

## Third Party Notice

Third Party Notice is designed to notify the member and a third party, such as a friend, relative, church or community agency, that a shut-off notice has been sent. The third party can receive and give information about the member and make payment arrangements with Sioux Valley Energy and the member. The third party is not responsible for payment. **If you want a third party to be notified of the potential disconnection, please complete this form and return it to Sioux Valley Energy.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Account Number From Your Electric Bill

\_\_\_\_\_  
Service Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone & Work Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Third Party

\_\_\_\_\_  
Third Party Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Third Party Home Phone & Work Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Third Party Signature  
*(This request cannot be accepted without the third party's signature)*

Sioux Valley Energy has my permission to provide information to and accept information from the third party named above.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member Signature Date

Sioux Valley Energy will make every effort to send a copy of the shut-off notice to the party specified. The member making the request understands that the electric utility is not liable should the third party fail to receive or act upon the notice.

## SEND APPLICATION AND/OR THIRD PARTY NOTICE TO:

*Sioux Valley Energy  
P.O. Box 216  
Colman, SD 57017*

OR CONTACT A  
CUSTOMER SERVICE  
REPRESENTATIVE AT:  
***1-800-234-1960***

### Energy Saving Tips

- **Replace your light bulbs.** Replace regular light bulbs with energy efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs). CFLs consume 66% less energy and last up to 10 times longer!
- **High-tech temperature control.** Turn your thermostat and air conditioning down when you are away from home.
- **Check your Insulation.** You spend the most money on heating and cooling your home. Inadequate insulation is often the culprit of energy leaks.
- **Colder is Better.** Wash clothes in cold water whenever possible. About 90% of the energy use by a washer goes to water heating.
- **Unplug.** Home electronics, like computers and televisions, can leak energy even when they are turned off.
- **Restrict the Flow.** A flow restrictor typically costs less than a dollar but can cut the cost of taking a hot shower in half.
- **Keep it Closed.** When baking, don't open the oven door to take a peek. Opening the door lowers the temperature inside - by as much as 25 degrees. This increases cooking time and wastes energy.

# Minnesota Cold Weather Rule

What you need to know.



**SIoux VALLEY**  
**ENERGY**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

## WHAT IS THE MINNESOTA COLD WEATHER RULE?

Some members find it difficult to pay their utility bills in the winter. The State of Minnesota established the Cold Weather Rule to protect residential heat-affected members, who are unable to pay their utility bills, from disconnection of service between October 15 and April 15.

You may qualify for protection if you meet the following conditions:

- Disconnection would affect your main heat source.
- Your total household income is at or below 50% of the state median income.
- You enter into a payment plan with Sioux Valley Energy and make timely payments under the plan.

## WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO TO BE PROTECTED BY THIS RULE?

- Complete the form on this brochure and return it to Sioux Valley Energy by October 15.
- Provide documentation to Sioux Valley Energy that your total household income is less than 50% of the state median income. This information is included in your Income Tax Return. If you qualify for energy assistance through the Southwest MN Opportunity Council, this requirement has been satisfied.

## AVOIDING DISCONNECTION:

**The Cold Weather Rule does not forbid winter shut off.** If you receive a shut off notice this winter, you must act promptly. Call Sioux Valley Energy to apply for Cold Weather Rule protection and set up a payment plan. Your service will be subject to disconnection without further notice if you do not make the agreed upon payments.

**RECONNECTION:** If your power is disconnected on October 15 when the Cold Weather Rule takes affect, you can have your power reconnected by calling Sioux Valley Energy to set up a payment plan. You must keep your payment plan to avoid future disconnection.

## WHO CAN I CONTACT FOR MONETARY HELP IN PAYING MY ELECTRIC BILL DURING THE WINTER?

You may qualify for state or federal assistance. For complete qualifications and application information, please contact one of the following organizations:

### Southwestern MN Opportunity Council

*P.O. Box 787  
Worthington, MN 56187  
1-800-658-2444*

### Southwest Health & Human Services

*P.O. Box 715  
Luverne, MN 56156  
1-888-837-6713*

### The Salvation Army HeatShare

*1-800-842-7279*

### MN Department of Commerce- Energy Information Center

*1-800-657-3710*

### United Way 211

*211*

## CONSERVATION & WEATHERIZATION PROVIDERS

The following agencies provide weatherization/conservation services.

### Southwestern MN Opportunity Council

*P.O. Box 787  
Worthington, MN 56187  
1-800-658-2444*

### Sioux Valley Energy

*PO Box 216  
Colman, SD 57017  
1-800-234-1960*

## MN COLD WEATHER RULE APPLICATION

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number  
(From your electric bill) \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Owed \_\_\_\_\_

Total Annual Household Income \_\_\_\_\_

Number of persons living full time in the household  
(including yourself) \_\_\_\_\_

**By signing this form, I hereby authorize any gas or electric utility that provides me service to exchange billing information. I attest that the above information is true and correct.**

Member Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Complete form and return to Sioux Valley Energy (please print).

Sioux Valley Energy is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).