

The Spotlight



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August 2025

Reminder: 2025 Ice Storm Recovery & Investigation Ongoing

Please do not remove broken poles, damaged transformers, or any other electric or fiber infrastructure debris. These materials are part of an active storm recovery and investigation process.

PIE&G crews are working to document and dispose of all storm-related infrastructure in full compliance with government regulations. Your cooperation is essential to ensure the safety and accuracy of this important work.

Gas Line Safety Tips

To ensure safety around our natural gas lines, here are some vital reminders:

- **Gas Leak Emergency:** In case of a gas leak, call our dedicated hotline at 800-655-8565, available 24/7. Please note that this number is exclusively for gas leak reports. For other inquiries, contact us during regular business hours.
- **Immediate Danger:** If you encounter a broken or open gas line with a gas release, call 911 immediately.
- **Pipeline Markers:** Underground gas pipelines are marked periodically with yellow markers. Remember, these markers may not indicate the exact location or direction of the lines. Before any digging, dial 811 (MISS DIG) for free utility marking within three business days. Removing or damaging pipeline markers is illegal and carries penalties.
- **Pipeline Integrity:** PIE&G takes regular measures to maintain the integrity of our natural gas pipeline system. This includes inspections, corrosion control, leak surveys, and pipeline replacements when necessary. Our team is trained to monitor and respond swiftly to gas emergencies, ensuring your safety.

2025 Ice Storm Recovery Charge

At their recent member regulation meeting on June 24, the board of directors approved a \$20 monthly 2025 ice storm recovery charge. This charge will be implemented on electric bills, effective September 1, 2025. The unprecedented ice storm in March caused catastrophic damage to PIE&G infrastructure, costing more than \$100 million in repairs. These funds will be necessary to cover past and future expenses, along with unexpected loan interest, while we work to secure government disaster relief funding.

We understand this is a burden, and we appreciate your understanding of the significant costs and challenges this natural disaster has caused our membership and community.

We have heard many questions from the membership and developed an FAQ page to answer some commonly asked questions. **Please visit pieg.com/2025-ice-storm-recovery-charge-faq for more information.**

Summer Energy Savings Tips

With summer temperatures on the rise, it's natural to turn on fans and adjust the A/C. However, staying energy-conscious is crucial, especially when the power grid is under extra stress. Here are some simple tips to save energy:

- Turn off lights and appliances when not in use
- Use A/C sparingly, especially if you're not home
- Run large appliances like washers during off-peak hours
- Charge electric vehicles after peak times
- Opt for grilling or smaller appliances over using the stove
- Use a laptop instead of a desktop computer

By conserving energy, you can help prevent grid overload and save on your utility bill!

Save the Date: 88TH PIE&G Annual Meeting

Mark your calendar for our annual meeting on October 24th at the Hillman Community Center. Registration will begin at 8:30 am. There will be door prizes, while supplies last, and a light meal.





Electric Cooperative Youth Tour

Each year, Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op proudly sends two delegates to represent our co-op at the NRECA Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. This year, **Chelsie Bielas** and **Brady Robertson** had the honor of attending. They've just returned from an unforgettable week filled with hands-on learning experiences, meetings with national leaders, and meaningful connections with fellow co-op students nationwide. While in our nation's capital, they

also had the chance to explore many of America's most iconic historic sites and museums.

Communities First Fund Update

At the June 23 meeting, the PIE&G Communities First Fund Board of Directors finalized grants of \$5,000.00 to the recipients listed below.

- **ALPENA**

Alpena Area Senior Citizens Council, Inc. (\$2500) to provide liquid nutritional supplements for the frail, homebound, and the most nutritionally at-risk seniors who participate in the Alpena County Meals on Wheels program.

- **MONTMORENCY**

Montmorency County VFW 2356 (\$2500) for the new lighted roadside sign. The VFW hall is rented out for various events, such as bridal showers, baby showers, birthday parties, funerals, and fundraisers.

About the Communities First Fund

The PIE&G Communities First Fund has supported local organizations since 1998, funding vital projects for emergency responders, youth programs, and more.

You can help by rounding up your utility or fiber internet bill—a few cents a month can change lives! On average, members contribute only about 50 cents monthly, totaling around \$6 each year, and every donation is tax-deductible.

Together, we can make a BIG difference—over \$1.5 million has already been returned to northeast Michigan!

Enroll today by visiting pieg.com/communities-first or call 800-423-6634.

OFFICE CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY

Please note that our office will be closed on Monday, September 1, 2025. We will resume regular business hours on Tuesday, September 2, 2025.

Need to make a payment? You can still pay using these methods:

- Our secure dropbox
- By phone at 855-939-3541
- Online at pieg.com
- Through the MYPIE&G app

In case of an emergency, please call 800-423-6634. Thank you and have a safe holiday!

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Presque Isle Energy Optimization programs and rebates are applicable to Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op electric service locations only. Rebate applies to qualified items purchased and installed between January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025. Other restrictions may apply. For complete program details, visit pieg.com/eo.