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Cooperative 

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ID-1



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www.cbec.cc
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Manager

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Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative's main objective is to provide reliable electric service to its members at the lowest cost consistent with good business practice.

OR-2

BPA Spill Surcharge Passed on to Consumers

Hello, Members:

Since last winter, your co-op, most public power utilities in the Northwest, the Bonneville Power Administration, the states of Washington and Idaho, and other Columbia River users have been campaigning against Judge Michael Simon's Columbia River dam spill order, which is said to enhance fish passage. We believe this action goes against scientific opinion and creates its own fish survival dangers due to increased dissolved gases within the river's waters.

The state of Oregon sided with the judge's order and fought against us to uphold the spill decree.

Unfortunately, the judge's order stands. The Army Corps of Engineers is spilling millions of gallons of water across Columbia River dams without the benefit of using that water for power generation.

BPA estimates its lost revenue from the inability to create electricity from the spilled water to be between \$30 million and \$40 million annually. To replace that income in its budget, BPA has announced it must assess each public power utility a proportional amount of that lost revenue. Your co-op's share of the spill surcharge is calculated to be \$22,038 a year for each of the next four years, divided evenly throughout July, August, September and October.

As it was for BPA, this additional cost was not provided for in the CBEC budget. We find the assessment must be passed through to our consumers.

For July, August, September and October, each CBEC consumer's invoice will have \$1.45 added to it, shown as a separate line item, to recover our added costs from Judge Simon and Oregon's spill agenda. I appreciate your consideration of these increased invoices.

Regards,

Tommy Wolff
CEO/General Manager





2345 River Road
The Dalles, OR 97058
(541) 296-2226 FAX 298-3320
www.nwascopud.org

Board of Directors

Dan Williams, President
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Manager

Roger Kline

Board Meetings

Usually the first Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at the PUD offices, 2345 River Rd. The public is always welcome.

Our Mission

To provide reliable, competitively-priced energy and related services that benefit our customers, in the tradition of public power.

Our Core Values and Beliefs

Local citizens championed and fought to create our People's Utility District. They believed—and we believe—in the public's right to own and control its electric utility.

Today, our values are a legacy from our public power heritage, as well as guideposts for a changing future.

We believe in:

- ▶ **Public ownership and local control.**
- ▶ **Integrity.**
- ▶ **Keeping power rates as low as possible.**
- ▶ **Providing quality essential services.**
- ▶ **Quality customer service.**
- ▶ **Community involvement.**

OR-3

Manager's Report



Court-ordered spill and your PUD bill

Earlier this year, Federal Judge Michael Simon again ruled that increased spill of water (to the maximum dissolved gas amounts) over dam spillways as opposed to through electrical generators through the Columbia and Snake River Dams would be needed to aid downstream fish migrating to the ocean, although the science behind that decision is questionable at best.

That decision has costs, and they are being borne by you and the rest of the consumer-owned utility rate payers in the Pacific Northwest. Don't forget that the taxpayers are the owners of the Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS). Dams like The Dalles, John Day, and Bonneville, operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and the power generated as marketed by the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), is paid for through rates charged to consumer-owned utilities like Northern Wasco County PUD (your PUD). Many people receive the benefits of the flood control, recreation, and navigation provided by this infrastructure, but Northwest Public Power pays for it.

Recent high-water events in our area can be attributed to this increased spill as well as runoff and a warmer than average Spring.

Your PUD buys most of its electricity from BPA, so as BPA's costs increase so does what the PUD must collect through your cost-based rates. BPA officials have previously estimated that the increased spring water spills could cost \$40 million per year. Through the hard work of your PUD management, Board of Directors and many regional partners, we were successful in influencing BPA to find cost cutting measures ultimately lowering this year's total to just over \$10.2 million dollars.

Since lowering the total costs for this year, BPA has shared what each utility must pay. The total for your PUD is \$129,000 of unbudgeted expense. Your Board of Directors and PUD Management are working hard to ascertain how to best recover these extra costs. We have worked diligently to improve the PUD's financial outlook, tools and resources, so we are confident that we will do so in the most financially prudent manner possible.

Northern Wasco County PUD also works very hard to support a healthy aquatic eco-system. Our hydroelectric facilities at The Dalles Dam and McNary Dam are used solely to maintain fishway attraction water in the fish ladders. Please see www.mcnyary.fish to learn more about our joint project with our neighboring consumer-owned utility Klickitat County PUD #1. We try to use science-based approaches to solving problems rather than emotionally charged, politically motivated ones.

If it wasn't clear, our opposition to the court-ordered increase in water releases from the dams is based on both economic and environmental matters. I do hope we can improve on both in the future.

Roger Kline

General Manager



P.O. Box 31 • 1009 F St.
Nespelem, WA 99155
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Fax: (509) 634-8138
email: nvec@nvec.org
website: www.nvec.org

For after-hours emergencies,
call 634-4571 to page
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Board meetings are the fourth
Tuesday of every month.

WA-5

Manager's Message

Hi Everyone,

I hope your summer is off to a good start. Things have been busy here at the co-op. We did some spring maintenance at the Goose Lake Substation and the Foster Creek Substation in Bridgeport. Both projects went well.

We coordinated these maintenance windows with the Bonneville Power Administration, which allowed them to perform maintenance on their transmission system without any additional impact on the membership.

For those of you in the Lone Pine and Elmer City areas, you have probably seen Basin Tree Services in your area. They are trimming and removing trees that are close to power lines. This is necessary to help prevent outages. During the last couple of years, we have not been able to keep up on the tree trimming. We often get pulled away for other work.

Basin Tree Service has the equipment and training required to work near energized power lines. The crew and staff have been professional and accommodating to the needs of the membership.

I want to thank the town of Elmer City for its help on this project. Small community partnerships and entities working together really benefit everyone in the community.

It is hard to believe we are already making plans for the 79th annual meeting. This year's annual meeting is Friday, October 5, at the Nespelem School. It is an excellent social event. We have a short business meeting and, of course, some great prizes to give away. We will have more details about the cooperative's annual meeting throughout the next few months.

As always, if you have any questions about your cooperative, please feel free to contact me.

Thanks,

Dan Simpson
General Manager



CONSUMERS POWER INC.

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TREASURER/CFO

www.cpi.coop

**Happy
Fourth
of July**

OR-6

President's Report

Spill Test Developments

In May, we updated you on the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals decision to spill more water over eight federal dams. We now have some of the results of that decision.

The cost of added spill ordered by the court for spring 2018 was \$38.6 million—close to the \$40 million predicted by the Bonneville Power Administration. That cost equates to a 253 average megawatt reduction in hydro generation, which is enough to power more than 150,000 homes. To make up for that lost generation, power acquired from natural gas emitted more than 1 million metric tons of CO₂ that is significantly more than BPA originally estimated.

BPA identified offsetting revenues and cost reductions to reduce this year's spill cost to \$10.2 million. Consequently, CPI will cover its share of the 2018 spill cost from existing revenues rather than a special line item on monthly bills.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers also reported that the total dissolved gas associated with the spill exceeded federal limits, and 17 percent of sampled salmon showed signs of gas bubble trauma. Warm weather is now causing high water in most of the Columbia and Snake river basins resulting in involuntary spill that exacerbates the situation for salmon.

We will continue to monitor this situation.

NuScale Power

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has completed the first and most intensive phase of review for NuScale Power's design certification application. NuScale's is the first and only small modular reactor application to undergo NRC review. This achievement brings NuScale closer to introducing the country's first SMR to market, putting the U.S. on course to beat foreign competitors such as Russia and China in a global SMR race.

NRC is expected to certify NuScale's design.

The company's first customer, Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems, plans a 12-module plant in Idaho slated for operation by the mid-2020s. It is based on this certified design.

In a sign of support, the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Nuclear Energy has awarded NuScale \$40 million in cost-sharing financial assistance under its U.S. Industry Opportunities for Advanced Nuclear Technology Development funding opportunity. The award supports early-stage research and development and the industry's acceleration of these technologies to promote U.S. energy independence, energy dominance, electricity grid resiliency, national security and clean baseload power.

OSU Wave Test Site

Oregon State University has submitted a 1,000-page plan outlining construction and operation details of a wave energy test site off the Oregon Coast, along with measures to minimize any potential environmental effects. The project allows commercial wave energy developers to test different technologies for harnessing the untapped energy of ocean waves.

Submitting the draft license application to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission opens a 90-day public comment period. The draft license application is a key component of a \$35 million grant OSU received in December 2016 from the U.S. Department of Energy to develop the site. The project has also received financial support from the state of Oregon.

The test site will be about 7 miles west of Newport on the Oregon Coast. It will be the first pre-permitted full-scale, utility grid-connected wave energy test site in the United States.

The site will be connected to a facility on shore where electricity generated will feed onto the local utility distribution system. It will accommodate up to 20 wave energy converters with a peak capacity of 20 megawatts—enough to power about 20,000 homes.



Benton REA

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Prosser Office
402 7th St., P.O. Box 1150
Prosser, WA 99350
509-786-2913

West Richland Office
6095 W. Van Giesen
West Richland, WA 99353
509-967-2921

Report an Outage: 509-786-2913
Toll Free: 800-221-6987
www.BentonREA.org

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Board Meetings

The Board of Trustees meets the last Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m.

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Michael J. Bradshaw

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Jeff Bastow, I.T. Manager
Troy Berglund, Member Services Manager
Terry Mundorf, Attorney
HDR, Consulting Engineer
Blodgett, Mickelsen & Adamson, Auditor



WA-7

Manager's Message

Please Contact Your Senators!

They can help keep electricity affordable and reliable!

Dear Members,

Since April 3, water that could be producing electricity has been spilling over eight Snake and Columbia River dams because a judge in Oregon hopes to improve salmon survival rates. Benton REA's largest power provider, the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), sells excess power generated in the spring to keep electric rates low. Without those sales, BPA has less revenue to offset its costs. Consequently, BPA sent Benton REA an estimated cost of \$110,406 for Benton REA's share of the total.

Not only has the spill affected Benton REA's costs, it may also directly affect the reliability of electricity this coming summer. During certain circumstances coupled with extremely hot temperatures, BPA has relied on reserved water at Ice Harbor Dam to supply the extra electricity needed to avoid outages. With the additional spill, it increases the chance that the reserved water may not be available and that could result in power outages.

This increased cost and decreased reliability caused by the additional spilled water may not result in any benefits for salmon, but instead could actually harm them. More spill over the dams means more gases in the water, which could harm fish.

Congress has a chance to prevent the additional spill in the future by supporting provisions in the 2019 House Appropriations legislation to stop the spill for 2019. By supporting this legislation, they can help keep the electricity affordable and reliable for Benton REA members.

We believe this is an important issue that impacts all of you, our member owners, and we encourage you to reach out to Senator Patty Murray and Senator Maria Cantwell to make your voices heard!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!! Headed to your mailbox this month from Benton REA is a pre-written letter that you can sign and send to your senators. If you wish to write your own letter or contact your senators about this topic, please do so. The sample letter that we will be sending to you is simply a helpful guide if you should choose to use it. Please make sure that you take the time to express your opinion soon to your senators about this VERY IMPORTANT topic!

If you have questions about the sample letter, the spill or the future of affordable and reliable electricity in the Northwest, contact us at Benton REA.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Bradshaw, General Manager
mikeb@bentonrea.org



Offices

Hermiston Office

750 W. Elm Ave.
541 567-6414

Boardman Office

400 N.E. Eldridge Drive
541 481-2220

Hours

7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Monday-Thursday

Toll-Free

1-800-452-2273

Report An Outage

888-465-5701 day or night

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Mission

Umatilla Electric Cooperative is a member-owned business that sells energy and invests in and supports other services to improve the quality of life in our communities.

umatillaelectric.com

OR-8

Our Annual Meeting is Heading to EOTEC

I'm excited to share that we will be heading to the Eastern Oregon Trade & Event Center in Hermiston for our 2019 Annual Meeting next April.

Six years ago, in 2012, we moved to the Hermiston Community Center, having held our annual meeting at our headquarters for the previous 30 years.

Each year, attendance has grown. During our dinner held on April 21, we filled the Community Center to near capacity with 450 in attendance.

That's a good problem to have, and we couldn't have done it without

your support and interest in your electric cooperative. Thankfully we now have the option for a larger space.

We appreciate the hospitality and service the Hermiston Community Center has provided, and look forward to having more room at EOTEC for our growing attendance.

The Oregon Rural Electric Cooperative Association's "ORECA Action" network, a grassroots collaboration of the state's rural electric cooperatives, continues to sign up members during 2018.

Please consider going online to sign up for occasional emails from the network, which will come to your inbox in my name.

You will receive emails from me alerting you to actions in Salem that may affect our ability to deliver the electricity you need at a price you can afford. If you have already

signed up, don't forget to follow the "Take Action" prompt in support of the Action Alert. It makes a difference.

ORECA operates the network in concert with the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, so national issues may come to your attention as well.

Sign-up is quick and easy at oreca-action.org.

The UEC Board of Directors and employees offer our congratulations to the 2018 graduates from high schools in Morrow and Umatilla counties.

One of the ways your cooperative supports local youth is through college scholarships.

The UEC Scholarship Selection Committee met on May 14 to choose recipients for the coming academic year. A total of 12 scholarships were awarded; one from each of UEC's seven districts, and five at-large awards, for a total of \$30,000.

In addition, a \$5,000 electrical engineering scholarship was awarded.

We were able to forward those names to area schools in time for the winners to be announced to students, staff and parents during awards ceremonies.

Names, photos and brief bios of the winners will be published in next month's Ruralite magazine.



Robert Echenrode
General Manager & CEO





A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

**105 E. 4th St.
The Dalles, OR 97058
Office phone: (541) 296-2740
Toll-free phone: (800) 341-8580
www.wascoelectric.com**

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7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Robert Gridley	The Dalles Lineman
Wesley Woods	Service Technician
Dan Funkhouser	Grass Valley Foreman
Frank Roeder	Maupin Foreman

Mission Statement

"Wasco Electric Cooperative Inc. will provide its members with competitively priced, reliable energy and related services."

OR-9



Manager's Message

Washington, D.C., Youth Tour

More than 1,800 students from rural electric cooperatives visited Washington, D.C., last month. Among those high-schoolers were Riley Brewer and Hanna Ziegenhagen, who represented Wasco Electric Cooperative.

During this weeklong trip, students learned about the political process and the impact it has on their cooperative back home, visited the nation's capital, talked with Oregon elected officials and visited countless museums, all while making lasting memories and friendships.

Each year, Wasco Electric offers this great opportunity for high school sophomores and juniors within our service territory to attend this all-expense-paid trip. Watch for details about the 2019 Youth Tour in the November issue of Ruralite.

Community Grants

Each year, the cooperative supports the development of projects throughout its service area with an economic/community development grant program.

This year, the cooperative's grant committee awarded four grants totaling \$7,500 to the following projects:

- Maupin Area Chamber of Commerce for a bicycle repair station.
- Sherman County Historical Museum to improve the museum's foot bridge.
- Sportsman's Grass Car Lawn Mower Racing to establish electric service to the event area.
- St. Mary's Academy to install a filtered/cooling water station.

As always, if you have any questions about your cooperative, please feel free to call or stop by the office.

Jeff Davis, General Manager

Owned By Those We Serve

Douglas Electric Cooperative Inc.,
Roseburg, Oregon
Phone (541) 673-6616
(800) 233-2733

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Todd Sherwood

Member Services
Todd C. Munsey

System Engineer
Jess Dory, PE

Mission Statement

The mission of Douglas Electric Cooperative, a member-owned and operated cooperative, is to provide affordable, reliable electric and other compatible services that enhance the quality of life for its members, using progressive marketing in conjunction with sound financial and management principles.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

OR-10

Emergency Preparedness - Covering The 'What Ifs'

Every year, we experience a little wind, a little snow, and a lot of rain, but seldom, if ever, do we experience the wrath of a tornado, devastation of a hurricane or destruction of a major earthquake. Occasionally, our outages may last for a couple of days, particularly in the outer reaches of our service territory, but typically outages last only hours before the crews have power restored.

