



Your Touchstone Energy®
Cooperative

"We Care"

4230 Hatwai Road • PO Box 997
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(888) 743-1501
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Director of Purchasing and Warehousing

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Director of Information Systems

Joe Stockard

Director of Operations

Cynthia Tarola

Director of Accounting

Lance Wilson

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Business Hours:

Monday - Thursday

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

Closed Fridays

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ID-1

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80-Gallon Unit

\$1299

Net price after rebates
Valid to 9-30-19

Plus Sales Tax

65-Gallon Unit

\$999

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Valid to 9-30-19

Plus Sales Tax

50-Gallon Unit

\$699

Net price after rebates
Valid to 9-30-19

Plus Sales Tax

EnergySTORE

1-888-743-1501 toll-free 4230 Hatwai Road, Lewiston



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

www.cbec.cc
info@cbec.cc

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Board of Directors

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Gerry Arnson, Heppner

Vice President

John Qualls, Heppner

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Roy Carlson, Fossil

Treasurer

Deacon Heideman, Fairview

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

I Hope You Are Enjoying Your Summer

Hello Members:

Summer has arrived. The weather is warm, the daylight lasts late into the evening—there's lots of time to be outdoors accomplishing yard work and summer chores. Crops and gardens are growing. It is pretty great to live in the Northwest.

Electricity—and electric appliances—make our summer lives so much easier than those our grandparents endured. We enjoy air-conditioned living, timed lawn sprinklers, electric yard trimmers, microwave ovens that heat food without heating the entire house, and ice makers in the home. Plentiful and affordable electric power from your locally owned and managed electric co-op is a convenience and blessing to us all.

As you go about your summer schedule and activities, take a moment to realize how much we all depend and rely on the successful delivery of electricity into our lives. From charging our cellphones and using our iPads and laptops, to canning the fresh produce from our gardens and farm stores, to pressurized hot water at our faucets, a person has to appreciate electric power in our lives. All of us at Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative will continue to “keep the lights on.”

Best 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

Connie Karp, President
Roger Howe, Vice President
Howard Gonser, Treasurer
Dan Williams, 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:

- Safety
- Integrity
- Customer Service
- Respect
- Operational Excellence
- Sustainability

OR-3

Manager's Report



Reinvestment in Your PUD Systems

You may be noticing more and more inspection and construction work from PUD crews and contractors starting this month.

Utility pole inspection, testing and treatment is critically important as much of your electrical system is transmitted and distributed via overhead lines. We are in our third cycle of inspections and it is proving very valuable. Similarly, we are auditing our joint-use program to ensure all those non-electric service wires and interconnections on PUD poles are safe and appropriate.

The advanced meter infrastructure project is moving forward very well. The communication network is up and running and the "vintage" meter on my own home was replaced with an accurate digital meter that has already given me some personal insight as to how I can reduce unnecessary power consumption and lower my bill. We are excited to get these meters installed throughout our system and to begin offering everyone more insight into their own power consumption patterns.

I know I've hinted at this before, but we will soon be releasing our mobile application (app) to provide consumption, billing, and other customer service information to you. Please stay tuned!

It's hard to believe we're already halfway through 2019. So much excellent work is being accomplished at NWCPUD by your excellent staff. As I write this, we've just finished celebrating the completion of the Quenett Creek Substation with our partner the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). More on that later.

Enjoy the sunshine and be safe as your recreate outside!

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.

Board of Trustees

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District 8, Bridgeport

Board meetings are the fourth
Tuesday of every month.

WA-5

Stay Back, Stay Safe

Working with electricity can be a dangerous job, especially for lineworkers.

USA Today lists line repairers and installers among the most dangerous jobs in the U.S. That's why safety is the No. 1 priority for your electric cooperative. This is not empty talk. We have created a culture of putting the safety of our crews and the community above all else.

Our mission is to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy to you, our consumer-members. Yes, we strive to deliver affordable and reliable electricity to you, but equally important, we want our employees to return home safely to their loved ones. This requires ongoing focus, dedication, vigilance—and your help!

Distractions Can Be Deadly

While we appreciate your kindness and interest in the work of our crews, we ask that you stay back and let them focus on their task at hand. Even routine work has the potential to be dangerous. It takes their full attention and that of their colleagues, who are also responsible for the team's safety.

Distractions can have deadly consequences. If a lineworker is on or near your property during a power outage, for vegetation management or for routine maintenance, please allow them ample room to work. These small accommodations help protect our crews—and you.

If you have a dog, try to keep it indoors while lineworkers are on or near your property. While most dogs are friendly, some are defensive of their territory and can't distinguish between a burglar and a utility worker. Our crews work best without a pet "supervising" the job.

We recognize that for your family's safety, you want to make sure only authorized workers are on or near your property. You will recognize our employees by the service trucks with our name and logo on them. You also may recognize our lineworkers because they live right here in our local communities.

Slow Down and Move Over

In addition to giving lineworkers space while they are near your property, be sure to move over or slow down when approaching a utility vehicle on the side of the road. If you can't move over—or when on a two-lane road—slow to a speed that is 20 mph less than the posted speed limit. This is an extra barrier of safety to help those who help all of us return home safely to their families. ■



CONSUMERS POWER INC.

MAILING ADDRESS

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

LOCAL OFFICES

**6990 West Hills Road
Philomath, OR 97370**

**1900 W Oak St.
Lebanon, OR 97355**

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Terry Plagmann
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Kevin Christopher
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Roman Gillen
PRESIDENT/CEO

Scott Muller
TREASURER/CFO

www.cpi.coop

OR-6

President's Report

In the past few months, the Consumers Power staff and board of directors has been analyzing projected revenues, costs of service, and current power rates to ensure that the cooperative's short- and long-term financial goals and lender requirements are met.

Accordingly, in July, CPI's rates will increase 8% on average for use accrued in June. For the average residential customer using 1,100 kilowatt-hours, this means an increase of \$8.45 in your monthly bill.

There are many important factors to consider when setting power rates and we have provided additional information on our website to highlight some of the key drivers of this increase. Maintaining adequate rates is a critical part of our commitment to provide you with safe, reliable, economic electric service while keeping the cooperative financially sound.

You Can Help

Many of you have signed up for our ORECA-Action grassroots program and made your voices heard on important legislation including cap and trade, the Oregon Department of Energy, dam removal, orca and salmon protection and many other subjects. Your voices have been heard and benefitted your co-op's ability to keep electricity reliable and affordable. For that we thank you! Now we have new federal legislation we need your help on.

Oregon's electric cooperatives are recognized as tax-exempt organizations under the Internal Revenue Service code. To maintain a tax-exempt status an electric cooperative must receive at least 85% of all income from

its members. Recent changes to the Internal Revenue Service code created an unintended consequence for electric cooperatives as government grants now may be considered non-member income.

Historically, electric cooperatives have received grants from a variety of federal, state and local governments to assist in providing services to their members for disaster assistance after major storms or other projects such as renewable energy or rural broadband. If the law is not changed, electric cooperatives may have to choose between maintaining their tax-exempt status and accepting FEMA assistance when recovering from a disaster. The winter storms of 2019 demonstrated the type of destruction Mother Nature can bring, and some Oregon electric cooperatives are now looking to FEMA for critical assistance.

Fortunately, there is important legislation in the U.S. Congress to solve this problem. The Rural Act (HR2147 and S1032) will correct this unintended consequence, which could jeopardize the tax-exempt status of your electric co-op. We need Oregon's senators and congressional delegation to get behind this legislation so electric co-ops do not have to make a choice between maintaining their tax-exempt status and receiving grants that could help their members.

Please help us by going to www.oreca-action.org, signing up for our grassroots effort and taking action today!

