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Cooperative 

"We Care"

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Business Hours:

Monday - Thursday

7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Closed Fridays

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ID-1



SmartHub Finger•Tips

"Electric Usage Graph"

I prefer a more hands-on approach.

SmartHub puts electric usage right at our fingertips!

That's literally the same thing!

10:10 AM

Monthly Usage

Aug 2017 - Jul 2018

Month	Usage	Avg. Temperature
Aug	40	80
Sep	35	75
Oct	35	70
Nov	40	65
Dec	55	60
Jan	75	55
Feb	75	50
Mar	70	45
Apr	60	40
May	40	35
Jun	35	30
Jul	40	25

Usage Avg. Temperature

smart hub

Available on the iPhone App Store

GET IT ON Google play

Try SmartHub at clearwaterpower.com or Get the app!



171 Linden Way
P.O. Box 398
Heppner, OR 97836
(541) 676-9146

www.cbec.cc
info@cbec.cc

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Lori Anderson, Condon

Todd Lindsay, Sand Hollow

Stacie Ekstrom, Lone

Manager

Thomas Wolff, Heppner

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

Emergency Preparedness is a Good Thing

Hello Members:

Emergency preparedness may not always be on our minds, but it should be. Your electric cooperative cannot guarantee an uninterrupted supply of electricity. Storms, fires and supplier interruptions can all cause emergency and unexpected power outages.

What steps can you take to be prepared in case of a power outage? Outages that are four hours or fewer are inconvenient, but usually don't present a real emergency. As the outage extends to eight hours and beyond, preparedness is more important. Thankfully, here at Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative, eight-hour or longer outages are few and far between.

Those of you who rely on water from wells serviced by electric pumps should consider alternatives for accessing water during power outages. Some members have a hand pump they have either attached or can attach to the well to pump water in the absence of electricity.

Some form of water storage is another consideration. Many of you rely on electricity for lighting, heat, hot water and cooking. Consider alternatives for each of these in the event electric service is disrupted for an extended time. A generator, although expensive, can provide a backup to electricity for each of these uses. Please remember to use only properly installed generators, or they could be dangerous to our linemen working to restore electricity.

There are less expensive steps you can take to be prepared. Candles, flashlights and battery-operated lights may be useful. Approved lanterns for indoor use are another option. A wood or propane stove is a good choice to heat water, cook and keep your living space comfortable.

Sit down with your family and consider how to prepare for an extended power outage. Once you have a plan, you can begin taking those steps.

Reliable electricity is part of our mission at Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative, and we will continue do everything within our control to provide it.

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
Connie Karp, Vice President
Roger Howe, Secretary
Clay Smith, Treasurer
Howard Gonser, Director

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



Fires, infrastructure and mutual aid

Our community experienced some of the worst fires in our region's history this year.

The devastation and tragedy experienced by some of our friends and neighbors will never be forgotten.

Your electric system infrastructure did not go unscathed, but through hard work, determination and much grace we were able to keep the damage to a minimum. Most of our time, like yours, was spent lending aid to our neighbors and supporting our fellow community members where we could. At the end of the day, we're a community of caring people. It doesn't matter what logo may be on the side of your bucket-truck, we support each other for the betterment of the entire community.

So, many thanks to you, our customer-owners who may have had to wait for your individual project to be completed while we provided mutual aid to our neighbors, and many thanks to your PUD staff that live the motto of public service every day.

Happy September everyone, please stay safe.

Roger Kline

General Manager



P.O. Box 31 • 1009 F St.
Nespelem, WA 99155
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (M-F)
Phone: (509) 634-4571
Fax: (509) 634-8138
email: nvec@nvec.org
website: www.nvec.org

For after-hours emergencies,
call 634-4571 to page
an on-duty employee.

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District 6, Nespelem

Ron Heath
District 7, Disautel

Albert Preugschat
District 8, Bridgeport

Board meetings are the fourth
Tuesday of every month.

WA-5

Annual Meeting Announcement

Dear Members,

Nespelem Valley Electric Cooperative Inc.'s 79th annual meeting is Friday, October 5, 2018. Registration is from 5 to 6:15 p.m. The business meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.

Attendance at this meeting gives member-owners an opportunity to participate in cooperative business, enjoy a great meal and socialize with fellow members.

Trustees will be elected and there will be prize drawings throughout the meeting.

Inside this edition of Ruralite, you will find the agenda for the annual meeting. The list of nominees for the open trustee positions will be on our website, www.nvec.org, as soon as the nominating committee meets.

Your registration card is also inside the magazine. Please bring the card with you to the annual meeting.

Your board of trustees looks forward to seeing you October 5.

Sincerely,

Ralph Rise
Board President



CONSUMERS POWER INC.

MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 1180
Philomath, OR 97370
(541) 929-3124
(800) 872-9036

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6990 West Hills Road
Philomath, OR 97370

1900 W Oak St.
Lebanon, OR 97355

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Kevin Christopher
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Roman Gillen
PRESIDENT/CEO

Tony Wilson
TREASURER/CFO

www.cpi.coop

**CPI Annual
Meeting is
September 15**

OR-6

President's Report

Help CPI Reach Owners of Unclaimed Capital Credit Checks

CPI is attempting to find current and former cooperative members whose capital credit checks issued in 2013 remain unclaimed.

These checks are for members who received electric service from CPI in the second half of 1987. The checks have been returned by the U.S. Postal Service as "undeliverable" or have otherwise been unclaimed.

The last date to claim these funds is October 31, 2018, at 5 p.m. To claim a refund or submit questions about this notice or the list of missing members, please contact our capital credits department at (541) 929-3124 or send an email to capitalcredits@cpi.coop. You can search the list by name or address at www.cpi.coop/category/news.

Survey

In late September, a small random sample of Consumers Power members will receive a survey from CPI in the mail asking specifics about their electricity use. This survey is part of an ongoing effort to help us plan for your future energy needs.

If the survey shows up in your mail, please take a few minutes to fill it out and mail it back. Your timely input will help with decisions regarding power supply and energy efficiency efforts coordinated at both our local cooperative level and the wholesale

power-supply level.

Only a small random number of residential members will receive this survey. This makes your response important to us. Your responses are held in the strictest confidence, and you will not be identified in any way. Once the data from all the returned surveys is tallied, we will report what we learn by early 2019. Please contact us at (800) 872-9036 or via email at info@cpi.coop if you have any questions or concerns.

Remember, by completing this survey you are helping ensure CPI's goal to provide a stable supply of electricity at affordable rates for all members.

September 15 Annual Meeting

We would like to remind you that this year's annual meeting is Saturday, September 15. You have received, or will soon, your ballot and voting instructions for the director elections.

At the meeting, learn directly from our employees about the many services CPI provides that improve your electric use, keep monthly bills affordable and help you stay comfortable year-round. Also learn about the state of the cooperative and hear from this year's interesting guest speakers.

Doors open at 9 a.m. for registration. We look forward to seeing you there!

Roman Gillen
President and CEO



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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Bob Evans, District 3
Vacant, District 4
Tim Grow, District 5
Scott Fisher, District 6

Board Meetings

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

General Manager

Michael J. Bradshaw

Management Staff

Derek Miller, Engineering Manager
Jeff Ekrut, Operations Manager
Steve Catlow, Manager of Finance and Administration
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

Dear Members,

I'm inviting you to join me and some of the Benton REA staff at the RiverFest 2018 event, a festival showcasing all the benefits of our local rivers and hydrosystem.

RiverFest will be held Saturday, September 8, from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the east end of Columbia Park in Kennewick.

Tri-Cities area utilities, ports, chambers of commerce, media, ag producers and businesses are working together to bring this exciting, educational and extremely important event to you.

"Our Rivers – Our Way of Life" is the theme of the event, and boy, isn't that true? Those of us who call the Pacific Northwest our home are proud of the beauty and diversity of our natural resources. The Columbia and Snake rivers not only deliver a breathtaking landscape, they provide transportation, irrigation, recreation, and of course, the majority of the electricity that we need and use in our everyday lives.

At the event you can learn first-hand why the dams on these rivers help to keep our electricity rates in the northwest region among some of the lowest in the nation, hear from elected officials, tour a tugboat, watch a "salmon cannon" in action and meet Captain Meriwether Lewis.

In addition, you will be able to enjoy musical entertainment, good food and lots of other fun and informative activities while being part of the local community celebration of our region's unique river and hydrosystem. Admission is free and the whole family is invited to attend this amazing and important event!

I hope to see you there!

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

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Phil Hamm

John Otis

Glenn Rohde

General Manager

Robert Echenrode

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

On Copper Theft and Other Questions

The questions below were among those asked at this year's UEC Annual Meeting. For more "Ask the General Manager" questions and answers, visit our website at www.umatillaelectric.com. We will be updating the website as questions come our way.

Has UEC suffered wire theft and money lost by profit-taking vandals?

Copper theft is on the rise nationwide, and we have been targeted on several occasions in the past year.

Copper theft is a dangerous crime. It can cause a power outage or fire, it increases the costs to your cooperative, and worst of all, it puts lives at risk.

The lives at risk are many—the thieves stealing the copper, a child or pet who wanders through a hole cut into a substation fence, or a lineworker coming into contact with ungrounded equipment.

Contact our 24-hour call center at 888-465-5701 if you see suspicious activity, such as an unmarked vehicle, around a substation, utility lines or other field equipment. Your action could protect the reliability of your utility service and you may even save a life.

Regarding annual expenses in 2017, how much did UEC spend on wages and benefits?

Wages and benefits for UEC employees totaled about 9 percent of our expenses during the past year.

Our largest expense? Nearly 75 percent of the revenues we received last year went to purchasing wholesale power.

Do we have any protection from bitcoin miners using all our power and driving rates out of reason?

Like many Northwest utilities, UEC has been approached by cryptocurrency mining operations inquiring about the price and availability of power. The reason these companies consume so much electricity is that producing each new bitcoin requires solving a complex mathematical puzzle by computer.

Under Oregon law, we are obliged to serve any load that is willing to abide by our policies.

For our part, new loads on our system, and expansions by existing members, are responsible for the infrastructure costs of serving them power, often paying in advance for their impact on the system.

This policy helps mitigate risk to the membership, minimizes the impact of growth, and ensures that one sector of our membership does not unfavorably impact the other sectors.

In summary, new operations joining our cooperative will not affect our power availability, overtax our system or increase your rates.



Robert Echenrode
General Manager & CEO





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

Office Hours:

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

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Robert Durham.....	Director
Robert Hammel.....	Director
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BJ Ayres	The Dalles Lineman
Robert Gridley	The Dalles Lineman
Wesley Woods	Serviceman
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

2018 Annual Meeting

The 79th Annual Meeting of Wasco Electric Cooperative Inc. is Saturday, November 17, at the Fort Dalles Readiness Center in The Dalles.

During the meeting, members will vote on three director positions—one from each of the three districts, which will be expiring.

At the August board meeting, the board of directors appointed the nominating committee to select candidates to run for the three board member positions up for election this year. The committee will meet in early September. If you are a member who is willing to serve on the board of directors, please let us know. We will pass your name on to the nominating committee members.

WECare Donations

Each year, the cooperative reaches out to its members for support of those who struggle to make financial ends meet. Your contributions to our WECare program help many families each year. We again ask for your support this month.

With your September power bill, you will find a donation card in which you can support your friends and neighbors. Please see page 8 of this month's issue for more information about the benefits of this program.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about your cooperative, please 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

• For Power Outages Call •
888.420.8826

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Vice President.. Robert Poage
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Treasurer..... Dick McHaffie
Director..... Larry Shipley
Director..... Terry Nelson
Director..... Carey Weatherly

General Manager

James K. Brooks

Office Manager/CFO

David Western

Superintendent

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.

DOUGLAS
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

OR-10

Whether It's A Little Or A Lot... You Control Your Electricity Usage

Dear Member,

As my desk sits close to the front counter, I hear most conversations that take place when our members come in the front door. Lately, I have been hearing a number of folks exclaim, "My electric bill has never been this low." With winter approaching, soon I expect to hear, "My electric bill has never been this high!" While mother nature certainly gets some of the credit, or blame, you are the one in complete control.

With the possible exception of our little July heat wave, most of us could get by without air conditioning here. Fans, the daily afternoon breeze and cool nights help us keep our homes pretty comfortable. We spend more time outdoors, barbecuing, picnicking, and just enjoying the finer things Douglas County has to offer. Hence, a great opportunity to keep electrical usage low.

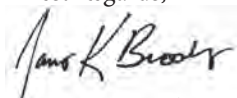


On the other hand, few of us can get by in the winter without heat of some kind. Couple heating costs with more indoor activity, increased cooking and baking and a few lights and you have the other end of the usage scale. Higher usage equals higher bills. Keep in mind, it's not you and it's not us, it's colder temperatures mainly responsible for your higher bill.

