

Full Load Control / PEAK Alert!

In June 2017, full load control (or PEAK Alert!) events will take place between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. This time frame is one hour later than the 2016 full load control window. The new times are due to high electricity demand in the regional market. SCEC's wholesale power provider Dairyland Power Cooperative is part of the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator (MISO). MISO is a non-profit organization that manages one of the world's largest energy markets, covering 11 states and Manitoba (Canada).

MISO sends out daily forecasts for the cost of electricity at certain times of the day. By knowing what the projected cost of electricity will be, against what DPC predicts energy demand among its members (i.e. SCEC) to be, DPC can better manage cost-effective distribution of power. If MISO's forecasted price of energy is too high, DPC will implement load control to try to lower demand for energy. The less electricity DPC has to purchase during these times of

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high demand, the better. The higher the demand for electricity, the more the electricity costs, which is ultimately passed on to members.

Members can call Member Services Manager Nick Rude at 715-796-7000

for information about SCEC's load management program.

More details regarding Load Control vs. Full Load Control / PEAK Alert! events are below.

BACK TO BASICS ... Load Control vs. PEAK Alert!

Load Control

Load control can happen year-round.

During load control, electrical household items, such as water heaters, air conditioners and electric heat, are remotely controlled during times of high demand - usually 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. Load control events can happen multiple times in a week.

Members should not notice water heater load control events due to storage capabilities of water heaters. Air conditioner (AC) compressors are controlled in a 15-minute on/off cycle. Electric heat will be interrupted up to six out of 10 hours, and members may notice a change in the room temperature when their back-up system begins to operate.

Load control is voluntary. Members who participate in water heater load control receive a discount on their monthly electric bills. Members who participate in the electric heat load control program receive a reduced rate on their heating energy.

Members can check the load management status online by clicking on "Load Management" at the top of SCEC's home page (scecnet.net). Participating members with a 50-gallon water heater are affected by Class 1A events; 80+ gallon water heaters are Class 1B. There are multiple classes for electric heat and participating members can contact SCEC to determine which class their system is in.

Full Load Control / PEAK Alert!

A PEAK Alert! can happen in June, July, August, or December, January, February, and is triggered by high demand for electricity. It is also called Full Load Control.

During a PEAK Alert!, Cooperative businesses and members are asked to stop or reduce non-essential electrical use or switch to generator-based power for the time of peak demand - 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. (June-Aug.) or 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. (Dec.-Feb.). Residential devices, such as water heaters, may be controlled longer, but will all be restored no later than 11 p.m. PEAK Alert! events only occur a few times per month.

Members can help manage energy demand by using appliances, such as dishwashers, ovens, washers and dryers before or after the PEAK Alert! During the summer, microwaving food or line drying clothes and linens also reduces the amount of heat in the home by not running the dryer. In winter, shutting off portable electric heaters during a PEAK Alert! also helps.

Controlling residential electricity use during a PEAK Alert! is voluntary. SCEC members can sign-up for instant notification of a PEAK Alert! by texting *PEAK <your name>* to 313131. Also, the SCEC website and social media pages will display PEAK Alert! notifications:

- www.scecnet.net
- @StCroixElecCoop (Twitter)
- St. Croix County Energizer (Facebook)