

☒ YES, please enter our names in the drawing for the trip. We understand that if our names are drawn, we will be billed \$100.

Our first and second choice of dates:

June 24-26 1st 2nd 3rd (please circle)

July 8-10 1st 2nd 3rd

July 15-17 1st 2nd 3rd

I/we ☐ have ☐ have not
participated in this tour in the past.

First Person _____

Second Person _____

Address _____

City _____

Phone _____

Clip this coupon and return to cooperative by April 30, 2026.



Energy Trail Tour 2026

to

North West Rural Electric Cooperative and Northwest Iowa Power Cooperative invite you join us for one of three Energy Trail Tours being offered this summer. This 3-day adventure will allow you to experience, first-hand, how your power providers convert energy from water, wind, and coal into electricity. View coal being mined and see how those mines are then returned to productive farm and native grass lands. Enjoy interactive walking tours through a hydroelectric and coal-fired energy generation facility and other stops along the way. Meet other cooperative member-owners while traveling together across the Dakotas on-board a motor-coach bound for the North Dakota's Energy Loop. \$100 per couple covers your lodging, meals and entry fees. The remainder of your tour costs are covered by North West Electric Cooperative.

Twelve lucky couples from North West REC will be selected at random from those who sign up.

What's it all about?



Tour the **Oahe Dam and Powerhouse** in Pierre, SD. One of the world's largest earth-rolled dams, Oahe Dam and Lake provide more than \$371 million in annual benefits to the American people. Other authorized benefits include flood control, power generation, recreation, navigation support and fish & wildlife enhancement. Seven turbine generators at the Oahe Powerhouse generate a maximum capacity of 118.2 megawatts of electricity, which is enough to power the annual electric needs of 259,000 homes.



Learn about the **Great Plains Synfuels Dakota Gasification Company Plant**, the only commercial-scale coal gasification plant in the country that manufactures natural gas using the Lurgi gasification technology. Located NW of Beulah, ND, it is capable of producing 13 products, including: synthetic natural gas (SNG), ammonium sulfate, anhydrous ammonia, carbon dioxide, cresylic acid, krypton and xenon gases, liquid nitrogen, naphtha, phenol, tar oil, and urea.



Tour the **Dakota Coal Company Freedom Mine**, which delivers approximately 16 million tons of lignite coal per year, making it the largest mine in the US in deliveries. The mine reclaims about 600 acres of land annually. Here you'll learn how lignite coal is produced at a surface mine and how the land is reclaimed according to strict high environmental preservation standards. A guided drive-through tour will bring you into active mining areas where you can see giant earth moving equipment in action.



Tour the **Antelope Valley Station**, the newest coal-based power plant in North Dakota. Its two units, each rated at 450 megawatts, are designed to be environmentally sound. Basin Electric consistently invests in environmental control technologies for all of its facilities. At the Antelope Valley Station, you'll learn how electricity is made. The tour includes an overview in the model room, guided walking tour of the power plant with stops at the turbine deck, control room, boiler and observation deck on the 17th floor!

"Thank you so much for selecting us to go on the Energy Trail Tour. We had a great time and learned a lot about our electricity and where it comes from. The coal mine was probably our favorite as the bus drove right down into the mine where they were working. How amazing to see the land back into production after the mining is complete. Tour guides were all great at every location. Once again a [Big Thank You!](#)"

– Darrel & Nancy Reed

"Many thanks for the opportunity to take part in the Energy Tour. Very well done and informative. We enjoyed the tour and the company."

– Forrest & Jan Buffington

"Thank you to ILEC for the opportunity to participate in the Energy Trail Tour in July. It was informative and very well organized and served to remind us that electricity generation is not a simple operation. The mine and synfuels plant tour were especially interesting. The more we learn about electricity production, the more it is appreciated. "

– Kelvin & Judy Sawyer

"Thank you for the wonderful Energy Trail Tour experience. We had a good time and learned a lot about what it takes to produce our electricity. We really appreciated the chance to go and encourage others to go if they can."

– John H & Judy Jennings