If we listen to the experts, they say we are due for an event on the scale like the ones we've heard about on the news. The type of events that devastate communities like ours. For instance, portions of Puerto Rico remain in the dark almost a year after Hurricane Maria destroyed their power grid and killed an estimated 4,000 people. Disaster preparedness is much like insurance, you're ready just in case, but hope you never have to use it.

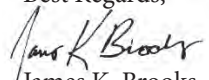


During the next several months, Douglas Electric will evaluate where we are as a cooperative in relation to disaster preparedness. Are we ready for that natural disaster such as an earthquake? We will be looking at our existing plans, our 68-year-old headquarters facility, fuel supplies, material supplies and work practices. I encourage you to do the same. Make a plan for your family. Have emergency rations, and explore backup power options, particularly if you are on medical life support. We want to put Douglas Electric in a position to be able to restore power as quickly as possible. But in a major emergency, it may be out of our control. If roads are blocked or power is out to the region, outages could be substantial and lengthy. It is incumbent upon us to prepare now when we can, rather than reacting after, when resources may be scarce or unavailable.



Food, water, fuel, communications, transportation, operations, facilities, and above all, safety. We can learn much from communities who have experienced and recovered from a real disaster. I will be sharing more in the future. For now, preparing our response to whatever Mother Nature throws at us will help us honor our commitment to you, the member.

Best Regards,


James K. Brooks
General Manager

Columbia Power Co-op



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Toll free (888) 203-7638

DIRECTORS

President Paul Walton
Vice President Adam Temple
Sec./Treasurer Brian Campbell
Dan Cannon
Dave Humphreys
Cheryl Jenison
Judy Wilson

MANAGER

Troy Cox

The board of directors meets
the second Monday of each month.

POWER OUTAGE NUMBERS

Co-op office 934-2311
Ed Andersen 934-2255
Guy Andersen 934-2098
Troy Cox 934-2155
Josh Hamilton 934-2133
Mike Osborne 934-2067
Joe Ringering 805-9098
Gary Warner 934-2961
Brian Woodell 934-2260

OR-11

Plan for a Safe, Happy Fourth

Welcome to July. It's the middle of summer, the kids are out of school and, of course, we celebrate Independence Day!

On the Fourth, we typically celebrate our nation's independence with grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, homemade ice cream and sweet treats and, last but not least, fireworks.

This is a time for fellowship with family, friends and community, but at Columbia Power Cooperative, we also want to make sure our members focus on safety.

To ensure you have the best Fourth of July possible, we want to remind you about a few important safety tips from the American Red Cross.

Nothing says "Fourth of July" like a spectacular fireworks display! The safest way to enjoy this part of the celebration is to head to a local firework show in our area or neighboring communities. If you want to put on your own show at home, follow these safety tips:

- Always follow the instructions on the fireworks' packaging and never give fireworks to small children.
- Keep a supply of water close by.
- Wear protective eyewear when lighting fireworks.
- Light only one firework at a time. Never attempt to relight a dud.
- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place away from children and pets.
- Never throw or point a firework toward people, animals, vehicles, structures or flammable materials.

Cookouts are a great way to bring folks together on the Fourth. Whether you are grilling in your backyard or at a community park, make sure your feast includes a generous portion of fun and a side of safety. We recommend the following safety tips:

- Supervise your grill at all times.
- Use the proper tools for cooking on a grill.
- Never add charcoal starter fluid when the coals have already been ignited.
- Always follow the manufacturers instructions.

Fireworks and cookouts wouldn't be complete without a sunny day. Here's hoping we have good weather. If we do, make sure you practice sun safety:

- Use a broad-spectrum SPF sunscreen and reapply often.
- Protect your eyes by wearing sunglasses.
- Drink plenty of water.
- Be on the lookout for signs of heat stroke. Symptoms include hot, red skin; changes in consciousness; rapid, weak pulse; and rapid, shallow breathing.

However you choose to celebrate, Columbia Power Cooperative wishes you a safe and happy Fourth of July!

Troy Cox, General Manager

Central Issues

Central Electric Cooperative

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Vice Chairman Kip Light, Madras
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**Director of Customer
and Energy Services**
Karen Lewis

24-HOUR PHONE NUMBERS:

In Redmond, call (541) 548-2144
or toll free at (800) 924-8736

Mission Statement

*The aim of Central Electric Co-op is to
make electric energy available to its
members at the lowest cost consistent
with sound economy and good
management.*

Board meets the third Thursday
of each month at the CEC office,
2098 N. Highway 97, Redmond, OR.

www.cec.coop

OR-12

Tune In to Safety Messages

Just about a year ago, there was a tragic news story about a 14-year-old New Mexico girl electrocuted when her cellphone fell into the bathtub with her while the phone was plugged into a charger. According to reports, this girl was a conscientious teenager. Yet she either ignored or wasn't aware of the dangers of mixing water and electricity. This reinforced my belief it is impossible for us to overemphasize the importance of communicating safety to our members.

This month's edition of Ruralite features several articles about electrical safety. Topics range from our crews' disciplined training and use of the latest safety equipment and practices to important personal electrical safety tips for consumers.

When you have been in the electric utility business for 34 years like I have, you have read and heard all of the safety messages many times over. This cannot help but make me sometimes worry that people tune out this important information. I become concerned that people overlook our safety messages because they have heard these same messages before.

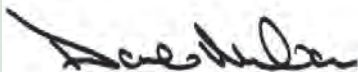
Everyone at Central Electric has learned that repeated and frequent safety reminders are important. Our employees attend monthly safety meetings, with each session driving home the importance of staying aware. This helps break down any tendency to think accidents happen to others, not me. When given just a little bit of thought, frequent reminders can make you more aware of what can go wrong if you're not careful around electricity. That short pause, that extra thought, can keep someone from raising an aluminum ladder into a power line, rushing heedlessly to help someone who has been shocked and risk becoming a second victim, or sticking a shovel into an underground power line.

Our safety messages involve repetition by necessity. Hopefully, one warning skipped over last time is read the next. It only takes a second to remind yourself to be safe, because it only takes a blink of an eye for things to go wrong.

I suspect you have seen many of the safety messages in this issue before, but I hope you will appreciate the importance of reading them again.

Let's all have a safe summer and remain that way throughout the year.

Sincerely,



Dave Markham
President and CEO





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John G. Herzog, Brookings/Harbor

Vice President

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Local numbers

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Port Orford..... (541) 332-3931

Gold Beach..... (541) 247-6638

Brookings (541) 469-2103

Area office hours 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Monday through Thursday.

Closed Friday.

After-Hours Outage Number

(866) 352-9044

Call Before You Dig

811

www.ccec.coop

OR-13

Special Message

To those we are committed to—and serve electrically—every day.

Safety Camp

Coos-Curry Electric Cooperative and its employees care about the communities we serve. One way this concern is put into action is through the CCEC Community Involvement Committee. This group of employees has been working with community partners to identify opportunities for CCEC staff to give of their personal time to help with community needs. Whether it be in a service club, coaching sports, volunteer firefighting, search and rescue or stepping in for a call to action for beach/community clean up you will see a smiling Coos-Curry Electric face amongst the other volunteers. I am thrilled with our employee efforts and excited about our big project this year: our first-ever Safety Camp.

The plans for Safety Camp are in full swing, and registration has begun as we approach the August 4 and 5 camp dates. This free event for students entering first and second grades will be at our Port Orford office. Students will learn all kinds of tips and tricks to be safer, including riding carts through a simulated city complete with traffic lights and intersections. I encourage parents to apply early as space is limited to 25 students each day. Enrollment closes July 19. See pages 4 and 5 for details and how to apply.

Thank you to all CCEC employees for volunteering your time in our communities and during this special event.

Roger Meader

General Manager and CEO



West Oregon Electric Co-op

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections®

652 Rose Ave.

P.O. Box 69

Vernonia, OR 97064

(503) 429-3021

Toll free (800) 777-1276

www.westoregon.org

.....

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(Dist. 3 – Vernonia, Keasey)

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(Dist. 4 – Vernonia)

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(Dist. 5 – Timber, Buxton)

Larry Heesacker
(Dist. 7 – Manning, Hagg Lake,
Yamhill County)

GENERAL MANAGER

Bob Perry

Contact the board:
directors@westoregon.org

Board meetings are the fourth
Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.
Members are welcome.

OR-14

Manager's Message

Dear Members:

It's coming up quickly! Do not miss the West Oregon Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting of the Members on Saturday, August 18, at Vernonia High School.

Registration begins at 10 a.m. The meeting starts at 11 a.m., followed by a catered barbecue lunch. As always, we will have many great raffle gifts.

During the meeting, you elect the folks who represent you on the board of directors. Districts 1, 4 and 6 are up for election this year.

The annual meeting is also an opportunity to visit with staff and friends you haven't seen since last year. You can catch up on what's been going on in your co-op, and industry experts will provide updates on issues that will affect our business in the years ahead.

The meeting is also a great time for you to ask questions. We may be able to address them right then and there.

I look forward to seeing some familiar faces as well as some new ones at the annual meeting August 18.

Regards,

Bob Perry
General Manager





Surprise Valley Electrification Corp.

516 U.S. Hwy. 395 E.
Alturas, CA 96101

Phone (530) 233-3511
Toll-Free: (866) 843-2667

For utility information or to pay
online, go to SVE's website,
www.surprisevalleyelectric.org

*Office open 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday through Friday*

After hours and outages:
Call office numbers above

STAFF

Bradley Kresge, General Manager
John Minto, Engineer
Dennis Reed, Line Superintendent
Lynn Culp, Member Service Manager

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Lookout

Dennis Flynn, Vice President
Valley Falls

Raymond Cloud, Secretary/Treasurer
New Pine Creek

Wesley Cook
Cedarville

Scott Warner
Lakeview

John Erquiaga
Lake City

Duane McGarva
Likely

*Board meets the fourth Thursday of the
month at the SVE office.*

"Owned by those we serve"

CA-15

Share Your Favorite Photos

Share Your Best Shots

Pick your perfect scenic or wildlife picture and send it to us!

You love where you live. Send us your pictures to prove it. Surprise Valley Electric is looking for scenic landscapes and local wildlife pictures showcasing landmarks and the beauty of the communities Surprise Valley Electric serves. Seasonal pictures are ideal.

Pick shots carefully. Each person may submit no more than three photos. Selected pictures will be featured in our 2019 calendar. The winners will get a \$25 power certificate. The winner of the photo chosen for the calendar cover will receive a \$50 power certificate.

Each entry should include:

- Photographer's name and address.
 - A short description of the photo.
 - An email address and telephone number where the photographer can be contacted.
- Only digital JPEG photos will be accepted. Photos must be horizontal format and be at least 300 dpi at 11 inches wide by 9 inches tall. Vertical photos will not be considered. Emails larger than 15 megabytes will not be accepted. Files can be sent in several emails, if necessary.

The contest is only open to members of Surprise Valley Electric. Submissions will be accepted until July 31, 2018.

Contest Rules

- Eligibility: Photographers must be a member—or member's immediate family—of Surprise Valley Electric to enter. Surprise Valley Electric employees and their immediate family are not eligible.
- Limit: Three (3) entries per person.
- Location: Pictures must have been taken in Modoc and Lassen counties, California; Lake County, Oregon, and Washoe County, Nevada.
- File type: JPEG digital images.
- File size: Minimum 300 pixels per inch at 11x9 inches; maximum 15 megabytes.
- Format: Horizontal orientation only.
- Ownership: Image must be an original work you own.
- Permission: You must obtain the written permission of anyone depicted.
- Right-to-use: Surprise Valley Electric reserves the right to use the winning photographs in future publications promoting the contest, on our website and on our social media channels.
- Deadline: July 31, 2018.

Ready to Get Your Shot?

Submissions should be sent to lynnsvec@frontier.com along with supporting information. Find contest details at <http://surprisevalleyelectric.org>.

787 Bailey Hill Road
Eugene, OR 97402
Office Phone: (541) 484-1151
Business Hours:
Monday - Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
CLOSED FRIDAYS AND HOLIDAYS
Website: laneelectric.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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J. Ingrid Kessler, Vice President, Central District

Kathy Keable, Secretary, McKenzie District

Hugh Buermann, Treasurer, Row River District

Jack Billings, Central District

Jerry Shorey, Oakridge District

Chris Seubert, Central District

GENERAL MANAGER

Matt Michel

MANAGEMENT STAFF

Tony Toncray, Manager Engineering & Operations

Debi Wilson, Manager Office & Staff Services

BOARD MEETINGS

4th Monday of each month
Lane Electric's office, 787 Bailey Hill Road, Eugene
Meetings begin at 9 a.m.
(Unless otherwise noted on LEC website)

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OR-16

Down the Line



Dear Co-op Community Members:

The Seven Cooperative Principles explain the ideals for why a cooperative business organization exists. Put another way: The Seven Cooperative Principles are like our nation's Declaration of Independence that we celebrate every July. For example, in May, Lane Electric conducted its annual election to the board of directors. Members completed their ballots and re-elected incumbents Chris

Seubert from the Central District and Jerry Shorey from the Oakridge District.

That is cooperative principle No. 2 in action: Democratic Member Control. You are a member of a local democratic organization controlled by its members. Every member has an equal vote—one member, one vote. You elect representatives from the membership to set co-op policies and make decisions. Your representatives are accountable to the membership for their responsibilities to the co-op on behalf of the membership.

Local control through a democratic process. That sounds "self-evident," doesn't it? That sounds like Lane Electric is "deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed ..." Read on below and think about how great it is to be a part of a local co-op that preserves your right to have a democratic voice in your electric service.

Matt

Matt Michel, General Manager

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen United States of America

When in the Course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. — That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, — That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.



Blachly-Lane Electric Cooperative

90680 Highway 99
Eugene, OR 97402
(541)-688-8711
(800)-446-8418
www.blachlylane.coop

Mission Statement: *Blachly-Lane provides safe, reliable electric service consistent with the values of our members.*

Board of Directors:

Ernie Jacksch

(ph: 927-3466) District 1
jacksche@blachlylane.coop
(Low Pass, Blachly, Deadwood and Indian Creek areas)

Curtis Short Vice Chairman

(ph: 998-2721) District 2
shortc@blachlylane.coop
(Fern Ridge and Elmira-rural areas)

Cheryl Haskell,

(ph: 998-3954) District 3
haskellc@blachlylane.coop
(Junction City-rural and Hwy 99N)

Marlene Northrup, Chairwoman

(ph: 998-1216) District 4
northrupm@blachlylane.coop
(Hwy 36, Hall Road and North Poodle Creek Road)

Cliff Kelley, Secretary/Treasurer

(ph: 915-6109) District 5
kelleyc@blachlylane.coop
(Warthen, Sheffler and Walton areas)

General Manager

Joe Jarvis
jarvisj@blachlylane.coop

OR-17

Manager's Report

Dear Members,

With our increased summertime construction workload, we always start the season off with a June Safety Day. Our employees all have a role in practicing mayday exercises. All crew members perform pole-top rescue exercises. Our work is dangerous. Our repeated practice makes safe operating procedures a way of life, not to vanish in the moments we need it the most.

As you and your family spend more time outdoors, please join us in taking stock of your home summertime safety practices.

Pay attention to where you place metal ladders or dig for fence posts. Before you start any project, always look up and avoid overhead power lines. Keep a minimum of 10 feet between you and overhead lines.

If you are planning a project that requires digging, remember to dial 811 first to find out if the area you will be working in is clear of underground power lines.

Keep power tools away from wet surfaces, and do not overload outlets.

Children—and adults—should never climb trees near power lines. Always assume a wire is live. Fly kites and remote controlled-airplanes in large open areas such as a park or a field, safely away from trees and overhead power lines. If a power line is down, dangling or on the ground under any circumstances, keep a 30-foot distance. This goes for adults and kids. Those wires are likely to be energized, so please call and let us take it from there.

Planning to take a dip in the pool? Electrical devices, such as stereos, should be kept at least 10 feet away from water sources. Outdoor electrical outlets should always be covered. If you hear a rumble of thunder, exit the pool right away.

