



MEMO

TO: Cass County Board of Commissioners
FROM: Robert W. Wilson
DATE: September 1, 2022
SUBJECT: Xcel Energy Rate Information

County Administrator

Robert W. Wilson
701-241-5770
wilsonro@casscountynd.gov

During the 2023 County Budget hearings the Board had questions about the cost-effectiveness of the County's enrollment in a curtailment plan with Xcel Energy. The plan allows the County to pay a lower rate for the natural gas and electricity used to heat and cool our buildings. In exchange for the lower rate Xcel reserves the right to require us to curtail or shut off our gas and electric service during peak usage times. When curtailed, Cass County must utilize diesel-powered generators and boilers to provide heating and cooling – and incur diesel fuel costs that would not otherwise be required.

At the Budget Hearings the Administrator and Buildings and Grounds Supervisor did not have specific utility cost information available to describe Cass County's cost savings vs. costs incurred by enrolling in the curtailment program.

Buildings and Grounds Supervisor, Gene Gartner has gathered that information and we have scheduled a Commission briefing for the September 6th Board meeting. This is a briefing only – no Board action is required.

Cass County has been enrolled in Xcel Energy's curtailment program for years. Prior to this past winter, 2008 was last year Mr. Gartner remembers a significant number of curtailments. Based on County financial records and information provided by Xcel Energy, the cost information below is broken down by building:

Jail:

Cass County saves approximately \$45,049 annually on the jail electricity bill due to curtailment participation. When curtailed, the average daily fuel cost is: \$350/day. There were no jail electrical curtailments last year.

Cass County saves approximately \$57,653 annually on the jail natural gas bill because of curtailment participation. To date, jail fuel oil is approximately \$51,000 over budget because of curtailment and the use of diesel oil to power the boiler. An Xcel customer may leave the curtailment program, but savings increase with program longevity and if we left and came back, our savings would be greatly reduced.

PO Box 2806
211 Ninth Street South
Fargo, North Dakota 58108

www.casscountynd.gov

Annex:

Cass County saves approximately \$11,713 annually on the Annex electric bill because of the curtailment program. Curtailment has required the County to utilize the generator to cool the building, with fuel oil costs nearly double budgeted amount year-to-date in 2022. (Expended: \$9,273.45 Budget: \$5,000.) Annual natural gas rate savings in the Annex are \$5,538 thanks to program participation.

Courthouse:

The Courthouse has not been on the curtailment program but will be moving forward. The projected annual electric savings is \$29,631. No curtailment last year.

The savings Cass County experiences by participating in the curtailment program significantly outweigh the costs, but there are expenses incurred by utilizing the program that could be avoided.



Jail Generator Savings

North Dakota Peak-Controlled Rate Comparison

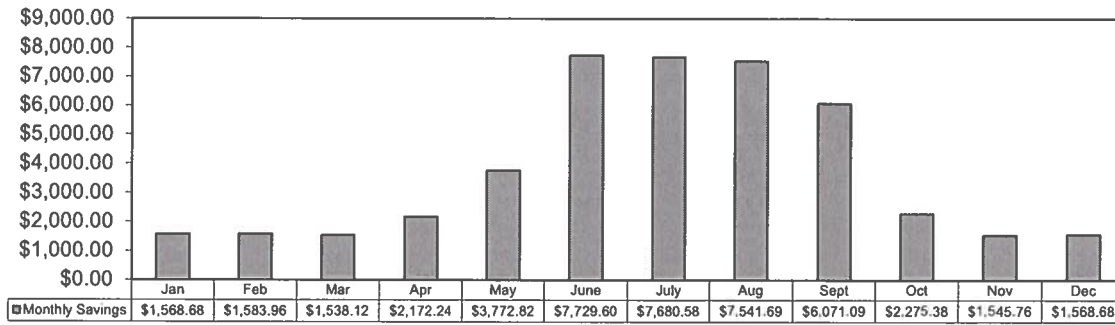
Cass County
450 34th
Fargo

Projected* Annual Savings: \$ 45,049

Estimated Pre-determined Level: 0 kW

Level: 1C

Peak Control Savings



Account Number: 5754937
 Premise Number: 303032115
 Meter Number: 0

* Note: Projections based on historical data.
 Savings are based on demands being at or below pre-determined level during control days.
 Penalties will incur if Pre-determined level is not met during control days.
 Availability is restricted to customers with a minimum controllable demand of 50 kW.

