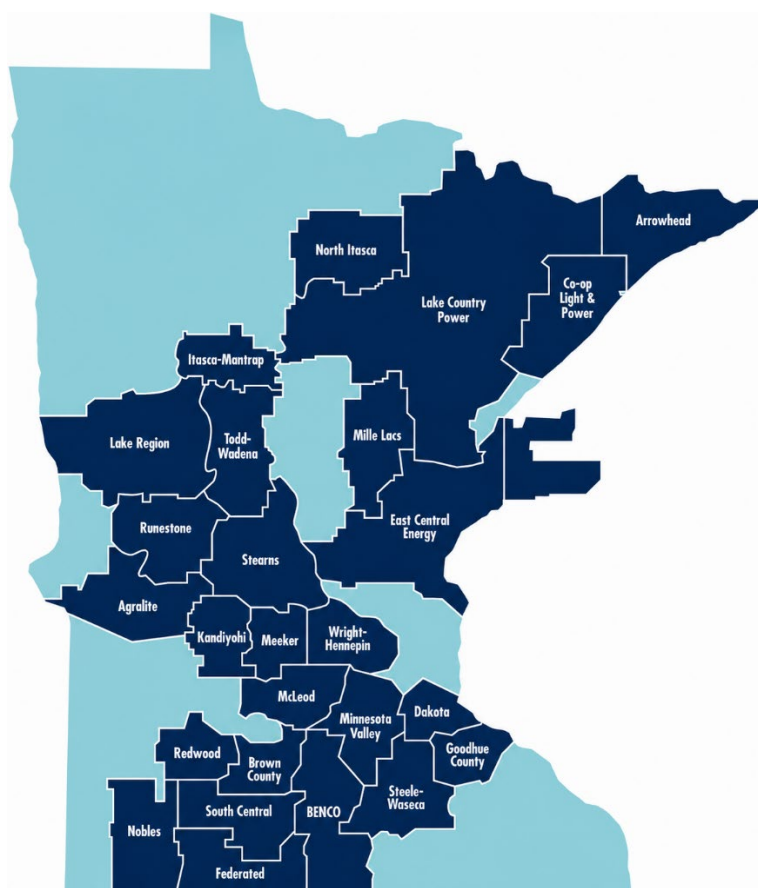
SECTION 5: 10-Year Projected Demand for Service

A statement of the projected demand for the service rendered by the utility for the ensuing 10 years and the underlying assumptions for the projection, with that information being as geographically specific as possible, and a description of the manner and extent to which the utility will meet the projected demands.

Load Centers

The service areas of GRE's 26 member-owners, shown in Figure 2, are located mainly in Minnesota with a small portion in Wisconsin. Nineteen cooperatives are all-requirements (AR) member-owners that purchase all of their power from GRE, subject to limited exceptions. Seven cooperatives are fixed requirements member-owners that purchase a fixed amount of power from GRE and purchase all additional requirements from other power suppliers.

Figure 2. GRE's 26 Member Service Territories



Manner and Extent of Meeting Projected Demand

As part of GRE's capacity expansion modeling, load forecasts are developed and the need for future generation is assessed. In addition to GRE's current generation capacity, GRE has entered into bilateral transactions of various types and durations with other utilities. GRE is a transmission owner and market participant in MISO. MISO operates the short-term energy and ancillary services markets that provide economic dispatch of generation and transmission congestion management over a broad region. GRE arranges for its load service through the MISO markets and complies with the MISO resource adequacy requirements, which are designed to ensure there is sufficient capacity available to meet expected demand requirements within its footprint.

GRE continues to evaluate capital improvements to existing generation facilities, other non-wind renewables, bilateral market purchases, demand response resources, and energy storage (both utility-side and customer-side). Evaluation is performed via capacity expansion modeling. GRE utilizes EnCompass power planning software to determine least-cost generation resource additions for future planning consideration.