Roman Gillen
President and CEO



Benton REA

Prosser Office
402 7th St.
Prosser, WA 99350
509-786-2913

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

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1150
Prosser, WA 99350

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

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Board Meetings, Agendas & Minutes

The board of trustees will meet July 31 at 6 p.m. in the Prosser Office unless otherwise indicated on our website.

The board agenda for the upcoming meeting is available to members upon request no earlier than six days prior to the board meeting. Minutes of prior board meetings are available to members upon request. To request board agendas or minutes, visit a Benton REA office, email priorityrequests@bentonrea.org or call 509-786-2913.

General Manager

Michael J. Bradshaw

Management Staff

Derek Miller, Engineering Manager
Jeff Ekrut, Operations Manager
Steve Catlow, Manager of Finance and Administration
Jeff Bastow, Information Technology Manager
Troy Berglund, Member Services Manager
Terry Mundorf, General Counsel Attorney
Blodgett, Mickelsen & Adamson, Auditor

 @BentonREA

 @BentonREA

WA-7

We Work for You

Dear Members,

Co-ops exist to serve their members and the community. That's why I can speak for all Benton REA employees by saying, "We work for you."

Benton REA's employees work week after week with you—the members—in mind. Every detail of providing electricity as well as internet and technology services to you is done with the goal of increasing your satisfaction with Benton REA.

Last month, we conducted an annual American Consumer Satisfaction Index survey to find out what your expectations are of Benton REA. We want to learn what areas you are satisfied with as well as where we can improve to better serve you. Results from the survey are expected in August.

Benton REA has six main departments: operations, engineering, billing & finance, member services, IT & PowerNET and administration.

The operations department keeps electricity safely flowing to your homes and businesses. Engineering designs the electrical distribution infrastructure for new members and upgrades to meet current members' electricity needs. The billing staff members ensure that your bills are accurate each month and they process your payments, while accounting is responsible for the financial records and producing accurate and timely financial statements, in addition to managing Benton REA's power supply contracts.

Member services personnel handle our energy-efficiency and renewable energy programs as well as economic development, legislation and production of this magazine each month. We rely on our IT department for reliable computers, phones and other technologies to help us provide you with the best possible service. PowerNET maintains and builds out our internet service, and provides business networking and PC repair services. Administration works closely with the board of trustees to ensure that the policies and directives of the board are communicated and complied with throughout the association.

The jobs of the Benton REA employees involve much more than what I have briefly summarized in this message, yet each and every employee has a clear understanding that we all work for you, the Benton REA members. Many of us will be at your 82nd annual meeting on July 13, and we hope to see you there. We thank you for allowing us the privilege of being your electricity service provider! Cooperatively,

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



Offices

Hermiston Office

750 W. Elm Ave.
541 567-6414

Boardman Office

400 N.E. Eldrige Drive
541 481-2220

Hours

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

Toll-Free

1-800-452-2273

Report An Outage

888-465-5701 day or night

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Bryan Wolfe

Vice President

Jeff Wenholtz

Secretary-Treasurer

Steve Platt

Lee Docken

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

Wildfire Season a Cause for Concern

Last July 30, Highway 730 was closed along Wallula Gap as agencies battled a wildfire that grew to more than 10,000 acres by the evening.

When high winds drove the wildfire into our poles and wires, we took the rare step of shutting off our Juniper Canyon Substation as a protective measure as firefighters brought the blaze under control.

During such an emergency, our priority is the safety of members, our employees and the responding agencies.

Like utilities throughout the West, UEC is taking action to address wildfire concerns as we experience longer dry spells, temperature extremes and summer skies filled with smoke.

Every year, as a preventative measure, we trim trees to minimize the risk of a fire caused by contact with power lines. In the past two years, we have trimmed or removed more than 22,000 trees away from power lines.

As an added precaution, we are now shredding and mulching the underbrush under power lines in high density areas, clearing away sagebrush, Russian olives and blackberry patches.

Cleared utility easements help firefighters by providing access to remote areas and have helped serve as fire breaks in some cases.

On power lines in mountain areas, as a precaution during fire season, we reconfigure protective equipment that shuts down power

on the first sign of an electrical fault, such as the wind pushing two lines together. The line won't be re-energized until it is inspected and manually reset. The inconvenience to members affected by an outage must be balanced with the risk of catastrophic damage from a fire.

In recent years, we have placed significant portions of our power lines underground in the Weston Mountain area to further protect forested areas.

On remaining portions of overhead power lines, we install current-limiting fuses, enclosed and filled with sand, to help reduce the chance a faulted line will trigger an event.

In helping our communities become safer, we are all obligated to support our regional emergency response and alert systems as they continually prepare for the next fire.

We also are individually responsible to do what we can to protect ourselves, our families and our properties.

On our UEC website this summer, we have posted information links on Oregon and federal wildfire risk reduction, including a FEMA fact sheet, "Avoiding Wildfire Dangers: A Checklist for Homeowners," that you may find helpful.

To all UEC members, here's to a safe and fire-free summer of 2019.



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.

Board of Directors

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Jerry Duling Treasurer
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Jim McNamee Director
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Traci Brock Member Services Manager
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Keenan Webber Customer Service Rep.
Mackenzie Wolfe Customer Service Rep.
Casey McCleary Operations Manager
Jim Green Engineering Technician
Brewster Whitmire E&O Assistant
Robert Gridley The Dalles Foreman
BJ Ayres The Dalles Lineman
Andy Gardipee The Dalles Lineman
Gabe Red Cloud The Dalles Lineman
Wesley Woods Serviceman
Dan Funkhouser Grass Valley Foreman
Frank Roeder Maupin Foreman

*Board meetings are generally held
the fourth Thursday of the month at
the co-op office.*

Mission Statement

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

OR-9

Manager's Message

Board Member Recognition

This spring, Wasco Electric Cooperative Director Jerry Duling completed the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Credentialed Cooperative Director program.

During the past two years, Jerry completed the required courses to earn his CCD certificate. He joins seven other WEC directors as credentialed board members.

The CCD program consists of five training courses covering Director Duties and Liabilities, Understanding the Electric Business, Board Roles and Relationships, Strategic Planning and Financial Decision Making, which are modeled specifically to the electric utility industry.

Congratulations to Jerry! I sincerely appreciate the commitment the directors have made in continuing their education in order to best serve the members of this cooperative now and into the future.



Cooperative Awards Community Grants

Each year, the cooperative supports the development of projects throughout its service area with its Economic/Community Development grant program.

This year, the cooperative's grant committee awarded a \$2,500 grant to the Maupin Legion Hall Restoration Committee for restoration work on the hall—a cornerstone building in the Maupin community.

Youth Programs

This summer, the cooperative again sponsored two area students to attend a utility-related youth tour.

In June, Linnae Roeder, a junior-to-be at South Wasco County High School; and Thomas Scott, a sophomore-to-be at Dufur High School; attended the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Washington, D.C., Youth Tour. Linnae and Thomas, along with more than 1,800 cooperative-sponsored students representing 43 states, converged on the nation's capital for a week of learning about the cooperative business model, touring landmarks, meeting with state representatives and honing their leadership skills.

This tour is a great investment in not only today's youth, but tomorrow's leaders. Congratulations to both of them.

Enjoy your summer! As always, if you have any questions regarding your cooperative, please stop in or give us a call.

**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
Secretary..... Shirley Cairns
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Director..... Terry Nelson
Director..... Carey Weatherly

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James K. Brooks

Assistant General Manager

Phil Bigler

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.



OR-10

Cooperative Updates

Dear Member,

There is always something going on here at your cooperative, and what that is exactly, typically depends on the time of year. Allow me to take this opportunity to share some of the things we are working on now.