These are just a few tips to remember when you are spending time outdoors this summer with your family. Have some fun out there, but always keep safety in mind.

Happy summer,

Joe Jarvis
General Manager





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Vice President

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.....
Jim Smith
General Manager

Kevin Ricks
*Generation Asset/
Special Projects Manager*

Gwyn Miller
H.R. & Business Services Director

Mike DeMott
Power Manager

Mark Pritchard
Operations Manager

Ron Schultz
Chief Engineer

Brandy Myers
Customer Service Supervisor

.....
www.klickitatpud.com

Goldendale Office
1313 S. Columbus Ave.
Goldendale, WA 98620
(509) 773-5891
(800) 548-8357

White Salmon Office
110 NE Estes Ave.
P.O. Box 187
White Salmon, WA 98672
(509) 493-2255
(800) 548-8358

WA-18

Celebrating Success at KPUD

Klickitat PUD reached a significant milestone last month. On June 4, the H.W. Hill landfill gas electric generation facility was shut down to allow for the completion of the renewable natural gas facility.

The landfill gas operating team—led by Kevin Ricks and supported by many PUD employees—operated the combustion turbine engines for 56,000 hours without a lost-time accident. That is almost seven years accident free. This is a major achievement given the daily maintenance and operation requirements of the facility.

In addition, your KPUD team accomplished the following:

First, Solar Gas Turbines said we would need to rebuild the jet engines at about 30,000 hours. They expect a gas turbine engine operating on natural gas from a natural gas pipeline to last about 45,000 hours. Our units were running on the methane gas coming from the Republic Services landfill in Roosevelt and, based on their experience, they believed we could only achieve 30,000 hours and still meet our air quality permit requirements. During the past seven years, our employees and support team improved cleaning system operations. This caused the gas delivered to the gas turbines to remain at such a high quality the turbines lasted almost twice as long as Solar expected. As a result, we did not have to rebuild the turbines, which saved more than \$5 million in rebuild costs.

Second, the team maintained the generation facility so well it was available 98 percent of the time. Typical availability for a generation facility running on landfill gas is about 85 percent. This is even more remarkable given the fact that during the four-year period from 2013 to 2017, the team also reduced operating and maintenance costs 22 percent—from \$5.5 million to \$4.3 million.

I am proud of their efforts to continue to improve every day and not accept “good enough.” The attention to safety is important to us to ensure our employees get home safely every night.

The renewable natural gas facility construction is coming along nicely. We expect to be producing renewable natural gas by the end of August. I continue to be excited about the potential positive impacts the facility will have on your PUD.

Jim Smith
General Manager



NORTHERN LIGHTS, INC.

The power of local service

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

www.nli.coop
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Sagle, ID 83860

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(866) 665-4837

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within the Sandpoint area:**
(208) 263-5141

Outside Sandpoint:
(800) 326-9594

Board President
Steve Elgar

Board Vice President
Kennon McClintock

Board Secretary/Treasurer
Judith Simonson

General Manager
Annie Terracciano

Board of Directors by District

Dist. No. 1—Mike Dolan, Nordman, ID
(208) 610-3853

Dist. No. 2—Judith Simonson, Noxon, MT
(406) 847-2643

Dist. No. 3—Steve Elgar, Sandpoint, ID
(208) 610-2999

Dist. No. 4—David Pemberton, Careywood, ID
(208) 661-5911

Dist. No. 5—Kennon McClintock, Moyie Springs, ID
(208) 267-7064

Dist. No. 6—Dave Anderson, Bonners Ferry, ID
(208) 610-8021

Dist. No. 7—Jim Woodward, Sagle, ID
(208) 946-7963

ID-19

Blessed By Our Founders

Summer is finally here! This month, we celebrate our country's independence. In the midst of apple pies and hot dogs, fireworks and parades, let's pay tribute to the great Americans who made our land free. I am so thankful for my freedom. I hope you all enjoy your Independence Day.

Stop the Spread of Invasive Mussels

It is also that time of year to get out on the lake to fish, water ski or just enjoy a leisurely boat ride in the sun. If you take your boat out of state, be careful before returning. The invasive quagga and zebra mussels are looking to hitchhike a ride to our pristine Idaho and Montana waterways.

These invasive mussels wreak havoc wherever they call home. They deplete the nutrients in the water and upset the ecosystem. They also colonize on hulls of boats, recreational equipment, irrigation equipment and hydroelectric power plant equipment. Once they move in, they are pretty much a permanent house guest.

How do you go about keeping those pesky creatures from moving in?

Clean. Drain. Dry.

Clean any visible mud, plants or animals from your boat. Drain all water from the motor, bilge, livewell and other water-containing devices. Dry all areas of your boat and equipment.

To protect our waterways, the state has set up a watercraft inspection station program focused on inspecting boats from affected states as they come across the state line. Inspections are free, but the cost of mussels is not. According to the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, the estimated cost to the region will be \$500 million annually if attempts fail to prevent an infestation.

I hope you are enjoying your summer in the beautiful inland Northwest! And remember: Clean. Drain. Dry.



Annie Terracciano
General Manager



Idaho County Light & Power Cooperative

P.O. Box 300
Grangeville, Idaho 83530
Phone: (208) 983-1610
Toll free: (877) 212-0424
Fax: (208) 983-1432
Email: iclp@iclp.coop
Website: www.iclp.coop

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Greencreek

Vice President Kim Dahler
Kooskia

Secretary-Treasurer Jim Poxleitner
Cottonwood

Frank McIntire
Kamiah

Gerald Frei
Grangeville

John Solberg
Kamiah

Ernie Robinson
White Bird

Attorney
J.A. Wright

General Manager
Max Beach

c-21

Plan for a Safe, Happy Fourth

July has always been a favorite of mine. It's the middle of summer, the kids are out of school and, of course, we celebrate Independence Day!

On the Fourth, we typically celebrate our nation's independence with grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, homemade ice cream and sweet treats and, last but not least, fireworks.

This is a time for fellowship with family, friends and community, but at Idaho County Light & Power, we also want to make sure our members focus on safety.

To ensure you have the best Fourth of July possible, we want to remind you about a few important safety tips from the American Red Cross.

Nothing says "Fourth of July" like a spectacular fireworks display! The safest way to enjoy this part of the celebration is to head to a local firework show in our area or neighboring communities. If you want to put on your own show at home, follow these safety tips:

- Always follow the instructions on the fireworks' packaging and never give fireworks to small children.
- Keep a supply of water close by.
- Wear protective eyewear when lighting fireworks.
- Light only one firework at a time and never attempt to relight a dud.
- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place away from children and pets.
- Never throw or point a firework toward people, animals, vehicles, structures or flammable materials.

Cookouts are a great way to bring folks together on the Fourth. Whether you are grilling in your backyard or at a community park, make sure your feast includes a generous portion of fun and a side of safety! We recommend the following safety tips:

- Supervise your grill at all times.
- Use the proper tools for cooking on a grill.
- Never add charcoal starter fluid when the coals have already been ignited.
- Always follow the manufacturers instructions.

Fireworks and cookouts wouldn't be complete without a sunny day. Here's hoping we have good weather. If we do, make sure you practice sun safety:

- Use a broad spectrum SPF sunscreen and reapply often.
- Protect your eyes by wearing sunglasses.
- Drink plenty of water.
- Be on the lookout for signs of heat stroke. Symptoms include hot, red skin; changes in consciousness; rapid, weak pulse; and rapid, shallow breathing.

However you choose to celebrate, Idaho County Light & Power wishes you a safe and happy Fourth of July!

Max Beach, General Manager



Columbia REA

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections

2929 Melrose Street
Walla Walla, WA 99362
Phone: (509) 526-4041
Fax: (509) 526-3666
Toll Free: (800) 642-1231

ColumbiaREA.coop

Board of Directors

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Greg Knowles, Vice President
Neil Carpenter, Secretary/Treasurer
Patrick Dennis, Director
Jay DeWitt, Director
Doug Logan, Director
Dennis Munden, Director
Vic Parks, Director
Glen Shipley, Director

Board meetings are normally the fourth Tuesday of each month. The meeting starts at 8:30 a.m. and is usually held in Walla Walla.

Staff

Chief Executive Officer, Les Teel
Executive Assistant/HR,
Jennifer Aichele
Chief Operating Officer, Scott Peters
Manager of Marketing & Member
Services, Doug Case
Manager of Operations, Dave Reller
Manager of Engineering, Grant Glaus
Manager of Financial Services,
Jim Cooper
Manager of Communications & IT,
Bob Greene
Manager of Safety & Regulatory
Affairs, KC Dors

WA-22

Letter from Les...

Today I write my last column for you, our members. I have really enjoyed all the interaction with you and I appreciate the opportunity that was given to me. It is a bittersweet moment in my career. While I am way past the normal retirement age, I have continued to work in a field that I truly love. We have an amazing cooperative; it has continued to grow in members and in kilowatt sales. We have become very visible in the communities that we serve. Columbia REA has been very supportive to different organizations, but I want to take a moment and point out that we have a warm spot in our hearts for kids. Through the county fairs, schools, 4-H, FFA or other organizations that involve kids, we are there. This has not only been very gratifying to me personally, but it also sent a very positive message to the communities that we care.



I also want to take a minute and talk about the employees (retired and current) here at Columbia REA. I can't say enough about the integrity, loyalty and optimism exhibited by the employees. We continue to challenge each other and look for opportunities to make ourselves and our cooperative a better place. It has meant a lot to me to know that I had a small part in the development of these employees and their progress in their careers.

I would also be remiss if I didn't mention our board of directors. As you can imagine, having nine bosses can be interesting and sometimes stressful. The board members I have served under in my twelve years have proven to be anything but stressful. They have continued to offer encouragement and direction in all things related to our cooperative. They have always kept the best interests of the members as their primary goal.

So with a bit of a heavy heart I will say goodbye to you, the members. It has been a fantastic journey and I pray that I have served you well.

Until next time,



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

16755 Finley Butte Road
P.O. Box 127
La Pine, OR 97739

www.midstateelectric.coop
info@midstateelectric.coop
(541) 536-2126 • (800) 722-7219

Departments

Customer Service Option 3
Engineering Option 4
Marketing Option 5
Operations Option 6

**After-Hours Outage and
Emergencies: (541) 536-2165
or (800) 752-5935**

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday
7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Closed Fridays and holidays

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Leland Smith, Sunriver

Vice President

Alan Parks, Fort Rock

Secretary/Treasurer

Diana Cox, Christmas Valley

Vic Russell, Fall River

Robert Reed, La Pine

Gordon DeArmond, Crescent

Ron Sommerfeldt, Gilchrist

Ken Wilson, Chemult

Bud Kendall, La Pine

Board meets the fourth Monday
of each month at the co-op office.

STAFF

General Manager

Dave Schneider

Operations/Engineering Manager

Steve Hess

Marketing Manager

Teresa Lackey

CFO/Accounting Manager

Jami Bartunek

Information Services Manager

J.D. Powers

Attorney

Raymond Kindley

OR-23

Manager's Message

Dear Member:

In April, a decision to spill more water over the dams of the Columbia and Snake rivers was mandated by U.S. Appellate Judge Michael Simon. The ruling reduces the amount of hydropower the dams can produce from April to June to potentially help migrating salmon. The spill program is projected to continue until 2022.

The mandate impacts the Bonneville Power Administration, which markets the wholesale hydroelectric power produced by the dams on the two rivers. This, in turn, affects Northwest utilities that buy power from BPA. Midstate Electric Cooperative buys 100 percent of its power from BPA.

BPA recently announced the total spill costs \$38.6 million for 2018. By instituting a number of cost-saving measures, it has been able to reduce that cost to \$10.2 million. BPA plans to recoup the \$10.2 million with surcharges of 71 cents per megawatt-hour from June through September. That means it will cost MEC an additional \$90,000 for wholesale power this year.

At the May board meeting, your board of directors decided to absorb the extra costs created by the court-mandated spill. Although you will not see a spike in your bill for the 2018 spill, this may only be a one-year reprieve for a five-year issue.

Northwest RiverPartners, whose membership includes many Northwest utilities and industry associations, says the plan will do little to help salmon, while raising electric rates for the region's utility customers.

"Estimates project an increase in survival rates of 1 percent for

Chinook and 2 percent for steelhead," the advocacy group says. "That's less than decimal dust in a complex river system where survival of young salmon migrating downstream varies year to year from 35 to 70 percent due to a range of potential factors unrelated to spill, including water temperatures, spring runoff timing and volumes, fish health, sea lions and other predators. The models show an even smaller impact on adult salmon returns of 1/100th percent. This is a massive misuse of people's hard-earned dollars that will do little to nothing to help the salmon."

I encourage you to contact your U.S. representatives and make your voice heard. Join our grassroots program, ORECA-Action, at www.oreca-action.org. Help stop this waste of money and the millions of dollars of clean, renewable lost hydroelectric generation.

MEC and Mid-Oregon Credit Union Community Project Underway

In 2017, MEC and another local co-op—Mid Oregon Credit Union—embraced the cooperative spirit by working together to fund a \$10,000 community project through MEC's Operation Round Up Program.

After an application review process of six applicants, the funds were awarded to La Pine Park & Recreation to fund the renovation and development of a safe children's playground in the middle of Frontier Heritage City Park. The groundbreaking ceremony to begin the process of improving the playground area and adding play equipment was May 14.

Dave Schneider
General Manager



www.rrelectric.com

DIRECTORS

President Gary Jones
Vice President Dennis Poulsen
Secretary-Treasurer Larry Henson
Lindsey Manning
Krinn McCoy
Stan Spencer
Blaine Tanner
Doug Webb

GENERAL MANAGER

Kurt Anderson

OPERATIONS MANAGER

Chad Black

Board meets the fourth Wednesday
of each month

P.O. Box 617

Malta, ID 83342

To Call Raft River

- Office hours (208) 645-2211
- Toll free (800) 342-7732
(After hours and outages)
- Pay-by-phone (844) 244-1497

Western Division

(All calls for Jackpot, Jarbidge,
Mountain City and Owyhee)

- Office hours (208) 645-2211
- Toll free (800) 342-7732
(After hours and outages)

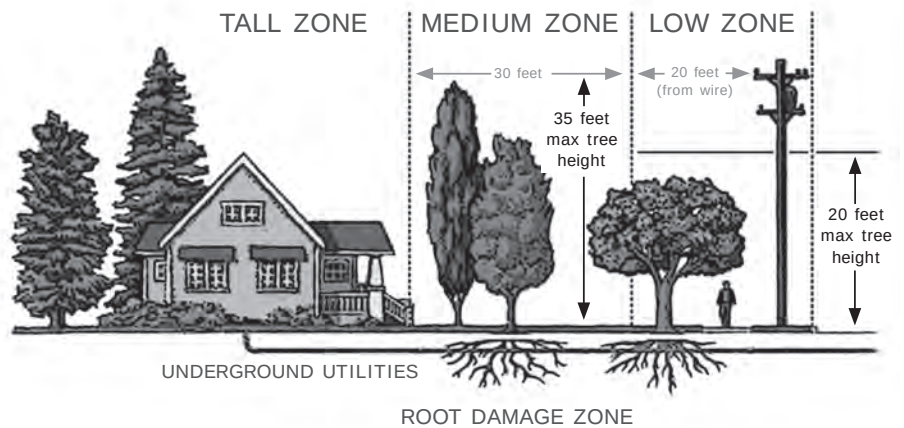


Touchstone Energy®
The power of human connections

ID-24

Right Tree—Right Place

Proper tree and site selection provide beauty and pleasure



Trees need space to grow both above and below ground. Carefully consider your surroundings. Choose a tree and location where the ultimate height and spread of the tree will remain at least 10 feet away from power lines. Roots may be damaged if underground facilities need to be dug up for repairs.

Proper selection of trees under or near power lines:

- ▶ Reduces fire hazards.
- ▶ Limits the need for frequent pruning.
- ▶ Increases property value.
- ▶ Adds beauty to the community.
- ▶ Provides shade that can reduce summer home cooling costs.

