

**2023-2024 COLD WEATHER RULE – INABILITY TO PAY
APPLICATION FOR PROTECTION FROM DISCONNECTION**

The Minnesota Cold Weather Rule protects residential utility customers during the cold winter months. October 1st through April 30th providing the customer meets the agreed payment plan.

Customer Name _____ Acct # _____

Service Address _____ Kasson, MN 55944

Home/Cell Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Spouse or Roommate Name _____

Total amount you owe \$ _____



(FOR OFFICE USE ONLY)

I propose to pay my OUTSTANDING and FUTURE bills according to the following schedule of payments:

\$ _____ by (date) _____
 \$ _____ by (date) _____
 \$ _____ by (date) _____
 \$ _____ by (date) _____
 \$ _____ by (date) _____
 \$ _____ by (date) _____
 \$ _____ by (date) _____
 \$ _____ by (date) _____

Household	Annual 2023-2024
<u>1</u>	<u>\$32,667</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>\$42,719</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>\$52,770</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>\$62,822</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>\$72,874</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>\$82,925</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>\$84,810</u>
<u>8</u>	<u>\$86,695</u>
<u>9</u>	<u>\$88,579</u>
<u>10</u>	<u>\$90,464</u>

**KNOW YOUR
RIGHTS &
RESPONSIBILITIES**

Payment Arrangements (Inability to pay)

By signing this form, I hereby acknowledge that I have received, read, and understand the Notice of Residential Customer's Rights and Responsibilities. I declare that the above information is true and correct. I give my permission to any energy provider or public assistance agency that serves me to exchange income and billing information with other energy providers and my utility for the purpose of program qualifications.

Signature _____ Date _____



401 5th St SE
 Kasson, MN 55944
 (507) 634-6325
 (507) 634-7071

Notice of Residential Customer Rights and Responsibilities

Some customers find it hard to pay their utility bills in the winter. The Minnesota State Legislature has passed a law that is commonly referred to as the “Cold Weather Rule” to protect residential customers from disconnection if they cannot pay their bills in full. This protection lasts from October 1st through April 30th. Customers may qualify for this protection if they meet **ALL** the following conditions:

1. The customer has completed the Application for Protection Form provided by the utility.
2. The household income is less than 50% of the state median income level. (Customers receiving ‘any form of public assistance’s are deemed to have qualified for inability to pay status)
3. The customer enters City plan and makes reasonably timely payments on a mutually acceptable payment plan.

This notice is to inform customers of their rights and responsibilities under the Cold Weather Rule. These rights and responsibilities are designed to help you with winter utility bills. **You must act promptly.** If you choose not to assert your rights or choose not to enter a mutually acceptable payment plan, your **electric service may be disconnected.**

- **The right** to declare an inability to pay your electric bill.
- **If** choosing inability to pay, to complete fully the COLD WEATHER RULE – INABILITY TO PAY APPLICATION FOR PROTECTION form and return to the City of Kasson Public Utilities.

- **The right** to negotiate a mutually acceptable payment plan with the City of Kasson Public Utilities which addresses existing past due balances and current and future usage during the cold weather period.
- **The responsibility** to make timely payments under the payment plan. Failure to comply with or change the existing payment arrangement may result in the service being disconnected.
 - **The right** to appeal to the City Council a determination of income by the utility and the right to appeal if the customer and utility cannot arrive at a mutually acceptable payment plan.

Cold Weather Rule does not totally forbid winter shut off. You must contact the utility in advance of the disconnect date to avoid disconnection or a limiting device.

IF YOU RECEIVE A SHUT OFF NOTICE THIS WINTER, YOU MUST ACT PROMPTLY!

Customers who use life-sustaining electrical medical equipment, please contact the City of Kasson Public Utilities for more information (507) 634-6325.

The City of Kasson will accept all inquiries for CWR, the customer will have to accept the proposed plan.

CWR runs from October 1 thru April 30.

ENERGY ASSISTANT PROGRAMS

If you need help paying your electric utility bills, you may qualify for state or federal energy assistance. For complete qualifications and application information, contact the following agencies:

MNPrairie (507) 923-2900
(Minnesota Prairie County Alliance)
Formerly Dodge County Social Services
Courthouse Building, Lower Level,
Mantorville
Semcac
1-800-944-3281
Dept of Commerce /Energy Assistance
1-800-657-3710

ENERGY SAVING TIPS

- Manage your thermostat 66°-68° during the heating season.
- Install a programmable thermostat. Set the temperature back to 10° for eight hours every night during the winter months and lower your heating bills by 10%.
- Replace or clean your furnace filters monthly.
- Check the duct work for dirt streaks, especially seams. These indicate air leaks, and they should be sealed.
- Caulk and weather strip any cracks around doors and windows.
- Insulate any ducts or pipes that travel through unheated spaces.
- Remove or cover window air conditioners during the winter.
- Lower the setting of your hot water heater to 120°F
- Open shades during winter days for passive solar heat and close them at night.
- Completely disconnect power to your home electronics (computer, peripheral equipment, TV, game systems etc.) by using a power strip as a central turn off point. Keep in mind DVRs and some T.V.’s require standby power to operate properly.