Extended Office Hours - You spoke and we listened. Last month our office staff joined the outside crews in working extended hours. The Roseburg office is now open for business Monday through Thursday from 7:00 am until 5:30 pm. This is enabling our members who work, particularly in Roseburg, to call or come in before their work-day starts or after it ends.



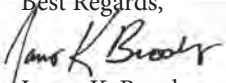
Clean Up - We knew it would take some time to clean things up after our little snow event last February. We have been engaging employees and contractors to do just that since the last member was energized in March. This is in addition to the normal summer workload. If you still have debris left over from the storm, please give us a call so we can take care of it.

Wildfire Preparation - Given the tremendous amount of tinder on the ground, again from the storm, the potential for wildfire is a tremendous concern to us. As of this writing in June, sunny days are outnumbering rainy days and we anticipate fire season starting pretty soon. We are currently considering various switching options that may be implemented when fire season is declared. It may mean an increase in short periodic outages, but these measures may also help prevent a wildfire.

Politics - At the federal level, we are fighting to receive FEMA funding, while maintaining our not-for-profit status. As a rural electric cooperative, we cannot receive more than 15% of our funding from non-member sources. Existing federal law states that federal assistance, such as FEMA disaster relief, is considered income. Given that we hope to receive \$7.5 million to offset our \$10 million in storm expenses, this would cause us to lose our tax-exempt status and have an impact on your rates. U.S. Rep. Greg Walden, R-Ore., is co-sponsoring the Revitalizing Underdeveloped Rural Areas and Lands (RURAL) Act of 2019, in hopes of resolving the unintended consequences of existing legislation. We will continue to keep you apprised of our efforts and activity on all fronts.

As always, if you have questions about anything, contact me at 541-673-6616.

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
Dallas Newton
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

Stay Back, Stay Safe

Working with electricity can be a dangerous job, especially for lineworkers.

USA Today lists line repairers and installers among the most dangerous jobs in the U.S. That's why safety is the No. 1 priority for your electric cooperative. This is not empty talk. We have created a culture of putting the safety of our crews and the community above all else.

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Distractions Can Be Deadly

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We recognize that for your family's safety, you want to make sure only authorized workers are on or near your property. You will recognize our employees by the service trucks with our name and logo on them. You also may recognize our lineworkers because they live right here in our local communities.

Slow Down and Move Over

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Central Issues

Central Electric Cooperative

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Secretary/Treasurer Kenneth H.
Miltenerberger, Alfalfa
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Dan Steelhammer, Bend
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Attorney, Thomas M. Grim
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Dave Markham

Chief Financial Officer
Rawleigh White

Director of Operations & Engineering
Brad Wilson

Corporate Information Officer
Lisa Cutter

**Director of Member
and Public Relations**
Brent ten Pas

**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 NW 6th Street, Redmond, OR.

www.cec.coop

OR-12

Grassroots Efforts Help Mitigate Financial Risk

For the past decade, the Oregon Legislature tried passing various versions of an economywide cap-and-trade bill to regulate greenhouse gas emissions. At the time of this writing, it appears those efforts will finally succeed, with Gov. Kate Brown poised to sign HB 2020 this summer.

As initially drafted, HB 2020 inadvertently exposed Central Electric Cooperative to more than \$7 million in new costs between 2021 and 2030. Deeply concerned, and through the collective efforts of the Oregon Rural Electric Cooperative Association, we offered solutions to the governor's office and legislative members. They listened and took action to address this unintended consequence.

HB 2020 sets an ambitious statewide goal to reduce carbon emissions to 80% below 1990 levels by 2050. The electric, industrial and transportation sectors bear the burden to meet this goal. To financially assist businesses in transitioning to a cleaner energy portfolio, the original bill calls for businesses annually emitting 25,000 or above metric tons of CO₂ to receive carbon credits based on their emissions spanning 2017 through 2019.

Thus, the rub. CEC is under the 25,000 metric tons threshold those three years, but due to rapid growth in Central Oregon, CEC's service load is projected to surpass it in 2020—a full year before the law goes into effect, and after the state distributes the carbon allowances.

Despite CEC having a 96% carbon emission-free energy resource portfolio, limitations on the hydropower system require buying some market resources—a mixture of solar, wind and natural gas generation. Classified as “unspecified” and therefore carbon emitting, the co-op is forced to exceed the carbon emission threshold in 2020, but not receive any carbon credits to provide financial relief for our members. In comparison, the two investor-owned utilities in Oregon are only required to provide 50% renewable energy by 2040, and this legislation gives them a 10-year free pass on carbon penalties.

To restore some measure of fairness and equity, CEC pushed for amendments to help mitigate the financial risk to our members. Rather than determining issuance of carbon credits solely during 2017-2019, the amendments allow for the state's newly created Climate Policy Office to also calculate credits on a five-year average post-2021. Under this methodology, CEC would qualify for carbon credits and reduce our financial exposure from \$7.4 million to approximately \$3 million from 2021 to 2030.

Though not a perfect solution, I am pleased that our effort these past six months produced a more favorable outcome—but the work continues. As the Climate Policy Office embarks on the rulemaking process to enforce HB 2020, we must ensure our amendments are properly adopted.



Dave Markham, President and CEO



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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

The Universal Commodity

About 35 years ago as a high school student contemplating what I wanted to be when I grew up, looking at an electrical outlet on the wall I had a hunch. The thought was, “People will always need to plug things into there.” The answer came, “I should become an electrical power engineer.”

That hunch is even more true today than it was then. I think of electricity as the universal commodity. Have you ever tried to count your touchpoints with electricity in a single day? You may just as well start counting the stars in the night sky.

Now your mind starts to spin on your daily electricity touchpoints: light switches times 20, microwave times six, hot shower, charged cellphone, garage door opener, TV, computer, etc.

Are you skeptical about my comparison to counting the stars in the sky? Consider that the count is much more than just the things that electricity brings to life such as appliances and electronics. Look at everything in your surroundings that has been through some sort of modern manufacturing process. Every single manufacturing process today is electricity dependent for the energy source or the controls or both. Now continue your count: the light switch itself, the microwave and all its component parts, the shampoo in the shower, the cellphone, clothes, cars, every component in your house, everything you buy at the grocery store, and on and on.

To escape the influence of electricity in our society today, you would have to do much more than just shut off the power to your house. You would have to “go cave-man,” quite literally. Shed everything you are wearing and walk into the wilderness with nothing in your hands. Imagine that for a minute!

Electricity isn't really the energy source. It's the energy transfer mechanism: It's like the chain on your bicycle. The energy source is falling water, or burning fossil fuel, or nuclear fission, or wind, or sunlight. Electricity is the key that puts all that energy and capability at our fingertips. Electricity is the universal commodity. Don't take it for granted!



Brent Bischoff
CEO/General Manager



**652 Rose Ave.
P.O. Box 69
Vernonia, OR 97064
503-429-3021
Toll free 800-777-1276
www.westoregon.org**

.....
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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

The 75th Annual Meeting of the Members of West Oregon Electric Cooperative is Saturday, August 17, at 11 a.m. The meeting is in the Vernonia High School cafeteria.

The doors open at 10 a.m. for registration. The business meeting starts at 11 a.m., with a barbecue luncheon and member raffle to follow.

The purpose for the annual meeting is:

- To elect directors to serve three-year terms for Districts 2 and 5.
- To hear and consider the reports of officers and directors.
- To transact other business that shall properly come before the membership.

Members now have multiple voting options: electronic, mail-in or in-person. Ballots will be mailed to each member Saturday, July 27. The ballot contains voting information such as candidate profiles, electronic voting instructions and voting deadlines. Please read the information carefully.

