

MAY 2019
PUBLIC POLICY REPORT

FEDERAL UPDATE

Spring Fly-in Results

The conversations with Iowa's congressional delegation produced meaningful impact on important issues. Congresswomen Axne and Finkenauer have both indicated their support and co-sponsorship of the SECURE Act which protects pensions. Senator Ernst is taking a lead as a co-sponsor of the RURAL Act that secures the not-for-profit status of cooperatives. Additionally, Senators Grassley and Ernst have officially signed onto the letter addressed to FERC which supports a cooperative's ability to make local decision regarding distributed energy resources.

Touchstone Energy Main Street Summit

Touchstone Energy will be hosting a summer event this August at the Des Moines Social Club. The three-day event, August 6-9, will focus on rural economic development issues.

South Carolina Co-ops to Get State Oversight

Lawmakers passed a bill to make the 20 electric cooperatives in South Carolina more transparent and accountable following the Tri-County Electric scandal a year ago. State regulators will now have the authority to investigate and raise issues regarding misspent funds and other legal issues.

STATE UPDATE

Farmer Loses Bid to Block Wind Energy Project

A farmer has lost his legal challenge against a planned wind energy project in southern Black Hawk County. A judge on Monday affirmed the county Board of Adjustment's decision to issue a special permit for Washburn Wind Energy's plans to erect 35 large wind turbines in Eagle Township east of Hudson. Harold Youngblut, who farms near the controversial project, filed a lawsuit last year claiming the Board of Adjustment action violated the county's zoning ordinance and amounted to an illegal "taking" of property due to the effect on neighbors.

MidAmerican Hits New Wind Generation Record in Iowa

MidAmerican Energy Co. recently set a new one-day wind generation record in Iowa for generating electricity, the company claims. On April 10, wind farms owned and operated by MidAmerican Energy generated 111,500 MWh of energy across the state. This supplied the company's entire retail customers' electric usage with renewable energy. MidAmerican Energy's previous one-day wind generation record, set in January, was 106,000 MWh.

Upcoming Activities

Memorial Day – CIPCO Offices Closed
ACES Members Meeting – Indianapolis, IN
ABI Taking Care of Business Conference – Ames, IA
NRECA Summer School – Williamsburg, VA
Midland Power Annual Meeting – Jefferson, IA
East-Central IA REC Annual Meeting – Vinton, IA
CFC Forum 2019 – New York, NY

May 27, 2019
May 30 – 31, 2019
June 4 – 6, 2019
June 7 – 12, 2019
June 19, 2019
June 20, 2019
July 1 – 3, 2019

Consumer Price Index

Month	Seasonally Adjusted Change from Previous Month
April 2019	0.3%
March 2019	0.4%
February 2019	0.2%
January 2019	0.0%
December 2018	-0.1%
November 2018	0.0%
Unadjusted Rolling 12 Month Average: 2.0%	