



Todd-Wadena
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Pine to Prairie
July 2022
www.toddwadena.coop

**CO-OP
STRONG**



5th Annual Co-op Strong
THURSDAY
JULY 21



11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at
Sunnybrook Park
940 Sunnybrook Road
Wadena, MN 56482

**STOP BY AND SEE
US FOR A GREAT
LUNCH AND MEMBER
GIVE-AWAY!**

TODD-WADENA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE IN PARTNERSHIP
WITH WEST-CENTRAL TELEPHONE ASSOCIATION

Operation Round Up Grants Awarded

Giving back to the community we serve is a core cooperative principle. Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative's (TWEC) *Operation Round Up* program is a great way for the co-op and its members to give back.



TWEC's Community Trust Board recently met and awarded nine Operation Round Up grants to local non-profit organizations, totaling \$10,879. **The next application deadline is September 15th.**

Organization		Amount
England Prairie Pioneer Club, INC	Lighting - kitchen, dining, & meeting	\$879
Long Prairie Senior Center	Outdoor Seating Area	\$150
Sebeka Area Historical Society	Log Barn Repairs	\$4,500
Verndale Fire Dept.	Four Gas Monitors	\$2,100
Wadena County Friendly Rider	Summer Recreation/ Activity Free Rides	\$500
Staples Motley Beyond Poverty	Gardening for Everyone	\$1,250
MAHUBE-OTWA Community Partnership	Wadena County Back to School Supply Program	\$1,500
Total		\$10,879

Back Row: Randy Jahnke, Wadena County Friendly Rider; Lynn Nesland, MAHUBE-OTWA; Bob Norman, Sebeka Area Historical Society; Naomi Watson, Long Prairie Senior Center; Brad Spear, England Prairie Pioneer Club.
Front Row: Helen Quaschnick, Rhita Keskey, Margaret Norman (all from Sebeka Area Historical Society).

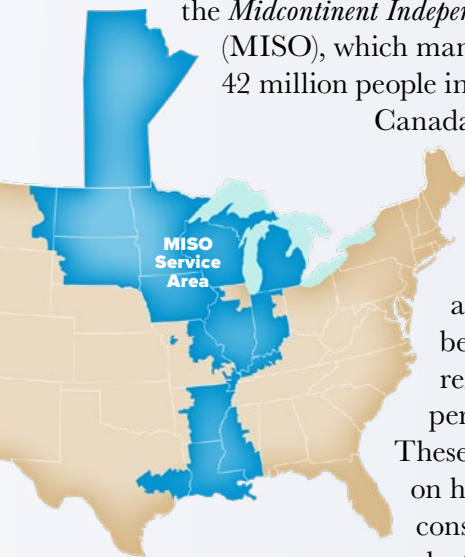


Reliability

Reliable power is an expectation that many of us never have to think about and hadn't until events in other parts of the United States exposed how fragile the grid can be. Both California (2020) and Texas (2021) suffered blackouts that impacted thousands of customers. As of late, and much closer to home, there have been articles and features in the news regarding power reliability this summer.

In May, the *North American Electric Reliability Corporation* (NERC) issued its 2022 Summer Reliability Assessment. In it, NERC — the United States' authority on electric reliability — warned that several parts of the country are at risk of energy shortfalls this summer due to predicted above-normal temperatures and drought conditions over the western half of the continent.

The announcement followed similar comments from the *Midcontinent Independent System Operator* (MISO), which manages the power grid for 42 million people in the United States and Canada, including Minnesota.



Although MISO projects the Midwest will have sufficient energy for the summer, it stated that additional measures may be necessary to maintain reliable service during periods of peak demand. These periods typically occur on hot and humid days when consumers are using more electricity than normal.

NERC indicated the north and central areas of MISO are in a “high risk” category due to generator retirements and increased demand. Great River Energy (GRE) serves the northern area of MISO.