Call the office at 503-429-3021 if you have any questions or concerns.

Regards,

Bob Perry
General Manager





Surprise Valley Electrification Corp.

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

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

If no answer after hours, call the
Modoc County Sheriff's Office at
530-233-4416

www.surprisevalleyelectric.org

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

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Dennis Reed, Line Superintendent
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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

What is Defensible Space?



Defensible space is the required space between a structure and the wildland area that, under normal conditions, creates a sufficient buffer to slow or halt the spread of wildfire to a structure. It protects the home from igniting due to direct flame or radiant heat. Defensible space is essential for structure survivability during wildland fire conditions. For more information about defensible space zones and preparedness techniques, visit the Firewise Communities website at www.firewise.org.

Protect Your Home From Wildfires

If you live next to a natural area known as the Wildland Urban Interface, you should provide firefighters with the defensible space they need to protect your home. The buffer zone you create by removing weeds, brush and other vegetation helps keep the fire away from your home and reduces the risk from flying embers. Firewise Communities and other wildland fire preparedness education programs provide valuable guidance on property enhancements.

Each year, wildland fires consume hundreds of homes in the WUI. Studies show that as many as 80% of homes lost to wildland fires could have been saved if their owners had followed a few simple fire-safe practices. Wildland fire-related deaths occur because people wait too long to leave their home.

Your fire department takes every precaution to help protect you and your property from wildland fire. However, the reality is that in a major wildland fire event, there will not be enough fire resources or firefighters to defend every home.

Successfully preparing for a wildland fire enables you to take personal responsibility for protecting yourself, your family and your property.

For more information on protecting you and your property from wildland fire, visit www.wildlandfireRSG.org.

Article courtesy of Plumas National Forest, Beckwourth Ranger District Fire Prevention, 530-836-2575, www.fs.fed.us.

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

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J. Ingrid Kessler, Central District
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GENERAL MANAGER
Debi Wilson

MANAGEMENT STAFF

Tony Toncray
Engineering & Operations Manager
Lindsey K. McCarthy
Marketing & Public Relations Manager

BOARD MEETINGS
Fourth 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

Blackberry Jam Festival	4
Build Your Emergency Supply Kit	8
Scholarship Winners	28

OR-16

Legislative Visits and Fire Prevention

Dear Co-op Community Members:

In late April, Lane Electric Co-op directors and I joined other electric cooperative representatives from around the state and throughout the nation in Washington, D.C., to discuss issues important to us with our federal legislators. These annual face-to-face visits are an important part of our efforts to continue providing you with safe, reliable and affordable service, and to maintain local control of our operations.

We had a lot to talk about this year. We asked for help implementing legislation passed last year regarding maintaining our right-of-way across federal lands to ensure rules are coordinated with all of the affected federal agencies. We asked legislators to correct an unintended consequence of tax reform legislation passed last year that treats federal disaster relief payments as nonmember income that may endanger our federal tax-exempt status. We also thanked our legislators for firmly rejecting President Donald Trump's budget proposal to sell the transmission assets of the Bonneville Power Administration.

Wildfire Risks High

According to the National Interagency Fire Center, residents along the West Coast should be ready for another busy fire season. The agency reports above-normal potential for significant wildfires west of the Cascade crest in Washington and Oregon through August.

Fallen timber still on the ground following February's snowstorm, coupled with sunny and warm days the last two months, has created more fuel and a hazardous situation. It's getting drier and hotter by the day. Our service territory already experienced two fires in the past

two months. As of June 14, outdoor burning in Lane County is prohibited until at least October 1.

Fire Safety Starts With Prevention

We are doing what we can to mitigate fires on our system, including changing our reclosers from three-shot to single-shot. Reclosers are circuit breakers equipped with a mechanism that can automatically close the breaker after it has been opened due to a fault, such as a tree limb falling on it. Single-shot means it will close the breaker—cutting power—after the first fault, not the third.

While this can reduce the risk of fire, it also means more outages and possibly more prolonged outages as crews patrol the entire line to find where the fault occurred. We are taking this extra precaution for your safety. As always, if you see potential fire hazards relating to utility wire, please give us a call.

To reduce risk of fire around your home, please visit www.firewise.org. If you plan to use fireworks to celebrate Independence Day, please take extra precaution.

Let's keep Oregon green for generations to come. Make fire prevention a priority in your life by following rules and regulations and being good stewards of the land.

Sincerely,



Debi Wilson
General Manager





Blachly-Lane Electric Cooperative

Mail to: PO Box 70,
Junction City, OR 97448
Visit us at: 90680 Hwy 99 N,
Eugene, OR
541-688-8711
800-446-8418
blec@blec.coop
www.blachlylane.coop

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

Board of Directors

District 1

Ernie Jacks

541-927-3466
jacksche@blec.coop

District 2

Curtis Short, Chairman

541-359-9434
shortc@blec.coop

District 3

Beverly Mattheisen

541-998-3704
mattheisenb@blec.coop

District 4

Marlene Northrup, Vice Chairwoman

541-998-1216
northrupm@blec.coop

District 5

Eric Imbler, Secretary/Treasurer

541-954-1949
imblere@blec.coop

General Manager

Greg Gardner
gardnerg@blec.coop

OR-17

Safety, Resiliency and Being Prepared

Dear Members,

With summer now in full swing, we are paying close attention to wildfire mitigation. Wildfires in California last year caused billions of dollars in destruction to homes and property and also cost human life. Ultimately, the damage has caused Pacific Gas and Electric to file for bankruptcy and forced the company to submit mitigation plans to the California Public Utilities Commission.



Here in Oregon, one aspect of a wildfire mitigation plan now being discussed is a provision for electric utilities to de-energize power lines to protect areas from fire during extreme conditions or where fires may already have started.

Just two years ago, a wildland fire started in our service territory. As the fire spread, your electric cooperative was put on notice that if the fire came near our power lines, we could have been asked to de-energize the lines.

In keeping with our message of safety, reliability and resiliency, we want our members to be prepared for such events. It doesn't seem like it was that long ago we were dealing with piles of snow and prolonged outages for our members. How quickly conditions change and present new threats. Our work plans include right-of-way maintenance and line maintenance aimed at preventing fire caused by outages or damage. Nevertheless, a bird, squirrel, or downed tree or limb is all it takes to spark a fire.

Are you prepared to go without power and evacuate your property? Do you have ready access to a clean and safe water supply in case of a multiday power outage?

Whether it's storms, extreme weather conditions or an earthquake, a multiday event can strike any time of year. Having a plan and provisions is important and shouldn't be overlooked. For more information on emergency preparedness, go to www.FEMA.gov.

Greg Gardner

General Manager



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Goldendale, WA 98620

509-773-5891

800-548-8357

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110 NE Estes Ave.

P.O. Box 187

White Salmon, WA 98672

509-493-2255

800-548-8358

WA-18

How We Compare to Others

Over and over, I have been asked about our electric rates—how they compare to electric rates at other utilities in the state or why our rates are so high.

Our service territory is an expensive area to maintain. We have a very rural system, which is why the PUD exists in the first place. In the 1930s, private investor-owned utilities did not want to serve the entirety of Klickitat County, precisely because it was so rural and they could not make any money providing service.

The challenge with our service territory is we have many miles of line and few customers. That means there are fewer customers to share the costs of installing, operating and maintaining those lines, substations and transmission infrastructure.

We also do not have many customers who require large electric loads to help increase our revenues. The homes and small businesses in our county carry a larger percentage of PUD costs than is the case at many PUDs and privately owned utilities in Washington.

