



1725 US Hwy 12 East  
 PO Box 68  
 Litchfield MN 55355  
 320-693-3231 or 800-232-6257  
 www.meeker.coop

## APPLICATION FOR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE SHUT OFF PROTECTION

Please call Meeker Cooperative at 320-693-3231 or 1-800-232-6257 before your payment's due date if you can't pay your bill in full and would like to make special arrangements to spread out your payments. You need not send in this form just to make a payment arrangement. Please complete the form below and return it to Meeker Cooperative if you qualify for Cold Weather Law protection.

### Inability to pay declaration

Fill out this form and return it to Meeker Cooperative *immediately* if you can't pay your full bill and need Cold Weather Law protection. Meeker Cooperative abides by the Cold Weather Law, Section 216B.097, of the Public Utilities Act. The Cold Weather Law provides that a residential member's electric service cannot be disconnected for nonpayment from October 15 through April 15 if the disconnection would affect your primary heat source and:

- 1.) You declare on this form an inability to pay to pay your bill, and,
- 2.) Your total household, not individual, income is less than 50% of State Median Income, and  
(You must provide the necessary documentation to support this condition.)
- 3.) Your account is current for the billing period immediately prior to October 15 **OR**  
You have entered into a payment schedule and are reasonably current with your scheduled payments.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

Meeker Cooperative Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount owing \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total annual household income \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Source of income (place "X" on appropriate lines)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Employment              | <input type="checkbox"/> Disability/Social Security/Pension              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AFDC/GA/GA Medical Care | <input type="checkbox"/> SSI/Food Stamps/XSA/Children's Health Plan      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Assistance      | <input type="checkbox"/> I do not pay for any of my own medical expenses |

Number of persons in household (including yourself) \_\_\_\_\_

Please check if either of the following exists in your home \_\_\_\_\_ Medical emergency \_\_\_\_\_ Disabled person in residence

By signing this form, I hereby authorize any gas or electric utility that serves me to exchange billing information. I acknowledge that I have received, read and understand the enclosed Notice of Residential Customers Rights and Possible Assistance. I attest that the above information is true and correct.

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

*You do not qualify for Cold Weather Law protection if you do not meet one or more of the above conditions.  
 However, you can continue to receive electric service if you call Meeker Cooperative to make a mutually acceptable payment arrangement.  
 See reverse for more information.*

### Budget/Levelized Billing

Members requesting budget/levelized billing plans may have their yearly costs of electricity billed in equal monthly installments from September through July. Monthly payments are due by the 5th of each month.

All accounts using budget/levelized payments must be paid in full in August at the end of each budget/levelized payment year. If the budget/levelized account shows a credit balance, Meeker Cooperative will credit the account the following month.

Meeker Cooperative reserves the right to cancel the budget/levelized billing plan for late payments or to increase/decrease the budget/levelized payment as indicated by monthly energy use.

### Automatic Payment Plan

You can save time, cut costs and quit worrying with the Automatic Payment Plan. Instead of writing a check, your payment will be electronically transferred from your checking or savings account to Meeker Cooperative on the 5th of each month.

If the 5th falls on a weekend or holiday, the transfer will be made the following business day. Proof of your payment will appear on your bank statement and on your monthly billing statement.

For your records, you will receive a monthly statement. The statement will show your monthly billing, which will be submitted to your bank.

Please contact Meeker Cooperative to receive an Automatic Payment Plan authorization form.

### Electric Heating Sales Tax Exemption

Electricity sold for residential space heating, when used as the primary source of heat, is exempt from Minnesota Sales Tax for the billing months of November through April. To qualify, members must complete a State of Minnesota Certificate of Exemption available from Meeker Cooperative.