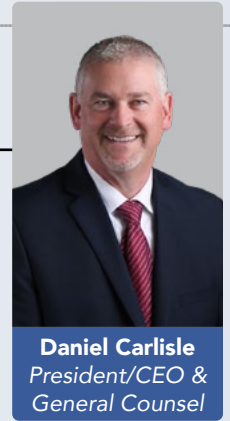
Although GRE has enough generating capacity to meet the demands of its members, plus a cushion, any emergency measures deployed to maintain reliability will be applied over the entire region, regardless of which utility serves a geographic area or the capacity position of those utilities relative to their obligations in MISO.

Great River Energy has carefully constructed a portfolio of power supply resources that provides low-cost renewable energy and a robust fleet of dispatchable resources that allow it to generate or receive additional energy when needed. These include hydropower resources, power supply contracts with other energy producers, and natural gas peaking plants that have the ability to start within minutes (most are dual fuel meaning they can operate on fuel oil or natural gas). All state administrative, legislative, and MISO resource adequacy requirements and obligations have been—and will continue to be—met by GRE.

Great River Energy also has approximately 350 megawatts of demand response capability that can be dispatched to reduce stress on the electric grid. These demand response programs provide valuable flexibility and may be called on more often during peak periods this summer. At Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative (TWEC), we have great participation in our load management programs, including dual fuel, water heating, air conditioning, commercial and industrial applications, and more.

In emergency situations, MISO calls on additional power supply resources, imports energy from other regions, and performs voluntary load reductions to manage the electric system. Temporary controlled manual load sheds, or periodic power outages, are used as a last resort to keep the system in balance. If there are temporary controlled load sheds, GRE has procedures in place to act immediately when directed by MISO to shed load. Load shed protocols and processes are defined and drilled routinely, so when these events happen, GRE and TWEC are ready.

Todd-Wadena does not expect that our members should see any rolling blackouts or brownouts, but in the event that our grid is stressed, we are ready. Providing safe, reliable, and affordable energy is always the top priority of Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative. We will continue to work with GRE to ensure our members have reliable electricity.



Daniel Carlisle
President/CEO &
General Counsel

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President/CEO & General Counsel

Board Minutes

Highlights from the May 25th, 2022, regular board meeting:

- CEO Dan Carlisle hosted the Northern Managers Group meeting at TWEC headquarters on May 20. There were 10 CEOs in attendance.
- Carlisle, along with management, gave an update on the May 13 storm. TWEC had approximately 3,600 members without power.
- Board Member Mike Thorson gave the Great River Energy (GRE) report. The official sale of Coal Creek Station to Rainbow Energy closed at the beginning of May, and GRE has officially rolled into its 2022 Budget.
- Lisa Graba-Meech, CFO, presented the April financials to the board. Monthly kWh sales were 17 percent over budget. Energy revenue was 13 percent over budget. April's purchased power expense was 21 percent over budget. Tier is 0.54 and Equity is 42.37.
- The 2021 fiscal year allocation and resolution was approved as presented:
 - » TWEC Membership Allocation: \$736,551
 - » TWEC Membership – GRE Allocation: \$707,861
- TWEC's 2023 Annual Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 18, 2023.
- Operations Manager Todd Miller shared that Todd-Wadena was awarded the Minnesota Safety Council Governor's Safety Award of Honor.
- Graba-Meech recapped the NISC Accounting and Business Solutions consultant review and training that took place the first week in May.
- Board Chair Miles Kuschel mentioned how the state has approved \$50 million in funds for broadband, which will be added to \$110 million promised to Minnesota in federal funds.
- Bruce Curly and Russ Kleinschmidt were reappointed for second terms on the Community Trust Board.

Electric Vehicle (EV) First Responder Safety Training

In June, TWEC hosted an electric vehicle safety training program for first responders. This was a regional event offering the training to all local community first responders. The course was taught by staff of Safety and Security Consultation Specialists, LLC (SASCS), a first responder training company based out of southern Minnesota. In the past 10 years, SASCS has grown to become one of the largest fire training companies in Minnesota.



The course covered many different topics including types of electric vehicles (EVs), EV emergency response – crash and fire, shutting down and disabling EVs, emergency responder safety, and dispelling EV myths. This was a great opportunity to encourage public safety pertaining to EVs. We were also able to supply many different models of EVs to give hands-on training to those who will be responding to emergencies. A huge thank you to our members (Gary Benjamin, Miles Kuschel, and Steve Meech), GRE, and Juettner Motors for supplying cars and trucks for the training!