Lastly, we do not have legacy dams as some of the mid-Columbia utilities do. Investments made in the 1960s by those utilities pay dividends because those dams are paid off. It was this fact that prompted your PUD commissioners to explore renewable generating projects to help bring revenues from outside the county into the PUD.

Utilities similar to ours are Kittitas and Ferry counties in Washington and Wasco Electric in Oregon. On my informal, and probably incomplete list, our rates are currently the fourth most expensive in Washington. In 1992, prior to any projects being completed, we were also fourth on the list. Factoring in our generation projects, in 2011 we were 15th—or about the middle of the pack. Since 2011, electric markets have changed. We have received less revenue from our projects, which has brought us up the list again.

Our goals for Klickitat PUD are to reduce debt and move the utility rates more toward the middle of the pack again. This is only possible with projects that create value and help offset electric rates. Without surplus revenues, we would stay at our current place relative to other utilities. We would be just as we were prior to any projects being completed.

The plan for 2019 is to pay off the remaining debt on the White Creek Wind project and the McNary hydroelectric facility. With the carbon reduction legislation passed in Olympia this year, and with more being considered for future years, we believe Klickitat PUD will become more competitive with the more urban utilities in the state. Our rates may still increase due to some of these carbon reduction requirements. However, I firmly believe the PUD is much better positioned to reach these mandated carbon reduction goals. In doing so, we will become more competitive while other utilities' costs may rise.

Jim Smith

General Manager



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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

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

ID-19

Blessed by Our Founders

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



Stop the Spread of Invasive Mussels

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

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

How do you go about keeping those pesky creatures from moving in? Clean. Drain. Dry. Clean any visible mud, plants or animals from your boat. Drain all water from the motor, bilge, livewell and other water-containing devices. Dry all areas of your boat and equipment. You should also never dump live fish or organisms from one water body into another.

To protect our waterways, the state has set up a watercraft inspection station program focused on inspecting boats from affected states as they come across the state line. Inspections are free, but the cost of mussels is not. According to the Idaho Department of Agriculture, the estimated cost to Idaho alone would be \$100 million annually if attempts fail to prevent an infestation. This year, inspection stations in Idaho have already intercepted 14 boats carrying the invasive mussels.

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

Annie Terracciano
General Manager



Idaho County Light & Power Cooperative

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

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White Bird

Attorney

J.A. Wright

General Manager

Max Beach

c-21

Protect Your Investments

Electricity plays many roles in our lives. It powers everything from baby monitors, cell-phones and lighting to HVAC systems and appliances. Nearly everything has a computer in it these days to make it smarter, quicker and faster.

We get so comfortable with electricity's instant availability that when we flip a switch, we expect most systems or devices to do the job. It's a good time to make sure we protect them from Mother Nature and other blinks in the power supply that are out of our control.

Every electrical device has a purpose and a service lifespan. While we can extend their operations with maintenance and care, none are designed to last forever. Below are a few examples of ways to protect your equipment.

Ground-Fault Circuit Interrupters

Outdoor outlets, or those in potentially damp locations such as in a kitchen, bathroom or laundry room, often include GFCI features. They are designed to sense abnormal current flows and break the circuit to prevent potential electric shocks.

The average GFCI outlet is designed to last about 10 years. In areas prone to electrical storms or power surges, they can wear out in five years or fewer. Check them frequently by pressing the red test button. Make sure you hit the black reset button when you are done. Contact a licensed electrician to replace any failing GFCI outlets.

Surge Protectors

Power strips with surge protectors can help safeguard expensive equipment. Voltage spikes are measured in joules, and surge protectors are rated for the number of joules they can effectively absorb. If your surge protector is rated at 1,000 joules, it should be replaced when it hits or passes that limit. When the limit is reached, protection stops, and you're left with a basic power strip.

If your electrical system takes a major hit, or if you don't remember when you bought your surge protector, it may be the best to replace it.

Extension Cords

With a growing number of electrical devices connecting your family to the electricity you get from ICL&P, having enough outlets in just the right spots can be challenging. Remember, extension cords are designed for temporary, occasional or periodic use.

If an extension cord gets noticeably warm when in use, it could be undersized for the intended use. If it shows any signs of frayed, cracked or heat-damaged insulation, it should be replaced. If the grounding prong is missing, crimped or loose, a grounded cord will not provide the protection designed into its performance. Always make sure extension cords used in outdoor or potentially damp locations are rated for exterior use.

Electricity is an essential necessity for modern living, and ICL&P is committed to providing safe, reliable and affordable power to all of our members. We hope you'll keep these electrical safety tips in mind so you can note any potential hazards before damage occurs.



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

Member Service..... Option 3
Engineering..... Option 4
Marketing..... Option 5
Operations..... Option 6

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

OFFICE HOURS

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

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Robert Reed, La Pine

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

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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:

Would it be easier for you to make weekly or biweekly payments rather than one large payment each month? If so, our PowerPay program may be for you.

PowerPay is a voluntary program that allows you to pay for your electricity before you use it. You get to decide when you want to deposit funds into your account. It is a good solution if you move often, own rental properties or face financial difficulties.

New or existing members may choose to participate in the PowerPay program. When opening a PowerPay account, you are eligible to have your deposit waived or refunded and applied as a credit toward your current energy costs. This puts your deposit money to work for you now instead of being held on your account to secure future service.

Members elect to be notified of low balances, daily balance, pending disconnect, disconnection and reconnection via phone, email and/or text messaging. Statistics show prepaid programs help lower energy costs 10% to 15% because members are aware of their daily usage patterns.

Prepaid balances are adjusted based on daily energy use. When your balance gets low, you add money as it fits your budget. You may pay as much or as often as you wish, as long as the account has a positive balance. If an account goes into a negative balance and is disconnected, no fee is charged. Power is restored when additional energy is bought.

PowerPay gives you the power to manage electric use in a way that best suits your individual situation. You can "fill up" your electric account just like you fill

up your gas tank in your car—one gallon at a time or with a full tank, whichever works best for you.

Be one of the first 50 members to sign up by September 1, 2019, and receive a \$10 bill credit a month for the first six months you are enrolled. Members who remain on the program through September 1, 2020, will be entered into a drawing for a \$500 cash credit.

For more information, call 541-536-2126 option 3, or stop by our office.

Protect the Tax Status of Oregon Electric Cooperatives

Oregon's electric cooperatives are recognized as tax-exempt under Internal Revenue Service code. Recent changes to the IRS code created an unintended consequence that government aid, such as disaster assistance or broadband grants, could threaten co-op's tax-exempt status and hamper our ability to use the full value of the grants to benefit our members and communities.

If the law is not changed, electric co-ops may have to choose between maintaining tax-exempt status and accepting Federal Emergency Management Agency assistance when recovering from a major storm or other disaster.

Legislation in the U.S. Congress—RURAL Act (H.R. 2147 and S. 1032)—will correct this unintended consequence. Help us send the message to Oregon's senators and congressional delegation to support this important legislation.

Visit our grassroots web page, www.ORECA-Action.org, and take action to urge your members of Congress to support the RURAL Act.

General Manager Dave Schneider



www.rrelectric.com

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 Vice President Dennis Poulsen
 Secretary-Treasurer Larry Henson
 John Campbell
 Lindsey Manning
 Krinn McCoy
 Blaine Tanner

INTERIM GENERAL MANAGER

Chad Black

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)



ID-24



Lower Snake River dams generate enough electricity annually to power a city the size of Seattle.

Photo by Jani Brumat

Hydropower Power Facts

Myth: The generation of the four lower Snake Dams can be replaced by wind power that is already built.

