**Immediate**

**NEWS RELEASE**

**For additional information contact:**

Dawn Schroeder Brenda Tesch

Freeborn-Mower Cooperative Services MiEnergy Cooperative

Communications Specialist Director of Public Relations

507-379-8841 507-421-4590

[dschroeder@fmcs.coop](mailto:dschroeder@fmcs.coop) [btesch@mienergy.coop](mailto:btesch@mienergy.coop)

Gwen Stevens Jessica Marzen

People’s Energy Cooperative Heartland Power Cooperative

Director of Cooperative Relations Communications Representative

507-251-4293 (cell) 641-584-2251

[gstevens@peoplesrec.com](mailto:gstevens@peoplesrec.com) [jmarzen@heartlandpower.com](mailto:jmarzen@heartlandpower.com)

**Peak Energy Alert**

**July 8, 2020** — Freeborn-Mower Cooperative Services (Albert Lea), MiEnergy Cooperative (Rushford), Heartland Power Cooperative (St. Ansgar), and People’s Energy Cooperative (Oronoco) have issued a peak energy alert beginning at 2:00 p.m. today. With the extreme temperatures forecasted for our region, it is anticipated that electric usage will rise dramatically putting a high demand on the regional grid.

All cooperative members are urged to reduce electrical usage until after 6:00 p.m. Members enrolled in energy management strategies (load control) can expect to be affected between 2:00 and 8:00 p.m. today.

Members can conserve electricity during this peak alert period by setting their air conditioner to 78o, especially if no one is home; running the dishwasher or doing laundry later in the evening; using a microwave or grill instead of the oven to cook dinner; and refrain from turning on televisions or gaming systems. Each seemingly small action can collectively make a big difference in the demand made on the electric grid.

**About the Electric Cooperatives**

For over 80 years, Freeborn-Mower Cooperative Services, MiEnergy Cooperative, People’s Energy Cooperative, and Heartland Power Cooperative have been delivering retail electric power and energy solutions to southeast Minnesota. All are Touchstone Energy® cooperatives and members of Dairyland Power Cooperative which generates and transmits reliable electric power to 62 counties in four states (Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Illinois).

###