Battery Powered Yard Tool Rebates

Lawn Mower/Snow Blower

\$100 (Pre-tax purchase price of \$200-\$500)

\$200 (Pre-tax purchase price of \$501+)

Lawn Care Equipment

Edger, Trimmer, Chainsaw, Pole Saw, or Leaf Blower

\$50 (Pre-tax purchase price of \$100-\$200)

\$100 (Pre-tax purchase price of \$201+)



Battery Powered Yard Tool Local Retailer List

Browerville

Pro-Ag Farmer's Co-op
501 Railroad Ave.

Long Prairie

Ace Hardware
820 Commerce Road

Menahga

Ted's Trustworthy Hardware
114 Aspen Ave. S

Motley

Jordahl Hardware
117 Hwy. 10 S

Park Rapids

Ace Hardware
802 1st St. E

L&M Fleet Supply

1307 1st St. E

Sebeka

Ted's Trustworthy Hardware
206 W Minnesota Ave.

Staples

Ace Hardware
210 2nd Ave. NE

True Value
205 Warner Road NE

Verndale

Tools & More
10 1st Ave. SE

Wadena

Merickel Ace Hardware
630 Ash Ave. NW

Moench Body Shop
62312 State Hwy. 29

Weber's Wadena Hardware Co.
109 Jefferson St. S

* Yard tools must be purchased at a participating local retailer to be eligible for a rebate. ** Rebate is not to exceed 50% of purchase price. Purchased tools must be battery powered. *** Limit of two rebates per member per year.

DRU Change Out Continues

In 2021, TWEC began a 5-year plan to change out aging load management receivers with new Aclara demand response units (DRUs). TWEC began this project with all irrigation systems. In fall of 2022, TWEC will begin to change out our commercial and residential receivers. This only impacts members who are enrolled in a load management program (i.e. dual fuel, controlled water heating, interruptible air conditioning, and/or electric vehicle charging).

TWEC is changing out the current Comverge receivers because that technology is going end of life in 2026. We have just over 5,000 receivers in the field that will need to be changed out by that time. Our current receivers are radio receivers using frequency to communicate the control codes. Our new Aclara receivers are power line carrier. They should provide more consistent uninterrupted communication, resulting in fewer

missed controls and reboots. This will help TWEC maintain affordable load management rates.

Our meter and load management technicians will be installing the DRUs. There is no cost to you and, typically, we will not need to have an appointment to replace them since the DRUs are outside. These DRUs will require an affidavit, so at some point you may also notice an inspector stopping by.

Please contact us if any equipment in your home has changed and you no longer qualify or use the load management program.



Our Mission, Vision, and Values

Mission Statement // To be a trusted partner providing safe, reliable, and affordable energy options to our members.

Vision Statement // To improve the quality of life for our members and embrace beneficial opportunities in a changing industry.

Values // Service • Safety • Fiscal Responsibility • Integrity • Communicate & Educate • Commitment to Community

Get more out of a modern cooling system. Get year-round comfort. Get top-notch efficiency.

GET AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMPED.

Air Conditioner

VS

Air Source Heat Pump

Cooling during warm summer days.

Absorbs inside heat and expels it from your home, then creates chilled air to push back into your home.

Wall units **lack efficiency**, as they only provide spot cooling and air can leak through window seals. Central air units are comparable to ASHPs in summer.

Smaller upfront cost, but does not offer heating. No installation rebates offered.

CAN I USE IT YEAR-ROUND?

Heating and cooling through every season.

IS IT VERSATILE?

Works like an air conditioner in the summer, but offers the **versatility** of the reverse process to heat your home in the winter.

IS IT EFFICIENT?