Fact: The four lower Snake River dams provide critical winter energy and capacity to serve regional loads. This benefit cannot be replaced by other renewable resources such as solar and wind.

The Northwest's demand for electricity is highest in the winter. Unfortunately, this is when PNW wind generation is at its lowest. In fact, about 80% of the time during periods of peak energy use in the winter months, wind farms connected to the Bonneville Power Administration transmission system generate at less than 10% of their potential. For comparison, conventional power plants—hydroelectric, natural gas and coal—are typically available at 100% capacity from 90 to 98% of the time. According to BPA, the most likely replacement for the capabilities of the lower Snake River dams would be carbonemitting, natural gas-fired, power plants.

BPA estimates replacing the lower Snake dams with highly efficient natural gas generation would increase the region's carbon dioxide emissions between 2 and 2.6 million metric tons annually. That number is the equivalent of the emissions of nearly 421,000 cars on the road each year. The lower Snake River dams account for 12% of the federal system energy supply and generate enough electricity annually to power a city the size of Seattle.



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

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Stacy Kniveton

Lanny Hayes

Dennis Swinger Sr.

GENERAL MANAGER/CEO

Yvette Armstrong

LEGAL COUNSEL

Mark DeWulf

WA-25



**Always look overhead
when working near
power lines, especially
when handling large
equipment or operating
tall vehicles.**

Look Up and Live

Follow these tips to keep yourself and others safe around electricity.

Indoors

- Inspect electrical cords for damage before use. Check for cracked or frayed sockets, loose or bare wires, and loose connections.
- Never staple or nail electrical cords to walls or baseboards.
- Never use three-prong plugs with outlets that have only two slots.
- Check the rating on your extension cords. Only use cords that have been approved by an independent testing laboratory.
- Keep appliances and tools away from water. Never reach for or unplug an appliance that has fallen into water. Turn the power off at the breaker first.
- Do not run cords under carpets or rugs, or through walls, ceilings or floors. Heat cannot escape and may result in a fire hazard.
- Use outlet covers or tamper resistant outlets to protect children.

Outdoors

- Always call your local utility or 911 if you see downed power lines.
- Never touch downed power lines.
- Know what's below before you dig. Call 811 to have underground utilities located for free.
- Always watch for overhead lines when working or playing outdoors, especially when moving equipment, carrying ladders or working around roofs or trees.
- Don't overload circuits with too many power cords.

Hood River Electric Cooperative



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

541-354-1233
www.hrec.coop
[www.facebook.com/
HRECCoop/](https://www.facebook.com/HRECCoop/)

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Treasurer Roger Nelson
Doug Mahurin
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Opal DeBoard
Dick Sohler
Jeff Osborn

GENERAL MANAGER

Libby Calnon

Serving rural
Hood River County
since 1945

OR-26

Manager's Message

Dear Members,

It's mid-June as I write this, and summer weather has already made its first appearance for the year. With more warm days on the way, here are some simple tips for keeping cool and lowering your energy bills:

- **Close blinds and drapes during daylight hours.** If you can, shade your windows from the outside to keep the sun off the glass. This simple step lowered the temperature on the inside of my windows by 10 degrees.
- **Keep your doors and windows closed during the day to keep heat out.** Open them at night or early in the morning, and use fans to pull cool breezes through. Last summer, we used this strategy to keep the co-op office cool while our air conditioning system was being repaired. Cooling the office down in the morning made a big difference in our afternoon comfort level.
- **Turn off lights in unoccupied rooms.** Turn off or unplug unnecessary electronics.
- **Skip your dishwasher's drying cycle.** Air dry dishes instead.
- **Dry your laundry on a clothesline.** If you must use a dryer, use the lowest heat setting.
- **Cook more meals outdoors on a grill, or in your microwave.** Avoid using the oven, which adds heat to your home.
- **Use fans to keep cool.** Turn them off when you leave the room.
- **If you have an air conditioner or heat pump,** shade the outdoor unit and make sure it has good airflow on all sides.
- **Install awnings or plant deciduous trees** to shade sun-facing windows.
- **Check your air filters monthly.** Clogged filters make your air conditioner or heat pump work harder.
- **Thinking of adding air conditioning?** Consider a heat pump (for homes with ductwork) or a ductless heating and cooling system (for homes with zonal heat). Heat pumps and ductless systems provide energy-efficient summer air conditioning and affordable winter heating.

We wish you a safe and enjoyable summer!

Libby Calnon
General Manager



Harney Electric Cooperative



A Touchstone Energy[®] Cooperative
The power of human connections[®]

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

hec.burns@harneyelectric.org

Orovada, Nevada
775-272-3336

orovada.office@harneyelectric.org

www.harneyelectric.org

Find us on 

.....

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Line Superintendent

Jason Radinovich

Electrical Engineer

Shane Sweet

Office Manager

Stephanie Bowen

Attorney

Raymond S. Kindley

OR-27

Manager's Message

Dear Members,

Your electric cooperative staff has been following the Oregon Legislature's activities for the past three months. I have traveled to Salem on numerous occasions to advocate against increased mandates and taxation of your co-op and its members. We have been moderately successful.

The proposed carbon cap-and-trade bill is going to pass in some form. It will cause our expenses to go up, in the form of increased fuel and freight costs. Harney Electric Cooperative and our peers were successful in carving out most of the public utilities in Oregon from direct taxation under this new funding source.

We were marginally successful in carving out public utilities from the new corporate sales tax just passed by the legislature and signed by Gov. Kate Brown. However, many businesses in Oregon will be placed under this additional financial burden.

Our work in defending against ever-escalating costs due to new mandates and taxation by the state and federal legislatures is never accomplished—just an ongoing work in process. We can always use your help!

I am again asking you to make sure Oregon's lawmakers hear the cooperative message loud and clear by joining Harney Electric's grassroots energy campaign: ORECA-Action. Please consider joining the thousands of other electric co-op members who are already part of this important program.

When legislation is introduced that could impact our ability to deliver affordable, reliable electricity to you, our members, we'll make contact through emails with details on the issues and provide you information for your legislators. You then decide whether to send a provided notice—created by HEC—to your elected officials concerning the issue at hand. Elected officials need to know what you, their constituents, have to say about mandated requirements and ever-increasing restrictions and taxes that cost you, the consumer, money in the form of higher electric bills.

Joining is easy. Simply log onto ORECA-Action.org. Click on the "Join Us" button and follow the basic instructions. Be sure to enter your physical address and not your P.O. Box. This allows us to link you to the appropriate elected officials. We'll notify you when your voice needs to be heard.

We are not powerless. By joining together with a collective voice, we can impact the legislative process.

Best Regards,

Fred Flippence
General Manager





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

Board of Directors

President Norman Wallis
Vice President Jeff Bitton
Sec./Treasurer Doug Parkinson
Bob Boren
Michael Miller
Steve Rembelski
Earl Skeen

Manager Ken Dizes

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

Email: energy@srec.org

Website: www.srec.org

ID-28

Recognize Electrical Hazards

Power outage response and public safety are important topics for your electric cooperative. We pride ourselves in doing well at both, but we recognize there is always room to improve.

One way to improve is to take advantage of all the eyes of the electric membership. We can respond quicker to power outages when you notify us of information potentially relating to the outage. Sometimes, you may see hazards or items that may become power outages or that may be dangerous to the public.

I have included a partial list below of hazards to look for and information that is helpful to our outage response. It is most helpful when you can provide a good location with a power pole or underground device number.

