

Immediate NEWS RELEASE

For additional information contact: Gwen Stevens, Director of Member and Community Relations 507-367-7015 or <u>gstevens@peoplesrec.com</u>

Pole Inspections for People's Energy Cooperative to be Performed by Osmose Utilities Services



ORONOCO, MN (June 9, 2015) – People's Energy Cooperative has hired Osmose Utilities Services, Inc. to complete pole inspections on distribution lines in the eastern portion of its service area. The inspection area includes Haverhill, Farmington, Elgin, Plainview, and Whitewater townships, as well as portions of Oakwood, Viola, Quincy, Marion, and Elba townships. The

inspections are planned to begin on June 15th and should take approximately ten weeks to complete.

Pole inspections are an important part of the Cooperative's ongoing maintenance program. By identifying the poles that need to be replaced, the Cooperative is helping to ensure both safety and reliability. During the inspections, Osmose crews will access the distribution lines with pickups, four-wheelers or on foot. Each pole will receive a visual and physical inspection. Some poles may require a more thorough inspection which involves hand excavation to a depth of 18 inches below ground. Crews will ensure that these will be filled by the end of each day. Work on each pole should be performed in less than an hour with no interruption of electrical service.

About People's Energy Cooperative

People's Energy Cooperative is a member-owned electric cooperative celebrating over 75 years of delivering electric power to 12,000+ member-owners 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).