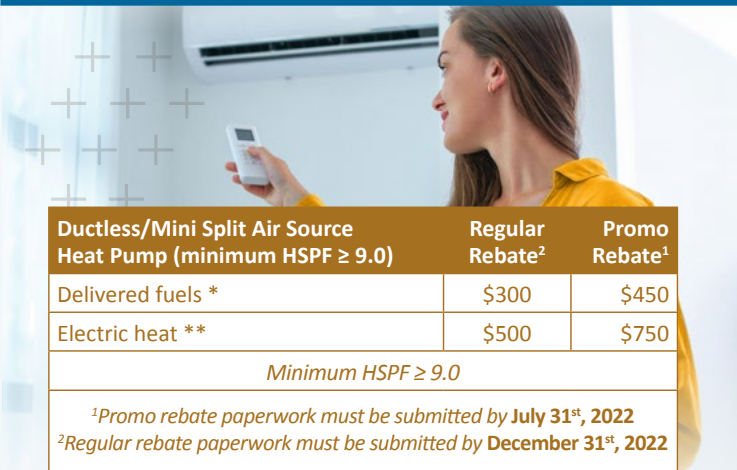
Super energy efficient, as the unit moves both cooled and heated air throughout the home. ASHPs are up to 300% more efficient.

CAN I SAVE MONEY?

Rebates available for unit installation. **Sustained savings** through energy efficiency.

PUMP UP YOUR SAVINGS WITH AN AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMP!

AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMP EXTRA REBATES END JULY 31ST!

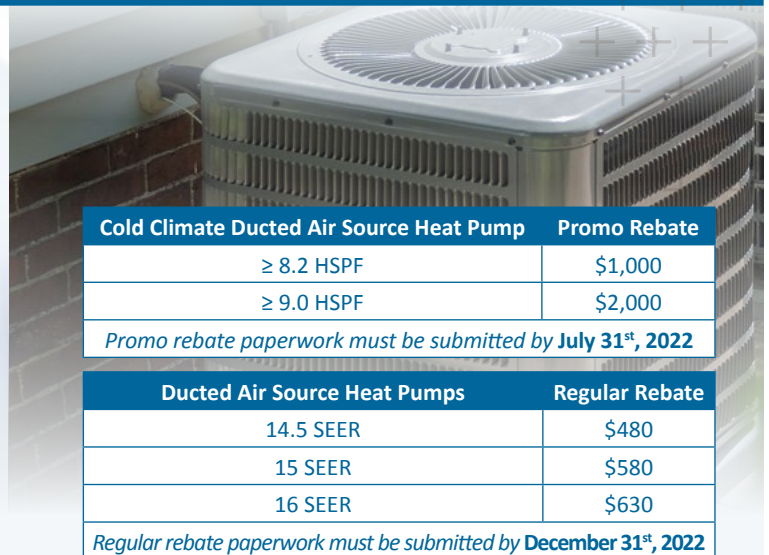


Ductless/Mini Split Air Source Heat Pump (minimum HSPF ≥ 9.0)	Regular Rebate ²	Promo Rebate ¹
Delivered fuels *	\$300	\$450
Electric heat **	\$500	\$750
<i>Minimum HSPF ≥ 9.0</i>		
¹ Promo rebate paperwork must be submitted by July 31st, 2022		
² Regular rebate paperwork must be submitted by December 31st, 2022		

* Member's main heat source is fuel oil, propane, or natural gas.

** Member's main heat source is electric.

Rebates only apply to new systems purchased and installed during rebate timeframe.



Cold Climate Ducted Air Source Heat Pump	Promo Rebate
≥ 8.2 HSPF	\$1,000
≥ 9.0 HSPF	\$2,000
<i>Promo rebate paperwork must be submitted by July 31st, 2022</i>	
Ducted Air Source Heat Pumps	Regular Rebate
14.5 SEER	\$480
15 SEER	\$580
16 SEER	\$630
<i>Regular rebate paperwork must be submitted by December 31st, 2022</i>	

Rebates only apply to new systems purchased and QI installed.

Visit www.toddwadana.coop to find a QI installer in your area.

ASHP must be Energy Star rated. Limited funds are available and awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Rebate amounts and programs are subject to change without notice.

Photos are Now Being Accepted for 2023 Calendar



Photos are now being accepted for the cooperative's 2023 calendar. Submit your digital photos (up to 5 per member) to mbrservices@toddwadana.coop by September 16th, 2022. Be sure to send the photographer's name, TWEC service address, and phone number with the photo.