Inside this Ruralite, you will find helpful information about controlling usage on pages 28-29. Our website, www.dec.coop, also offers money-saving tips for you. I know it seems a little weird that we are trying to get you to use less of the product we sell, but that's the beauty of belonging to a co-op. We are not trying to make a profit because we have no stockholders to satisfy, just you... the owners.

As always, if you have any questions or would like a better understanding of this subject, please don't hesitate to call. And I'm looking forward to hearing, "Hey, my winter bill is less than it was last year!"

Best Regards,


James K. Brooks
General Manager

Columbia Power Co-op



P.O. Box 97
Monument, OR 97864
(541) 934-2311
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

Lighting Labels and Lingo

These days, consumers have endless options when it comes to purchasing light bulbs, but the labels can be confusing! Use the information below as a helpful guide for browsing bulbs.

Lighting Facts

Per Bulb

Brightness 655 lumens

Estimated Yearly \$1.08

Energy Cost
 Based on 3 hrs/day
 11c/kWh Cost depends
 on rates and use



Life 22.8 years

Based on 3 hrs/day

Light Appearance



Energy Used 9 watts

Read the Label

Under the Energy Labeling Rule, all light bulb manufacturers are required to give consumers key, easy-to-understand information on bulb efficiency. Take advantage of the Lighting Facts label, which gives you the information you need to buy the most energy-efficient bulb to meet your lighting needs. The label includes information on the bulb's **brightness, energy cost, life, light appearance and energy used** (wattage).

Save Energy

Bulbs are available in **many shapes and sizes** to fit your home's needs. Choosing more efficient bulbs can help reduce energy consumption and save you money!

- LEDs use 25%-30% of the energy and last eight to 25 times longer than halogen incandescent bulbs.
- Purchase ENERGY STAR-rated bulbs to maximize energy efficiency.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy



Buy Lumens, not Watts

Lumens measure the amount of light produced by the bulb. Watts measure energy consumption.

Tip: To replace a 100-watt incandescent bulb, look for a bulb that produces about 1,600 lumens.



Incandescent
 100 watt
 1,600 lumens



LED
 14 - 20 watt
 1,600 lumens

Central Issues

Central Electric Cooperative

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Rawleigh White

Director of Operations & Engineering
Brad Wilson

Corporate Information Officer
Lisa Cutter

**Director of Member
and Public Relations**
Jeff Beaman

**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

Hydroelectricity Kept Northwest Cool

Do you remember our late July heat wave in Central Oregon? If you have air conditioning, you were happy to have it. If you don't, I am willing to bet you wish you had.

Along with Central Oregon, temperatures were scorching hot—flirting with and often passing the 100-degree mark—around the Pacific Northwest. The Bonneville Power Administration's energy demand figures showed once again how critical hydroelectricity was to keeping everyone cool and crops watered. This incredibly valuable resource not only forms the backbone of the region's energy supply, it makes the whole system work thanks to what is called its load-following capability.

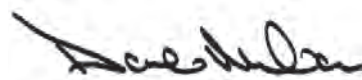
The hotter it is, the more electricity we use. BPA tracks the region's use every five minutes. Its graphs show a daily pattern that looks like a steady rollercoaster. The line tracking use starts climbing in the morning when we start our day, peaks in late afternoon and early evening when most of us get home before ramping back down during nighttime hours. While this consumer cycle is consistent—with peaks reaching record levels during heat waves—not all energy resource production patterns match it.

Wind has grown increasingly important in the Northwest, but it produces power intermittently. When the wind is blowing, wind generation increases. Hydroelectricity balances the system by reducing production. Conversely, when the wind stops, hydro production is boosted to fill the gap.

Hydro's load-balancing ability is of incredible value to the regional system, but its benefits go further. The sheer volume of energy the system produced during the summer's heat waves dwarfs the production of other resources. At times in late July, when wind production was at its lowest, hydro produced 30 times as much power. Even when the wind farms reached peak output, hydroelectric plants doubled their production levels.

Society often takes hydro for granted. Some even demonize it, seeing dam removal as the magical solution to restoring the region's salmon runs. At times, hydro has become a political football. This spring, a court order required more water to be passed around the dams to help salmon migrate, cutting back hydro production. This created the added cost of buying power to replace the lost hydro production. Then, in early summer, costs were assessed on utilities because hydroelectricity production was high enough to require wind generators to go offline to avoid overloading the system. By law, utilities have to compensate wind farms for their lost energy production.

Bottom line, we are incredibly fortunate to have this renewable source of energy that emits no carbon and keeps our air clean. We should protect its legacy every chance we get.



Dave Markham
President and CEO



Board of Directors

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John G. Herzog, Brookings/Harbor

Vice President

Georgia A. Cockerham, Brookings/Harbor

Secretary/ Treasurer

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Cheryl L. McMahan, Southern At-Large

Jim Kolen, Gold Beach

Peter C. Radabaugh, Bandon/Coquille

Daniel Loshbaugh, Northern At-Large

Attorney—Tyler Pepple

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General Manager/CEO

Roger Meader

Corporate Services/CFO

Frank Corrales

Engineering Manager

Matt Mjelde

Marketing and Member

Services Manager

Jacob Knudsen

Operations Manager

Randy McDonald

Local numbers

Coquille (541) 396-3118

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.

Emergency preparedness may not always be on our minds, but it should be. Your electric cooperative cannot guarantee uninterruptible electricity supply.

What steps can you take to be prepared in case of a power outage? Outages that are four hours or shorter are inconvenient, but usually don't present a real emergency. As the outage extends to eight hours and beyond, preparedness is more important.

Those of you who rely on water from wells serviced by electric pumps should consider alternatives for accessing water during power outages. Some members have a hand pump they have either attached or can attach to their well to pump water in the absence of electricity. Some form of water storage is another consideration. A generator fueled by propane, gasoline or diesel connected directly to your well or your home or business can provide the electricity needed to run an electric well pump in the event of an outage.

Please remember to use only properly installed generators. Otherwise, they could be dangerous to you or our linemen working to restore electricity.

Many of you rely on electricity for lighting, heat, hot water and cooking. Consider alternatives for each of these in the event electric service is disrupted for an extended time. Again, a generator can provide backup to power for each of these uses.

There are less expensive steps you can take to be prepared. Candles, flashlights and battery-operated lights may be useful. Approved lanterns for indoor use are another option. A wood or propane stove is a good choice to heat water, cook and keep your living space comfortable.

Home food storage is important during an extended outage. If they are able to conduct business, grocery stores could have their shelves emptied within hours.

Sit down with your family and consider how to prepare for an extended power outage. Once you have a plan, you can begin taking those steps. Reliable electricity is part of our mission at Coos-Curry Electric Cooperative. We will continue do everything within our control to provide it. Remember to report power outages to (866) 352-9044.

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

.....
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Robert VanNatta

(Dist. 2 – Mist, Apiary, Birkenfeld)

Vice President Jim Buxton

(Dist. 3 – Vernonia, Keasey)

Sec./Treasurer Rosemary Lohrke

(Dist. 6 – Chapman, Scappoose)

Brian Baker

(Dist. 1 – Jewell, Elsie, Hamlet)

Brett Costley

(Dist. 4 – Vernonia)

Nick Galaday

(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

I DIDN'T GET THE CALL!

It happens every time we have a planned outage for system maintenance and repairs.

Utilities use a phone notification system (PNS) to notify their customers/members that something is going to affect their power.

When a planned event is scheduled, we pull from our database a list of members who will be affected by the outage and prepare a message. Our answering service takes that list, loads it into the PNS and schedules those calls to go out at predetermined times. Those who receive a call hear the message twice. WOEC receives a detailed report on all the numbers that were called, including date, time and response.

You may have heard the statement "garbage in, garbage out" when it comes to computers. The same is true with a database.

If you disconnected your landline since you signed up for service with WOEC and now have a cellphone, please let us know so we can update your member information. Otherwise, the only number we have on file is your old number, and you will miss the notice.

The company that handles after-hour calls and PNS is in Minnesota. Your caller ID will show the call coming from there.

If you think we have your incorrect information on file, please call the office and have your phone number updated. Don't let "I DIDN'T GET THE CALL!" happen to you.

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

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

Craig Joiner, President
Lookout

Dennis Flynn, Vice President
Valley Falls

Raymond Cloud, Secretary/Treasurer
New Pine Creek

Wesley Cook
Cedarville

Scott Warner
Lakeview

John Erquiaga
Lake City

Kyle Weber
Alturas

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

"Owned by those we serve"

This institution is an equal opportunity
provider and employer

CA-15

Join Us September 8!

Be a part of Surprise Valley Electrification's 80th annual meeting of members Saturday, September 8, at the Modoc County Fairgrounds. Exercise your right to vote for representatives to the cooperative's board of directors, hear reports about the successes and challenges of the past year and the year to come, and enjoy a festive atmosphere that includes lunch and musical entertainment. Take advantage of your status as a member and owner of your electric cooperative and join us.

Annual Meeting Agenda

Registration

Lunch

Call to order

- ▶ Welcome
- ▶ Presentation of the colors
- ▶ Invocation
- ▶ Introductions
- ▶ Roll call
- ▶ Reading of notice/proof of mailing
- ▶ Reading of 2017 annual meeting minutes
- ▶ President's message
- ▶ Manager's message
- ▶ Youth in the cooperative
- ▶ Election of directors
- ▶ Prize drawings
- ▶ Grand prize drawing
- ▶ Adjournment



Pre-meeting entertainment provided by
the Lost Sierra Ramblers of Plumas County.
Barbecue lunch provided by Alturas Lions Club.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Susan Knudsen Obermeyer, President, Oakridge District

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, Engineering & Operations Director

Debi Wilson, Finance & Administration Director

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)

In This Issue

Feature	Page
On the Steps of History	4
Lighting Labels and Lingo	8
A Survey in Your Future	25
Scholarship Winners	28
Down the Line	32

OR-16

Down the Line



Dear Co-op Community Members:

Have you ever asked yourself how Lane Electric knows how much power it needs to buy? I know it may not be the most burning question on your mind, but it can be a fun and informative question to ask. For instance, would Lane Electric have enough power if everyone reading this turned on all their lights, dishwashers, home heating and clothes dryers at the same time? The answer is yes!

We plan and build for peak moments like what I just described so we are always able to meet our members' power needs. We plan for power needs by looking at past use trends by time of day and season. We also ask you—our members—about how you use electricity, so we can see subtle trends in our memberships' changing energy use.

This month, some of you will be randomly selected to answer a survey that helps us understand our future power needs. The survey looks like this:

2018 LANE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE SATISFACTION SURVEY

To Our Residential Electric Members:

We are conducting a survey of our residential members to gain valuable information for our strategic planning and communication efforts. Thank you for helping us by participating in this survey. It should take you about five minutes to complete this questionnaire. Space is provided at the end of the survey to provide any additional comments or feedback that you may have. All of your responses to this questionnaire will be held confidential and will not identify you in any way. Please return this survey in the enclosed envelope by **October 15**. If you misplace the return envelope, we request that you return the form to the following address:

Electric Cooperative Survey Processing
1050 Regent St., Suite L3
Madison, WI 53715-1263

On page 25 of this month's Ruralite, you can learn more about this survey and how it plays an important role in our power resource planning.

If you receive a survey, please take the time to thoughtfully complete it and return it in the postage-paid envelope.

Thank you in advance for being a part of your co-op's planning.

Matt

Matt Michel, General Manager



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, Secretary/Treasurer

(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)

Vacant

District 5

General Manager

Joe Jarvis
jarvisj@blachlylane.coop

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections

OR-17

Manager's Report

Dear Members,

On August 8, Blachly-Lane experienced a 2½-hour outage affecting approximately 775 members—about 27 percent of the co-op's total membership. A few members told us their outage report calls were unable to go through on the first try.

Blachly-Lane maintains two incoming phone lines, which adequately meet our day-to-day service demands. With a rare major outage, the call volume naturally increases. Just as our staff ends one call, they immediately answer another. When an outage occurs after business hours, we use Call Response Center—a co-op that aids electric utilities throughout the country with back-up phone support.

Important information is collected when you report an outage: your name and service address, and a callback number if you want an electronically generated follow-up call once service has been restored. The information collected is entered into the outage management system used by our dispatcher to help isolate the location of the outage and to direct crews. The information members provide is invaluable to our comprehensive and speedy response.

When you call in an outage, here are some important things to remember:

- Yours might be the only location on the system with an outage, or there might be hundreds of others with their service out, too. If you don't get through at first, that means your neighbors are also calling. Please try again in a few moments.
- Please keep your call short to help us answer all calls in a timely manner. When an outage has just occurred, we will not have detailed information about the cause or expected duration of the outage. Crews will be dispatched. It takes time to investigate and determine the cause and a course of action. Sometimes additional crews must be called upon to safely work through the repair. Sometimes, there is a wait for the necessary tools and equipment needed for the repair.
- Communication is limited in the Blachly-Lane service area between the crews in the field and the office or CRC. Even though we may not have specific information to share about the outage, know that crews are hard at work to get you back in service as quickly as possible. For the most up-to-date information, please refer to the scrolling banner on our website homepage, which only appears during an outage, or our Facebook page. Updates are provided as they become available.
- Outages reported on Facebook have no way to make it into our outage management system. Your phone call is very important!