Prepared by:
 Shawn P
 August 5, 2022
 Phone: 800.481.4700
 Fax: 800.311.0050

Jail Boiler

7/27/2022

Customer Cass County
Address 302858959
Meter # #

COSTS

ESTIMATED FUEL COST ANALYSIS FIRM COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL VS. INTERRUPTIBLE

MONTH	MONTHLY THERMS	COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL		
		FIRM GAS COST	SMALL INTER	LARGE INTER
JAN 2022	28,538	\$26,296	\$20,902	\$20,052
FEB 2022	27,514	\$25,635	\$20,436	\$19,624
MAR 2022	23,938	\$19,787	\$15,271	\$14,590
APR 2022	20,258	\$15,614	\$12,988	\$12,442
MAY 2022	12,010	\$11,972	\$10,435	\$10,193
JUN 2022	8,512	\$9,919	\$8,842	\$8,729
JUL 2022	5,756	\$5,346	\$4,632	\$4,621
AUG 2021	5,416	\$4,316	\$3,252	\$3,252
SEP 2021	7,759	\$6,616	\$4,961	\$4,875
OCT 2021	8,337	\$8,156	\$6,374	\$6,267
NOV 2021	16,470	\$15,232	\$12,156	\$11,750
DEC 2021	30,359	\$27,477	\$21,737	\$20,820
TOTAL	<u>194,867</u>	<u>\$176,366</u>	<u>\$141,985</u>	<u>\$137,214</u>

*IF NOT in the
Program*

*Charges occurred in
Program*

Figures based on Actual Use, Current Natural Gas Rates Applied*.
Customer Charge included.
State and local taxes excluded.

PLEASE DO NOT CHANGE ANY CELLS WITH FORMULA'S IN THEM.
ONLY CHANGE CELLS IN RED.



RATES

	FIRM C&I THERM	SMALL INTER THERM	LARGE INTER THERM
CUST CHG	\$30.00	\$75.00	\$275.00
JAN 2022	0.920380	0.729810	0.693010
FEB 2022	0.930600	0.740030	0.703230
MAR 2022	0.825360	0.634790	0.597990
APR 2022	0.769290	0.637410	0.600610
MAY 2022	0.994320	0.862580	0.825780
JUN 2022	1.161750	1.030010	0.993210
JUL 2022	0.923500	0.791760	0.754960
AUG 2021	0.791310	0.586510	0.549710
SEP 2021	0.848860	0.629710	0.592910
OCT 2021	0.974640	0.755490	0.718690
NOV 2021	0.923040	0.733520	0.696720
DEC 2021	0.904090	0.713520	0.676720