Projected Demand for Service

The forecast shown below is an econometric forecast for GRE's 19 all-requirements members and fixed demand from the seven fixed members. It is developed on a class-by-class basis using customer classes consistent with Rural Utilities Service definitions and is then aggregated to the GRE system level. Key forecast drivers include population, employment, households, income, and gross domestic product, with weather normalized using 30-year normal assumptions. The forecast also includes power supply sales to Dakota Spirit AgEnergy in Spiritwood, North Dakota, transmission losses, GRE's own use, and expected large-load growth.

Great River Energy identified the 400 MW of potential large load growth as the Base Case through a collaborative vetting process with its member-owner cooperatives. Large-load requests are initiated through the applicable member cooperative, which conducts the initial review and refers transmission and interconnection studies to GRE. Based on study status, GRE then works with the developer and member-owner through its resource planning, transmission, and power supply departments to assess the proposed size, timing, location, and service needs of the load.

At the time the IRP assumptions were developed, Great River Energy determined that 400 MW was the most reasonable Base Case assumption for large-load growth over the 15-year planning horizon based on ongoing discussions and observed large-load progress across its membership.

The following figures and table show GRE's most current demand forecast from 2026 through 2036.⁸

⁸ <https://greatriverenergy.com/electricity-sources/integrated-resource-plan/>

Figure 3. GRE's Base Case Demand

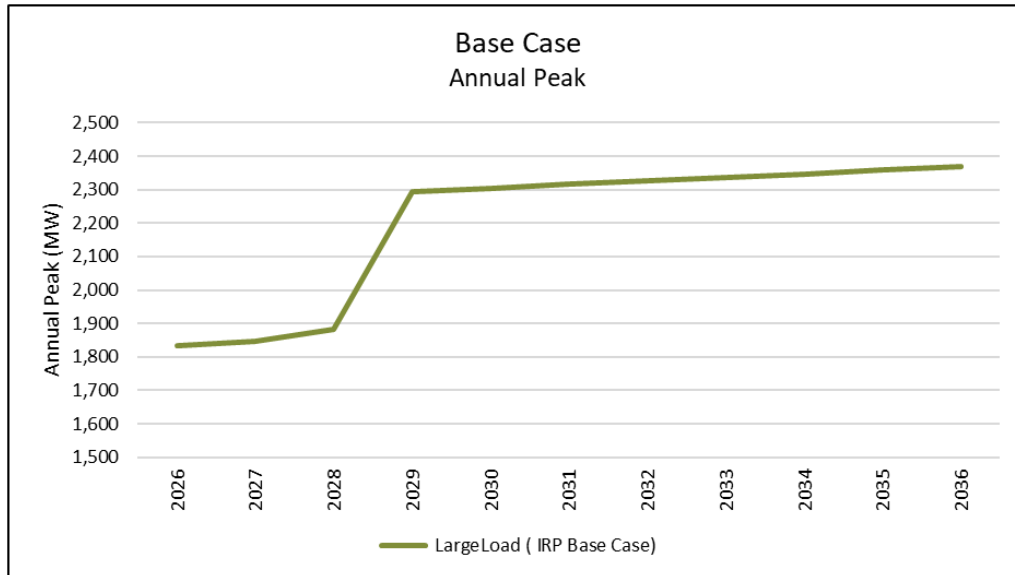


Table 2. GRE's Base Case Demand

Peak (MW)	
Date	Large Load (IRP Base Case)
2026	1,834
2027	1,848
2028	1,881
2029	2,294
2030	2,305
2031	2,316
2032	2,327
2033	2,337
2034	2,347
2035	2,358
2036	2,369
5YR CAGR (2026,2031)	4.78%
10YR CAGR (2026,2036)	2.59%

SECTION 6: Other Relevant Information

Any other relevant information as may be requested by the Commission. Upon receipt of the 10-year plans the Commission shall proceed to assess the impact of the development proposed within the state to ensure that energy conversion facilities and transmission facilities will be sited in an orderly manner compatible with environmental preservation and efficient use of resources.