- Arc flashes.
- Nests with sticks touching power lines.
- Low-hanging power lines.
- Downed power lines.
- Broken guy wires.
- Buzzing or arcing sounds near electric power equipment.
- Missing or damaged electric panel covers.
- Leaning or damaged power poles.
- Broken crossarms.
- Broken insulator or an insulator that has come unattached from the crossarm.
- Power poles on fire.
- Buildings constructed within 10 feet of overhead power lines.
- Vehicles or equipment entangled with power lines.
- Trees in overhead power lines.
- Birds or animals entangled in power lines.
- Exposed underground power lines.
- Oil leaking from underground pad-mounted transformers.
- Damaged ground-mounted power boxes and transformers.
- Livestock rubbing on power poles and electrical panels.
- Work occurring within 10 feet of bare overhead power lines.

Many of these items have been discovered and reported by our members in the past, which either shortened the length of power outages or prevented them altogether.

We appreciate our members' assistance identifying potential problems and even directing us to items that may be causing a power outage. Call our office during business hours at 208-879-2283 or the after-hours outage line at 208-879-4900 to report hazardous electrical conditions.



Ken Dizes

Ken Dizes
General Manager



United Electric

CO-OP INC.

Directors

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

General Manager

Jo Elg

Engineering and Operations

Trevor Parke

Line Superintendent

Kay Hill

Executive Assistant/Billing Specialist

Trisha Moultrie

Member Services Manager

Chris Seibold

Mailing address:

1330 21st St.
Heyburn, ID 83336

Phone: 208-679-2222

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

ID-29

On the Wire at United Electric

There has been much in the media on salmon survival and the four lower Snake River dams following the Andrus Center Environmental Conference “Energy, Salmon, Agriculture and Community: Can We Come Together?” in which Congressman Mike Simpson was the keynote speaker. The intent of the conference was to bring together policymakers, experts, stakeholders and concerned citizens to discuss the interconnected topics. It appears the only media takeaway from the discussion is that the four lower Snake River dams must be removed.



A slightly different takeaway is that there is much misinformation regarding wild salmon. Overfishing began in the late 1800s, and mining, logging, agriculture, unfavorable ocean conditions and dams have led to the decline in fish populations. Information from the University of Washington libraries paints an interesting history of the early fishing industry in Washington state.

The first fish cannery was established on the Columbia River in 1866. It packed 272,000 pounds of salmon. By 1881, there were approximately 30 canneries in the Northwest. Competition was stiff. Fishermen added more layers to their gillnets and introduced traps, pound nets and fishwheels. In 1883 and 1884, the catch totaled more than 42 million pounds each year.

The concern of overfishing and salmon declines garnered enough attention for Congress to direct the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to investigate the causes of declining salmon runs in 1887. About the same time, Washington and Oregon enacted harvest restrictions, but they were weak and poorly enforced. The takeaway here: Salmon populations were declining before you and I were born.

Humans aren't the only ones who enjoy eating salmon. Marine mammals, including both California and Steller sea lions and harbor seals, prey on adult fish as they enter the Columbia River from the ocean to spawn upstream. Many sea lions have become permanent residents of the Columbia River and follow the salmon more than 140 miles to Bonneville Dam to continue the feed. The number of sea lions in the lower Columbia River increases every year.

Juvenile salmon and steelhead also face predation from birds and fish. Caspian terns, double-breasted cormorants and California gulls eat juvenile fish as they migrate downriver to the ocean each spring. Scientists estimate that fish-eating birds consume 35% of juvenile spring Chinook. Northern pikeminnow also prey on juvenile salmon and steelhead.

The most obvious takeaway: A combination of factors has contributed to the decline in salmon populations the past 150 years. Only a comprehensive approach to salmon recovery that addresses all factors affecting salmon—including habitat degradation, hatchery impacts, overharvest of returning adults, and assessing the impact of ocean conditions and climate change—can put salmon on the path to recovery. Recovery of salmon will not be achieved with a shortsighted goal of dam removal.

Jo Elg

General Manager



Lost River Electric Cooperative Inc.

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

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

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James D. McKelvey
Maddie Mocettini-Hansen
Dean L. Myler
Lynn O. Rothwell
Merlin A. Waddoups

Manager/CEO

Brad J. Gamett

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

ID-30

Planned Power Outages

To provide a safe and reliable electric power supply, electric utilities must regularly update and replace system infrastructure components. These repairs often can be performed with minimal disruption to power supply at minimal inconvenience to members.

On occasion, more extensive system maintenance may require an interruption to power supply over a more widespread area with potential to last longer. While these interruptions are never convenient, utilities work to minimize the impact to consumers.

On May 23, Lost River Electric Cooperative scheduled such an outage to accommodate the needs of our neighboring Salmon River Electric Cooperative. The outage allowed SREC to perform priority maintenance at its Mackay switch yard. Due to logistics in how LREC and SREC transmission systems are coupled, this maintenance affected roughly half of LREC's power services. To mitigate outage impacts, our staff considered residential consumers heating needs and the impact on irrigation, businesses and schools to select a time and date that would reduce the inconvenience to as many of our consumers as possible. Once a date and time were selected, efforts were made to notify consumers via flyers, a notice in the newspaper and telephone calls to consumers on our priority contact list.

Once power was disconnected, SREC line crews efficiently performed the equipment replacement, and power was restored ahead of schedule. LREC consumers and staff appreciate the level of efficiency provided by SREC in this process and have expressed this sentiment.

In the event such an outage is needed in the future, LREC staff requests that anyone who may be significantly impacted, such as those with medical devices or those who do not have regular exposure via the aforementioned regular communication methods, please contact Lost River Electric at 208-588-3311 to be added to our priority contact list.

Brad Gamett
Manager



Board of Directors

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Lon Rake, Director
Jeff Saxe, Director
Mark Shorten, Director
Fred Williams, Director

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

Copper Basin District

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

Valdez District

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

After hours outage line

(866) 835-2832

Important Dates

July

CVEA Offices Closed: The CVEA offices will be closed Thursday, July 4, 2019, for Independence Day

CVEA Board Meeting: The July meeting of the Board of Directors is 1 p.m., Thursday, July 18, 2019, in Valdez

August

CVEA Board Meeting: The August meeting of the Board of Directors is 1 p.m., Thursday, August 15, 2019, in Glennallen

CVEA Member Tours: The Fall Valdez member tours will be Monday and Tuesday, August 12-13, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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

AK-34

CVEA Community Foundation Contribution Season Begins

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



This year, the Foundation has \$16,269 available for contributions. The goal is to use this funding to help local nonprofits make an even greater impact in the communities the Co-op serves.

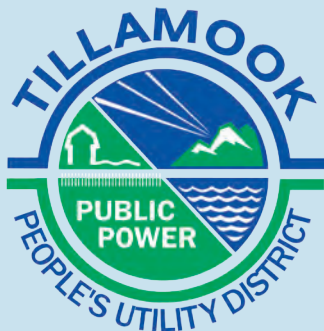
The Foundation’s annual contribution season has begun. If your organization is a local 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization looking for funding for new or expanding projects or programs within the next 12 months, please review the Contribution Guidelines at cvea.org to determine eligibility, and fill out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

The deadline to submit all contribution requests for funding is Thursday, August 22, 2019, as indicated on the request form available at either CVEA office and at cvea.org/community support.

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

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

If you have questions regarding the Foundation contribution process, please contact Sharon Scheidt, CVEA Director of Communications, at 822-5506, 835-7005, 255-1425, or email scheidt@cvea.org.



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

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

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

Board of Directors

Harry Hewitt, President
Barbara Trout, Vice President
Doug Olson, Treasurer
David Burt, Secretary
Mike Gardner, 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

BE SAFE THIS SUMMER



Summer is an active time of year
for many of us. As you go on
traveling adventures, attend events
and celebrate holidays, take time
to enjoy your activities and be safe.
To our customers and community,
have a safe and pleasant summer!