Joe Jarvis
General Manager





Board of Commissioners

Randy L. Knowles

President

Dan G. Gunkel

Vice President

Douglas B. Miller

Secretary

.....

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

2017 Financial Audit

This past month, Klickitat PUD received the completed financial audit from independent auditor Moss Adams for 2017. I want to give you access to that report and provide some information you might find interesting.

I am pleased that Moss Adams reports there were no significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in our financial controls. This reflects excellent work on the part of KPUD staff.

At the end of 2017, your PUD had ownership of plant in-service totaling \$317.8 million. There was \$21.5 million of plant under construction. These numbers essentially reflect the equipment and facilities KPUD uses to serve you, as well as KPUD's transmission and generation facilities—before accumulated depreciation. The value of our infrastructure after depreciation was \$226 million. In addition, KPUD had \$19.9 million in cash and cash equivalents. Klickitat PUD's total assets and deferred outflows at the end of 2017 was \$287.4 million.

On the other side of the ledger, KPUD had \$141 million in long-term debt and \$11.8 million in current liabilities, which includes accounts payable and other accrued liabilities.

The total net position of the utility was \$99.7 million as of December 31, 2017. Total net position is basically KPUD's assets minus liabilities.

Operating revenues for 2017 were \$48.5 million and operating expenses were \$43.6 million. Net operating income was \$4.8 million. After including nonoperating revenues and expenses, the net change in position was \$3.58 million. This means KPUD's net position increased during 2017. Klickitat PUD ended the year with 253 days operating cash on hand, and debt service coverage of 1.64.

These numbers show a solid financial footing that has been significantly improved through the past eight years. A demonstration of this is KPUD's net margin for 2017—revenues minus expenses. It was \$2.5 million better than we budgeted. These funds remain in your utility and continue to support financial stability. This, in turn, lowers rate pressures we have to contend with in the future.

I am proud of the work we have done to improve the financial position of the utility the past eight years. We look forward to continuing those efforts.

The complete audit can be found on our website at www.klickitatpud.com/topicalMenu/about/financialReports.aspx.

Jim Smith

General Manager



NORTHERN LIGHTS, INC.

The power of local service

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

www.nli.coop
P.O. Box 269
Sagle, ID 83860

For Outages:
(866) NO-LITES
(866) 665-4837

**For regular business
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

Help us Plan for Your Future Energy Needs

I hope everyone has been enjoying their summer as much as I have and has taken advantage of the recreational fun the Northwest has to offer. Whether you enjoy camping, hiking, boating, swimming or all of the above, we are blessed to live in an environment that allows us to get outside and appreciate our surroundings.

A Survey is Coming

A random selection of Northern Lights members will soon receive a survey asking about the specifics of your energy use.

This survey is part of an ongoing effort to help us plan for our members' future energy needs. Once you fill out the confidential survey, mail it back to us in the included self-addressed stamped envelope. Keep in mind that your responses are anonymous. You will not be identified in any way.

Your timely input will help with decisions regarding power supply and conservation efforts coordinated both at the cooperative level and at the wholesale power supply level. By completing this survey, you are helping with our goal to ensure a stable supply of electricity at the lowest rates for all our members.

Please don't hesitate to call us at (800) 326-9594 or email us at info@nli.coop if you have any questions or concerns. Your participation is greatly appreciated.



Community Solar

The sun is shining, and the community solar panels are generating power at their peak. We still have a few solar units available for \$300 each for members who would like solar energy to be part of their energy portfolio. Please call us at (208) 255-7180 or visit www.nli.coop for more information.

Happy Labor Day!

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

Emergency Preparedness

Emergency preparedness may not always be on our minds, but it should be. Your electric cooperative cannot guarantee uninterruptible electricity supply.

This spring and summer reminds us of the vulnerabilities that exist in keeping electricity flowing to our member-owners. Some of you have experienced many electric power outages. In fact, more power outages have occurred than normal.

What steps can you take to be prepared in case of a power outage? Outages that are four hours or less are inconvenient, but usually don't present a real emergency. As the outage extends to eight hours and beyond, preparedness is more important.

Those of you who rely on water from wells serviced by electric pumps should consider alternatives for accessing water during power outages. Some members have a hand pump they have either attached or can attach to their well to pump water in the absence of electricity. Some form of water storage is another consideration. A generator fueled by propane, gasoline or diesel connected directly to your well or your home or business can run an electric well pump in the event of an outage.

Please remember to use only properly installed generators. Otherwise, they could be dangerous to you or our linemen working to restore electricity.

Many of you rely on electricity for lighting, heat, hot water and cooking. Consider alternatives for each of these in the event electric service is disrupted for an extended time. Again, a generator can provide backup electricity for each of these uses.

There are less expensive steps you can take to be prepared. Candles, flashlights and battery-operated lights may be useful. Approved lanterns for indoor use are another option. A wood or propane stove is a good choice to heat water or cook, and keep your living space comfortable. Home food storage is important during an extended outage. If they are able to conduct business, grocery stores could have their shelves emptied within hours. Sit down with your family and consider how to prepare for an extended power outage. Once you have a plan, you can begin taking those steps.

Reliable electricity is part of our mission at the cooperative. We will continue to do everything within our control to provide it.

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

Katie Wooldridge, President
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, Scott Peters
Executive Assistant/HR,
Jennifer Aichele
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

Parting Thoughts

As a parent, back to school time is always exciting, and busy! I have two kids off to college and one wrapping her senior year of high school, so back to school is nothing new to me. One thing I do know is that these transitions can be stressful, not only on us parents, but on our kids as well.

While we get caught up in the hustle and bustle of prepping for school, back to school safety should also be a hot topic. Here are some tips to help guide through talking to your child about school safety:

- 1) Contact Information: Teach your child their address, phone and how to call 911.
- 2) Discuss Stranger Danger: Ensure your child knows not to talk to strangers and to never take a ride from someone they don't know.
- 3) Transportation to/from School: Depending whether your child, walks, bikes, buses or drives, discuss different scenarios they could face, what to do and why.
- 4) Traffic Signals & Other Rules: Talk to your child about the importance of abiding by traffic signals, using crosswalks and ensure they understand what the bus signals mean.
- 5) Safety Equipment: Depending on the mode of transportation, ensure proper safety equipment is provided and worn, such as: seat belts, helmets, reflectors, etc.
- 6) Leave Early: Ensure your child leaves a little early, so they're not rushed on their way to school.
- 7) No Devices: Talk to your child about the dangers of distracted driving. Need facts? According to DMV.org, each day in the U.S. nine people die due to distracted driving.
- 8) Don't Speed, Especially in School Zones: Speed limits drop in school zones. Ensure your child is aware of where the school zone begins and ends as well as the speed limits.

Here at Columbia REA we follow seven cooperative principles, which guide our decisions as an organization. Commitment to Community is one of the principles which we follow very closely. As part of that commitment, we want to remind everyone that school safety is a family affair and in order to keep our community safe, it takes action from us all.

From our Columbia REA family to yours, we wish you a safe and happy back to school season!

Best,






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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

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:

As a member of Midstate Electric Cooperative, you experience the benefits of hydropower. MEC buys 100 percent of its power from the Bonneville Power Administration, which markets wholesale hydroelectric power produced by the Columbia Snake River System.

The Columbia Snake River System supplies a constant source of energy. Since the rivers flow continually, hydroelectric dams can generate electricity constantly. Hydropower offers several economic and environmental benefits:

- **Hydropower is renewable.**

Each year, rain and snow replenish the supply. Hydropower accounts for 90 percent of renewable energy in the Pacific Northwest and almost half of all renewables in the United States.

- **Hydropower is efficient.**

Hydropower plants at dams convert about 90 percent of the energy in falling water into electrical energy. By comparison, fossil-fueled plants lose more than half of the energy content of their fuel as waste heat and gases.

- **Hydropower is clean.** Hydropower produces no emissions. There are no gases or waste products that contribute to air pollution. Northwest hydropower offsets greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to 10 million cars.

- **Hydropower is secure.** Water from our rivers is largely a domestic resource that is not subject to disruptions from foreign suppliers, cost fluctuations in power markets, international political crises or transportation outages.

- **Hydropower is flexible.** By

adjusting the amount of water flowing through the dams, hydropower can be increased or decreased to meet changes in demand for power.

- **Hydropower allows for the growth of other renewable resources.** Hydropower is a great backup resource for wind and solar power. It can be ramped up to meet demand when the wind is not blowing, and dialed down at times of high winds.

- **Hydropower is affordable.** The fuel source—water—is free, which keeps operating costs low and protects against cost fluctuations. Throughout the years, the dams have consistently provided some of the nation's most affordable electricity.

MEC's Peak Hour Program Continues

MEC will continue our Peak Hour Rewards Program for another year. The purpose of the program is to minimize wholesale power costs by shifting peak time electric use—typically between 7 to 9 a.m., from October through April—to nonpeak periods. See page 8 for more information.

National Drive Electric Week Event

Join electric vehicle drivers and enthusiasts for an electric tailgate party hosted by MEC. For further details, see page 25.

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

Manager's Message

Each year as the end of summer approaches, we expect significant wildland fire potential. This year, abnormally dry conditions have increased typical risks to above normal. Numerous wildfires have already occurred throughout Raft River Electric's service territory. These fires have threatened homes and other structures, consumed power poles and caused major outages.

At Raft River Electric, we don't wait for fire season to arrive before we start preparations. Our goal is to efficiently deliver affordable, reliable and safe energy to you, our consumer-members, year-round. We work to mitigate the risk of fire through proper maintenance of lines and infrastructure, tree trimming, bird protection and education.

Throughout the year, our linemen and electricians patrol the cooperative's lines, looking for potential hazards and eliminating them. We watch for low-hanging lines that increase the risk of contact with people or equipment. We look for spans between poles that are too long, allowing too much movement of the lines. We replace copper wire with lighter aluminum wire and we install bird-protection devices. In some cases, we sterilize the ground around the base of transmission poles. Most importantly, we receive fire safety training regularly.

While it is not possible to eliminate every risk of wildfire associated with power lines, working together we can diminish those risks. There are ways you can help.

When burning weeds or debris, be aware of your surroundings and the potential for your fire to get out of control. Power poles are treated with creosote to preserve the wood, but creosote burns easily. Fire can smolder in the cracks of the power poles and ignite days later.

Keep the ground around power poles clear of flammables, debris and vegetation. Should you see trees growing close to lines, alert us. Don't attempt to trim the trees yourself! Tree trimming near power lines can be dangerous and requires training and expertise. Don't plant new trees near power lines, especially fast-growing varieties.

If you see a bird nest on a pole or electrical structure, please report it to our office.

If you EVER see a downed power line, assume it is energized. Don't go near it. Report it immediately.

Please don't hesitate to report a safety or fire risk—no matter the hour! Working together, we can fight the fire before it begins.

Kurt Anderson
General Manager



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.bbec.org

TRUSTEES

President Dan Hille
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



Hydroelectric dams provide most of the power throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Photo by U.S. Department of Energy

Spill Concerns Continue in Northwest

You may have heard news the past few months concerning increased spill at local hydropower dams in our area. More water is being spilled over hydroelectric dams, bypassing the energy-producing turbines and reducing electricity production.

Why, you ask, is this being done? Federal Judge Michael Simon ordered the increased spill to commence April 3 on four Lower Snake River dams, and April 10 on four lower Columbia River dams out of concern that not enough is being done to protect salmon. The increased spill is intended to help young salmon migrating to the ocean. However, increasing spill over the dams also increases gases in the water—which at high enough levels can kill fish. Simon also ordered a new environmental study of dam operations that must include the possibility of removing the four Lower Snake River dams.

The Bonneville Power Administration estimated increasing spill over the dams will cost Northwest electric ratepayers \$40 million in 2018 alone. That's in addition to the \$15 billion they have already paid in programs to help salmon recovery the past four decades. Big Bend's portion of the increased spill for 2018 is more than \$112,000.

Salmon have a complex lifespan that primarily happens in the open waters of the ocean where a number of threats cut their numbers. To only look at the salmon's lifespan during a short migration period while traveling through area rivers—and to only look at hydropower dams as the culprit—is a gross misrepresentation of the factors that affect the lifespan of a salmon. What must be studied closely is all factors that have a collective effect on their lifespan, including sea lions, water temperature, climate change, domestic fishing and water pollution.

This is a complex issue that deserves more input than a simplistic approach of “get rid of the dams and everything will be great,” especially when you consider the benefits dams provide our area, such as clean, renewable and affordable power, irrigation and agricultural benefits, flood control and recreational opportunities.