Report Unsafe Trees

If you see tree branches or bushes growing into power lines or other electrical equipment, notify Raft River Rural Electric at (208) 645-2211 or after hours at (800) 342-7732.



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**



BIG BEND ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC.

**P.O. Box 348
Ritzville, WA 99169**

Ritzville office 659-1700

Toll free (866) 844-2363

Pay by phone (844) 255-3682

For after-hours emergencies

(866) 844-2363

www.bbect.org

TRUSTEES

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Vice President Ken Story

Secretary John Harder

Treasurer Lyle Holt

Robert Clinesmith

Curtis Dahl

Stacy Kniveton

Lanny Hayes

Dennis Swinger Sr.

GENERAL MANAGER/CEO

Yvette Armstrong

LEGAL COUNSEL

Mark DeWulf

WA-25



Always be on the lookout for overhead power lines and other electrical equipment when working outdoors.

Photo courtesy of SafeElectricity.org

Harvest Safety

Harvest season is almost here. Large farming equipment soon will be on the move in our communities as farmers rush to get their goods to market.

When moving equipment, it is important to remember to look up and be aware of your surroundings, especially around power lines. Big Bend Electric Cooperative urges farmers to prevent tragic accidents this season by discussing electrical safety with your workers and sharing the following safety tips.

- Use a spotter when operating large machinery near power lines.
- Keep equipment at least 10 feet from power lines at all times, in all directions.
- Look up and use care when moving equipment, extending augers or raising the bed of grain trucks near power lines.
- Inspect the height of farm equipment—including antennas—to determine clearance from electric lines.
- Always set extensions to the lowest setting when moving loads to prevent contact with overhead power lines. Grain augers should always be positioned horizontally before being moved.
- Never attempt to move a power line out of the way or raise it for clearance.
- If a power line is sagging or low, call Big Bend Electric at (866) 844-2363.
- If contact is made with a power line, stay in the cab. Warn others to stay away and call 911. Do not leave until the utility crew says it is safe. Only exit the vehicle if it is on fire. If this is the case, jump off the equipment with your feet together, without touching the ground and vehicle at the same time. Then, still keeping your feet together, hop to safety as you leave the area.
- Look up and live.

For more information or safety tips, call Big Bend Electric at (866) 844-2363.

Hood River Electric Cooperative



**P.O. Box 125
3521 Davis Drive
Odell, OR 97044**

**(541) 354-1233
www.hrec.coop**

.....
DIRECTORS

President Butch Gehrig
Vice President Gary Bloom
Secretary Patrick Moore
Treasurer Roger Nelson
Doug Mahurin
John McGhee
Opal DeBoard
Dick Sohler
Jeff Osborn

GENERAL MANAGER

Libby Calnon
.....

Serving rural
Hood River County
since 1945

OR-26

Manager's Message

Dear Members,

It's my honor to have been chosen by your board of directors as the next general manager of Hood River Electric Cooperative. My first day was June 11. I had the good fortune to spend the first few weeks with retiring manager John Gerstenberger, which has helped ensure a smooth transition.

I have spent 20 years in the utility industry here in the Pacific Northwest, working in community relations, regional issues, economic development, strategic planning, outage and emergency management, budgeting and rate setting. I take great pride in being a part of a team that provides safe, reliable and affordable service. The HREC team is a great example of that. Our employees are some of the most knowledgeable, efficient and effective that I've met, and they are dedicated to serving you well. I'm grateful for the warm welcome I've received from them.

My husband and I are thrilled to have the opportunity to live in the Hood River Valley. I spent my summers and holidays here in my youth visiting my grandparents, Dayrl and Dorothy Swyers. My parents are now retired in the area. Moving here feels a bit like coming home.

During the next few months, I'll be learning more about our electric operations and internet services and getting to know the communities we serve. I'd love to meet you and learn what you like about your co-op. If you'd like to reach out by phone or email, our office number is (541) 354-1233, and my email is libbyc@hrec.coop.

I look forward to serving you.

Libby Calnon
General Manager



Harney Electric Cooperative



A Touchstone Energy®
Cooperative 
The power of human connections®

277 Lottery Lane
Hines, OR 97738
(541) 573-2061

hec.burns@harneyelectric.org

Orovada, Nevada
(775) 272-3336

orovada.office@harneyelectric.org

www.harneyelectric.org

Find us on 

.....
Board of Directors

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Vice President Joe Cronin
Sec./Treasurer Gary Miller
Frank Albisu
Rod Hoagland
Hank Dufurrena
Zach Sword

General Manager

Fred Flippence

Operations Manager

Jason Hill

Line Superintendent

Jason Radinovich

Electrical Engineer

Shane Sweet

Office Manager

Stephanie Bowen

Attorney

Raymond S. Kindley

OR-27

Dear Members,

July makes me reflect on how this great country of ours began, and our right to vote. Our Nevada members will exercise this right again in November to address the Question 3 energy choice initiative, which proposes to amend the Nevada constitution to give residents the choice of where to buy electricity. Members continue to ask me what this means for HEC.

First and foremost, legislation should not be enacted by making amendments to the constitution, but through the legislative body. An adverse constitutional amendment would take at least four years to roll back, making destructive legislation semi-permanent.

This amendment would change how the electric utility business operates in Nevada, creating wholesale and retail markets that do not exist today.

Question 3 supporters argue the amendment would bring lower power bills to Nevadans, but will not guarantee this claim when pressed. These folks don't work in the power market, but claim they know it enough to completely redesign it. To illustrate: I may listen to stock investment advice from the guy who checks me out at the grocery store, but I'm not going to let him take over my portfolio.

The proposed process is that HEC would still deliver power to residents in its service territory, but each person will be able to choose where that power comes from, buying kilowatts in a newly formed retail market. HEC would recapture operations and maintenance costs through a delivery charge that would factor in all the personnel, equipment, poles, wires and substations necessary to deliver that power.

Currently, HEC members buy power from the Bonneville Power Administration, which offers competitive

prices. BPA does not sell directly to individuals, so they would not be an option in the new retail market unless Harney Electric acted as a middleman, which would also add cost to the retail rate. With the delivery and handling fee that would be put into effect, power would wind up being more expensive, not less.

A side note: The co-op would not be able to sell BPA power outside of the service territory. It would not be an option to make up for lost kilowatt sales by selling to consumers in Paradise Valley or Winnemucca.

Throughout our history, we have been committed to the principle that all members are treated the same, whether they live in Oregon or Nevada. However, it is hard to determine how we would maintain this parity if Nevada were to move down the path to energy choice.

I believe this sort of regulation should be vetted through the legislature, not a constitutional amendment. I am concerned by the Nevada Public Utilities Commission report that stranded costs in urban areas will be spread to rural areas, causing higher electric costs to average consumers while potentially lowering costs for large industrial users.

The co-op was formed in 1957 because no one else would deliver power to our vast rural area. You have all contributed to building this cooperative and should retain control as members. If Question 3 passes, you may no longer have that option. The Nevada state government will likely dictate how we operate in Nevada. I am asking all Nevada residents to vote no on Question 3. Let's not give away the right to run this cooperative.

Sincerely,

Manager Fred Flippence



P.O. Box 384
Challis, ID 83226
Phone: (208) 879-2283
Fax: (208) 879-2596
After-hours emergency numbers:
Propane: (208) 879-2201
Electric: (208) 879-4900

Board of Directors

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Vice President Jeff Bitton
Sec./Treasurer Norman Wallis
Michael Miller
Doug Parkinson
Steve Rembelski
Earl Skeen
Manager Ken Dizes
Attorney Dale Storer

**Board meets the third
Wednesday of each month**

Email: energy@srec.org

Website: www.srec.org

A Touchstone Energy[®]
Cooperative



ID-28

Thoughts on Energy Choice

The citizens of Nevada have voted to allow energy choice for electric service. They will vote again this fall on whether to amend the state constitution to require the legislature to provide by law the “establishment of an open, competitive retail electric energy market that prohibits the granting of monopolies and exclusive franchises for the generation of electricity.”

I tell you this because your cooperative is watching how this unfolds with keen interest. Wyoming also is considering the idea of energy choice, and California has been operating in this mode for some time.

Deregulation or reregulation of electricity is not a new idea. It gained support in the eastern United States in the early 1990s. The thought initially behind deregulation was it would lower the cost of electricity to consumers. The telecommunications industry had deregulated earlier, and the electricity industry was poised to follow suit. Deregulation of electricity was not successful on a large scale. Eastern states that did deregulate saw electric rates increase.

Low market prices for electricity and more cost-effective renewable energy has prompted electric consumers to once again take a run at enabling legislation to pave the way for them to access lower-cost electricity and especially renewable electricity. Electricity markets are restructuring, which is facilitating more access to other sources for electricity.

Idaho has not pursued deregulation legislation yet, but with neighboring states beginning to express interest, it could be in Idaho's future. Your cooperative's interest in deregulation is simply to ensure our member-owners continue to have access to safe, reliable and cost-effective electricity. It's our mission today, and we want to continue delivering on that.

We believe we are positioned better than anyone to help our member owners navigate the new and evolving electric utility landscape. You have invested in the electric transmission and distribution infrastructure owned by the cooperative needed to allow access to other electricity markets. We must ensure your investment in these assets does not become stranded.

We have long-term power supply contracts that must be considered. We need to understand how best to make investments in future power supply. Depending on whether deregulation happens in Idaho and what it might look like, your electric cooperative could become just a wires company, meaning we only distribute electricity as opposed to buying and distributing electricity.



Ken Dizes

Ken Dizes
General Manager

United Electric Co-op Inc.

Directors

President Bruce Beck
Vice President David Phillips
Sec./Treas. Cordell Searle
Brent Bowen
Dean Nielsen
Ronald Osterhout
George Toner
John R. West

General Manager

Jo Elg

Engineering and Operations

Trevor Parke

Line Superintendent

Kay Hill

Executive Assistant

Penny West

Member Services Manager

Chris Seibold

Mailing address:

1330 21st St.

Heyburn, ID 83336

Phone: (208) 679-2222

Fax: (208) 679-3333

Email: uec@unitedelectric.coop

Website: www.uec.coop

Office hours: Monday-Thursday,
7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Friday, 7:30 to 11:30 a.m.

After Hours: (208) 679-4444



UNITED ELECTRIC
CO-OP INC.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



ID-29

On the Wire at United Electric

You get the credit—capital credits, that is—for helping build, sustain and grow your local electric co-op, United Electric. This summer, United Electric will return about \$500,000 in capital credits to member-owners like you across portions of Minidoka and Cassia counties served by the co-op.

You may be asking, what are capital credits? As a member of United Electric, you are one of the owners. Every time you pay your power bill, you make an investment in your co-op. Capital credits are the return on your investment. It is one of the benefits of the cooperative business model.

United Electric is not for profit, which means it does not earn a profit. Instead, any revenue over and above the cost of doing business is considered margin. The margins belong to you, the member-owner, and are assigned to a capital credit account in your name with the intent that the margin will be repaid to you. Returning capital credits to member-owners is a long-term strategic goal set by the board of directors.

Until your capital credits are returned to you, United Electric uses the funds to help pay for operating expenses and capital improvements to maintain reliability. Using capital credit dollars helps minimize the need to borrow money to keep up with necessary system investments.

The board of directors recently reviewed the financial state of the co-op and authorized the payout of \$500,000 for capital credits. You will receive a credit on your June power bill. June bills will be issued at the end of the month. Keep an eye out for the credit on your bill.

This is an excellent opportunity to encourage you to keep your address up to date. If you happen to move and no longer receive power from United Electric, you are still eligible for payouts of capital credits for the years you were a member-owner.

Capital credits are just one more benefit of member ownership!

Sincerely,

Jo Elg
General Manager





Lost River Electric Cooperative Inc.

305 Pine St.
P.O. Box 420
Mackay, ID 83251-0420

Phone: (208) 588-3311
Fax: (208) 588-3038
Email: office@lrecoop.com
www.lostriverelectriccoopinc.com

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Vice President

Bret L. Zollinger
Secretary/Treasurer

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James D. McKelvey
Dean L. Myler
Randy R. Purser
Lynn O. Rothwell
Merlin A. Waddoups

Manager/CEO

F. Richard Reynolds

The board of directors
meets the fourth Friday
of each month at 8:30 a.m.

ID-30

Plan for a Safe, Happy Fourth

On the Fourth, we typically celebrate our nation's independence with grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, homemade ice cream and sweet treats and, last but not least, fireworks.

This is a time for fellowship with family, friends and community, but at Lost River Electric Cooperative, we also want to make sure our members focus on safety.

To ensure you have the best Fourth of July possible, we want to remind you about a few important safety tips from the American Red Cross.

Nothing says "Fourth of July" like a spectacular fireworks display! The safest way to enjoy this part of the celebration is to head to a local firework show in our area or neighboring communities. If you want to put on your own show at home, follow these safety tips:

- Always follow the instructions on the fireworks' packaging and never give fireworks to small children.
- Keep a supply of water close by.
- Wear protective eyewear when lighting fireworks.
- Light only one firework at a time and never attempt to relight a dud.
- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place away from children and pets.
- Never throw or point a firework toward people, animals, vehicles, structures or flammable materials.

Cookouts are a great way to bring folks together on the Fourth. Whether you are grilling in your backyard or at a community park, make sure your feast includes a generous portion of fun and a side of safety! We recommend the following safety tips:

- Supervise your grill at all times.
- Use the proper tools for cooking on a grill.
- Never add charcoal starter fluid when the coals have already been ignited.
- Always follow the manufacturers instructions.

Fireworks and cookouts wouldn't be complete without a sunny day. Here's hoping we have good weather. If we do, make sure you practice sun safety:

- Use a broad spectrum SPF sunscreen and reapply often.
- Protect your eyes by wearing sunglasses.
- Drink plenty of water.
- Be on the lookout for signs of heat stroke. Symptoms include hot, red skin; changes in consciousness; rapid, weak pulse; and rapid, shallow breathing.

However you choose to celebrate, Lost River Electric Cooperative wishes you a safe and happy Fourth of July!



Board of Directors

Lon Rake, President
Mary Odden, Vice President
Dan Stowe, Secretary
Will Stark, Treasurer
Paul Kildal, Director
Jeff Saxe, Director
Brad Honerlaw, Director
Fred Williams, Director

P.O. Box 45
Glennallen, AK 99588
www.cvea.org

Copper Basin District

(907) 822-3211
(907) 822-5586 (fax)
Mile 187 Glenn Hwy.

Valdez District

(907) 835-4301
(907) 835-4328 (fax)
367 Fairbanks Dr.

After hours outage line

(866) 835-2832

Important Dates

July

CVEA Offices Closed: The CVEA offices will be closed Wednesday, July 4, 2018, for Independence Day

CVEA Board Meeting: The July meeting of the Board of Directors is 1 p.m., Thursday, July 19, 2018, in Valdez

August

CVEA Board Meeting: The August meeting of the Board of Directors is 1 p.m., Thursday, August 16, 2018, in Glennallen

CVEA Member Tours: The Fall member tour will be held in Valdez Tuesday, August 28, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Registration required; contact Sharon Crisp at 907-822-5506, 907-835-7005, or email crisp@cvea.org for information

AK-34

CVEA Community Foundation Contribution Season Begins

The Community Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that promotes and sponsors the community support activities of CVEA, allowing CVEA to do more for the people it serves. The mission of the Foundation is “to provide scholarships for students and make contributions to educational, scientific, and charitable organizations in our communities.”

This year, the Foundation has \$13,800 available for contributions. The goal is to use this funding to help local nonprofits make an even greater impact in the communities the Co-op serves.

The Foundation’s annual contribution season has begun. If your organization is a local 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization looking for funding for new or expanding projects or programs within the next 12 months, please review the Contribution Guidelines at cvea.org to determine eligibility, and fill out the CVEA Community Foundation Contribution Request Form in its entirety. Incomplete applications may not be considered.

The deadline to submit all contribution requests for funding is Friday, August 31, 2018, as indicated on the request form available at either CVEA office and at cvea.org/communitysupport.