We are looking for scenic photos (wildlife or landscape) that represent the four seasons of Minnesota. From the entries received, we'll select 13 photos — one for each month of the year plus one for the cover. Members whose photos are included in the calendar will receive a \$20 credit on their TWEC account.*

**Must have an active TWEC account to participate.*

Contest Rules

1. Submit your digital photos (up to 5 per member) to mbrservices@toddwadana.coop by September 16th, 2022. Be sure to send the photographer's name, name on the TWEC account, TWEC service address, and phone number with the photo.
2. Photos must depict a Minnesota scene (wildlife or landscape) with a horizontal view. Representations of all four seasons are needed. Color photos are preferred. Extra consideration will be given to photos within the TWEC service area.
3. **IMPORTANT:** Photos must be high quality (300 dpi or higher) for an 8 x 10 inch landscape production.
4. Winning photos may be used in future cooperative publications.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY In Partnership with Western Governors University and Minnesota Rural Electric Association

Western Governors University is offering an exclusive scholarship opportunity to members of Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative. No need to spend your time driving back and forth to a college campus. Earn a respected, affordable degree from anywhere in Minnesota, with just an internet connection. **Apply TODAY to earn a \$3,000 scholarship.**



SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY OF

\$3,000

WGU Power Your Future Scholarship

To empower residents in rural areas to go back to school and further their education, Western Governors University (WGU) has partnered with the *Minnesota Rural Electric Association* to offer an exclusive scholarship opportunity for residents who are interested in pursuing a degree. The *WGU Power Your Future Scholarship* is valued up to \$3,000 and is available to electric cooperative members and staff enrolling in WGU, the nation's only fully online, competency-based university.

WGU offers more than 60 accredited bachelor's and master's degree programs in business, information technology, K-12 teacher education, and health professions—including nursing. Whether you live in a small town, on a farm, or in the suburbs, WGU's online degree programs are designed to fit the busy lives—and often tight budgets—of working adult students.

Why WGU?

- **Affordable tuition**—low, flat-rate tuition of \$6,950-\$9,060 per year.
- **Accredited programs**—we hold the same accreditations as many state universities.
- **Unparalleled flexibility**—complete coursework whenever and wherever works best for you.
- **Accelerated progress**—with no set log-in times you can pass most courses as quickly as you master the material to potentially graduate faster.
- **Personal attention**—work one-to-one with a dedicated mentor from enrollment to graduation.

Learn more by visiting wgu.edu/power or calling 866.225.5948

Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

24/7 Customer Support Via Cooperative Response Center (CRC)

TWEC is proud to be able to provide customer support 24 hours a day, seven days a week by partnering with the *Cooperative Response Center (CRC)*. CRC is a Minnesota-based cooperative organization that provides support to utility companies in the form of call overflow, outage dispatch, payment processing, and more. CRC currently has three call centers in the United States.

After office hours, on evenings, weekends, or holidays, calls will transfer to CRC to offer our members 24/7 service. Unlike the service representatives you usually speak with here in our office, CRC's customer service representatives have some limitations to the services they can provide. However, they will be able to assist you in reporting an outage, changing your billing address or phone number, and making a payment on your account.

CRC is also an enormous help during major outages—such as the two storms we just experienced. TWEC only

has two or three employees answering phones on any given day. When large outages occur, if we tried to handle the thousands of calls coming in, unfortunately none of you would be able to get through. So during these large outages, we also roll our calls to CRC. This is a great benefit to have them during these times.

It can, however, also be frustrating. We understand that there are many instances you need and want to speak with a TWEC employee. And, although our calls may be rolled to take in outage calls, we are all still here when our members need us. During these times, we suggest going through the automated system until you reach a CRC representative. Give them a detailed message and let them know you would like a TWEC employee to contact you during business hours. These messages get sent directly to us and a TWEC employee will be in contact with you shortly.

Serving our members remains TWEC's top priority.