Join us at RiverFest on Saturday, September 8, at Columbia Park in Kennewick to learn more about our river system and salmon recovery efforts. Free to the public, entertainment, food and fun for the whole family!

Hood River Electric Cooperative



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

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www.hrec.coop

[www.facebook.com/
HRECCoop/](http://www.facebook.com/HRECCoop/)

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GENERAL MANAGER

Libby Calnon

Serving rural
Hood River County
since 1945

OR-26

Manager's Message

Dear Members,

I'd like to thank Hood River Electric Cooperative staff for going above and beyond in a number of ways this summer. Here are a few examples:

- Dave Porter and Doug Balzer assisted our neighbors at Wasco Electric Cooperative during their restoration effort following the Substation Fire. Dave and Doug helped replace some of the more than 200 poles and lines burned by the fires in Wasco's service area.
- Chris Walker helped us keep our cool in the office. Our HVAC system failed in July, and Chris coordinated the installation of a replacement system. He and Clinton Curtis started many of their workdays a few hours early to help cool down the office in the mornings while the new system was being manufactured and installed.
- Pam Chapman and Janette Elizondo launched a new Facebook page for HREC. This new page will help us connect with you, our members. We'll be sharing information about local happenings, giving tips for using energy safely and efficiently, and providing updates during major storms and outages. We are thrilled to have more than 300 followers already! You can find our new page at www.facebook.com/HRECCoop.

We wish you a safe and enjoyable September.

General Manager Libby Calnon



Work Zone Safety

HREC crews often work on power lines next to roadways. When driving in work zones, please follow these guidelines:

1. Slow down.
2. Pay attention.
3. Obey signs and flaggers.
4. Don't tailgate.
5. Be aware of driving conditions.

Harney Electric Cooperative



A Touchstone Energy Cooperative 
The power of human connections®

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.....
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Office Manager

Stephanie Bowen

Attorney

Raymond S. Kindley

OR-27

Op-Ed: Vote 'No' on Question 3

In the July Ruralite, I shared my concerns regarding Question 3. I continue the conversation below with an op-ed by Clay R. Fitch, Wells Rural Electric Co. CEO. As we approach the vote on the Energy Choice Initiative, I urge Nevada residents to engage in this discussion.

—General Manager Fred Flippence

Imagine buying a car, but you don't know the price. You don't know who will build the car, who's selling it or how it will get to your home. You don't know the interest rate or where to make payments. You may have to split your payment between two companies. You don't know who will help you if there is a problem. You've been assured it will all work out, but no one will guarantee the cost won't increase after you sign the contract. You do know that if you accept the offer, you will be locked in for a minimum of six years—and perhaps much longer.

Unfortunately, this scenario isn't about buying a car. It's about buying electricity—a product most of us use every day. When you vote in the 2018 general election, you will decide whether or not to accept this risky and costly proposal.

Question 3 attempts to address several issues that are important not only to Nevada but to the nation. Those issues include incorporating clean energy generation, consumer protections, rate fairness, self-generation, energy supply and pricing, and the role of legislative and regulatory bodies.

These are not simple issues, and there are no simple answers. As is often the case, the best solution is likely a compromise. Finding workable compromises is the heart of the legislative process.

A report from the nonprofit, bipartisan Guinn Center indicates, "Success or failure of Question 3 depends on how lawmakers write the rules."

Despite my tremendous respect for the diligent women and men in the legislature who serve the citizens of Nevada, I fear Question 3 would assign an impossible task. Before Nevada can build a retail electricity market with "meaningful choice," it will have to build a foundational wholesale energy market.

Nevada does not have a wholesale electricity market. It never has. Establishing a wholesale market will require a great deal of compromise. Compromise takes time.

Question 3 would mandate the Nevada Legislature develop all of the laws necessary to provide meaningful choice by July 1, 2023. The legislature must address hundreds of other important issues and unanswered questions to successfully implement such monumental changes to Nevada's electric utility industry under this immovable deadline.

The legislature must have the flexibility to implement step-by-step changes and have time to see how the markets and consumers respond. Lawmakers need to be able to tap the brakes if market abuses creep in or hit the gas if emerging markets begin to falter.

The deadline and conflicting requirements imposed by Question 3 would limit the legislature's ability to correctly introduce energy choice. Vote "no" on Question 3 to protect the state constitution from unworkable mandates, to protect safe, reliable and increasingly clean electricity and to protect your hard-earned money from volatile energy markets.



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

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

Email: energy@srec.org

Website: www.srec.org

A Touchstone Energy[®]
Cooperative



ID-28

Hydroelectric Dams Under Fire

Snake River dam removal is a hot topic these days. The impacts of removing or keeping the dams are complex. There are many stakeholders affected by this issue. The Salmon River Electric board has not taken a side on this issue. Board members know they represent members who are aligned differently.

The four Snake River dams were built in the 1960s and early 1970s. They were the last set of major dams built in the Federal Columbia River Power System, which is the largest source of electricity in the Pacific Northwest and the largest source of renewable electricity in the nation.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers owns and operates the four Snake River dams, which are multiple-use facilities that provide navigation, hydropower, recreation, and fish and wildlife conservation benefits. They were not built for flood control.

Collectively, the Snake River dams have electric turbines with a nameplate capacity of 3,033 megawatts. For comparison, it takes about 20 to 50 MW to power SREC's total electric load.

While FCRPS's generation resources include 31 hydroelectric dams, only 10 of these—of which the Snake River dams are four—keep the federal power system operating reliably through automatic generation control. When total generation in the power system differs from total load being consumed, automatic signals go to these few dams to increase or decrease generation.

With the addition of wind power, the task of following loads and resources is more complex. Hydroelectric generation provides this support well. The value of the Snake River dams to be easily ramped up and down to meet load and resource balance is often overlooked.

This is a great segue to another valuable aspect of the Snake River dams. They are virtually carbon free. Power production from the Snake River dams saves 4.4 million metric tons of carbon from reaching the atmosphere each year, according to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council.

Many of the generation resources that have the capability of ramping have a carbon footprint and their ability to follow loads is not nearly as effective, creating reliability concerns. The most likely candidate to replace the dams are natural gas-fired combustion turbines.

The dams also provide unique transmission line support because of their proximity to the transmission system. They increase the system's load-carrying ability.

Your cooperative recognizes there is information aligned with both sides of why or why not the dams should be removed. We believe all parties need to work together to find solutions that are durable, protect our valuable resources and allow people to live safe, healthy and prosperous lives



Ken Dizes

Ken Dizes
General Manager

United Electric Co-op Inc.

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Heyburn, ID 83336

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Fax: (208) 679-3333

Email: uec@uec.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.

ID-29

On the Wire at United Electric

Electricity is all around us. But how does it work? Many of us probably can't say. More importantly, we sometimes underestimate just how dangerous it can be. Injuries and home accidents sparked by electrical hazards could be avoided if we better understood and practiced safety.

This is especially true for children. Because they don't understand how electricity works, it's imperative that as parents you take the time and make the effort to teach your children about electricity. Talk to your children about electrical dangers both inside and outside your home.

One way to teach your kids about electrical safety is to show them that being safe can also be fun. You want them to want to be safe around electricity. That means teaching them how to handle electrical plugs, outlets, switches and other devices. Keep it simple.

According to the Electrical Safety Foundation International, approximately 2,400 children suffer severe shock and burns each year when they stick items into the slots of electrical outlets. That is nearly seven children a day. Nearly one-third of these injuries are the result of small children placing ordinary household objects—such as keys, pins or paper clips—into the outlets.

Kids aren't the only ones at risk. Adults have been guilty of overcrowding outlets, using frayed wires, leaving electronics on for extended periods of time or putting electronics next to liquids. Here are a few home safety tips:

- Never put metal objects in outlets or appliances, such as the toaster.
- Do not overcrowd electrical outlets.
- Never mix water and electricity.

Another important safety tip you can give to your children is to avoid downed power lines. In fact, it is best to avoid power lines, transformers and substations in general. A downed power line can still be energized and can energize other objects, including fences. Make sure your children understand the dangers of coming in contact with a downed power line or low-hanging wire.

We all know electricity plays a major role in our everyday lives. It is a powerful resource that should be respected.

Sincerely,

Jo Elg
General Manager





Lost River Electric Cooperative Inc.

305 Pine St.
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Mackay, ID 83251-0420

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

ID-30

Manager's Message

Electricity is all around us. But how does it work? Many of us probably can't say. More importantly, we sometimes underestimate just how dangerous it can be. Injuries and home accidents sparked by electrical hazards could be avoided if we better understood and practiced safety.

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We all know electricity plays a major role in our everyday lives. It is a powerful resource that should be respected.



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 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

September

CVEA Offices Closed: The CVEA offices will be closed, Monday, September 3, 2018, for Labor Day

CVEA Board Meeting: The September meeting of the Board of Directors is cancelled

October

Ruralite Cover Photo Contest:

Submit photos October 1 - October 29, 2018

CVEA Board Meeting: The October meeting of the Board of Directors is 1 p.m. Thursday, October 18, 2018, in Glennallen

National Co-op Month: Stay tuned for Co-op Month activity announcements

AK-34

2018 Ruralite Cover Photo Contest

Would you like to see your photo on the cover of *Ruralite Magazine*; CVEA's primary member communication tool? Over 2500 copies of Ruralite are distributed each month to members in the Copper Basin and Valdez. That means excellent exposure for local photographers!

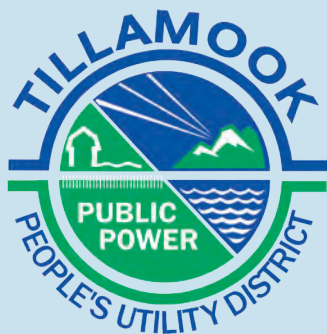
Details

- Winners will be chosen by CVEA employees
- Final decision will be announced by Monday, November 26, 2018
- Winning photos will be featured on the cover of Ruralite for one issue in 2019 and on cvea.org
- Winners will receive \$100 per winning photo and will be announced to the local media
- CVEA will retain rights to utilize all photos submitted in various communication tools including print and web
- Future photo usage in Ruralite or on cvea.org will include photo credit

Contest Rules

- Photographers must reside in a dwelling that receives service from CVEA
- Photos must be from within CVEA's service area (Valdez to Sourdough, out to Kenny Lake, and over to Sheep Mountain)
- Content can include scenery, community events, and community residents enjoying local activities; photos from all seasons should be considered, **at least two winter photos will be chosen**
- Only vertical photos will be eligible to win cover contest; horizontal photos may be submitted for use in other print or web based applications
- Maximum six photos submitted per contestant
- Each photo submission must include a digital and printed copy at 8X10 inches; digital files must have a resolution of 300 dpi at 8X10 inches
- Each photo submission must include photographer's name, location of photo, and photo title
- Photos must be submitted between October 1-29, 2018
- Photos can be dropped off at the CVEA offices in each district or sent directly to Sharon Crisp: crisp@cvea.org or P.O. Box 927, Valdez, AK 99686
- Photographer submissions must include permission form; visit cvea.org or email crisp@cvea.org for blank form
- Contact Sharon Crisp at 822-5506, 835-7005, or email crisp@cvea.org, with questions

Submission Dates: October 1 - October 29, 2018



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.

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Barbara Trout, Director

General Manager

Todd Simmons

*Board meetings are in the PUD office
at 6 p.m. the first Tuesday after the
11th of the month.*

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

Preparedness is a Necessity

Dear Customers:

If you were faced with a disaster, what would you do? Do you have an emergency response plan in place in the event of a catastrophe?

We never know when disaster could strike. As disheartening as it may be for us to consider, it could happen at any moment. This is one reason why preparing for an emergency is so important. Putting together an emergency kit for you and your family is a great first step to being prepared. Your supplies should include nonperishable food items, a radio, flashlight, extra batteries, first-aid items and blankets. Major flooding or prolonged power outages often affect water supplies, so it is essential you make sure you have a supply of clean water. State of Oregon Emergency Management recommends two weeks of potable water for each person. Emergency generation, such as a portable generator, can be helpful should a power outage occur. Be sure you know how to operate your generator in a safe manner, with an isolation switch to separate your generator from the Tillamook PUD distribution system.

Establishing an emergency communication and procedure plan for you and your family to follow is important as well. Outline how you will all get in touch with one another or where you should meet, and how you can all stay safe.

At Tillamook PUD, we continually work on measures to prepare our staff and facilities for emergency situations. Most of our team has taken the Incident Command System 100 course. Several departments implement ICS into their daily work as they manage large projects and events.

Tillamook PUD is also part of the Western Regional Mutual Aid Group—a coalition of more than 40 utilities in the western United States and Canada that provide mutual aid to other utilities in times of crisis. Recently, two of our crews traveled to Lake Port, California, to assist Pacific Gas & Electric in restoration of electrical facilities damaged by the largest fire recorded in California history, the Mendocino Complex Fire.