COURT HOUSE
GENERATOR SAVINGS

North Dakota Peak-Controlled Rate Comparison

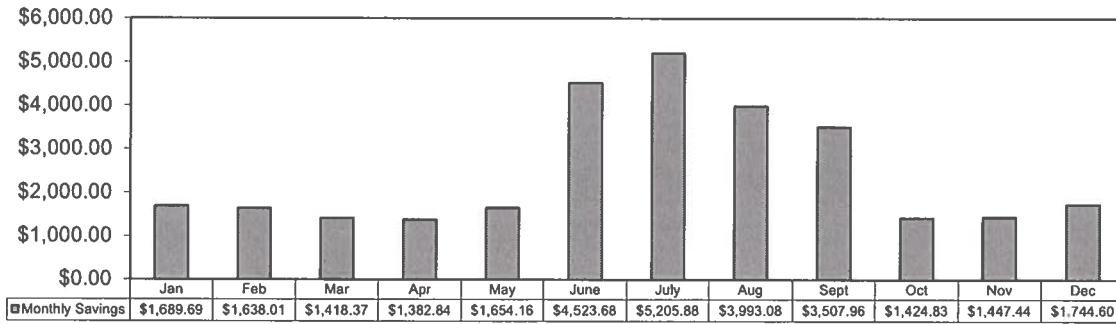
Cass County
211 9th
Fargo

Projected* Annual Savings: \$ 29,631

Estimated Pre-determined Level: 0 kW

Level: 1B

Peak Control Savings



Account Number:	6604017
Premise Number:	304273550
Meter Number:	0

* Note: Projections based on historical data.
 Savings are based on demands being at or below pre-determined level during control days.
 Penalties will incur if Pre-determined level is not met during control days.
 Availability is restricted to customers with a minimum controllable demand of 50 kW.

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Annex Generator Savings

North Dakota Peak-Controlled Rate Comparison

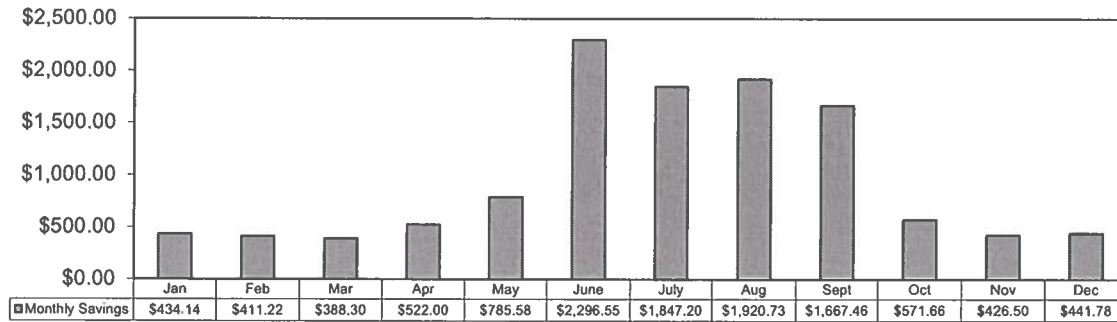
**Cass County
1010
Fargo**

Projected* Annual Savings: \$ 11,713

Estimated Pre-determined Level: 0 kW

Level: 1C

Peak Control Savings



Account Number: 5118396
 Premise Number: 302357823
 Meter Number: 0

* Note: Projections based on historical data.
 Savings are based on demands being at or below pre-determined level during control days.
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Prepared by:
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 August 5, 2022
 Phone: 800.481.4700
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Customer Address Meter # #
Cass County 303734635

Annex Boiler

7/27/2022

ESTIMATED FUEL COST ANALYSIS

COSTS

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MONTH	MONTHLY THERMS	COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL FIRM GAS COST	SMALL INTER	LARGE INTER
JAN 2022	4,877	\$4,519	\$3,634	\$3,655
FEB 2022	3,441	\$3,232	\$2,621	\$2,695
MAR 2022	3,884	\$3,236	\$2,541	\$2,598
APR 2022	3,035	\$2,365	\$2,010	\$2,098
MAY 2022	1,744	\$1,764	\$1,579	\$1,715
JUN 2022	1,079	\$1,284	\$1,186	\$1,347
JUL 2022	828	\$795	\$731	\$900
AUG 2021	732	\$609	\$504	\$677
SEP 2021	1,077	\$944	\$753	\$914
OCT 2021	1,300	\$1,297	\$1,057	\$1,209
NOV 2021	2,526	\$2,362	\$1,928	\$2,035
DEC 2021	3,501	\$3,195	\$2,573	\$2,644
TOTAL	<u>28,024</u>	<u>\$25,601</u>	<u>\$21,118</u>	<u>\$22,486</u>

NOT In The Program

In The Program

Figures based on Actual Use, Current Natural Gas Rates Applied*.
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