

## Smart Grid Savings Outside the Home

### *Commerce and Industry*

Because of the smart grid, industrial and commercial businesses have greater reliability and can access information about their energy use to save energy and money.

### *State and Local Economies*

Smart Grid technology benefits our economy long-term by establishing a power grid that can better handle business and residential growth. All of this provides new jobs, a modern infrastructure and a more sustainable way of powering our world.

Want to learn more? Call your local energy cooperative or visit

**[www.StopEnergyLeaks.com](http://www.StopEnergyLeaks.com)**

### **In the Next Issue:**

Smart grid technologies provide many benefits for your local Touchstone Energy Cooperative as well. These include improved reliability and efficiency, access to important data and better utilization of the transmission system. Ultimately, cost savings are passed through to you, the member owner.




Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives

*The power of human connections®*

# SMART GRID

### *The Many Benefits of Smart Grid Technology.*

The use of Smart Grid technology improves delivery of power, provides for a quicker response time, offers better customer service and keeps power affordable.



**Higher  
Reliability**



**Shorter  
Outages**



**Lower  
Prices**



**Better  
Service**



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## How the Smart Grid is Smart for You

Two ways that your local Touchstone Energy® Cooperative uses Smart Grid technology to benefit you are load management and smart meters.

### Load Management

#### *Saves Money*

At peak times when energy demand is high, more resources are needed to meet it. Sometimes that means purchasing additional power, which can be expensive. Load management reduces the peak demand, which lowers costs. Since 1985, load management has saved member-owners in South Dakota and Minnesota over \$127 million.

#### *Uses Existing Resources*

Load management helps prevent overburdening transformers, transmission lines and substations. By better using the system already in place, the need for upgrades and maintenance is reduced.

#### *Increases Reliability*

Equipment used for load management allows your local Touchstone Energy Cooperative to better manage power throughout the system, responding to demands quickly and increasing reliability.



### Smart Meters

#### *Provide Energy Data*

Smart meters let customers see their energy use by hour, day or month. Seeing power consumption during peak times can help you adjust your energy use to save money.

#### *Improve Efficiency*

Your local Touchstone Energy Cooperative can read smart meters remotely to save money for them – and you. These meters also help locate outages more precisely for a faster response.

#### *Improve Power Quality and Customer Service*

The data that smart meters provide help your local Touchstone Energy Cooperative improve power quality. Customer service staff can also help you to better analyze energy use for improved efficiency.