During a mutual aid assignment, the environmental factors and work procedures can vary drastically. Our crews receive regular training in the field and in a classroom setting to ensure they are prepared to safely handle a multitude of situations. The constant training and experience of our staff have become increasingly valuable to their work and our future.

The devastation caused by the massive wildfires in California is heartbreaking and an indication of what could happen in the blink of an eye. September is National Preparedness Month. During this time, we encourage you to start your emergency preparations and, if you already have, review your plans to keep them fresh in your mind. We participate in various local and regional emergency response team efforts, and encourage you to become involved, too. For more information on emergency response plans and efforts in our area, visit www.tillamooksheriff.com/emergency-management.

—Todd Simmons, General Manager



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AK-36

Lighting Labels and Lingo

These days, consumers have endless options when it comes to purchasing light bulbs, but the labels can be confusing! Use the information below as a helpful guide for browsing bulbs.

Lighting Facts

Per Bulb

Brightness 655 lumens

Estimated Yearly \$1.08

Energy Cost
Based on 3 hrs/day
11c/kWh Cost depends
on rates and use



Life 22.8 years

Based on 3 hrs/day

Light Appearance

Warm ————— Cool
▲
2700 K

Energy Used 9 watts

Read the Label

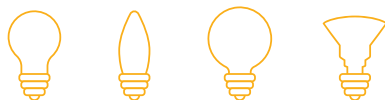
Under the Energy Labeling Rule, all light bulb manufacturers are required to give consumers key, easy-to-understand information on bulb efficiency. Take advantage of the Lighting Facts label, which gives you the information you need to buy the most energy-efficient bulb to meet your lighting needs. The label includes information on the bulb's **brightness, energy cost, life, light appearance** and **energy used** (wattage).

Save Energy

Bulbs are available in **many shapes and sizes** to fit your home's needs. Choosing more efficient bulbs can help reduce energy consumption and save you money!

- LEDs use 25%-30% of the energy and last eight to 25 times longer than halogen incandescent bulbs.
- Purchase ENERGY STAR-rated bulbs to maximize energy efficiency.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy



Buy Lumens, not Watts

Lumens measure the amount of light produced by the bulb. Watts measure energy consumption.

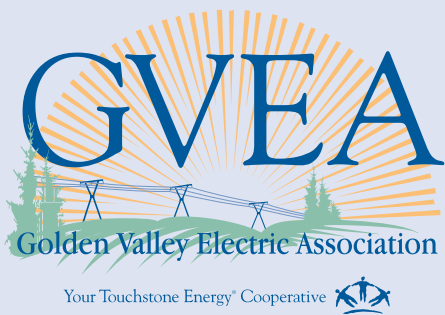
Tip: To replace a 100-watt incandescent bulb, look for a bulb that produces about 1,600 lumens.



Incandescent
100 watt
1,600 lumens



LED
14 - 20 watt
1,600 lumens



Owned By Those We Serve

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Corporate Headquarters

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 Hours: 8 am to 5 pm, M-F
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 Fax (907) 458-6365

Delta Junction Office

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 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



Have you been paying your bill by calling in and talking with GVEA?

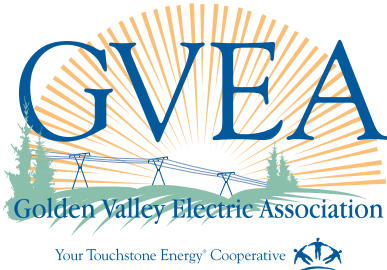
As of November 1, 2018, you'll have a different way to pay.

GVEA takes the security of our member's information very seriously. Because of that, we will no longer be able to take your payment when you call in and speak with a GVEA member service rep.

The good news is, you can still call in your payment by using our automated phone system.

Call our secure phone system at 452-1151 or 800-770-4832

- Have your account number
- Select Option 2, then Option 1
- Follow the instructions



Other ways to pay

- Mail it in
- Stop by during office hours and pay in person
- Use the drop box by the front door
- Pay on-line with GV E-Bill. Log onto www.gvea.com and create an account
- Use our mobile app. Download the app to your phone.

If you have questions or want some help, just call 452-1151 ext. 0.

Manager's Message

Continued from page 32

Expanding in this way allows us to bring in revenue more quickly, which will let us reinvest in expanding to the harder-to-reach areas. This has been a frustrating process. In some areas, the cable TV system has needed more repairs than we had hoped. The Graeagle system, in particular, turned out to have an odd mix of cable types and sizes. Please be assured that we will continue to improve the systems until they are reliable.

We will discuss our plans for various areas at the annual meeting.

We are also working with various communities on harder-to-reach areas as well, but those projects take more planning—and sometimes even grants—to make them work. For more information about our telecommunications products, including coverage maps, please visit our website at www.pst.coop.

If you have any questions, please call me at (800) 555-2207 ext. 6076, or email me at bmarshall@psrec.coop.

Sincerely,



Bob Marshall
General Manager



AS YOUR KIDS GROW UP, BE SURE YOUR SPEEDS GO UP

It's the start of another school year, which means taking stock of your kids' growth. Do they need bigger clothes? Bigger backpacks? Bigger internet speeds? Internet usage expands from grade to grade. Help equip them for success with the speed they need.

CALL 530.832.4126 FOR FREE INSTALLATION*



73233 State Route 70
Portola, CA 96122
530.832.4126
www.PST.coop

*Service availability and internet speeds will depend on location. Multiple plans to choose from. Call us for complete details. PST supports net neutrality, provides unlimited data and does not discriminate based on type of website or service. PST does not sell our customer information or data.

Cornerstone Group © 2018

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

August 31 - September 2

Antique and Collectibles Fair. Graeagle Fire Hall. Opening times: Friday, noon to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free to the public.

For more information, call (530) 836-6811.

September 1

Pancake Breakfast. Plumas Eureka Firehouse, 200 Lundy Lane, Plumas Eureka Estates. 8 to 11 a.m. Prize drawings. \$8; 10 and under, \$3. All proceeds benefit Plumas Eureka Volunteer Fire Department and community events.

For more information, call (877) 377-1953.

September 7 & 14

Romano's Farmer's Market at Sierra Valley Farms. 1329 County Road A23, Beckwourth. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Local vendors are hand-selected for their quality products.

For more information, visit www.sierravalleyfarms.com.

September 8

Plumas-Sierra REC Annual Member Meeting

Portola office, 73233 State Route 70.
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information, call (530) 832-4261.

September 9

Portola Rotary Fly-In Breakfast. 8 a.m. Nervino Airport, 82405 Highway 70, Beckwourth.

For more information, visit <https://portal.clubrunner.ca/8453/Event/fly-in-breakfast>.

September 15

High Country Cruise. Lassen County Fairgrounds, 195 Russell Ave., Susanville. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration fee \$25.

For more information, call (530) 257-3857.

Third Saturday Dinner and Dance. Sierra Valley Grange Hall, 92202 Highway 70, Vinton. Dinner, 5:30 p.m., \$10; lessons, 6:30; dance, 7:30 p.m. \$5.

For more information, call (530) 993-1182.



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives 

73233 State Route 70
Portola, CA 96122

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droberti@psrec.coop

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fnelson@psrec.coop

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CA-39

Manager's Message

Dear Members:

The cooperative's 2018 annual meeting is Saturday, September 8. We hope you will join us for a fun, informative day at the co-op. This year's meeting will feature broadband information, a health fair by Eastern Plumas Health Care and great prizes, including \$500 off your electric bill and a 2001 Dodge Grand Caravan Sport.

We also have the election for the board of directors. Three strong candidates are vying for the District 1 seat. If you do not vote by mail, you can vote at the meeting.

This is always a lively event, with great opportunities to ask questions about your electric cooperative and its telecommunications business.

Wildfires

Our thoughts are with all those affected by the devastating wildfires. PSREC sent line crews and equipment to Redding to assist in rebuilding Redding Electric Utility's infrastructure after the Carr Fire destroyed a large portion of its system.

PSREC does all it can to prevent wildfires from starting in our service area. We extensively trim and remove hazard trees and vegetation from our rights-of-way and put our system on single-shot, which means that if a fault is detected, the line is shut down. This will prevent our equipment from trying to reclose, or re-energize, helping to decrease the risk of a limb or debris in the lines igniting. Single-shot settings during the fire season do mean longer outage times so crews can fully investigate and patrol the lines before re-energizing.

We have been working with Pacific Gas and Electric to see the impact of its Community Wildfire Safety Program. One worrisome component is a plan by PG&E to turn off

power if there is an extremely high risk of their lines causing a fire. We are concerned that a lack of power will lead to many more issues and dangers, including a lack of water and lack of communications for our region.

We will be working hard to keep our backup power in place and we will be working with PG&E to minimize the impact of their programs on our members.

WRAP Program

We are again offering a discounted rate for qualifying members through our Winter Rate Assistance Program. The discounted rate is available for November through April electricity use to income-qualified members.

For more information and an application, visit www.psrec.coop, or call (530) 832-4261.

Youth Opportunities

As part of our commitment to the communities we serve, PSREC and its subsidiary offer life-changing opportunities to local youth, including scholarships and the Washington Youth Tour.

These programs provide enriching experiences to help young people discover themselves and their roles as citizens.

They also introduce them to the cooperative way, teaching the value of involvement and commitment to their communities.

Please see page 4 for more information about the Washington Youth Tour. Visit our website at www.psrec.coop for more information on all of our youth opportunities.

Telecommunications

PST continues to expand broadband coverage in the region. We are currently focused on areas with high interest that are in relatively good repair on the old cable TV system we acquired.

Continues on page 28



MT. WHEELER POWER

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Ely, NV 89301

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(800) 97-POWER
info@mwpower.net

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Ely Office
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through Thursday 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.*

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NV-40

We Stand with AARP in Opposing Question 3

I want to take this opportunity to share this important message from AARP Nevada State Director Maria Dent on Ballot Question 3, the Energy Choice Initiative:

As the state director for AARP Nevada, my job is to serve and advocate for our 330,000-plus members across the state. When it comes to Ballot Question 3, the so-called “Energy Choice Initiative,” we strongly encourage our members and all Nevadans to vote no. There are simply too many financial and constitutional concerns to ignore.

Because our organization serves people 50 years of age and older, many of our members are retired and living on fixed incomes. For some, careful budgeting is a necessity to make ends meet on a month-to-month basis. As a result, we approach any initiative that threatens to significantly raise the cost of living—as Ballot Question 3 does—with extreme caution.

Data shows that states with deregulated energy markets have some of the highest electricity rates in the country. Nevada’s rates fall below the national average and, in some cases, far below. One study comparing the average monthly bill of choice states and non-choice states showed typical residential consumers in choice states pay around 40 percent more annually for electricity.

Choice is actually a concept near and dear to our hearts. After all, AARP’s mission is “empowering people to choose how they live as they age.” Unfortunately, data and precedent inform us that the kind of choice promised by Ballot Question 3 will lead to cost increases that will likely limit our members’ ability to make choices in other aspects of their life.

After 10 days of public hearings earlier this year, the Nevada Public Utilities Commission concluded that passage of Question 3 was unlikely to benefit residential consumers and would likely lead to an increase in the amount people pay for electricity. We agree, and AARP Nevada joined the Coalition against Question 3 because passing this ballot initiative is a proposition that many of our members quite literally cannot afford. While my focus is on our members, my guess is that many other Nevadans share similar concerns. For that reason, I hope you’ll join me and vote no on Ballot Question 3 in November.

Mt. Wheeler Power members stand together with AARP in opposition to Ballot Question 3.

Kevin Robinson, CEO



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OR-400

Case in Point

Summer is winding down, and school is in session for my kids. Thank goodness. No longer will I have to wither under 90-degree heat or hear the phrases, “I’m bored” and “I don’t have anything to do.”

Without a doubt, I am much more excited about the prospect of math and science homework than my children. I also wish they shared the enthusiasm of Oregon electric cooperative leaders who believe strongly in the Fifth Cooperative Principle: “Education, Training and Information.”

Oregon electric cooperative directors, CEOs and employees constantly receive in-depth training on a variety of industry-related topics. Much of this is accredited training through our outstanding trade association—the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association—but our own statewide association is proud to have an education function as well. This month, we host our fourth annual Director Education Conference that will focus on, among other topics, technology, power supply and governance issues.

I am always impressed with the dedication of my members at these conferences. It doesn’t matter how many years they have been at their co-op or have served on their local co-op board, there is always more to learn in a rapidly changing industry.

Perhaps my children will someday appreciate the gift that is a quality education. But even now, they are yearning for next summer—a mere 173 school days away from being bored with nothing to do.

I hope you all had a wonderful summer, full of memories for a lifetime.

Ted Case

Executive Director



Wells Rural Electric Company

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NV-41

CEO Message

An advertisement for Question 3 suggests that you “break-up” with your power company if you don’t like the rates or the service. The ad makes it sound so simple. But Question 3 won’t lead to a break up, it will lead to a divorce—a long, nasty and expensive divorce. Question 3 raises three difficult questions similar to those that must be settled in a divorce: Who will have custody of the children? What about our house? How will we manage holidays and family events?