Applications will be reviewed and scored by a volunteer committee in September, awards will be approved by the Board of Directors in October, and checks will be distributed in November/December.

Please note that the Foundation’s contribution process and guidelines vary from CVEA’s donation process. The requirements for the CVEA program are different and separate from the Foundation, but are also found on cvea.org. Please ensure your organization meets the specific guidelines for Foundation funding and the correct application is submitted.

If you have questions regarding the Foundation contribution process, please contact Sharon Crisp, CVEA Director of Communications, at 822-5506, 835-7005, 255-1425,

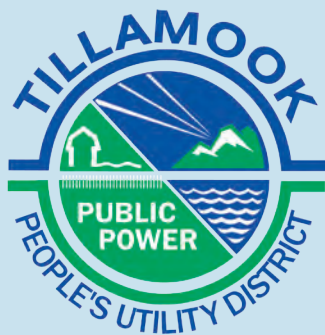


Our Hours Have Changed

New CVEA Hours:

Monday - Thursday 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Friday Closed



1115 Pacific Ave. • P.O. Box 433
Tillamook, OR 97141
Phone: (503) 842-2535
Toll free: (800) 422-2535
www.tpod.org

Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday through Friday.

For EMERGENCY service after
business hours, call (800) 842-2122.

Board of Directors

Doug Olson, President
Ed Jenkins, Vice President
Ken Phillips, Treasurer
Harry Hewitt, Secretary
Barbara Trout, Director

General Manager

Todd Simmons

*Board meetings begin at 6 p.m. the first
Tuesday after the 11th of the month. The
July 17 board meeting is at Tillamook Bay
Community College.*

Our Mission

Tillamook PUD provides safe, reliable and
competitively priced power to our
customers.

Our Vision

Tillamook PUD provides high value to
our customers, staff and community,
performing now and preparing for the
future.



OR-35

On the Road Again—Summertime is Travel Time

Dear Customers:

Summertime is finally upon us. It's time to take advantage of the longer days, maybe start that outdoor project you have been waiting to do, go on a spontaneous road trip or stop off at a local farmers market.

A common theme in many of our summer plans is travel—more specifically, driving. Whether it be short distances or long stretches, the time you put in on the road can take up a significant portion of your summer.

At Tillamook PUD, summertime is also a busy time for our crews and staff. We have a variety of planned projects going on, many of which have sections of work along busy highways and backroads. One of our current projects, the Hebo line system rebuild, traverses miles of rugged terrain. A good portion of the line parallels Highway 101 south—a road we all know is heavily traveled, especially in the summer months.

During many of these projects, crews must work close to the roadway. Though they assess each job location to identify the safest area to set up materials and equipment, they still run the risk of having a driver veer into their work area.

The precautions our crews follow before every job are necessary steps that help ensure safety. Cautious drivers are another safety factor that is not only helpful, it is vital to our crew safety.

The state of Oregon's Move Over law is a safety measure put in place to help ensure drivers are doing their part to keep road workers—and travelers alike—safe. This law originally only required drivers to move over or slow down for emergency vehicles. On January 1, 2018, the law was expanded and now applies to all vehicles stopped on the side of the road with hazard lights or showing signs of distress. Whether it be a motorist changing a tire or a Tillamook PUD utility worker making repairs to facilities, drivers must now either move over a lane or slow to a speed at least 5 miles below the posted speed limit.

This time of the year can be rather eventful for all of us. As you balance your summer activities and hit the open road, I encourage you to be aware of your surroundings and stay alert. Watch for utility workers, flaggers, road workers and emergency responders. Please slow down, move over and proceed with caution around them.

Enjoy your summer and stay safe my friends!

Sincerely,

Todd Simmons
General Manager





P. O. Box 449
Barrow, AK 99723
Phone: 852-6166
Fax: 852-6372
www.bueci.org

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Frederick F. Brower
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Avaiyak Burnell
Richard Ungarook Sr.
Tina Wolgemuth

General Manager

Ben L. Frantz

AK-36

Be Safe This Summer

As you and your family spend more time outdoors, please join us in taking stock of your home summertime safety practices.

Pay attention to where you place metal ladders. Before you start any project, always look up and avoid overhead power lines. Keep a minimum of 10 feet between you and overhead lines.

Keep power tools away from wet surfaces, and do not overload outlets.

Always assume a wire is live. Fly kites and remote-controlled airplanes in large open areas safely away from overhead power lines. If a power line is down, dangling or on the ground under any circumstances, keep a 30-foot distance. This goes for adults and kids. Those wires are likely to be energized, so please call us and let us take it from there.

Electrical devices, such as stereos, should be kept at least 10 feet away from water sources. Outdoor electrical outlets should always be covered.

These are just a few tips to remember when you are spending time outdoors this summer with your family. Have some fun out there, and always keep safety in mind.

Happy summer,

Ben Frantz

General Manager



Owned By Those We Serve

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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John Sloan, Secretary (District 6)
Bill Nordmark, Treasurer (District 7)
Chris Bunch (District 5)
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Corporate Headquarters

758 Illinois Street
PO Box 71249
Fairbanks, AK 99707-1249
Hours: 8 am to 5 pm, M-F
(907) 452-1151
1-800-770-GVEA (4832)
Fax (907) 458-6365

Delta Junction Office

1681 Richardson Hwy.
Hours: 8 am to 5 pm, M-F
(907) 452-1151
1-800-770-GVEA (4832)
Fax (907) 895-5472

Nenana Office

7259 Parks Hwy.
Hours: 8 am to 5 pm, M-F
(907) 452-1151
1-800-770-GVEA (4832)
Fax (907) 832-5438

Report Outages:

(907) 452-1151
1-800-770-GVEA (4832)
Select: Option 1, Option 1

View Outage Map:

gvea.com/resources/outages

www.gvea.com

Safety: You Have The Power!



AK-37

Your Phone Number is Our Connection to You

Over the past year, when you have visited or called our office, we have asked you to update the contact information associated with your account. With advances in technology and software now installed, it's more important than ever that we have accurate contact information on file for you.

We have been asking members to update phone numbers associated with their account. For example, this could be your home number (landline), your cell phone number and your spouse's cell number. These telephone numbers need to be the ones that you will use when you call GVEA to report an outage.

Our **Outage Management System (OMS)** recognizes the phone number that you call from, and it then tries to match that number to your account. If we do not have an accurate phone number associated with your account, it will delay the reporting of your outage.

Should you need to report an outage, having your information updated will provide us, at a glance, with all the known information concerning your account. That means your name, address, account number, map number, substation, meter number and line section will be available to our control room dispatchers. Having all this info tied to your account enables them to dispatch a repair crew more quickly and efficiently.

This is one more way your cooperative is putting technology to work to better serve you. The OMS system and our new automated phone system work in tandem to allow our employees to better manage an outage situation. This means faster restoration and less time without electricity for you – our members.

We know that your privacy is important. We will NOT sell members' private information. This information will strictly be used to better serve you. ■



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

73233 State Route 70
Portola, CA 96122

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President

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droberti@psrec.coop

Vice President

Fred Nelson, *Clio*
fnelson@psrec.coop

Secretary/Treasurer

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dhansen@psrec.coop

Dick Short, *Graeagle*
dshort@psrec.coop

Tom Hammond, *Herlong*
thammond@psrec.coop

Nancy Miller, *Litchfield*
nmiller@psrec.coop

Manager

Robert (Bob) Marshall
bmarshall@psrec.coop



Our subsidiary,
**Plumas-Sierra
Telecommunications**
offers a variety of high-quality
Internet solutions.
To learn more, please visit
www.pst.coop or call
(800) 221-3474

For information about any
of our products, please
call (800) 555-2207 or
visit our website at
www.psrec.coop

CA-39

Manager's Message

Dear Members:

It is with a sad heart that I inform you of the passing of District 1 Director, Dan Kenney. He was a dedicated director who will be deeply and sincerely missed by all who knew him.

Dan came on our board in 2007. He immediately contributed and worked hard to understand the complexities of both the electric and telecommunications business.

Dan represented the cooperative with the Northern California Power Agency and was key in protecting the smaller members of NCPA from being bullied by the larger members when the bylaws and governance of NCPA—including Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative—were re-written.

Dan became chairman of Plumas-Sierra Telecommunications, and provided key leadership in implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Fiber-optic grant and expansion of our system, including the acquisition of the coaxial network and expansion of our wireless service.

He did this while also being active with the Long Valley (Cromberg/Sloat) Community Services District, including stints as fire chief, assistant fire chief, and a member of their board of directors.

Even when Dan became ill, he fought off his illness and worked hard on behalf of the member-owners and our community to the end.

He was a gracious, kind, tough, and thoughtful member of the board of directors, and a dear friend. The board and staff of PSREC/PST will deeply miss him.

Annual Meeting

This year's annual meeting is set for Saturday, September 8.

Up for election are District 1 (Quincy and Sloat areas), formerly served by Dan Kenney; District 3 (Blairsden, Clio and Portola areas), served by Fred Nelson; and District 4 (Calpine,

Sierraville, Loyalton and Beckwourth areas), served by Dave Roberti. The boundaries of each district are on the PSREC website.

If you are interested in running for the PSREC Board of Directors and live in one of these districts, please contact me as soon as possible. The deadline for nominations by petition is July 25.

If you are unsure of your district, please visit our website to view the map, or call the office at (800) 555-2207.

A copy of the PSREC Qualifications and Nomination Procedures is available on our website at www.psrec.coop.

Fire Danger and the Threat of Power Disconnection

PSREC and other small utilities throughout California are in discussion with Pacific Gas and Electric and regulatory authorities about the potential of PG&E shutting down the grid in the event of high fire danger.

In theory, PG&E would shut down the regional grid when fire conditions become extreme. This would prevent the electrical grid from starting a fire. In reality, this puts our communities at risk as many of us are on wells, and disconnecting our wholesale power supply would hamper emergency communication and firefighting.

Fortunately, your board of directors has invested in backup power supply. We will work diligently to restore power from the Nevada grid and our own generation, if we are disconnected from PG&E at Quincy.

This is a complex issue, and we will keep you informed as the summer progresses.

Telecommunications

Plumas-Sierra Telecommunications is working to expand broadband coverage to west Quincy

Continues on page 25



MT. WHEELER POWER

1600 Great Basin Blvd.
Ely, NV 89301

(775) 289.8981
(800) 97-POWER
info@mwpower.net

Emergency Contacts

Ely Office
(775) 289-8981

Eureka Office
(775) 237-5693

Outside Ely / Eureka Area
(800) 97-POWER

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*Summer hours: The Ely office is open
Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
The Eureka office is open Monday through
Thursday 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.*

“Powering Your Future”

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections

NV-40

Vote No on Question 3 This November

This November, few issues on the ballot will be as impactful as Question 3—the energy choice initiative that would amend Nevada’s Constitution to establish “an open, competitive retail electric energy market,” reduce energy market regulations and prohibit energy monopolies. Nevada would be the first state to put this into its constitution, making it relatively permanent.

Mt. Wheeler Power members should study this issue closely, as it will significantly alter the way you buy and receive electricity. If Question 3 were to pass, our members’ democratic control would be weakened, and our responsiveness to member needs would be delayed by new regulatory processes. Many of the benefits we enjoy as cooperative members would be greatly undermined.

The Public Utilities Commission of Nevada recently accepted the 125-page final report that was prepared following an almost six-month investigation into the benefits and risks of the initiative. A few of the key findings in the report are:

- “The Energy Choice Initiative is reasonably likely to increase the average electric bill for Nevadans, at least in the short term, i.e., the first 10 years. These cost increases will potentially diminish over the years as Nevada’s new open-market paradigm becomes established, Nevada’s economy and population grows, and the transition costs are paid off.”
- “Ambiguous language within the initiative makes it difficult to discern its full legal meaning and scope, and purported objectives of the measure appear to be in conflict with each other.”
- On page 55 of the report, the analysis and findings of that section states, “No discernable benefits to rural cooperatives or municipalities from the Energy Choice Initiative were presented.”

Mt. Wheeler Power and other cooperatives, municipalities and utility districts make up the Nevada Rural Electric Association. This collective organization is joining with other member-centric associations such as AARP, IBEW, AFL/CIO and the Coalition to Defeat Question 3 to create a common message and provide information to allow our members to make an informed decision.

We cannot allow our cooperative business model and those of other rural electric utilities to become collateral damage in this selfish initiative. The issue of regulating or deregulating energy markets can be dealt with in the legislature, where cooperatives and all rural electric utilities can fight to protect the rights of our members. We do not need an amendment to the state constitution.

I urge all of you to vote no on Question 3.

Thanks for your time, and please vote November 6.



Kevin Robinson, General Manager

Wells Rural Electric Company

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West Wendover,
Nevada 89883
(775) 664-2204

Wells office:

1451 Humboldt Avenue
P.O. Box 365
Wells, Nevada 89835
(775) 752-3328

NV-41

CEO Message

In her book, "Out of Africa" Isak Dinesen wrote, "... the Earth was made round so that we would not see too far down the road." At the moment, I wish I could see so much further.

Question 3, also known as the Energy Choice Initiative, asks you to approve a constitutional amendment giving every citizen of Nevada the right to choose where you buy electric energy. While I can see how the amendment can guarantee that right, I can't see how it can guarantee that ability.

What's the difference? The constitutional amendment can't force anyone to sell you electricity, so you might not be able to choose another provider. You might also lose the one choice that has been providing safe, reliable, renewable and affordable electricity for the last 60 years, Wells Rural Electric Company (WREC).

Before anyone accuses me of using scare tactics or just looking out for myself, please let me show you what I can see at the moment.

Question 3 will, "... provide by law for the establishment of an open, competitive retail electric market that prohibits the granting of monopolies and exclusive franchises for the *generation* of electricity." (*emphasis added*) At face value, the amendment shouldn't impact WREC's daily operations because your electric cooperative doesn't *generate* electricity, it *delivers* electricity.

WREC obtains some of the most affordable electricity in the nation from the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and delivers it to you at cost. Regardless of whether Question 3 passes or fails, the poles and wires you own as a member of your cooperative will probably *deliver* any electricity you might be able to purchase. If so, WREC will still need all of its existing employees, facilities, vehicles and equipment to deliver electricity.



So how could Question 3 jeopardize your access to low-cost electricity from BPA? Question 3 promises a, "meaningful choice." That term isn't defined, but in other States that have deregulated, incumbent utilities were forced sell their generation assets and cancel their power supply contracts because new providers couldn't compete initially.

If you're scratching your head at this point, you're not alone. Backers of Question 3 claim that "competition" will result in lower rates, but if your current supplier has to be pushed out of the market so new competitors can get a foothold, doesn't that indicate that new "competitors" are more expensive?

WREC was created as a not-for-profit cooperative because for-profit competitors weren't interested in operating the poles and wires to deliver electricity to rural areas. Even though 60 years have passed, I can't see that those economics have changed.

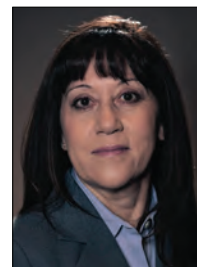
Nationwide, rural electric cooperatives average 7.4 members and collect \$16,000 per mile of power line. That might seem like a great business opportunity until you compare it to other utilities. For-profit utilities average 34 customers and collect \$75,500 per mile of power line. Municipal utilities average 48 customers and collect \$113,000 per mile of power line.

Now, if you were a for-profit competitor, how much time would you spend looking for customers in Carlin where you would have about 15% as many potential customers or in South Fork with 14% as much potential revenue? I can see potential competitors looking for customers in Las Vegas. I can even see some slick marketing promising cheaper rates, but I can't see potential competitors actually delivering a lower bill in West Wendover. If Question 3 passes, all I can see are higher bills no matter how far down the road I try to look.

Clay R. Fitch
Chief Executive Officer

LETTER FROM THE CEO

Fiber Construction Update



Valley Communications Association recently evaluated its fiber-optic construction schedule for 2018, which I want to discuss with you this month.

