



People's Energy Cooperative

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Immediate NEWS RELEASE

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Oronoco Crossings Housing Project Seeks Development Partner

ORONOCO, MN, September 16, 2025 — People's Energy Cooperative (PEC) is inviting qualified housing developers to submit their credentials for the Oronoco Crossings Housing Project, a residential development opportunity on a 5.25-acre parcel within the city limits of Oronoco. The Cooperative has issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) that aims to identify a partner capable of delivering a housing solution that maximizes the number of residences within a compact footprint, while aligning with Oronoco's Zoning Code and the Cooperative's goal of bringing value to the communities we serve and being a respected business partner.

PEC President and CEO Mike Henke commented, "Oronoco Crossings represents a unique opportunity to address our region's housing needs with forward-thinking design and community-focused development. By working with the City of Oronoco, Olmsted County, and innovative developers, we can deliver housing solutions that support local families, attract new talent, and ensure long-term vitality for Oronoco and the surrounding area."

The site, which formerly helped meet part of Oronoco Crossings' wastewater needs, is newly available for development. With access to water, wastewater, and three-phase electric infrastructure, the parcel offers a rare combination of readiness and flexibility. The Cooperative seeks proposals that incorporate a mix of workforce, market-rate, and attainable housing, with proposals for rental or ownership models both welcome.

This initiative responds directly to findings from the 2025 Olmsted County Housing Needs Analysis, which projects a need for over 15,000 new housing units by 2030. The report highlights a growing population and an aging demographic, underscoring the urgency for diverse housing options across the county.

“We’re excited to partner with developers who share our vision for sustainable growth and innovative housing.” said Marty Walsh, economic development and key accounts manager at PEC, adding that the hope is this development spurs additional projects on other public and institutionally-owned properties in the region.

Interested parties should review the full RFQ and submit qualifications by the posted deadline of November 14, 2025. For more information, visit www.peoplesenergy.coop/housing or contact the project team at housing@peoplesenergy.coop.

About People’s Energy Cooperative

People’s Energy Cooperative is a member-owned electric cooperative celebrating nearly 90 years of delivering retail electric power to its 20,000 consumer-members in Olmsted, Dodge, Fillmore, Mower, Wabasha, and Winona Counties. People's Energy Cooperative is a Touchstone Energy® cooperative and a member-owner in the Dairyland Power system of electric cooperatives that generates and transmits reliable electric power in 62 counties of four states (Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Illinois). People’s is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

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