Let’s consider custody first. As members of Wells Rural Electric Company (WREC), you have always had access to safe, reliable, clean and affordable electricity. If Question 3 passes, WREC will probably be forced to terminate—or be prohibited from extending—our long-term wholesale power supply contracts. That will force you to find a new electricity provider. Question 3 advocates claim competition will drive rates down. In your case, you will be forced to leave your not-for-profit, tax-exempt, cost-based electric cooperative for profit-driven electricity providers subject to income taxes. I can’t see how that will reduce your costs. You might even begin to receive two bills: one for electricity and a separate bill for delivering it to your home or business.

Next, a judge will likely decide how we will split the house. In the case of Question 3, the “house” is the value of all of the generation plants and long-term contracts held by all of the utilities. It’s a really big house because some of those contracts were intended to provide stable rates for as long as 50 years. Consumers will be stuck either with the cost of fulfilling those contracts or paying the termination costs. That cost has been estimated somewhere between \$4 and \$7 billion. That’s

not a misprint. It’s billions. The range is so varied because no one can accurately predict the sale price of the house since there are no comparable sales. The sale price will also be heavily influenced by an arbitrary deadline to close the deal.

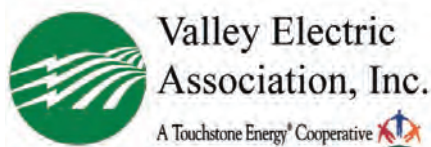
When California deregulated, that cost was about \$20 billion, which had to be financed like a mortgage. Sixteen years later, Californians are still paying an approximate 10% surcharge for the mortgage. You could think of that surcharge as alimony.

More often than not, the divorced couple still has to get along for the sake of their children. Question 3 will create a similar situation in that the wires from your existing utility will still be connected to your home or business. Those wires will be delivering electricity from another provider. Not only will you have a new relationship with a new spouse, your electric cooperative will have to have a relationship with all of those new spouses.

Question 3 attempts to address several issues important not only to Nevada, but to the nation. Those issues include incorporating more clean energy, consumer protections, rate fairness, self-generation, energy supply and pricing, and the role of legislative and regulatory bodies. These are not simple issues and there are no simple answers.

These questions, and many others Question 3 will raise, will require the kind of compromises that must be negotiated through the mediation only the legislative process can provide. If we, as a state, decide deregulation is the correct path for Nevada, that process should begin in the legislature, not with a constitutional amendment. Instead of reconciling any differences, passage of Question 3 will drag us all into divorce court. Please vote no on Question 3.

Clay R. Fitch
Chief Executive Officer



NV-42

LETTER FROM THE CEO

Purchasing Power



A lot goes in to delivering reliable, affordable power to members, and the cost of power tops that list. I want to share with you a little bit about the process of purchasing energy in this month's column to give you a better understanding of how we have managed to keep energy prices stable for so long.

As it is with most cooperatives, more than 40 percent of VEA's annual expense involves power supply. Running short is not an acceptable option, but neither is buying too much. Reliability requires adequate supply, and affordability demands that we only purchase what we need.

Energy demands fluctuate by season. The demand is highest during the hottest months of the summer and the coldest months of the winter. Regardless of the season, however, there is a minimum amount of power we need to meet consumer demand. That is known as our "base load," and it represents about three-fourths of our requirements. Long-term agreements at low prices cover the base with about 20% of that coming from the Colorado River Project. (We would take more if they could sell it to us.)

"Peak loads" represent the power needed during times of extreme temperature. Those demands are not as predictable. As such, that power is purchased on a shorter-term basis at prices higher than our base load. Every day, we buy or sell to cover the difference between our estimates and the realities of the day.

Negotiating Valley Electric's power supply agreements is one of the more

complicated tasks we undertake.

All the power we distribute to member-consumers is purchased, so we must make certain we are getting the amount we need – but no more. Renewable energy sources are important too. We can't fill our portfolio only with cheap "brown" power; members want "green" energy as well. Every year, it becomes more important to ratchet up the percentage of renewables contained within our portfolio.

Approximately 7% of our power needs are generated by the Community Solar Project in North Pahrump. Renewable energy is generally more expensive, so we balance our desire to be responsible corporate citizens with the need to keep prices low and stable.

We want to avoid exposing the members to the day-to-day market fluctuations, which is why we are always in the market managing our power portfolio. That is how members end up with a cost of 10.9 cents per kilowatt hour over a nine-year period.

Effectively managing the complexities of power purchases helps keep our rates low and our service reliable.

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.

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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

Residential Electrical Safety

Electricity is all around us. But how does it work? Many of us probably can't say. More importantly, we sometimes underestimate just how dangerous it can be. Injuries and home accidents sparked by electrical hazards could be avoided if we better understood and practiced safety.

This is especially true for children. Because they don't understand how electricity works, it's imperative that as parents you take the time and make the effort to teach your children about electricity. Talk to your children about electrical dangers both inside and outside your home.

One way to teach your kids about electrical safety is to show them that being safe can also be fun. You want them to want to be safe around electricity. That means teaching them how to handle electrical plugs, outlets, switches and other devices. Keep it simple.

According to the Electrical Safety Foundation International, approximately 2,400 children suffer severe shock and burns each year when they stick items into the slots of electrical outlets. That is nearly seven children a day. Nearly one-third of these injuries are the result of small children placing ordinary household objects—such as keys, pins or paper clips—into the outlets.

Kids aren't the only ones at risk. Adults have been guilty of overcrowding outlets, using frayed wires, leaving electronics on for extended periods of time or putting electronics next to liquids. Here are a few home safety tips:

- Never put metal objects in outlets or appliances, such as the toaster.
- Do not overcrowd electrical outlets.
- Never mix water and electricity.

Another important safety tip you can give to your children is to avoid downed power lines. In fact, it is best to avoid power lines, transformers and substations in general. A downed power line can still be energized and can energize other objects, including fences. Make sure your children understand the dangers of coming in contact with a downed power line or low-hanging wire.

Electricity is a powerful resource that should be respected.

Watch for Back-to-School Kids

On average, 26 children in the United States are killed every year while getting on or off a school bus, or while waiting at the bus stop. To avoid such tragedies, drivers are reminded to:

- Carefully back out of driveways. Watch for children walking to the bus stop.
- Slow down. Watch for children walking in the street and playing or congregating near bus stops—especially in the early morning hours, when it may still be dark.
- Be alert. Children arriving late for the bus may dart into the street without looking.
- Obey the law. Yellow flashing lights on a bus mean motorists should slow down and prepare to stop. Red flashing lights mean motorists must stop their cars and wait until the red lights stop flashing, the extended stop sign is withdrawn and the bus starts moving again. Unless there is a median, oncoming traffic also must stop.



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2018 Board Meeting Schedule

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

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AK-47



The Nushagak crew is ready to clear brush from power line rights-of-way to ensure the system's safe and reliable. From left, Line Superintendent Dirk Williams, Apprentice Lineman Ryan Luiten, Journeyman Lineman Tyke Olson and Apprentice Lineman Bobby Aikins.



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OR-48

Power and Politics

Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative, your locally owned electric cooperative, serves a population of nearly 56,000 people across our four counties. Our member-owners are demographically diverse and span the full political spectrum.

Regardless of the demographic or the political position of our members, one of our primary responsibilities is to ensure we provide industry perspective and useful information that helps guide your use of energy. We must evaluate and communicate the potential impacts of policy decisions that may affect your rates and the future stability of the cost of power, and how it may be delivered to you at the end of the line.

Ultimately, the real value of understanding these issues and impacts is to help inform and guide our involvement. Do we agree and support, engage and help guide, or push back and provide alternatives?

Depending on the issue, we continually look to ensure we find the best solution and value for our member-owners.

As we have discussed, our collective voice and action is a powerful tool. Our future will depend on how effectively we use it.

Markets and technology drive plenty of changes in the power industry. Politics and the policies that follow tend to find their way into the middle of those changes. Politics also has a tendency to shape the priority and directly affect outcomes and the value of power supply for our homes, our communities, the region and often our state.

Today we are focused on Oregon's carbon cap-and-invest, sea lion predation of salmon, renewable portfolio standards and requirements, spill surcharges, and myriad other fish-related issues. As these issues develop, you'll see additional correspondence on potential impacts and implications.

A recent example of the value of our engagement is a short-term political win in the court-ordered spill over the Bonneville Power Administration dams on the Columbia River. In partnership with Oregon Rural Electric Cooperative Association—our cooperative statewide organization—and other public power entities in the Northwest, we effectively delayed the spill from 2017 to 2018, avoiding an expected \$450,000 impact. This was OTEC's projected share of the increase from the loss of power in 2017 throughout the proposed four-month period.

If you want to stay even closer to the issues and/or get involved and take action, please visit www.oreca-action.org to register to become an advocate for your cooperative.

Les Penning
CEO and General Manager





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WA-49

Fall Into Green

Hello Members,

The hot and sunny days of summer are just about over and the beautiful colors of fall are beginning. We at Ohop always look forward to autumn.

As most of you are aware, Ohop, as well as many other utilities in Pierce County, buys the power you use from the Bonneville Power Administration. As part of our contract requirements with BPA, Ohop participates in BPA's conservation efforts to reduce energy use.

What better way to do this than to start the fall season by celebrating our cooperative members and being a little green—conservation green, that is!

Kenneth Klotz

General Manager



Ohop Member Appreciation Day

Join us for Member Appreciation Day on **Thursday, September 13, from noon to 7 p.m.** for great food, prizes and crafts for kids.

Free conservation gifts include LED bulbs, surge protectors and low-flow showerheads.

It will be a great day to learn about Ohop Mutual's conservation and electrical safety programs, spend time with family and friends, and help us celebrate the arrival of fall. An added bonus: You won't have to cook dinner!

We look forward to seeing you there and giving you some great gifts. Supplies are limited, so do not delay.



TANNER ELECTRIC *Cooperative*

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WA-50

Electric Vehicle Charger Incentives

The Tanner Electric Cooperative Residential All Electric Vehicle Level 2 Smart Charger Incentive Program was approved by the board of directors May 17.

The purpose of the program is to educate TEC members about electric vehicles and available charging station options, provide a \$250 incentive to acquire and install a residential electric vehicle level 2 smart charger, and to operate the charging station in a manner that meets members' needs while minimizing the impacts to the TEC distribution system.

Background

Multiple car manufacturers anticipate selling long-range electric cars in the \$30,000-range by 2020. Other car and tech companies are investing billions to catch up. Nearly all projections show EV sales dramatically increasing in the 2020s.

The TEC Residential Electric Vehicle Charger Incentive Program is designed to provide an incentive to buy and install a residential level 2 smart charger that operates only during hours TEC has designated. Looking to the future, building a relationship with members who install EV charging stations allows TEC the option of implementing a demand response program with the EV on its system.

The board of directors will review the program annually.

Qualifications

To be eligible for the incentive, applicants must:

- Be a TEC member who owns and receives electrical service at the dwelling in which the equipment will be installed.
- Buy and install a residential level 2—240-volt—smart-charging station for your all-electric vehicle. Hybrid vehicles do not qualify.
- Set the charging delay to a time determined by TEC.
- Allow TEC to perform final inspection.

Following final site inspection and approval of the paperwork, TEC will pay you, the member, the \$250 incentive by mail.

Go to www.tannerelectric.coop/content/ev-charger-incentive to download the application today.



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WA-52



Ductless heat pumps provide year-round heating and cooling, and can be used to control different zones.

Heat Pump Rebates

Ductless heat pumps provide relief year-round

Parkland Light & Water Co.'s ductless heat pump program can help reduce your electric utility bills and mitigate seasonal heat changes.

Heat pumps provide higher comfort levels year-round because the units provide both heating and air conditioning.

PL&WCo. offers the following incentives:

- Site-built or manufactured homes with electric baseboard, wall heaters or ceiling cable can receive up to \$800.
- Site-built or manufactured homes with forced-air electric furnaces can receive up to \$1,000.

Many manufacturers offer additional incentives to reduce installation costs.

We encourage you to take part in this program.

Mike Porter from Evergreen Consulting is available to answer questions at (503) 730-3122 or mike.porter@evergreen-efficiency.com. ■



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CPUD \$10 Bill Credit Winner

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Community Calendar

September 3: Labor Day

Clatskanie PUD Closed

September 6: Clatskanie Chamber

Meeting noon at Colvins

September 13: Rainier Chamber

Meeting Noon at the Rainier Methodist
Church

September 22: Seeds of HOPE Event

6:00 pm at Big Green in Rainier

September 26: Clatskanie PUD Board

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



Use Keepitlocalcc.com to find
local businesses and events!