Originally, we had planned to roll out fiber on a more ambitious schedule. Our construction plans for 2018 included the build-out of large areas of Pahrump for fiber-optic service, a huge capital investment and commitment by the Cooperative.

Over the past few weeks, however, we have taken a step back to review our plans. During that assessment period, we have determined that a more responsible approach would be to scale back the fiber build-out and concentrate on areas that will generate revenue. We will, therefore, target fiber installations in Beatty as well as the Mountain Falls and Winery Road areas in Pahrump.

Focusing on those areas makes the most sense and continues the responsible management of VCA assets and resources. All three communities are among the more densely populated in our service territory. Installing fiber to homes constructed in close proximity to each other holds down construction costs, allows for more efficient installation and generates revenue.

We hope to have most of the work completed in those areas by the end of the summer. Then we will move on to other areas. For some members, fiber will arrive later than we had hoped, but it is still coming. We regret the delay, but we also believe it is the correct way to deploy our resources.

You may be wondering how long you may have to wait for broadband service based upon our new fiber buildout strategy. While fiber is considered state-of-the-art technology for broadband service,

member consumers have expressed overwhelming satisfaction with wireless service.

There is no reason to wait because wireless broadband offers the fastest, most reliable wireless service at a reasonable price. (There is no better value in our market.) Additionally,

- ▶ You can still bundle IPTV and VOIP with wireless broadband to save money.
- ▶ There are no data caps.
- ▶ No contract is necessary.
- ▶ There is no installation fee for wireless broadband.
- ▶ Local technical support is here to help you.

Valley Communications wireless broadband has made a significant difference in all the communities we serve. Member-consumers from Fish Lake Valley in the North to Sandy Valley in the South are now enjoying a fast, dependable, affordable service that otherwise would not be possible in our service territory. Whether downloading movies, surfing the world-wide web or powering digital services, VCA's wireless broadband is changing lives.

I will keep you posted on our progress as we continue to roll out fiber efficiently and methodically to our VEA member-consumers.

Until next month,

Angela Evans
Chief Executive Officer

Angela Evans served at the executive level at utilities in New Mexico, Texas, California for more than 20 years before joining Valley Electric Association in 2017.

TUNE IN

VCA Digital TV



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Matt Boast

The Kittitas PUD Board of Commissioners meets the last Tuesday of each month in Building B. Please visit the PUD website to view all approved board minutes.

Need Help With Your Utility Bills?

The following organizations may be able to help.

- ▶ Fish, (509) 925-5990
www.kvfish.org
- ▶ HopeSource, (509) 925-1448
www.hopesource.us
- ▶ Kittitas County Veteran's Coalition
Kittitas: (509) 933-2932
Cle Elum: (509) 647-3872
- ▶ St. Andrews Catholic Church, Ellensburg, (509) 962-9819,
www.st-andrewsparish.org
- ▶ Small Tribes Organization of Western Washington,
(800) 567-6690, www.stoww.webs.com

OFFICE HOURS

- ▶ Monday through Friday,
8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.



WA-43

Plan for a Safe, Happy Fourth

July has always been a favorite of mine. It's the middle of summer, the kids are out of school and, of course, we celebrate Independence Day!

On the Fourth, we typically celebrate our nation's independence with grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, homemade ice cream and sweet treats and, last but not least, fireworks.

This is a time for fellowship with family, friends and community, but at Kittitas PUD, we also want to make sure our members focus on safety.

To ensure you have the best Fourth of July possible, we want to remind you about a few important safety tips from the American Red Cross.

Nothing says "Fourth of July" like a spectacular fireworks display! The safest way to enjoy this part of the celebration is to head to a local firework show in our area or neighboring communities. If you want to put on your own show at home, follow these safety tips:

- Always follow the instructions on the fireworks' packaging and never give fireworks to small children.
- Keep a supply of water close by.
- Wear protective eyewear when lighting fireworks.
- Light only one firework at a time and never attempt to relight a dud.
- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place away from children and pets.
- Never throw or point a firework toward people, animals, vehicles, structures or flammable materials.

Cookouts are a great way to bring folks together on the Fourth. Whether you are grilling in your backyard or at a community park, make sure your feast includes a generous portion of fun and a side of safety! We recommend the following safety tips:

- Supervise your grill at all times.
- Use the proper tools for cooking on a grill.
- Never add charcoal starter fluid when the coals have already been ignited.
- Always follow the manufacturers instructions.

Fireworks and cookouts wouldn't be complete without a sunny day. Here's hoping we have good weather. If we do, make sure you practice sun safety:

- Use a broad spectrum SPF sunscreen and reapply often.
- Protect your eyes by wearing sunglasses.
- Drink plenty of water.
- Be on the lookout for signs of heat stroke. Symptoms include hot, red skin; changes in consciousness; rapid, weak pulse; and rapid, shallow breathing.

However you choose to celebrate, Kittitas PUD wishes you a safe and happy Fourth of July!

Max Beach, General Manager



557 Kenny Wren Rd.
P.O. Box 350
Dillingham, AK 99576

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General Manager

Robert Himschoot

2018 Board Meeting Schedule

March 20	August 21
April 17	September 18
May 15	October 16
June 19	November 20
July 17	December 18

Serving the communities of:

Aleknagik	Ekuk
Clarks Point	Manokotak
Dillingham	Portage Creek



Touchstone Energy®

AK-47

Fish On!

As I write this on June 15, our community is on the leading edge of another salmon season. Subsistence nets are catching, commercial fishermen are scrambling to get ready and sport fishers are headed to their favorite spots to try their luck. It is my favorite time of the year and reason to state the obvious. We are clearly blessed with this abundance.

Nushagak Electric & Telephone Cooperative is engaged in two projects that affect the benefit our community receives from this resource.

Our power plant upgrade project is kicking off construction this year. Along with replacing end-of-life infrastructure in the power plant, we will add 4.5 megawatts of capacity to meet the growing needs of our salmon processing industry. Nushagak's ability to deliver reliable power is critical component of salmon processing, whether a commercial processor handling millions of pounds a year or a subsistence user looking to have some salmon in the freezer for the winter. We are scheduled to have these upgrades completed by June 2019.

We also are looking at a potential hydroelectric production facility at Nuyakuk Falls. This project as currently envisioned would be able to provide power to several communities in this region—including those served by NETC—potentially creating a low-cost, sustainable energy source for generations. The facility would divert a portion of the flow from the top of the falls, through the turbines and back into the river below the falls. The process is in the early stages, with years of study and design ahead of us. We have engaged the community and potential stakeholders, having completed 68 project presentations through June in recognition of the necessity of community involvement. We will continue to engage the community as the project develops.

As you read this publication, red season will be winding down and silvers will be starting to show up. I wish everyone a successful and safe harvest of this sustainable resource that is so important to our community.

Sincerely,
Robert Himschoot



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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(541) 523-3616

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Gary Miller, Grant County

Les Penning, CEO & General
Manager

Ron Williams, Attorney

OR-48

Supporting the OTEC Mission

Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative, along with other cooperatives nationwide, has a long and rich history of traditions. That has not interfered with looking forward, ensuring we continue to keep up with the changing needs of our member-owners.

The speed at which technology changes in our world can be mind-boggling. Cryptocurrency systems, bitcoins, artificial intelligence, robotics and major technological shifts appear to occur nearly every week. It can be difficult to keep up.

In our industry, change is also a constant. Many advancing technologies—such as solar, wind and battery storage—are having an impact on our business. These shifts are exciting and bode well for the future as technology improves and costs decrease.

Overshadowing all of those new advances is the fact that few of those new technologies can compete with the low-cost energy supplied by our dams. Hydropower remains the most affordable renewable energy source available to us. Put simply, we can leverage the innate power of water to provide our member-owners with competitively priced and reliable power 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 12 months a year.

We are not immune, nor do we choose to be, to the array of emerging technologies. We take each one seriously and look for a way to leverage them to help our member-owners.

We are reaching out to our member-owners with a renewable energy survey that will help guide certain aspects of our path forward—one that will give our member-owners more choices to reduce their electric bill and is in balance with protecting the environment without compromising electric grid reliability. At the same time, we will ensure that whatever steps we may take regarding additional technology and renewables, we do so in a manner that provides the best value and highest quality service that our member-owners need.

We expect technology advancements that include renewables will continue to change our business. As a cooperative, however, our mission will remain the same: to safely provide reliable electric and related services that are based on the seven cooperative principles, and support the economy and the quality of life of OTEC's member-owners.



Les Penning
CEO and General Manager





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Kenneth Klotz

WA-49

Plan for a Safe, Happy Fourth

On the Fourth, we typically celebrate our nation's independence with grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, homemade ice cream and sweet treats and, last but not least, fireworks.

This is a time for fellowship with family, friends and community, but at Ohop Mutual Light Co., we also want to make sure our members focus on safety.

To ensure you have the best Fourth of July possible, we want to remind you about a few important safety tips from the American Red Cross.

Nothing says "Fourth of July" like a spectacular fireworks display! The safest way to enjoy this part of the celebration is to head to a local firework show in our area or neighboring communities. If you want to put on your own show at home, follow these safety tips:

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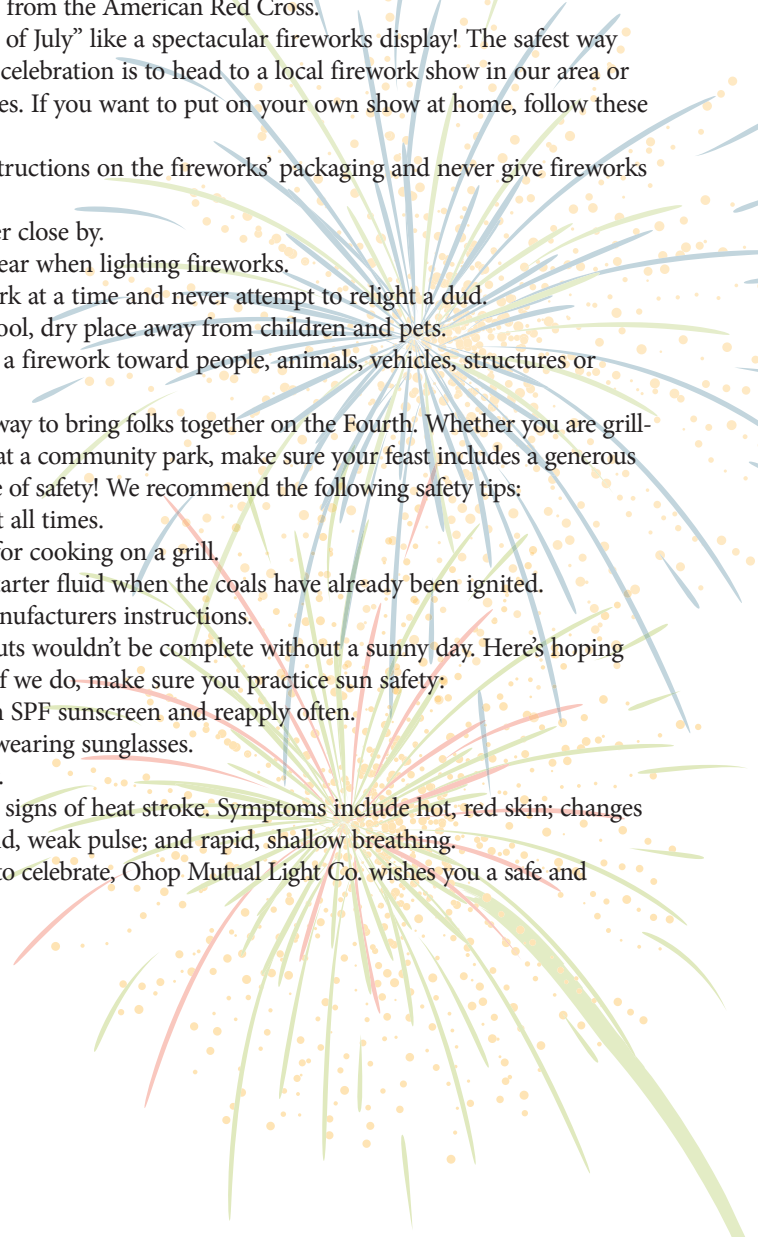
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- Always follow the manufacturers instructions.

Fireworks and cookouts wouldn't be complete without a sunny day. Here's hoping we have good weather. If we do, make sure you practice sun safety:

- Use a broad spectrum SPF sunscreen and reapply often.
- Protect your eyes by wearing sunglasses.
- Drink plenty of water.
- Be on the lookout for signs of heat stroke. Symptoms include hot, red skin; changes in consciousness; rapid, weak pulse; and rapid, shallow breathing.

However you choose to celebrate, Ohop Mutual Light Co. wishes you a safe and happy Fourth of July!





TANNER ELECTRIC *Cooperative*

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www.tannerelectric.coop

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employer*

WA-50



Washington state's Youth Tour representatives were, from left, Nathan Cahoon, Benton REA; Israel Poulson, Big Bend Electric Cooperative; Taylor Smith, Benton REA; Tashi Simpson, Tanner Electric Cooperative; and

Rural Electric Youth Tour

On June 7, five Washington state students who were awarded 2018 Youth Tour scholarships met up with students from Oregon, Idaho and Alaska to travel to Washington, D.C., to participate in the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Rural Electric Youth Tour.

For many teens, the trip is full of firsts. It may be the first time they left the state, flew on a plane, visited the nation's capital or were away from their family for an extended period of time. Students get to see and experience the larger world through their own eyes, rather than through their parents' perspective. Participants learn about cooperatives, history and grassroots advocacy.

Washington state typically sends a delegation of five students. The week includes visits to many D.C. monuments and sites, including Capitol Hill. Activities with Youth Tour delegations from across the country enable teens to meet many other co-op kids.

The weeklong adventure centers on challenging and inspiring teens to make an impact in their communities. As conversations evolve, so do the teens' worldview. Their definition of community often moves beyond their hometown.

Youth Tour is one of the important programs Tanner Electric Cooperative undertakes. I am constantly impressed by the caliber of students our co-op sponsors. Our teens are our future, and it's looking brighter every day.

I hope you will urge your teen to take the leap and join our next Youth Tour delegation in 2019. For more information about NRECA's Youth Tour and to find out how to apply, go to www.tannerelectric.coop/content/youth-tour-washington-dc.

Steve Walter, General Manager



Parkland Light & Water Company

Owned By Those We Serve

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(253) 531-5666

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The country's oldest
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**To track an outage, follow us on
Twitter @PLWCo.**

WA-52

Plan for a Safe, Happy Fourth

On the Fourth, we typically celebrate our nation's independence with grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, homemade ice cream and sweet treats and, last but not least, fireworks.

This is a time for fellowship with family, friends and community, but at Parkland Light & Water Co., we also want to make sure our members focus on safety.

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However you choose to celebrate, Parkland Light & Water Co. wishes you a safe and happy Fourth of July!



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Marc Farmer

CPUD \$10 Bill Credit Winner

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prize. Congratulations!

Community Calendar

July 4: Clatskanie Heritage Days

See pages 28 & 29 for details
Visit our Clatskanie PUD booth

July 6 & 7: Rainier Days in the Park

See pages 4 & 5 for details
Visit our Clatskanie PUD booth

July 18: Clatskanie PUD Board Meeting

Workshop at 5:30 pm, followed by regular
board meeting at 7 pm.

July 18-22: Columbia County Fair &

Rodeo - Come visit us at the Clatskanie
PUD booth for a FREE LED lightbulb and
see our 75th Anniversary display. We will
have color sheets & crafts for kids, too!

OR-60

At the May Board of Directors meeting we received the 2017 Audit Report from Moss Adams LLP. I am most pleased to announce that we received a perfectly clean audit with no adjustments. Only 5% of companies they audit reach this level of accuracy. This is a tribute to the hard work and dedication of our staff to achieve this high level of financial performance, recordkeeping, and working with our auditors to make sure we are meeting all of our obligations, standards, and rules. We have established a culture here of fiscal accountability and responsibility. This audit lets us know we have been successful in meeting the standards we have worked diligently to implement. Thank you Staff!



