# Connexus Connection

For Connexus Energy Members

Issued April 2025



## Board of **Directors**



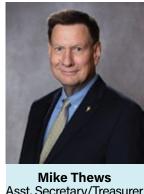
**Fran Bator** Chair East Bethel



Blaine



**Shelly Peterson** Secretary/Treasurer Nowthen



Asst. Secretary/Treasurer Coon Rapids



**Rick Braastad** Director Ham Lake



Director Clear Lake



Director Big Lake



#### **CONTACT US**

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#### Online

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#### **Connect with Connexus**









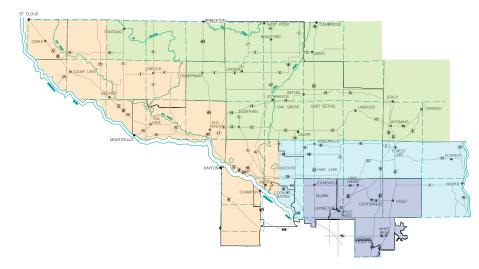




Connexus Energy is offsetting 100% of the energy used for printing this newsletter with renewable energy credits.

### **Director district map**

Your Connexus service territory is divided into four director districts, each with two director seats. Find your district by using the interactive map at connexusenergy.com/directors – just type your address into the search bar.



Boundaries are approximate and for reference only.

Cover photo: Chris Allen, Erica Schmidt and Mark McElroy inspecting at Energy Park substation.

# Message to our **Members**

At Connexus, being **service driven** is at the heart of everything we do. As your electric cooperative, we are committed to providing you with **reliable**, **affordable electricity** while safely delivering the highest level of member service.

Reliability remains a top priority. Through proactive investments in our resilient grid, including vegetation management, strategic undergrounding of power lines and system upgrades, we've maintained our position in the **top 5% for reliability** among electric utilities nationwide. If extreme weather like strong winds and large hail takes your power out, we will keep you informed with text and email alerts. Log into your account to enroll in outage alerts if you want these notifications.



Affordability is just as important. We work diligently to

manage costs and return savings to you through competitive rates and Cash Back. Peak-Time Rebate, energy efficiency rebates and Wi-Fi thermostat incentives provide additional ways to save you money.

Being service driven means listening to you, adapting to your needs and staying ahead of industry changes to serve you better. From Minnesota's first utility-scale battery project to advancements in solar and demand response programs, we continuously seek smart, **innovative ways to power homes and businesses.** 



We serve with you in mind. Whether it's our member services team answering your call, our employees volunteering in the community or The Connexus Energy Foundation<sup>SM</sup> supporting local nonprofits, we are committed to **making a difference** in the communities we serve.

You are a valued Connexus member. We remain dedicated to delivering exceptional service to you now and into the future.

Brian Burandt

President & CEO

Frances E. Bator

**Fran Bator** Board Chair

# In memory of

**Tom Stewart** 

With heavy hearts, we remember Tom Stewart, a dedicated Connexus lineworker for more than 33 years. Tom's passion for his work and camaraderie with his co-workers left a lasting impact. He is deeply missed.





# Highlights from 2024

## Top 5% reliability nationwide

Connexus perennially ranks among the top U.S. electric utilities for reliability. In 2024, we added a substation in Dayton and upgraded three others to meet growing demand, converted overhead lines for 400 lots to underground and completed 300 primary miles of vegetation management. Ongoing grid modernization continues to ensure dependable service.



### Power supply operations successes

In Year 2 of Connexus' new power supply contract, we leveraged our flexibility to reduce power supply expenses and return dollars to our members each month in the form of a Power Cost Adjustment bill credit. Connexus also delivered \$6 million in power supply savings by strategically managing energy use during peak periods.



### ≒ \$170 million New ERA grant awarded

In December, Connexus received a USDA grant ensuring a 25% discount on all energy resources added to our power supply over the next decade. This grant brings significant savings to members as we integrate wind, solar, hydro and battery storage to meet the 100% carbon-free energy law by 2040.



### Living our cooperative principles

April's winds, July's storms, August's dedicated major outage and October's heavy snow tested our members and employees, but Cooperative Principle #6: Cooperation Among Cooperatives shined. Dedicated Connexus employees, with help from 13 utilities, worked tirelessly to restore power and support our members.