Provided upon request.

Appendix 1: U.S. Department of Energy Form EIA-923

Appendix 2: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Form FERC-714

Appendix 3: GRE North Dakota Transmission Map

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the following document:

NOTICE OF FILING TEN-YEAR PLAN: 2026-2036

was served on the 1st day of July 2026 by placing the same in the United States mail, postage prepaid, properly addressed to the following:

North Dakota Office of Attorney General
600 E. Boulevard Ave.
Dept. 125
Bismarck, ND 58505

North Dakota Aeronautics Commission
P.O. Box 5020
Bismarck, ND 58502-5020

North Dakota Department of Agriculture
600 E. Boulevard Ave.
Dept. 602
Bismarck, ND 58505-0020

North Dakota Department of Health and Human
Services
600 E. Boulevard Ave.
Dept. 325
Bismarck, ND 58505-0250

North Dakota Department of Labor and Human
Rights
600 E. Boulevard Ave.
Dept. 406
Bismarck, ND 58505-0340

North Dakota Department of Career and Technical
Education
State Capitol, 15th Floor
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 270
Bismarck, ND 58505-0610

North Dakota Department of Commerce
1600 E. Century Ave., Suite 2
P.O. Box 2057
Bismarck, ND 58503

Energy Infrastructure and Impact Office
c/o North Dakota Department of Trust Lands
1707 North 9th Street
P.O. Box 5523
Bismarck, ND 58506-5523

North Dakota Game and Fish Department
100 N. Bismarck Expressway
Bismarck, ND 58501-5095

North Dakota Industrial Commission
State Capitol, 14th Floor
600 East Boulevard Ave., Dept. 405
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Office of Governor Kelly Armstrong
State of North Dakota
600 E. Boulevard Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58505-0001

North Dakota Department of Transportation
608 E. Boulevard Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58505-0700

State Historical Society of North Dakota
612 E. Boulevard Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58505-0830

North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission
State Capitol Building
600 E. Boulevard Ave.
1st Floor - Judicial Wing, Rm. #117
Bismarck, ND 58505-0300

Job Service North Dakota
P.O. Box 5507
Bismarck, ND 58506-5507

North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department
Century Center
1600 E. Century Ave., Suite 3
PO Box 5594
Bismarck, ND 58506-5594

North Dakota State Soil Conservation Committee
c/o NDSU Extension Service
2718 Gateway Ave., Suite 304
Bismarck, ND 58503

North Dakota Department of Water Resources
900 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 770
Bismarck, ND 58505-0850

United States Department of Defense
1400 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1400

United States Fish and Wildlife Service
North Dakota Field Office
3425 Miriam Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58501-7926

United States Army Corps of Engineers
North Dakota Regulatory Office
3319 University Drive
Bismarck, ND 58504

Federal Aviation Administration
United States Department of Transportation
800 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20591

North Dakota Transmission Authority
c/o North Dakota Industrial Commission
State Capitol 14th Floor
600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 405
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
P.O Box 1458
Bismarck, ND 58502-1458

North Dakota Pipeline Authority
c/o North Dakota Industrial Commission
State Capitol 14th Floor
600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 405
Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

Department of Environmental Quality
4201 Normandy St
Bismarck, ND 58503-1324

North Dakota Geological Survey
1016 E. Calgary Ave
Bismarck, ND 58503

North Dakota Forest Service
916 East Interstate Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58503

Federal Bureau of Land Management
North Dakota Field Office
99 23rd Avenue West, Suite A
Dickinson, ND 58601

Military Aviation and Installation Assurance Siting
Clearinghouse
3400 Defense Pentagon, Room 5C646
Washington, DC 20301-3400

Twentieth Air Force / 91st Missile Wing
245 Summit Drive, Suite 200
Minot AFB, ND 58705

Minot Air Force Base
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Minot AFB, ND 58705-5003

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