



2026 ENERGY FORUM

September 10, 2026 | 8 A.M. – 1 P.M.

Isanti Ballroom, Mystic Lake Center | 2400 Mystic Lake Blvd, Prior Lake

Join Us for Business and Residential Energy Conversations that Matter

8:00 a.m. Registration Opens	Network and learn about savings, member services, Voices for Cooperative Power – a grassroots network, and drone technology.
8:30 a.m. Welcome	Opening remarks from Marvin Denzer, Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative (MVEC), CEO.
8:35 a.m. From the Capitol to the Kilowatt	Presented in partnership with Tricia Elite, Manager, Government Affairs & Policy at Minnesota Rural Electric Association (MREA) and moderated by Blois Olson, Minnesota Political Analyst , this legislative panel will examine the policies and priorities shaping Minnesota's energy future, including the transition to carbon-free electricity by 2040. Legislative Panel: Features bipartisan perspectives on energy policy. Sen. Nick Frentz, Sen. Eric Pratt and Rep. Ben Bakeberg are confirmed panelists.
9:30 a.m.	BREAK
9:40 a.m. Wholesale Power, System Reliability and Affordability	Todd Brickhouse, CEO of Basin Electric Power Cooperative , one of MVEC's wholesale power providers, will share insights on meeting growing energy demand while maintaining reliability and affordability. He will talk about emerging challenges, including data center growth, large-load planning, and the investments needed to power the future.
10:20 a.m. Powering Business Success: Energy Strategies with Traditional and Renewable Solutions	Marvin Denzer, MVEC CEO , and Steve Albrecht, P.E., Operations Administrator and Community Engineer for Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC) will discuss energy strategy, operational efficiency, and the evolving energy landscape. Hear how SMSC aligns energy investments with business goals, their use of traditional and renewable energy solutions, and how they partner with MVEC to strengthen reliability, improve efficiency, and support long-term success.
10:40 a.m.	BREAK
10:50 a.m. U.S. Economic Outlook & Energy Affordability	John Suter, Vice President of Economic Research, Cooperative Finance Corporation , will give an update on the U.S. economic landscape, highlighting key trends in inflation, interest rates, labor markets, and economic growth. Hear how these factors influence energy markets, electricity affordability, and the financial outlook for cooperatives and their members.
11:20 a.m. Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) Energy Outlook	Jarred Miland, Regional Director External Affairs, North Region, MISO , works with the electric grid operators for central United States. MISO facilitates buying and selling electricity in its region and partners with stakeholders to plan the grid of the future. Hear details on regional grid operations, reliability, and resource planning.
11:45 a.m. Powering Residential Savings: Air Source Heat Pump Technology and MVEC's Energy Wise Programs and Rebates	Maggie Pears, Initiative Manager, MN Air Source Heat Pump Collaborative , shares insights on air-source heat pump technology and explains how these highly efficient systems deliver reliable comfort and energy savings. MVEC Load Control Specialist, Kelsey Neumaier will discuss MVEC rebates, Energy Wise® programs, energy management tools, and savings.
12:15 p.m. Lunch & Networking	Network and enjoy a buffet lunch. Thank you for being with MVEC today!