OR-60

We are pleased to announce that our Clatskanie PUD website has received a significant upgrade, which includes making it ADA compliant. Ruralite Services Inc. worked with our own Sarah Johnson to make the changes and additions. The website has a clean, user friendly appearance now. We have made it easier to navigate, especially with the interface for our online bill pay program. We have also added new photos provided by local photographer Peggy McCormick to showcase the beauty of our service area. Check out our redesigned site at clatskaniepud.com.



One of the new features on our website is the addition of a new program called Choose EV. It is a toolkit to educate and inform our customers on the many aspects of electric vehicles. There is a section that provides electric vehicle facts and information on electric vehicles. It also contains information about promotions, recommendations, and vehicle incentives for available tax credits and rebates which are constantly updated. Another feature is a calculator to compare the cost of any electric vehicle to most gas vehicles to see what the expected cost and energy savings could be. The toolkit keeps a current list that shows where to find charging stations.

The District is being very proactive with Electric Vehicles. We are conducting a cost benefit analysis regarding both public charging stations in our service area and providing approved energy efficient EV chargers for residential use. We see a promising future for EV's and want to make sure our customers have access to all the latest information and tools to make an educated decision. When ready to purchase an EV our customers will have up-to-date information on incentives and promotions, and access to the best equipment available.

Last month I announced the retirements of Eric Hiaasen and Charlie O'Hare and named their successors. I also announced the upcoming retirement of Karen Nelson after 28 years of excellent service and dedication to the District. I am pleased this month to announce the promotion of Teresa Gillespie to fill Karen's role as the new E&O Administrative Coordinator. Teresa has been serving as a Customer Service Representative for the past 8 years. We are excited to have her move to another position within our organization. We anticipate great things from Teresa. We will be advertising for applicants to fill the open position of Customer Service Representative created by Teresa's promotion. Interested parties can go on our website or stop by the District Office for more information.

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

Lighting Labels and Lingo

These days, consumers have endless options when it comes to purchasing light bulbs, but the labels can be confusing! Use the information below as a helpful guide for browsing bulbs.

Lighting Facts

Per Bulb

Brightness 655 lumens

Estimated Yearly Energy Cost \$1.08

Based on 3 hrs/day
11c/kWh Cost depends
on rates and use



Life 22.8 years

Based on 3 hrs/day

Light Appearance



Energy Used 9 watts

Read the Label

Under the Energy Labeling Rule, all light bulb manufacturers are required to give consumers key, easy-to-understand information on bulb efficiency. Take advantage of the Lighting Facts label, which gives you the information you need to buy the most energy-efficient bulb to meet your lighting needs. The label includes information on the bulb's **brightness**, **energy cost**, **life**, **light appearance** and **energy used** (wattage).

Save Energy

Bulbs are available in **many shapes and sizes** to fit your home's needs. Choosing more efficient bulbs can help reduce energy consumption and save you money!

- LEDs use 25%-30% of the energy and last eight to 25 times longer than halogen incandescent bulbs.
- Purchase ENERGY STAR-rated bulbs to maximize energy efficiency.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy



Buy Lumens, not Watts

Lumens measure the amount of light produced by the bulb. Watts measure energy consumption.

Tip: To replace a 100-watt incandescent bulb, look for a bulb that produces about 1,600 lumens.



Incandescent
100 watt
1,600 lumens



LED
14 - 20 watt
1,600 lumens



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Alaska Village Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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



AK-105

It is the Growing Season!

During the long days of summer, it's not just us humans who enjoy the warmth of the sun. Flower and vegetable gardens flourish, and trees and brush grow at a phenomenal rate. While the abundant green is always a welcome sight, there are dangers lurking around the electric wires that serve you and your neighbors.

Right-of-way clearing is an important part of AVEC's goal of delivering safe, reliable, cost-effective electric service. Trees and brush that grow into the power lines can cause outages and system disturbances, especially when we have wet snow, ice or severe wind conditions. Tree and brush clearing helps reduce the number and length of outages. By keeping the brush and shrubbery out of the right-of-way, emergency repairs can be completed faster, reducing the length of outages.

AVEC strives to maintain an adequate level of reliability and to ensure a high standard of quality service to our members. We periodically engage local labor to help our technicians with removal of trees and brush. You can help as well. Keep an eye on your electric service and help us by removing new growth that may threaten your service. Notify your power plant operator if you are aware of any plant growth in or near contact with electric lines.

Do not attempt to trim vegetation near high-voltage electric lines. Notify us and we will arrange to have qualified technicians take care of the problem.

While you are working outdoors this summer, take a look at your electric service entrance and make sure your system is up to code. Hundreds of homeowners and businesses received letters this year regarding National Electric Code violations that needed to be remedied.

The vast majority of NEC code violations are fairly minor and can easily be addressed by the service owner. Loose mastheads, ground-rod connections, pounding ground rods back to grade—all are easy fixes. Some may require the services of an electrician. The regional corporations have generally been willing to assist with arranging for service repairs for their shareholders.

Remember that electricity is an enormous benefit for all of us, but it also can be dangerous if not treated with the care and respect it deserves. Keep your home safe by taking care of minor problems before they become major issues. And keep your eye on brush and trees that could cause outages in your community.

Until next time,

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

Lighting Labels and Lingo

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Lighting Facts

Per Bulb

Brightness 655 lumens

Estimated Yearly \$1.08

Energy Cost
Based on 3 hrs/day
11c/kWh Cost depends
on rates and use



Life 22.8 years

Based on 3 hrs/day

Light Appearance

Warm ————— Cool
▲
2700 K

Energy Used 9 watts

Source: U.S. Department of Energy



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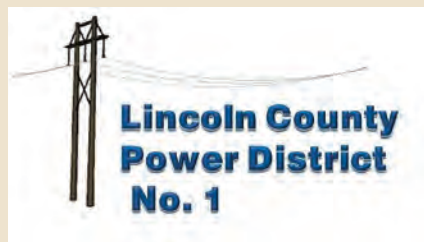
Tip: To replace a 100-watt incandescent bulb, look for a bulb that produces about 1,600 lumens.



Incandescent
100 watt
1,600 lumens



LED
14 - 20 watt
1,600 lumens



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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GENERAL MANAGER

David Luttrell

Board meets the
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

Final Thoughts on Question 3

By the time our next edition of Ruralite comes out, the November election will have passed. So here are my final thoughts on ballot Question 3, the Energy Choice Initiative.

While this is a complex issue, proponents of Question 3 have tried to make it sound simple in advertisements. They claim passing Question 3 will “reduce costs to customers.” But that claim has not been substantiated—not by the Governor’s Committee on Energy Choice nor the Public Utility Commission of Nevada.

What passage of this initiative will do is create uncertainty for years to come as the legislature and courts try to determine how to implement the concept, which is explained in just a single paragraph on the ballot.

For large businesses in Las Vegas, the initiative may deliver lower power costs. The same might be true for some of the city’s sophisticated residential customers. But Lincoln County has a lot to lose if Question 3 passes.

Our first area of risk is Hoover Dam hydropower. Hoover Dam meets more than 80 percent of Lincoln County’s annual power needs. The cost of Hoover Dam hydropower is about half the cost of other forms of electric power, including solar and wind. The new companies that will be created in Nevada if Question 3 passes will be called retail energy providers. They will not be able to get Hoover Dam power under federal law. If the power district cannot sell electric power in Lincoln County, hydropower’s benefits will be lost to our farmers, ranchers, businesses and residents.

The second area of risk is transmission. The power district owns all the transmission lines inside Lincoln County, which we use to deliver power. But we pay to use the transmission grid outside Lincoln County to get that power to our lines—whether it’s the 80 percent that comes from Hoover Dam or the 20 percent from other sources. If ballot Question 3 passes, operation of the transmission grid outside Lincoln County will be turned over to an independent system operator, most likely the California Independent System Operator, which will set the rates we have to pay to use the transmission grid. CAISO rates for grid use are considerably higher than those we currently pay.

The third area of risk is our cost-based rates. The power district is a not-for-profit political subdivision formed by the people of Lincoln County to provide electric power to the county. Our rates are based on the actual cost of energy. We are in business to serve a public need. The retail energy providers Question 3 would create will be for-profit corporations, and they will add a profit margin on top of their costs.

The bottom line is that the power district’s rates for electric service are already among the lowest in the state and the nation. Our average residential cost of 8.85 cents per kilowatt-hour is much less than the 15.46 cents per kWh in states that have energy choice. If ballot Question 3 passes, Lincoln County has a lot to lose.



David Luttrell, General Manager

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Steven Silkotch

GENERAL MANAGER

Kevin Short

IMPORTANT DATES

- September 3, Labor Day
(Cooperative office closed)
- October 19, Washington Youth
Tour contest deadline
- November 4, daylight-saving
time ends

EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARIES

September and October Congratulations!

- Scott Davies..... 14 years
- Michael Gervais 6 years
- Celena Gregg..... 3 years
- Yuri Gudino 3 years
- Laura Manseau 6 years
- Paula Ruiz..... 8 years
- Sherri Stafford..... 3 years

32759-001

If this is your account number,
contact the AEC office and claim
your \$25 bill credit.

AZ-56 **Postmaster:** Send address changes to Currents, 5605 NE Elam Young Pkwy., Hillsboro, OR 97124

A Message from the Manager

Thank You, Everyone

In the aftermath of the Cranston Fire, I would like to offer my sincere thanks to all of our members. While the direct effects of this event were focused in the Mountain Center and Idyllwild areas—and my heart goes out to those neighbors who suffered loss—our members had to put up with the loss of electric and internet service.

The weather has been hot and humid. Losing air conditioning at a time like this is not just inconvenient; it can be life threatening. Losing electric service means losing refrigeration for food and power for lighting, electronics and home-based businesses. Our local stores and businesses lost revenue, and their customers lost the services and products these establishments provide. It's been difficult and challenging for us all.

With the aid and assistance of Southern California Edison, our contracting partners, and a long list of local governmental and nongovernmental agencies, we were able to quickly turn a disaster into a wonderful outpouring of community concern. It is my sincere hope we will carry this lesson forward with us, and use the sharing and caring we all experienced as an example of the best of humanity's traits. Instead of bickering about minor things, perhaps we can remember there is another side to every issue. Maybe we can lend a hand instead of shaking a fist.

Remembering what we all share in common—our lives, our community and the experience of simply being human—it is possible we can all come out of the experience better than when we went in. On behalf of the staff and directors of your cooperative, thank you all.



Kevin Short



One of the command centers—dubbed Edison City—was set up next to AEC's solar farm.



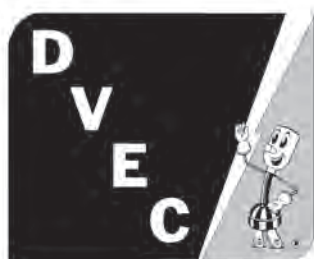
Sturdy cables connect generators that provided temporary power.



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.



AZ-143 **Postmaster:** Send address changes to Currents, 5605 NE Elam Young Pkwy., Hillsboro, OR 97124

Duncan Valley Electric Cooperative Inc.

379597 AZ 75
P.O. Box 440
Duncan, AZ 85534
Phone: (928) 359-2503
Fax: (928) 359-2370
www.dvec.org

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Dustie Robinette

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Steven Lunt
CEO

BOARD MEETINGS

September 17
October 22
November 19

*Generally the third Monday
of the month*

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



CEO's Message

Energy and the Economic Divide

I recently watched a presentation by Dr. Patrick Moore, former president of Greenpeace, who has ended his relationship with the environmental group. He did not leave because he changed his mind about the need for environmental protections nor his desire to make a better world for humanity. Instead, he left because the group became so focused on political issues that it began treating humanity as its enemy. One of his concerns resonated with me.

He spoke of an effort to ban the element chlorine from human use. Adding chlorine to drinking water was one of the biggest advances in the history of public health. Chlorine is also used in many medications that relieve human suffering.

Moore stated, "If this campaign succeeded, it would not be our wealthy donors who would suffer. Wealthy individuals always find a way around these follies."

As I reported in the previous issue of Currents, a group led by a California

billionaire is working to add a proposition to the Arizona ballot. The constitutional amendment would require 50 percent of electricity generation to come from renewable resources. This

would prevent any other level of government from changing or creating policies that could be more beneficial to the public.

If this ballot proposal passes, it will increase the household electricity cost \$500 or more a year to pay for renewables, plus the cost of storage systems necessary to provide electricity when the sun is not shining or the wind is not blowing.

A recent survey by the U.S. Energy Information Administration found that one-third of Americans face challenges in paying energy bills, and one-fifth are going without basic necessities such as food and medicine to pay their energy bills.



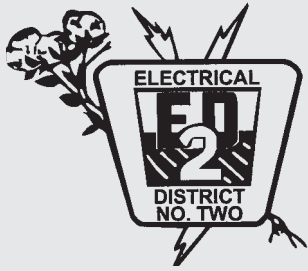
Steven Lunt

Thinking we are going to save us from ourselves with no regard for cost is a dangerous gambit being played out in the politics of energy supply.