Unclaimed Capital Credits for Over Seven Years

Unclaimed capital credits go to the 2023 scholarship fund if not claimed. Please contact the office if your name is on this list.

Jodi Poland	Curtis Thom	James Bridger
Paul M Anderson	Mark A Olson	Scott C Johnson
Thomas Foley	Joyce Lembke Estate	Caroline Brown
Chris Hinders Estate	Gary Gerhardt	Thomas Chase
Lauren Iverson	Eric Mickelson	Rosina Nelson
Hazel Messer	Terry McCall	Robert Sabourin
Roger N Nelson	Country Manor Motel	Cal Christian
Caroline Digiovanni	Eagle Pattern & Model Inc	Russell Cameron
L G Reynolds	O T Repair	Melvin Thornberg
David Swank	Todd Dechaine	Charlie Fleck
Ambrose Mohr	Richard Brolsma	Betty Wilson
David Sielaff	Robert M Davis	Constance Thompson
Susan Rautio	James Casarez	Erik Olson
Stephen Leritz	JoAnn Kopp	William Darland
Rosie Drong	Mark A Bjorke	Robert Ferguson
Jon Morrow	Dale Manley	Daniel Brekke
Edward Chromey	Georgine Gilmour	William Toepper Estate
Gloria McGuire	Steven Scott	Terry Carlson
Brian Williams	Bruce Shepersky	L W DeNittis
Leonard Herr	Angela Mills	Christina Suhl
Susie Schwalbaugh	Brent Winter-Holm	Machine Action
Gene M Anderson	Scott Christensen	Jeremy Roth
Edward Andrist Estate	Nancy Roberts	Sharon Scholl

SAVE THE DATE • SAVE THE DATE • SAVE THE DATE

2022 MEMBER APPRECIATION

Pancake Supper

AND EV RIDE & DRIVE

Join us for...

Pancake Supper
EV Ride & Drive
Electrical Safety Demos
Kids Activities & More!

	Date	Tuesday, August 23rd, 2022
	Time	4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
	Location	TWEC Headquarters



Pine to Prairie News

A monthly publication for
members and friends of



Todd-Wadena
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

www.toddwadena.coop

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Monday - Friday

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Wadena, MN 56482

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Gene Kern, Director
Kristine Spadgenske, Director

Daniel Carlisle, President/CEO &
General Counsel

LOCAL ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS

Todd County:

Troy Bak (320) 760-1017

Wadena County:

Adam Sorensen (320) 304-3927

District 5 (Todd County):

Mark Hunter (320) 616-5574

District 6 (Wadena County):

Sheldon Monson (218) 689-3260



If your electric power goes out:

First, make sure the problem is not on your side. (Members may be billed for service calls if the problem is caused by their own equipment.) Check fuses and circuit breakers in your home and by the meter pole. (Call us for help, if necessary.)

Second, check with your neighbors to see if they have power. Then call Todd-Wadena to report the problem. Give your name and account number. Then report any tree branches, twisted wires, broken poles, and whether or not your neighbors are also out of power.

Before digging call:

Gopher State One-Call
811 or (800) 252-1166

Find us on  

www.facebook.com/toddwadenaelectriccooperative
www.instagram.com/twec.coop

Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative

P.O. Box 431

Wadena, MN 56482

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PRSR STD
U.S. Postage

PAID
DPC

July Reader's Contest

For your chance to be entered in a drawing to **win a \$10 credit** on your bill, correctly answer the questions and include with your TWEC bill. Mail to TWEC, P.O. Box 431, Wadena, MN 56482. Or email the answers to mbrservices@toddwadena.coop with the subject line "Reader's Contest". Be sure to include your name and TWEC service address. Entries must be received by July 25th.

Francis Adamietz of Verndale was the winner of our June Reader's Contest.

1. Join us for Co-op Strong on Thursday, July ____ at Sunnybrook Park in Wadena.
2. _____ is a Minnesota-based cooperative organization that provides support to utility companies in the form of call overflow, outage dispatch, payment processing, and more.
3. The pancake supper and EV Ride & Drive event will take place at TWEC's office on _____ August 23rd.

Name:

Your TWEC Account Number:

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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