

Normal power line

Lines weighed down by ice

Top line melted after bottom line

ICE ON POWER LINES IS A WEIGHTY SUBJECT



When it comes to getting electricity across power lines and into homes, ice can be a force to be reckoned with.

ICE ON DISTRIBUTION LINES

Ice can quickly lead to broken power poles and other pole equipment. Ice can also make falling tree branches 30x heavier and much more likely to break power lines.

ON A 300-FOOT SPAN OF 1-INCH-THICK POWER LINES

- 1/2 inch of ice adds 281 pounds of weight
- 1 inch of ice adds 749 pounds of weight
- 2 inches of ice adds 2,248 pounds of weight

WHEN ICE MELTS

Melting ice can cause power outages. If ice on the bottom (neutral) line melts before the lines above, it can cause the lines to touch.

OTHER ICE FACTS

- Damage can begin when ice exceeds 1/4 of an inch
- 1/2 inch of ice can cause a line to sag up to 12 inches
- Pressure can also be caused by a broken tree limb
- Both ice and melting ice can cause power outages

Introducing our new Board Directors



Please welcome Grand Haven Board of Light & Power's newly elected Board Directors, Andrea Hendrick and Michael J Westbrook.



Both Andrea and Michael were elected to six-year terms, serving from November 2021 to November 2027.

Energy Efficiency Program Updates

We are redesigning our 2022 energy efficiency programs. More information will be shared soon. If you completed your 2021 Energy Smart project by December 31st, be sure to submit your receipts for your 2021 rebate incentives as soon as possible.



Your Board of Directors:

Larry Kieft, Chairperson
Michael Westbrook, Vice Chairperson
Todd Crum, Director
Andrea Hendrick, Director
Gerry Witherell, Director

Grand Haven Board of Light & Power
1700 Eaton Drive, Grand Haven, MI 49417
616.846.6250 | ghblp.org

PLUGGED IN

News and Information from your Community-Owned Electric Utility
Grand Haven Board of Light & Power



January & February 2022

2017-2021 Strategic Progress Report

Reliability

Affordability

Sustainability

Every five years the Grand Haven Board of Light and Power (GHBLP) convenes to create a strategic plan. This plan determines the direction of the GHBLP for the short term, allowing us to align our vision with community feedback at regular intervals. Our FY 2017 - 2021 Strategic Plan did just that, prioritizing the collective values of the Grand Haven community and successfully meeting our goals as a utility. Through gathered feedback, community events, individual conversations and customer surveys, our customers have said time and time again that they value Reliability, Affordability and Sustainability. Some highlights of our successes are included here.

Reliability

RP3 Diamond Recognition

The RP3 designation recognizes public power utilities that demonstrate proficiency in four key disciplines: reliability, safety, workforce development, and system improvement. In 2021, GHBLP achieved Diamond level, which is the highest level a utility can receive.

SAIDI/SAIFI Improvements

These are common indicators of reliability for utility providers. SAIDI measures the average time a power interruption lasts for customers, while SAIFI measures the frequency of these interruptions. GHBLP SAIDI/SAIFI figures show improvements over the last five years for our customer owners.

Did You Know?

Without regular system upgrades, our community would not have the electrical capacity to accomplish basic tasks that we take for granted, like running modern appliances and HVAC systems. The average American home in 2021 differs vastly from the American home in 1960.

Upgraded Distribution & Transmission lines

These upgrades improve our connection to the regional network and ability to diversify our power supply portfolio.

Enhanced Vegetation Management

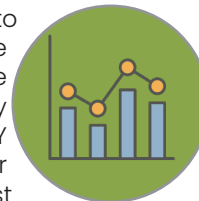
Tree trimming helps reduce the number of power outages on our system, improving SAIDI/SAIFI measures.

Affordability

One of the highest priorities is to provide affordable electricity to our community and to operate in a manner that manages financial resources to provide rate stability, customer value, and address appropriate risks.

- **Rate Reductions** - Average BLP retail rates have been reduced by 7.3% from FY2016 to FY2021.
- **Technology Upgrades for improved efficiency and customer service**
 - Advanced Meter Infrastructure
 - Customer and Financial Information Systems
 - SmartHub - Customer Online Account System

We are committed to conducting cost-of-service studies every five years, like the one performed by Utility Financial Solutions, Inc. in FY 2021, moving and adjusting our power rates with the true cost of service for our customers with each study.



Sustainability

As an electricity provider for the community, we know our infrastructure directly impacts the environment in which we live; therefore, we established the strategic objective to maintain a sustainable, economical, and diversified power supply portfolio, consistent with proven energy risk management practices. Sustainable efforts over the last five years include:

- **Decommissioning and Demolition of JB Sims**
- **Remediating Long Term Environmental Concerns**
- **Diversification of our Power Supply Portfolio**
- **Increasing our Renewable Power Sources to 28% by 2024**
- **Upgraded Transmission System**
- **Providing Energy Efficiency Programs to customers**

Did You Know?

Demolition of JB Sims reduced GHBLP's carbon emissions from 290,107 tons of CO₂ in 2017 to zero in 2021.

As we plan for the future of Grand Haven's power supply with our collective values at the forefront, we look forward to continued improvement and excellence while we create a more **reliable, affordable and sustainable** future for our community. Read the full "GHBLP Strategic Progress Report," on our home page at ghblp.org.