Mandating specific actions at the exclusion of other options is never good policy. It creates winners and losers. It increases the economic divide of the haves and the have nots. It hurts those already struggling to pay for the basic necessities of life, while the wealthy find ways around the follies. Did I mention California billionaire?

As your cooperative, we strive to maintain a balance of low-cost energy—including renewables—and high reliability that ensures our members can afford electricity and have it available when they need it.

Stand up against the economic divide. Vote no on this ballot measure.



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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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.

AZ-144 **Postmaster:** Send address changes to Currents, 5605 NE Elam Young Pkwy., Hillsboro, OR 97124

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

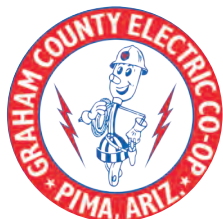
a division of Electrical District No. 2

(520) 836-4820 or (520) 723-8566

ROC 143626

ROC 143627





P.O. Drawer B
Pima, AZ 85543

(928) 485-2451
Toll free: (800) 577-9266
Fax: (928) 485-9491
www.gce.coop

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CEO and General Manager:

Kirk Gray



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Manager's Message

Technological Obsolescence

The past few decades, we have witnessed a technological revolution in the marketplace. Many long-standing, thriving businesses have become obsolete.

The major contributing factor to once-thriving businesses losing market share or going out of business is a condition known as technological obsolescence. Businesses that have not embraced technological changes in the marketplace no longer exist or exist in a completely different business model or product mix.

That begs the question: is the electric generation and distribution industry becoming technologically obsolete?

The electrification of rural America provided the energy needed to produce the greatest economy the world has ever known. But with the emergence of alternative sources of generation and distribution of electricity, we as an industry face a new set of challenges.

A few factors contribute to the electric utility industry being able to react to market demands and technological changes in a timely manner. Regulatory burden, regulatory lag and uncertainty in the regulatory environment concerning state and federal energy policy are a few of the obstacles. Retail deployment of distributed generation has little or no regulatory burden. My question is, why not? Federal and state governments routinely pick winners and losers through subsidization of these energy sources. Without incentives, would alternative energy sources be viable in the marketplace?

Another contributing factor in the ability of the electric industry to respond to market



demands and technological change is whether all consumers have the ability to participate in the market. In rural Arizona, two consumer classes are created by subsidizing alternative energy sources. A large segment of rural consumers cannot afford distributed generation, yet they are required to subsidize those who can. As technology evolves, maybe all consumers will be able to participate. As electric storage technology becomes economically viable and efficient, this will be a "game changer" for the electric utility industry.

The good news is, during the past 80 years the rural electrification program has built the largest and most reliable distribution system in the world. The proliferation of new technology and alternative energy sources will not replace traditional generation and distribution of electric energy in the near term, but it certainly affects it.

In response to market demands and technological change, we must change the way we do business. We must be consumer driven, rather than taking a monopolistic view of the marketplace. We must embrace new technology and alternative energy sources. Cooperatives have always been leaders in addressing consumer needs, and that responsiveness is even more important today.

Just as our predecessors faced the challenges of electrifying rural America, we face the challenges of delivering what the market demands. We must accept this challenge to not become technologically obsolete.

—Kirk Gray



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.

Postmaster: Please send address corrections to 5605 NE Elam Young Pkwy., Hillsboro, OR 97124.

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Extra copies: \$3 each, prepayment required. Supply is limited. Identify edition, month and year. Contact Ruralite Services.

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Austin, TX 98704
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PRINTED IN FLORIDA

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EREC
A Touchstone Energy®
Cooperative

Manager's Message

The Convenience of Flipping a Switch

Let's walk through your day. You start by switching off the alarm, turning on the lights, starting the coffeemaker and opening the refrigerator for breakfast. You pop bread in the toaster and turn on the TV to catch the weather report. You jump into a hot shower, then blow dry your hair. Before heading out the door, you grab your fully charged cellphone.

You arrive at work or school and fire up your computer. At lunch, you grab a hot meal at a local restaurant and run your debit card through the scanner. That night, you adjust your thermostat, turn on the TV—after you find where you left the remote—start a load of laundry, pull food out of the freezer, prepare a meal in the oven and maybe vacuum the floor. Before turning off the lights for the night, you set your home's alarm and plug in your cellphone to recharge.

The common thread throughout the day's activities? Electricity.

Many of us take electricity for granted. We expect the lights to come on, our devices to charge and appliances to work.

The mission of improving your quality of life is why Escambia River Electric Cooperative was formed in 1939. Unlike more populated areas, electricity was not available to rural homes and farms in our area at that time. Rooms were lit by candlelight, meals cooked over wood-burning stoves, clothes washed by hand and farms operated by manual laborers.

Those days are hard to imagine with the standard by which we live today. But relatively speaking, they weren't that long ago.

The drive to improve the lives of our members continues today. EREC strives to deliver electricity in an affordable, safe and reliable manner. Electricity is essential for your home, workplace and the local businesses that drive economic development and improve our community. In 1939, today, and in the future, we value your membership and we value you. ■



Clay R. Campbell



Inside

September 2018
Vol. 7, No. 11

An Underwater Miracle Worker 12

Edd Sorenson helps improve the odds of cave-diving rescues.

Also In This Issue

Side Roads 10

In the Kitchen 16

Great Picture Hunt 18

Festival Roundup 22

Outdoor Pursuits 24

Parting Shot 30

Your utility pages: 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 25, 26, 28, 29, 32



FKEC NEWS

September 2018

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P.O. Box 377, Tavernier, FL 33070

MEMBERS SHOULD KNOW:

As storm season continues, visit our Storm Center for resources, tips and tricks to protecting yourself, and your possessions. www.fkec.com/Cooperative/stormcenter.cfm

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

SCOTT NEWBERRY

Chief Executive Officer

The Journey to Being Green

At FKEC, being "green" is an ever-evolving journey. We work continuously to introduce energy efficient and environmentally friendly programs and practices into our workplace, as well as to offer our members tools and services to help them reach their green goals.

FKEC Green Initiatives

As a company, we implement green practices to minimize our carbon footprint whenever we can.

For example, we employ many environmentally friendly practices and options in our fleet department. All of our bucket trucks run on biodiesel fuel, and we also use long-lasting synthetic oil to lessen our emissions. Our fleet includes a plug-in hybrid utility vehicle and a hybrid-electric substation bucket truck with the ability to power equipment on the truck without the need to idle. We also recycle materials like tires, wire and more.

At our Tavernier Operations Center, we followed LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standards in the design where possible. The building includes a 30,000-gallon cistern that captures not only rain water, but also the condensation from our cooling system's high efficiency chillers. The collected water is then used to water landscaping and wash co-op vehicles. Reusable or recycled materials were also used in the building's construction and solar panels provide our hot water. In addition, the red louver "eyebrow" you see on the outside of the building actually



reduces heat transfer by keeping direct sunlight out, while still letting natural light in.

We also use timers to manage our lights and cooling systems in all our facilities and our bathrooms are equipped with water-saving, two-flush toilets.

These are just a few examples of our green initiatives. As we learn more and as green technologies evolve, we will continue to adopt new ways to "be green."

Green Services and Programs

In addition to working to lessen our impact on the environment, it is also a priority to provide you, our members, with green services and programs.

To encourage and help co-op members decrease their energy consumption, we offer an annual residential rebate program and native tree giveaway. Our Solar Loan and Net Metering services are other ways we try to make "going green" easier for co-op members interested in harnessing the power of the sun.

We also do our best to share energy saving and efficiency tips. By using energy wisely, anyone can reduce their impact on our environment with the added benefit of spending less on your electric bill. To learn more about our green initiatives or to download our Energy Guide visit www.fkec.com/Green/.



"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

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The Board's next meeting will be at 9 a.m. September 27 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

GEC Lays the Groundwork to Better Serve You, Our Members

Groundwork is underway on the cooperative's 2019 strategic work plan. Every employee is in on the action, each bringing to the table his or her perspective on improvements we can deliver to you, our members.

Outage management—and, more so, mitigation—continue to be a priority. We are developing plans to incorporate drones and ultrasonic technology to locate compromised devices before they fail and cause an outage. We also will continue to upgrade old technology field devices with significantly better-operating, newer devices. Right-of-way management has come full circle systemwide. Work will now focus substation by substation for further efficiencies. System grounding improvements also will continue.

Our plans include promoting and encouraging growth in our territory more than ever before, focusing chiefly on Airglades International Airport and Americas Gateway Logistic Center, along with the incidental activity these centers will bring to our area.

Another priority is devoting time and resources to relationships. Employee group relationships are, of course, important. Even more so are our relationships with you. We will focus on improving communications of our field activities with you, especially with those of you who farm.

The 2019 plan is far from finished, with many more activities to grace our plates before we wrap it up. I have high expectations for great successes.



Jeff Brewington



Gulf Coast
Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

OFFICES

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

9434 Highway 77
Southport, FL 32409
(850) 265-3631 or (800) 568-3667

6243 East Highway 98
Panama City, FL 32404
Phone: (850) 481-1188

www.gcec.com

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John Bartley

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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

Instill Energy Habits Early

Consumer electronics, mobile devices, TVs, computers and gaming stations are ubiquitous fixtures in our homes, particularly those with children. This ever-connected world is the environment in which children are growing up. Given our reliance on technology and energy consumption, teaching youngsters to save energy is an important life lesson.

Before parents can teach their children how to save energy, they must first answer the question, "What's in it for me?" Convincing kids to care about energy efficiency is a hard sell. Parents need to explain why it is important to save and how it benefits the child. Otherwise, they will not understand the need or be motivated to change their habits.

In the simplest terms, less money spent on an electric bill can mean more money used for fun activities. That is something to which children can relate. Less tangible, but just as important, using less energy means running your home more efficiently, conserving natural resources and helping the environment.

Be specific about energy-efficiency actions and set an example. Children learn by observing their parents. When you turn off the lights when leaving a room or unplug the phone charger once the device is fully charged, children notice.

Make learning about energy efficiency fun. For younger kids, turn it into a treasure hunt to locate all the things in your home that use electricity. Depending on the age of the children, challenge them to count and group items into categories: electronics, appliances, lights, etc. If age appropriate, have them create a list. Ask which gadgets and appliances could be turned off or unplugged to save power every day. For older children, show them how to program the smart thermostat and appliances. Shop with them for LED lights and discuss Energy Star-rated appliances. Show them the electric bill so they can see the costs, energy use and how their actions affect the bill.

Kids of all ages can learn a few simple energy-saving habits that can last a lifetime: Turn off lights, devices, computers and video consoles when not in use. Open blinds and curtains during winter days to let warm sunlight in and close them during summer days to keep your home cooler. Run the dishwasher and clothes washer only with full loads and during off-peak energy hours.

Rewards provide positive reinforcement on energy-saving actions. Create a habit of being energy efficient by offering youngsters rewards for agreed-upon milestones. For parents, this could mean less nagging about turning off the lights.

Teaching your children about saving energy is not only a creative way to spend time with them. It helps your home to be more energy efficient and can instill good habits that will benefit your child long into adulthood. ■



Doug Birmingham

Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative offices will be closed Monday, September 3, for Labor Day.



Peace River Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

REPORT POWER OUTAGES

- 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

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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

September 25, 2018
October 23, 2018
November 27, 2018

FL 155

The Power in Preparation



Preparation is the key to success in many things we do in life. Planning, practice and thoughtful assessment provide opportunities to work out potential problems in advance.

September is National Preparedness Month, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is encouraging everyone to prepare for emergencies.

For Peace River Electric Cooperative, preparation plays a huge role in ensuring that our members have the electricity they need as soon as they flip a light switch or start an appliance.

PRECO is constantly preparing for the future:

- When a co-op crew pulls a truck into a loading bay, warehouse workers have already pulled the parts and equipment needed for that crew's scheduled work day.
- When a customer care representative discusses our Budget Billing program, they're helping a member prepare to ease the impact of seasonal high bills.
- Any time meteorologists call for exceptionally hot or cold weather, PRECO works closely with Seminole Electric Cooperative — our power supplier — to ensure there will be enough power to meet anticipated demand.

- Our engineers and construction crews design, build and upgrade the electric system to keep electricity moving from power plants and substations to farms, homes and businesses.

All of these actions help PRECO meet the challenges of bringing electricity to our members every day.

We put in just as much effort preparing for the uncertainties posed by flooding, tornadoes, wildfires, lightning, high winds and hurricanes by:

- Maintaining and constantly updating our emergency response plan. Employees train for major events and know in advance what their primary and secondary roles would be.
- Subscribing to mutual aid agreements. That's why you saw trucks and crews from other co-ops helping us restore power after Hurricane Irma last year.
- Working with state and national officials to help ensure that crews can get to your communities when they are needed and have the lodging, food and support necessary to work effectively far from home.

September may be National Preparedness Month, but PRECO is committed to preparedness every day — for the routine, the extraordinary and the unexpected.

Randy
PRECO CEO