

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release



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Subject: IADG Recognizes Cooperative Development Efforts

Northwest Iowa Power Cooperative of Le Mars and three of its member cooperatives were recognized Tuesday (April 3) by the Iowa Area Development Group for economic development accomplishments.

NIPCO received the IADG Policy Development System Award for its assistance and support in conducting a thorough examination of developing a co-generation facility to help the Amaizing Energy ethanol plant evaluate all options for expanding its Denison facility.

NIPCO teamed up with Harrison County Rural Electric Cooperative of Woodbine, Iowa, and Basin Electric Power Cooperative of Bismarck, N.D., to comprehensively address and explore cogeneration and other energy efficiency and supply options. The study provided necessary information which recently allowed Amaizing Energy to announce expansion plans. Harrison County REC also received an award for the project from IADG.

Harrison County REC is the local power provider to the ethanol plant. NIPCO is the wholesale power provider to Harrison County REC, and Basin Electric owns the generating stations which provide the majority of power that NIPCO transmits.

Another award went to North West Rural Electric Cooperative of Orange City. The cooperative was honored for its assistance and support of three new and expanding industrial park developments in northwest Iowa. The communities of Le Mars, Orange City and Rock Valley each have launched new park developments totaling more than 212 acres of "shovel-ready" industrial property. North West REC has helped the communities and local development groups advance these projects through USDA loan fund applications and awards, as well as providing low interest loans to the projects from their revolving loan fund.

Another NIPCO member cooperative, Nishnabotna Valley REC, received an award for its assistance and support for a Menard's complex currently under construction in the Nishnabotna Valley service area near Shelby. The development consists of three buildings on a 140-acre site that will handle manufacturing, warehousing and returned items for the regional building materials company.

NIPCO, a Touchstone Energy cooperative headquartered in Le Mars, is a wholesale electric generation and transmission cooperative owned by six rural electric cooperatives and also by a full-service municipal electric cooperative serving six western Iowa towns. Touchstone Energy is a national alliance of local, consumer-owned electric cooperatives providing high standards of service to customers large and small. More than 630 Touchstone Energy cooperatives in 45 states deliver energy and energy solutions to more than 22 million customers every day. Touchstone Energy cooperatives serve their members with integrity, accountability, innovation and a long-standing commitment to communities.

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