### **(A)** Cybersecurity excellence validated

Swift employee actions protected member data by preventing three attempted security intrusions. In July, a specialized security team conducted rigorous testing, validating the strength of our security measures and our commitment to grid protection.



Connexus buried overhead lines for Leon and Kathy Revering to enhance neighborhood reliability in our 2024 capital project.



Cyber Security Architect Bryan Dumire in the campus data center.



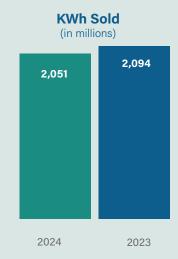
CEO Brian Burandt welcomed USDA RUS Administrator Andy Berke at a December press conference at our Ramsev headquarters.

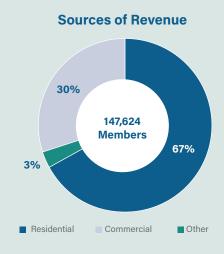


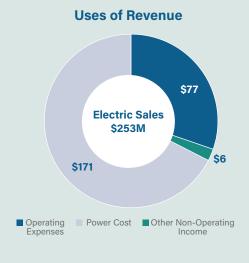
# Financial Statements

### STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (in thousands)

Electric Revenue Cost of Power	<b>2024</b> \$ 252,507 171,357	<b>2023</b> \$ 255,687 176,824
Gross Margin	81,150	78,863
Operating Expenses - including interest	77,024	73,746
Other Non-Operating Income	6,446	5,222
Net Margin	\$ 10,572	\$ 10,339
BALANCE SHEETS (in thousands)		
Assets (what we own)	2024	2023
Utility Plant Total utility plant Less accumulated depreciation Utility plant, net	\$ 478,139 (197,894) 280,245	\$ 453,614 (188,041) 265,572
Other Property and Investments Investments in associated organizations Other investments Other assets Total other property and investments	110,745 10,162 30,356 151,263	126,933 10,279 32,432 169,644
Current Assets Cash and cash equivalents Accounts receivable, net Material and supplies Other Total current assets	20,603 32,910 6,736 2,021 62,270	20,478 32,974 7,199 1,233 61,884
Total Assets	\$ 493,778	\$ 497,100
Equity (net worth) and Liabilities (what we owe)		
Equity	\$ 225,882	\$ 222,861
Long-Term Debt, Less Current Maturities	147,401	147,716
Other Long-Term Liabilities, Less Current Maturities	46,289	49,061
Current Liabilities Accounts payable Member deposits Accrued liabilities Debt due within one year Total current liabilities  Total Equity and Liabilities	32,689 2,003 12,496 27,018 74,206	32,700 1,880 12,978 29,904 77,462 \$ 497,100
iotai Equity and Liabilities	২ 4৪১,//৪	\$ 49 <i>1</i> ,100









Board Chair Fran Bator spoke during the Hope Gala program at Alexandra House's fundraising event.



Wildlife Outreach Program presentation on butterflies at an ISD 11 Anoka-Hennepin elementary school.



Connexus' Stacy Bakken, Sue Jensen, Jennifer Ly and Angie Keller attended HopeFest in Anoka.

# Serving Members

### **Concern for community**

In 2024, The Connexus Energy Foundation donated over \$360,000 to support nonprofit organizations in our service area that align with these key initiatives:

- Youth and education
- Community service
- Environmental stewardship
- Economic and workforce development

### How we fund our community donations

All donation dollars come from unclaimed Cash Back from former members. Minnesota law requires these funds be donated to the community.

# Scholarships to support the educational goals of students

The Connexus Energy Foundation awarded \$57,000 in scholarships to 60 high school students from the class of 2024 pursuing college, university, vocational-technical or trade school education.

Additionally, four students who attended our annual meeting on April 18 won a \$1,000 scholarship through our new attendance scholarship drawing.

### Donations of \$500+

ACBC Food Shelf

Achieve Services Inc.

Acres for Life

Alexandra House

Allina Health Foundation

American Red Cross

Andover High School Community Scholarship

Andover YMCA Community Center

**Angel Foundation** 

Anoka County 4-H Leader Council MN

Anoka County Agricultural Society

Anoka County Child Abuse

Prevention Council

Anoka-Hennepin Education

Foundation Inc.

Anoka High School Scholarship Fund Anoka Ramsey Athletic Association

Anoka-Ramsey Community College

Foundation

Anoka Technical College Foundation

Anoka Tornadoes Baseball Boosters Club, Inc.