One of the other areas we have been working to develop internally and to participate in externally is emergency preparedness. Internally we have taken measures to insure the safety of readiness of our staff in the event of an emergency event. Unless we are prepared and safe ourselves in an event, we will not be in position to help others. Restoring power as quickly as possible is essential to the recovery process. We have taken measures to protect and provide for the immediate needs of our staff, we provide training and education, and we equip them with emergency kits for their desks and vehicles. We have also purchased and are installing a ham radio to allow the utility to communicate with other utilities and local, county, and state governments along with other emergency services. Two of our staff have now been trained to operate the ham radio.

Externally we have been working with the Clatskanie Fire Department, City of Clatskanie, Clatskanie Middle/High School, and American Legion Hall to provide safe places for the community to go in an emergency. To help accomplish this we will be finishing a project we started a few years ago to install and have operational by the end of this summer, a generator for the high school building. We are also working on one for the American Legion Hall so people on both sides of the river have a place to go that can provide shelter. Our goal is to have both projects completed this year.

I am also happy to report that the Bonneville Power Administration has recently announced that they should not need an additional cost adjustment payment (CRAC true up on wholesale power costs) from us this year. With this announcement and current water levels we are safe to say that there will not be a rate increase in 2018.

We wish everyone a happy 4th of July and we will see you at the parades. Enjoy your summer!

Marc Farmer
General Manager



KOTZEBUE
ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives 

P.O. Box 44
Kotzebue, AK 99752
(907) 442-3491
(Fax) (907) 442-2482

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Martin Shroyer

Kotzebue Electric Association Inc., a locally owned utility dedicated to cooperative principles, will make electric energy, and other value-added utility services and products available to its members' at the lowest cost consistent with sound economic and management practices, which improves utility services and the quality of life in our service area.

AK-64

Be Safe This Summer

As you and your family spend more time outdoors, please join us in taking stock of your home summertime safety practices.

Pay attention to where you place metal ladders or dig for fence posts. Before you start any project, always look up and avoid overhead power lines. Keep a minimum of 10 feet between you and overhead lines.

Keep power tools away from wet surfaces, and do not overload outlets.

Always assume a wire is live. Fly kites and remote-controlled airplanes in large open areas safely away from overhead power lines. If a power line is down, dangling or on the ground under any circumstances, keep a 30-foot distance. This goes for adults and kids. Those wires are likely to be energized, so please call us and let us take it from there.

Electrical devices, such as stereos, should be kept at least 10 feet away from water sources. Outdoor electrical outlets should always be covered.

These are just a few tips to remember when you are spending time outdoors this summer with your family. Have some fun out there, and always keep safety in mind.

Happy summer,

Martin Shroyer

General Manager



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Gambell	Russian Mission
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Kaltag	Shageluk
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Kobuk	Stebbins
Kotlik	Teller
Koyuk	Togiak
Lower Kalskag	Toksook Bay
Marshall	Tununak
Mekoryuk	Upper Kalskag
Minto	Yakutat
Mt. Village	Wales

Alaska Village Electric Cooperative, Inc.

4831 Eagle Street
Anchorage, AK 99503
(907) 561-1818
(800) 478-1818



AK-105



Celebrating Emil Henry

Emil Henry Sr.—better known as Alu —retired June 3. He worked for AVEC in Kiana, then in Ambler and then back in Kiana for 38 years. Emil had an incredible record of keeping the lights on!

Emil started with AVEC in Kiana in September 1980. He and his family moved to Ambler in 1997 because his wife was from there, and then moved back to Kiana in September 2004. Emil raised his family in Kiana and has been the power plant operator there ever since, for a total of 31 years.

With his retirement pending, we have hired Emil's daughter, Kemberly, as a power plant operator, and his son, Emil Jr., as a substitute power plant operator with specialized training to do fuel transfers.

Emil has left an enduring legacy in Kiana. After all these years of missing out on the subsistence hunting, fishing and gathering that his family depends upon, he is finally retiring so he can go to fish camp all summer and enjoy all his close-knit family's activities.

We wish him the very best in his well-deserved retirement!

Meera Kohler
President and CEO



65 S. Roop St.
Susanville, CA 96130
Phone (530) 257-4174
Fax (530) 257-2558
www.lmud.org

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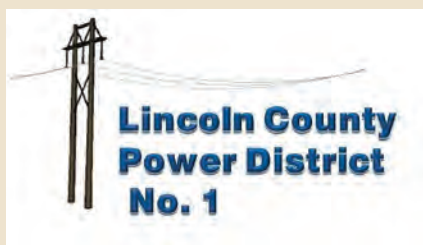
In case of an outage: If your electricity is off for more than a few minutes, call 257-4174. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. After-hours and weekend calls are answered by a local service and immediately forwarded to standby personnel.

*The board meets at 5:30 p.m.
the fourth Tuesday of each month.*

CA-106



Lassen Municipal Utility District is a proud supporter of the Lassen County Fair. Join us July 18-22 as we take in the sights, sounds, people and events that make up our community. Stop by our Kiddies Day display, left, Thursday, July 19, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bring a lawn chair Saturday, July 21, at 10 a.m., and stake out your place on Main Street for the fair parade. For more information about this year's county fair, visit www.lassencountyfair.org, or call the fair office at 251-8900.



Lincoln County Power District No. 1

HC 74, Box 101
Pioche, NV 89043

Phone: (775) 962-5122
Toll free: (888) 649-3814

Email: lcpcd@lcpcd1.com

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David Luttrell

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second Monday
of each month



MISSION STATEMENT

*To construct, operate and maintain
a system which will provide
our customers with electric service
in the most economical and
efficient manner consistent with
sound business practice.*

NV-107

Get the Facts Before You Vote on Question 3

In the last two editions of Ruralite, I began to re-introduce you to the energy choice initiative that will be on the ballot this November. You may have noticed increased advertising regarding this initiative, also known as Ballot Question 3. While I have presented facts, many television and newspaper advertisements are making misleading claims about energy choice. As we get closer to November, I expect misleading ads to increase, so I want to offer more facts regarding the initiative.

Energy choice is not a new idea. Nevada started down this path in 1999 but quickly reversed direction when wholesale energy-market manipulation by Enron caused an energy crisis in California. A few states—mainly in the Northeast and Texas—went forward and implemented some form of energy choice.

Several studies point out that energy choice has not lowered power bills for the average residential and commercial customer in these states. A 2016 study by the Electric Markets Research Foundation concluded “nearly two decades later, there is little evidence that retail (i.e. energy) choice has yielded any significant benefits.”

According to the Energy Information Administration’s 2016 report, the cost of electric energy in states that have adopted energy choice is actually higher than in other states. The nationwide average cost for electric energy for residential consumers was 12.55 cents per kilowatt-hour. The average cost of electric energy from traditional integrated utilities for residential consumers was slightly less than average at 12.34 cents per kWh. The average cost for electric energy from competitive service providers (energy choice states) was 25 percent higher at 15.46 cent per kWh.

Consequently, some Northeast states are starting to rethink energy choice. Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey is demanding a shut-down of energy choice in her state, claiming competitive energy suppliers used deceptive sales tactics.

“Competitive electric suppliers promise big energy savings but are actually burdening customers with hundreds of dollars in extra costs,” Healey said at a press conference in March. “In two years, Massachusetts residents lost over \$176 million to these predatory companies.”

The Public Utility Commission of Nevada studied the energy choice initiative’s impacts and concluded that passing Question 3 “is reasonably likely to increase the average monthly electric bills of Nevadans at least ... for the first 10 years.”

I encourage you to read the entire report. Before you go to the polls in November, carefully study the facts. You can find links to all of the studies I mentioned on our website.

Please contact me if you have questions or would like me to present to a group.



David Luttrell, General Manager



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Surprise Valley Electrification Corp.
Umatilla Electric Co-op
Umpqua Indian Utility
Wasco Electric Co-op
West Oregon Electric Co-op

OR-400

Case in Point

One of the highlights of my summer is ORECA's mid-year meeting in July. As part of the meeting, my board of directors and I will convene to discuss important legislative and regulatory issues before the association.

This year, we're going to discuss another initiative that has the potential to be transcendent in more ways than one: partnering with the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's international program to bring electricity to villages in Bolivia or Guatemala.

It's hard to fathom that more than a billion people in the world still do not have access to safe and reliable electricity.

NRECA has created opportunities for state organizations such as ORECA to sponsor projects in places that still do not have electricity. Other statewide organizations have already taken on this responsibility. Their leaders tell me the experience is as impactful on their co-ops as those who are given the gift of electricity. Exciting, perhaps, but these projects are daunting.

At our meeting, we will hear from those who have done the heavy lifting and learn what it takes to raise money, secure equipment and send linemen to string wires in remote villages. We have much to learn and discuss.

ORECA cannot possibly electrify every village, but perhaps we can adopt a small piece of the planet. The question of whether it's worth the effort will be answered by look on a child's face as they see their village illuminated for the very first time.



Ted Case

Executive Director

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IMPORTANT DATES

- July 4—Cooperative office closed.
- July 21—Annual Meeting.
- September 3—Office closed, Labor Day.

EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARIES

July and August
Congratulations!

- Don Downing 12 years
- Kevin Short 12 years

Easy Money

Interested in a \$10 bill credit? Sign up for Auto-Pay at www.anzaelectric.org. Once you are done give us a call or email to let us know. We will issue the bill credit once Auto-Pay has been confirmed. It's that easy!

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A Message from the Manager

Ambition

What drives you to do what it is that you do? What motivates you to get out of bed and be productive?

For those of us at your cooperative, we're driven by the objectives and goals of our mission statement. The words of that statement are the motivational force behind our achievements and success in providing the utility services that our members want and deserve—every single day of the year.

Our mission statement dictates that we must constantly search for better ways to do our job. We must be vigilant in balancing cost, reliability and safety against availability and quality when delivering electric and broadband supply to our community.

Behind this motivation, however, is the ambition to relentlessly improve. This ambition is at the very heart of what sets us apart from any other utility that offers the same services.

This ambition is what got us to be No. 2 in the nation for solar generation watts installed per member for 2017. It is what moved us into the lead in fiber optic broadband service. It is ultimately what will help our community grow and thrive as we work together for local economic improvement.

Our determination to be the best we can possibly be is rooted in our history in the community. For 67 years, Anza Electric has been one of the local institutions that remains steadfast in our purpose. Our commitment to our valley is unwavering and complete.

We also recognize the need to evolve as a utility, which led to the development of our Cooperative Care Program. In partnership with the Thimble Club, we have helped more than 300 members with \$83,000 in financial assistance during the last few years. We also offer energy-efficiency assistance to help reduce costs, free computer literacy classes and low-cost voice-over-internet-protocol telephone service. Our newsletters and Currents magazine are filled with informative articles and money-saving tips.

Member owned. Member focused. Member driven. Our ambition is the pursuit of the mission that we have accepted on behalf of our community. Thank you for your trust and confidence in our ability to accomplish that vision.



Kevin Short

ANZA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

P.O. Box 391909 • Anza, CA 92539

Phone: (951) 763-4333 • Fax: (951) 763-5297 • aec@anzaelectric.org • www.anzaelectric.org
Our crew is on standby 24 hours a day. To report an outage or other service problem, please call (951) 763-4333.



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Duncan Valley Electric Cooperative Inc.

379597 AZ 75
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www.dvec.org

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Steven Lunt
CEO

BOARD MEETINGS

July 16
August 20
September 17

*Generally the third Monday
of the month*

**Owned By Those We Serve—
Incorporated June 1947**



CEO's Message

The Economics of Renewable Energy

At our annual meeting in May, I reported that we are doing very well in our efforts to use renewable energy in our energy mix. This year, we expect to have about 25 percent of our energy coming from renewable resources. Our ability to work with other cooperatives and acquire affordable renewable energy puts us well above the Arizona Corporation Commission goal of 15 percent by the year 2025.

However, relying on renewable energy comes with some risks. Since most renewable energy is provided by solar or wind power, fluctuations in sunlight and wind can dramatically affect what energy is available throughout the day. For utilities to provide instantaneous energy use by their consumers, they must have a certain amount of generating capacity available 24 hours a day. This means some type of base generation that can produce electricity during those fluctuations.

Generation plants are multimillion-dollar investments. Operating and maintaining a generation plant are also expensive. To overcome those expenses, utilities try to maximize the generation capabilities of the plant to make the cost per kilowatt-hour very low. When the plant is only used part time, the cost per kWh goes up. Every kWh used from a renewable source means the base generation plant is not being used, driving up the costs of energy produced.

Why this lengthy explanation of the economics of power production? There is a campaign happening in Arizona right now that would force electric cooperatives to rely on renewable energy providing 50 percent of all energy produced. This means even lower economic use of base generation plants that



Steven Lunt

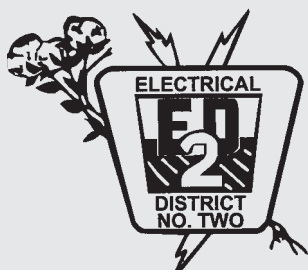
supply you energy when renewables are not available. This means your cost of electricity will go up.

We estimate the cost of complying with this initiative will be more than \$500 a member each year. Many

in our communities cannot afford such an increase in the cost of power.

If you don't want your bill to increase this much, we urge you to not sign the Clean Energy for a Healthy Arizona petition. If this proposition does make it to the November ballot, we urge you to vote no.

We think renewables have a place in our energy mix, and we have been able to add renewables to our energy mix in a cost-effective way. Having a government mandate that forces us to make uneconomical decisions is bad policy and needs to be stopped.



Electrical District No. 2

P.O. Box 548
Coolidge, AZ 85128

Phone: (520) 723-7741
Fax: (520) 723-5252

To report an emergency or a power outage after hours or weekends, call:
(800) 668-8079

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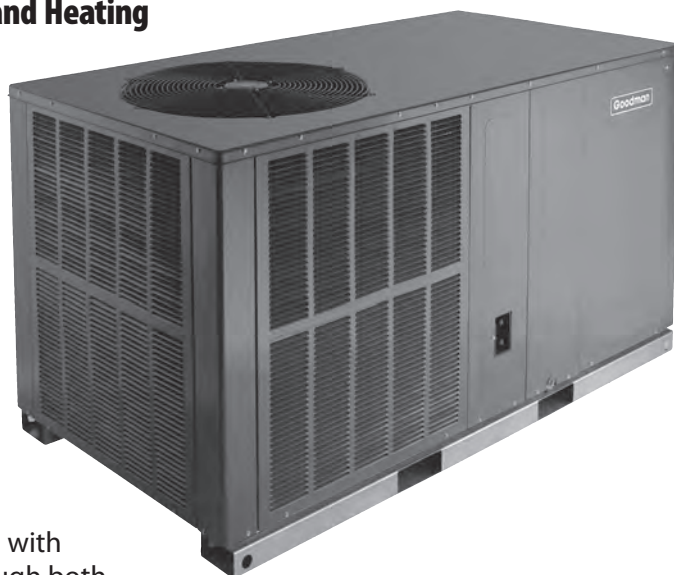
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ED2 is a full-service electric utility serving the greater Casa Grande Valley of Pinal County—including in and around the cities of Coolidge, Florence and Casa Grande—since 1923.

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Maintain Your Equipment

Tri-Cor's Air-Conditioning and Heating System Maintenance Agreement covers two service calls—pre-summer and pre-winter—to prepare your system for heating and cooling seasons.



Replacing your air conditioning and heating system can cost several thousand dollars. Protect the investment you have in your existing system with regular maintenance—through both do-it-yourself measures and professional inspections. To prevent an expensive repair bill, keep the outdoor condenser unit free from debris, and clean or change the air filter once a month. Periodically hire a trained technician to check refrigerant levels and mechanical operations.

Tri-Cor Air Conditioning and Heating's preventative maintenance plan provides you with a 25-point tune-up and professional cleaning twice a year, and offers discounts on repairs. Tri-Cor services all makes and models of equipment, and has plans available for both residential and commercial customers. For more details, including pricing, call Tri-Cor and schedule an appointment with one of our service technicians. Your energy savings could exceed the cost of your preventative service agreement.

