

Pierce Pepin Employee Completes Apprenticeship, Earns Journey Status

Ellsworth, Wis. – Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services employee, Bryon Gilles, recently graduated from a four-year indentured lineworker apprentice program offered through Chippewa Valley Technical College in Eau Claire.

Gilles was one of 18 apprentices from utilities around the state who completed apprenticeships and received diplomas on January 23, 2014, at the Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin/Rural Electric Cooperatives Joint Superintendent's Conference in Wisconsin Dells.

Electric operations manager, Brad Ristow, attended the graduation ceremony.

The Electrical Lineworker Apprenticeship Program consists of four years of not less than 8,000 hours in which a minimum of 640 hours is spent in paid-related instruction. As an apprentice, Gilles completed this training to achieve his status as a journey electrical lineworker.

"We are proud to see Bryon complete his apprenticeship," said Ristow. "The training and knowledge he has received since joining our utility will help him perform highly skilled work on our high-voltage electric distribution system."

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About Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services

Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services is an energy services cooperative located in Ellsworth, Wisconsin, offering electric utility and appliance products and services to homes and businesses. PPCS also offers propane products and services through its subsidiary, Pierce Pepin Propane Services. As a Touchstone Energy Cooperative, Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services is committed to excellence, innovation and integrity, and is dedicated to helping its communities live better. For more information, call 1-800-924-2133 or visit www.piercepepin.com.