Anoka-Hennepin STEP

**Autism Opportunities Foundation** 

Becker High School

Big Lake Community Food Shelf

Big Lake Schools

Blaine Community Scholarship Program

Boys and Girls Clubs of the Twins Cities

CAER Food Shelf

Cambridge-Isanti Dollars for Scholars

Centennial Area Education Foundation

Centennial Community Food Shelf

Champlin Park Community

Scholarship

CHC: Creating Healthier Communities

Combat to Creative

Community Action Partnership of Ramsey & Washington Counties

Coon Rapids Community Scholarship Association Coon Rapids Rotary Foundation

Coon Rapids UMC

**CROSS Services** 

Dakota County Technical College Foundation

**Dordt University** 

Elevate Hope House

**Every Meal** 

Family Pathways

FamilyWise Services

Feed My Starving Children

Fishing for Life

Flight Expo, Inc.

Forest Lake Area Community Scholarship Foundation

Forest Lake Historical Society

Friends of the Mississippi River

Granny's Closet

Great River Greening

Ham Lake Senior Center, Inc.

Haven for Heroes

# and Communities

# Members nominate and choose monthly donations

Through the Your Community Your Choice program, member votes directed \$18,000 in donations to local charities in 2024. Each of the following organizations received a \$1,500 donation:

- Anoka County 4-H
- Fishing for Life
- Flight Expo, Inc.
- · Granny's Closet
- Northwoods Humane Society
- Operation No Limits

- Paramount Center for the Arts
- Rumriver Art Center
- Spirit of Matthew 25
- The Dwelling Place
- Thumbs Up for Mental Health
- Wildlife Science Center



#### **VISION**

Contributing to improve the lives of our members.

#### YOUR COMMUNITY PARTNER

Connexus employees give back by volunteering for landscape work, painting, roadside clean-up and packing events, demonstrating our commitment to the communities we serve.



Employee volunteers packed hygiene kits for veterans and activity kits for the kids living at Haven for Heroes in Anoka.



Connexus employees updated landscaping at the Elk River Boys & Girls Club and built planter boxes for youth garden programs.



Engineering volunteered at Bikes4Kids in Ham Lake, helping clean and repair bikes.

Healthy Birth Day, Inc.
HOPE 4 Youth
Hope for the Community
Hugo Good Neighbors Food Shelf
Impact Services
Initiative Foundation
Isanti County Commission on Aging
ISD 728 Elk River High School
Jam HOPE Foundation
Kinship Youth Mentoring of Princeton
Lupus Research Foundation
Lyric Arts
Meals from the Heart

Mediation and Restorative Services Mental Wellness Campaign for Anoka County, Inc.

Minnesota Council on Economic Education

Minnesota Youth Athletic Service Inc. Monarch Joint Venture Montessori Training Center of Minnesota, Inc.

NACE Food Shelf

**Nexus Family Healing** 

Northern Starz Theatre Company

Northwoods Humane Society

PACT Charter School

Paramount Center for the Arts

Pay It Forward Fund

Pheasants Forever, Inc.

Princeton Scholarship Foundation

Project Apis m.

Rivers of Hope

Rumriver Art Center

Salvation Army

Sherburne County Area United Way

Spectrum High School

Spring Lake Park High School

Scholarship Fund

St. Cloud State University

St. Cloud Tech High School

St. Francis Scholarship Fund

Stepping Stone Emergency Housing

Tamarisk Inc.

The Dwelling Place

The Food Group

The Robert & Wilma Burbach Bike

Foundation

Thumbs Up 5K

Tree Trust

Upstream Minnesota

**Utility Arborist Association** 

Wargo Nature Center - Anoka County Parks

We Saw the Light

White Bear Lake School District 624

Wildlife Science Center

Wishes & More

YMCA of the North

Youth First Community of Promise

Zimmerman High School



### 2024 at a Glance

**147,624** members served

91% residential 9% commercial & industrial

9,640

miles of line 70% underground 30% overhead

million in Cash Back payments to members based on electricity used

safety demonstrations teaching children & adults about the potential dangers of electricity

225

Connexus employees

905,500

miles driven by employees

20,500

Connexus Energy mobile app users

**95,800** online accounts



Google rating

substations owned by Connexus

71,500

total poles

50,000

pole & pad mounted transformers

38%

wind & solar energy in our power supply mix