Tri-Cor Air Conditioning & Heating

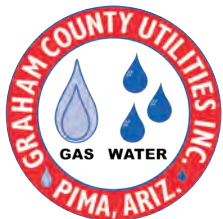
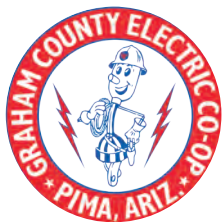
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Kirk Gray



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Manager's Message

Storm Season Tips

Another year has rolled by, and once again we are in the middle of our summer thunderstorm season. I would like to remind our members of things they should do to prepare for storm-related outages.

It is a good idea to have a storm emergency kit available for use during extended outages. First, make sure you have drinking water available, at least 1 gallon per person per day. During extended outages, water pressures can be affected. Make sure you have some nonperishable food that is easy to prepare. Make sure you have flashlights and extra batteries and/or candles. It is a good idea to have a fully stocked first-aid kit available. Keep several days' worth of prescription medications on hand because your local pharmacy may also be affected by the outage. Have sanitation and personal hygiene items on hand. It is a good idea to have a cellphone and a battery-operated cellphone charger available. If possible, keep extra cash on hand, because your local ATM may be in the outage area.

Under all circumstances, stay away from downed wires or electric equipment. Do not attempt to remove trees or debris you see in power lines or communications lines. If you happen to be in a vehicle that is in or near downed power lines, do not get out of your vehicle. Remain in the vehicle until emergency response personnel or cooperative personnel let you know that is safe to exit the vehicle.

Do not use a generator in an enclosed area such as your home or garage because of the



danger of carbon monoxide poisoning.

We have recently upgraded our telephone system. Our phone system is now able to handle the volume of incoming calls during a large outage. In a large-scale outage, please be patient while waiting to talk to dispatch personnel. Although our system should handle the call volume, the wait

times may be substantial. Please listen to the voice prompts as some of the options might have changed. We encourage you to follow us on Facebook for the latest updates on outage restoration. If you have an

emergency or have some information that will help our crews identify the possible cause of the outage, please call us. We will continually update our Facebook page with pertinent information until the power is restored. By following us on Facebook, this keeps our phone system available for emergency situations, such as gas or water outages and additional electric outages.

These are just a few reminders and suggestions to help make outages a little more bearable. Be assured that our line crews and dispatch personnel work tirelessly to get as many members' power back on as soon as possible. Our primary concern during storm season is the safety of our crews, the safety of the general public and the safety of you, our member-owners.

—Kirk Gray

FLORIDA Currents

Members acknowledge that \$3.96, plus actual postage, is the cost to publish 12 issues a year of **Florida Currents** (USPS-8300). Published by Ruralite Services Inc., 5605 NE Elam Young Pkwy., Hillsboro, OR 97124—a not-for-profit Oregon cooperative corporation—the magazine serves the communications needs of consumer-owned electric utilities in Florida. Preferred Periodicals postage paid at Hillsboro, OR 97123 and at additional mailing offices.

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EREC
A Touchstone Energy®
Cooperative

Manager's Message

Thank You for Investing Your Time

We appreciate the many members who participated in Escambia River Electric Cooperative's 79th annual meeting in April.

We know you all lead busy lives, and you made a choice to spend a good part of your day with us. Thank you for seeing the importance of making an investment in your co-op and your community.

One of my favorite things about being a part of this community is walking into a local store or restaurant and knowing the profit, product and labor can make positive impacts on our area. The spirit of rural America is embodied in these local businesses, just like it is in EREC.

Electric cooperatives are as local and community centered as they come. They were founded as a way to bring electricity to rural communities that did not have the numbers to offer a profit margin enticing enough for investor-owned utilities to provide service.

Electric co-ops have been a cornerstone of community and economic development in rural America and beyond for decades.

That feeling I get when I frequent local businesses is the same feeling I get when I walk



Clay R. Campbell

into work at the co-op every day. It is a feeling of pride. I am proud to be part of an organization that serves the community in which we live, instead of working for a group of shareholders who may never have set foot in our service territory.

Living on co-op lines is more than just knowing there are people out there working to bring you safe, reliable and affordable electric service.

Living on co-op lines is an investment in our community and its members. Because we are owned by you, we have a vested interest in making sure our community is prosperous. We do this by investing in economic development and community service programs.

I hope you view EREC not just as your electric utility provider, but as a local business that brings pride and prosperity to our community. We are here to power our neighborhoods and to empower you, our members, to improve the quality of your lives.

As a member, this is your cooperative. Your voice is important, and you have the power to make a difference in our community. Thank you for the time you invest in your cooperative and our community. ■



Inside

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Vol. 7, No. 9

Living It Up With Lemurs 12

Scientists in central Florida work to bring the endangered primates back from the brink of extinction.

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JULY 2018

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District 3, Islamorada

CONTACT US:

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Pay by Phone 1-855-385-9912
www.FKEC.com
Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 377, Tavernier, FL 33070

MEMBERS SHOULD KNOW:

Our summer rainy season is a great time to plant vegetation, but remember to always call 811 before doing any digging. <https://fkec.com/FormService/vegetation-management.cfm>

Unless otherwise noted, "FKEC NEWS" writing, design & photography by:
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Edited by: Rebecca Callahan Newman

SCOTT NEWBERRY

Chief Executive Officer

Preventing & Responding

When it comes to maintaining reliable electric service our first priority is to prevent outages before they occur. Our second is to be prepared to efficiently respond to the outages we cannot circumvent.

One of our most noticeable preventative maintenance projects is the annual helicopter inspection of the utility's entire transmission system (see facing page). Routine inspections such as this allow us to identify, anticipate and prevent problems before they interfere with power service.

Many people have asked about the use of drones. We do use drone technology when applicable, and have an FKEC drone and in-house licensed operators; however, in the case of our system wide pole top inspection, the use of a skilled lineman viewing all equipment from the air is still the most effective, reliable way to survey our transmission system.

In addition to this yearly aerial inspection, FKEC is constantly performing routine maintenance and other preventative surveys.

For example our tree crews work on a three-year cycle to maintain power line clearance and prevent outages caused by trees. We also use infrared technology to identify any potential hot spots that could lead to equipment failures in our substations, and



ground inspections of all our distribution poles are done routinely—and these are just a few examples.

When it comes to outages we cannot prevent, it is imperative we are prepared to respond as quickly and safely as possible. To do this, FKEC uses a high-tech outage mapping system to not only pinpoint the location of the outage but also identify the cause so the linecrews who respond can efficiently restore power. We've also equipped our power system with reclosers, which help minimize the number of services effected by an outage.

As an FKEC member, you can also help prevent outages and improve outage response. Check the trees around your home to make sure they don't pose a threat to electric lines, particularly your service drop (see page 6). Also, make sure FKEC has your current phone numbers. Doing so allows FKEC's phone system to automatically match your phone number to your electrical equipment and determine the location and cause of the outage faster and more accurately (see page 7).

GLADES

Electric Cooperative, Inc.

"Neighbors Working for Neighbors"

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

OFFICES

Open 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday

26733 U.S. Hwy. 27 East/P.O. Box 519
Moore Haven, FL 33471
(863) 946-6200

214 SR 70 West
Lake Placid, FL 33852
(863) 531-5000

808 N. Parrott Ave.
Okeechobee, FL 34972
(863) 467-5111

POWER INTERRUPTION NUMBER

Moore Haven (863) 946-6200

Phones are answered 24 hours a day, seven days a week, including weekends and holidays. Please have your location or account number handy when you call.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

John "Jack" Coxe, President, District 8
Lake Josephine, (863) 655-3056
James "Jim" Aul, Vice President, District 7
Lorida, (863) 441-0441
Shannon Hall, Secretary/Treasurer, District 4
Lakeport and Brighton, (863) 946-3242
Donnie Lundy, Trustee, District 1
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Venus and Hicoria, (863) 441-2227
Lee Henderson, Trustee, District 6
Highlands Park, (863) 633-9281
Angela Hodges, Trustee, District 9
Okeechobee, (863) 801-3140

The Board's next meeting will be at 9 a.m. July 24 at the Moore Haven headquarters office. Any changes to this schedule will be posted in the lobby of all three district offices.

EXECUTIVE STAFF

CEO Jeff Brewington
CFO Jennifer Manning
CTO Jesse Wallace
Chief Assistant Margaret Ellerbee
Dir. of Business Development Paul McGehee
Dir. of Employee Services Yvonne Bradley
Dir. of Engineering Travis Turner
Dir. of Operations Tracy Vaughn
Dir. of Safety Pedro Navarro

FL-153

CEO's Message

Electronic Magazine Available

We continually seek ways to reduce operating costs and pass those savings on to you in rate reductions. One thing that could help is how you receive this publication. We now have available to our membership an electronic version of Florida Currents. By taking the e-version, you can help your cooperative reduce printing and postage costs. In addition to those savings, I know some of you will appreciate the reduction in paper use. Call member services at (863) 946-6200 to get converted or use SmartHub and send us a request. In the near future, we will reach out to all of you with an email address asking you to consider converting to the e-version.



Jeff Brewington

Speaking of SmartHub, this is another tool that can improve your cooperative's operating efficiencies. The smartphone app provides you easy access to your account, offering online bill pay, outage reporting and energy use in addition to an easy way to reach us and receive important alerts from wherever you may be. Besides a smartphone, all you need to use SmartHub is an email associated with your cooperative account. Just download the app and look for New User in the upper right corner of the app to set up your account. Member services is happy to help you activate the app. Call them at the number listed above.

Another project under investigation regards those of you using smart thermostats. Our power supplier, Seminole Electric Cooperative, will run a one-year trial through the major smart thermostat providers that allows control of your thermostat at peak energy times, thereby reducing power costs that can be passed on to us. In the August to September timeframe, look for an email from your smart thermostat provider regarding this program. We need a minimum of 30 members to join the trial. All members joining the trial project will be rewarded with an \$80 account credit. For those of you who have already contacted me with interest in joining, keep your eyes open for that email from your thermostat provider.

All of us working together can continue to make small changes that add up to big savings. Oh, by the way, the Trustees were able to approve another rate reduction, effective with June billings.



Gulf Coast
Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

OFFICES

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(850) 639-2216 or (800) 333-9392

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Southport, FL 32409
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Phone: (850) 481-1188

www.gcec.com

CEO/GENERAL MANAGER

John Bartley

TRUSTEES

President Doug Birmingham
Vice President Jimmy Black
Secretary Rupert Brown
Treasurer Betty Moore
Robert Byrd
Gary Cox
Kinneth Daniels
Waylon Graham
Eddie Jones

Trustees normally meet the third Tuesday of each month at 12:30 p.m. Central. The board meets at the Wewahitchka office in even-numbered months (February, April, June, August, October and December) and the Southport office in odd-numbered months (January, March, May, July, September and November).

The mission of GCEC: Fulfilling the changing needs of our membership and communities by providing cost effective, reliable and safe utility services through a dedicated and responsive workforce.

FL-154

GCEC President's Message

Patriotism in Action

The dictionary defines patriotism as “the love for or devotion to one’s country.” Perhaps no other day of the year evokes such a sense of patriotism than Independence Day. It is easy to feel a swell of pride for our country with parades, flags rippling in the wind, and red, white and blue bunting adorning storefronts.

Another, perhaps deeper form of patriotism, is active engagement in public and civic life. Involvement in your town promotes a richer community life and ensures institutions thrive and communities remain vibrant and inviting places to live, work and play. Beyond being enjoyable, your participation in community events and activities—together with your friends, neighbors and co-workers—makes a difference. Simple things such as supporting a bake sale or attending a high school event signals to the young people in your community that you care and support them, and that the community itself is worth sustaining.

Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative offers civic engagement opportunities. One of our important cooperative principles is democratic participation. If you pay your bill, you are a member of the co-op and have the chance to vote during our annual meeting. The next opportunity to vote in GCEC’s board election is March 2019.

Like other co-ops, GCEC originated to serve a need not being met by traditional for-profit electric companies. While providing reliable electricity is our priority, we address other needs that might not be met otherwise. We make decisions based on long-term thinking: What decisions will benefit the larger community in which we operate? One of the best ways you can engage with your co-op is by casting your vote when it is time to elect board members. These are folks just like you, from our community, who provide guidance to co-op leadership on myriad issues and decisions both short and long term. Perhaps you haven’t voted in the past because you didn’t think you were qualified to weigh in on a particular topic, or maybe you simply didn’t have time. But you do have an opinion on issues that affect our community, and GCEC wants your perspective.

Everyone has experiences that influence their decision-making. Diverse perspectives provide a more balanced view of the community. You may bring new information not previously considered. We want more members to participate because greater numbers reflect a consensus on the will of the people and determines future direction.

I contend that voting—whether in co-op, local or national elections—is a form of patriotism. Democracy is not a spectator sport. It takes active civic engagement by citizens to thrive. This Independence Day, I hope you will embrace the local celebrations and actively participate in your community—and vote at every opportunity. ■



Doug Birmingham

Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative offices will be closed Wednesday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day. Have a safe and happy holiday.



Peace River Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

TO REPORT POWER OUTAGE

- Use the SmartHub app
- Text OUT to 800-282-3824
- Call 1-800-282-3824

CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS

210 Metheny Road
Wauchula, Florida 33873
Telephone: 1-800-282-3824
Fax: 866-201-1814

MANATEE SERVICE CENTER

14505 Arbor Green Trail
Lakewood Ranch, Florida 34202
Telephone: 1-800-282-3824
Fax: 941-752-4928

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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LEONARD CRAWLEY

District 2
KENNETH ODEN

District 3
BRUCE VICKERS
ASST SECRETARY/TREASURER

District 4
HOLLIS ALBRITTON

District 5
MAURICE HENDERSON

District 6
JOHN MARTIN

District 7
CHRIS PORTALE
PRESIDENT

District 8
ELLEN BACHMAN
SECRETARY/TREASURER

District 9
WILLIE DAWES
VICE PRESIDENT

BOARD MEETING ATTENDANCE

Any PRECO member may attend a Board Meeting. Due to building security requirements and for us to facilitate attendance, members wishing to attend a Board Meeting should contact the Cooperative in a timely manner for logistical information regarding the meeting.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETING DATES

August 28, 2018
September 25, 2018
October 23, 2018

FL 155

Cool Your Home and Your Electric Bill This Summer

If you're like most central Florida residents, more than 50 percent of your power bill goes into air conditioning your home during the peak summer months. So properly maintaining your home's HVAC air conditioning system and operating it efficiently can make a big impact on your power costs.

At Peace River Electric Cooperative, we want to help you maximize your comfort and bring your costs down at the same time. For your convenience, we've provided some air conditioner energy-saving tips below.



Use a programmable thermostat

Set your programmable thermostat to match your weekly schedule. It will automatically raise the temperature in your home while you're away and bring it back into your comfort zone before you return. Do this and you'll save about \$180 a year. To maximize savings, keep it set at 78 degrees or above.

Change the air filter

Check your air filter monthly. Change it every three months — sooner if it looks dirty. A clogged filter reduces air flow, making your a/c system work harder. A dirty filter increases dirt buildup in the system, which can lead to expensive repairs or replacement.

Have your HVAC system checked

Keep your HVAC system healthy by scheduling a yearly checkup by a qualified technician. You'll enjoy energy savings and cool comfort. Need help finding a reputable HVAC contractor? Ask your friends or neighbors to recommend one.

Seal your ductwork

Leaky ducts can be big energy wasters. Properly sealing and insulating ducts can improve efficiency by 20 percent or more. Use mastic to seal ductwork seams and connections, then wrap them with insulation for maximum savings.

Consider replacing your HVAC system

If your air conditioner is at least 10 years old or can no longer perform efficiently, consider replacing it with an energy efficient model. Choose an ENERGY STAR qualified system and save about \$200 a year. Buy a unit with a high SEER (Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio) rating. The higher the number, the greater your savings. We recommend a minimum 14 SEER rating.

Whenever you have energy efficiency questions, call PRECO's Energy Services Department at 1-800-282-3824. We're here to serve you.

Randy
PRECO CEO