

**Senator Debbie Stabenow**

1901 W. Ridge  
Marquette, MI 49855  
Phone: (906) 228-8756

Dear Senator Stabenow,

The economic and financial stability of the entire Upper Peninsula is in jeopardy as a result of the recent Federal Regulatory Commission (FERC) decision in July. This decision proposes that all electric bill paying accounts across the U.P. assume 100 percent of the \$116 million operating cost and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) upgrades needed for the Presque Isle Power Plant in Marquette.

Under the proposed formula, Cloverland Electric Cooperative would pay 22.5 percent or approximately \$21.8 million per year. This amounts to an average residential member using 1,000 kWh seeing an increase of \$30 per month on the bill. A typical commercial account using 15,000 kWh would see an increase of \$500 per month. Industrial customers using thousands of kWh per month could be forced to close.

We cannot let this decision continue as it stands. We have to act now because this increase could hit us in January, 2015. Cloverland Electric is working with a law firm in Washington that specializes in this type of matter. We are working with the state legislature and Governor. We have joined many other prominent organizations across the U.P. to collectively request this decision be reconsidered. Here's what you can do to help:

Senators Stabenow please contact the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO). This organization is responsible for the day to day operations of the electrical grid system from Canada to the Gulf Coast. MISO and FERC needs to rehear this decision and stop this injustice.

Cloverland Electric Cooperative's 42,000 electric services in the Eastern Upper Peninsula of Michigan cannot and should not pay the estimated \$21.8 million per year to keep the Presque Isle Power Plant open.

The average residential electric bill could spike \$30 a month. What about our people who are on a fixed income. They cannot afford this. Commercial and industrial accounts cannot absorb the additional thousands of dollars and may be forced to close.

Cloverland Electric Cooperative does not benefit from the Presque Isle Power Plant and should not pay for it.

Wisconsin said they should not pay for the plant's costs since they do not benefit from the plant. FERC agreed. Now, we are saying the same thing for Cloverland Electric members since we do not benefit.

**MISO and FERC needs to rehear this decision and do it now before this takes affect at the end of the year.**

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip Code** \_\_\_\_\_