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

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Josiah Patkotak
Tina Wolgemuth

General Manager

Ben L. Frantz

AK-36

Stay Back and Stay Safe

Working with utilities is a dangerous job.

That's why for Barrow Utilities and Electric Cooperative, safety is the No. 1 priority. This is not empty talk. Over time, we have created a culture of putting our crews' safety and that of the community above all else.

Our mission is to provide safe, reliable and affordable utilities to you, our consumer-members. Yes, we strive to deliver affordable and reliable utilities to you, but equally important, we want our employees to return home safely to their loved ones. This requires ongoing focus, dedication, vigilance and your help.

Distractions Can Be Deadly

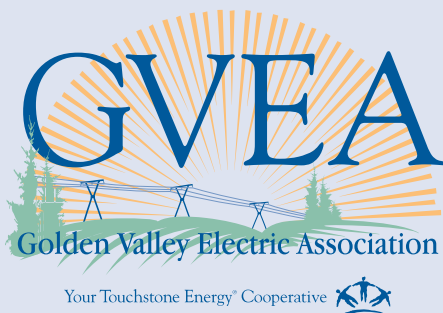
While we appreciate your kindness and interest in the work of our crews, we ask that you stay back and let them focus on their job when possible. Even routine work can be dangerous. It takes their full attention and that of their colleagues, who are also responsible for the team's safety. Distractions can have deadly consequences. If a utility worker is on or near your property, please allow them ample room to work. These small accommodations help protect our crews—and you.

If you have a dog, try to keep it indoors while utility workers are on or near your property. While most dogs are friendly, some are defensive of their territory and can't distinguish between a burglar and a utility worker. Our crews work best without a pet "supervising" the job.

We recognize that for your family's safety, you want to make sure only authorized workers are on or near your property. You may recognize BUECI employees by their uniforms, and the service trucks with our name and logo on them. You may also recognize our utility workers because they live right here in our local community and you know them personally.

Slow Down and Move Over

In addition to giving utility workers some space while they are near your property, we also ask that you move over or slow down when approaching a utility vehicle on the side of the road. This is an extra barrier of safety to help those who help all of us.



Owned By Those We Serve

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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John Sloan, Secretary (District 6)
Bill Nordmark, Treasurer (District 7)
Chris Bunch (District 5)
David Messier (District 1)
Gary Newman (District 4)

Corporate Headquarters

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

Delta Junction Office

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

Nenana Office

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

Report Outages:

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

View Outage Map:

gvea.com/resources/outages

www.gvea.com

Safety: You Have The Power!



AK-37

Meter Replacement Project Wrapping-Up

GVEA started its meter replacement program in 2017, which involved exchanging our older meters with new AMI meters. Approximately 98% of the 47,000 meters have been replaced, and we expect completion of the project this summer.

Less than 200 members asked to be deferred until the end of the project. These members had the opportunity to address GVEA staff and board members about their concerns via board meetings and town hall meetings. At its May 28 board meeting, GVEA's board of directors

authorized staff to proceed with the final installations – meaning no deferments.

The new meters will enable GVEA to operate more efficiently and reliably, while providing members with the ability to monitor and manage their electric usage via GVEA's Member Portal (see pg. 7). The new meters will also allow GVEA to improve outage detection and restoration efforts across our service territory.

Please visit our website at www.gvea.com/inside/gvea-projects/meter-replacement-project for additional information. ■

Proposed Energy Project Fails to Qualify

In June, GVEA was notified that a proposal to build a 100-megawatt (MW) propane-fired energy project in Interior Alaska has had its status as a qualifying facility (QF) revoked by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) because the proposed project failed to meet the requirements for a QF, as laid out in federal regulations.

Colorado-based Eco Green Generation (EGG), together with Alaska Environmental Power of Delta Junction, submitted a hybrid power project that would have replaced a large share of GVEA's existing generation with a network of propane-fired units located around the Interior. The generators would have provided heat to commercial buildings and back up a new wind project to be built near Delta Junction.

GVEA challenged the proposal, arguing that the project did not meet the legal requirements as a qualifying facility (QF). The FERC agreed, nullifying the company's self-certification.

EGG promoted its idea as a hybrid power project with wind and cogeneration components, but at times over 85% of its energy output would have come from fossil fuels. Their 100-MW project would have effectively replaced much of GVEA's existing generation on an average daily basis.

GVEA's door is always open for additional efficient renewable generation resources, but the projects must have no long-term negative impact on reliability or rates. (EGG documents available at gvea.com/news) ■



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives 

73233 State Route 70
Portola, CA 96122

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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fnelson@psrec.coop

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dshort@psrec.coop

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dhansen@psrec.coop

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lprice@psrec.coop

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droberti@psrec.coop

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thammond@psrec.coop

Nancy Miller, *Litchfield*
nmiller@psrec.coop

Manager

Robert (Bob) Marshall
bmarshall@psrec.coop



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

CA-39

Manager's Message

Dear Members:

As part of its cost reduction efforts, your board of directors has changed the format of the 2019 annual membership meeting. This year's annual meeting is Thursday, September 5, at the Sierra Valley Grange, 92202 Highway 70, Vinton. Doors will open at 4:30 p.m., with the business meeting beginning at 6 p.m. Dinner is served beginning at 5 p.m.

Up for election are District 2 (Graeagle-Mohawk areas) served by Dick Short, and District 5 (Lake Davis-Long Valley-Washoe County areas) served by David Hansen.

If you are interested in running for the PSREC Board of Directors and live in one of those districts, please contact me as soon as possible. The deadline for nominations by petition is July 22.

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

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

Public Safety Power Shutoffs

PG&E Public Safety Power Shutoffs will affect Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative's transmission feed. PSREC will use backup resources as much as possible to keep the impact of these shutoffs as minimal as possible, but members need to be prepared for outages and possible rolling blackouts.

We will provide as much notice as possible, and will post information at www.psrec.coop, on social media and via text message. To sign up for text message notifications, text "PSREC" to 800-555-2207.

For more information on Public Safety Power Shutoffs and how to be prepared, please visit www.psrec.coop/about/psps.

If you or someone in your home has special

medical equipment, please contact the PSREC office during normal business hours and ask to be put on the Life Line list. Please provide us with a landline or cellphone number, as wireless phones do not work without electricity. If someone in your home depends on electric-powered, life-sustaining equipment, make a plan for backup power.

If you are going to install a generator and connect it to the electrical system of your house, please make sure this is done to code using an automated system like a Generac switch, or a manual double-pull double-throw switch that separates your house from the grid. Failure to do so could cause injury or fire, leading to potentially massive liability on your part and disconnection from the grid, if discovered. For more information on a double-pull double-throw switch, please talk to a licensed electrician.

Telecommunications

Plumas-Sierra Telecommunications is working to expand broadband coverage with fiber optic service in west Quincy and Chandler Road, with speeds of up to 1 gigabyte per second. PST's service offers unlimited data use so your family can stop fighting over bandwidth.

If you haven't already contacted us to get on our interest list, give us a call at 800-221-3474 or visit our website at www.pst.coop so we can contact you as soon as service is available in your area.

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

Sincerely,



Bob Marshall
General Manager



MT. WHEELER POWER

1600 Great Basin Blvd.
Ely, NV 89301

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

Emergency Contacts

Ely Office
775-289-8981

Eureka Office
775-237-5693

Outside Ely / Eureka Area
800-97-POWER

Board of Directors

District 1 – Ron Miller
District 2 – Mary Kerner
District 3 – Robert Pratt
District 4 – Catherine Bakaric
District 5 – Rick Hendrix
District 6 – Jerald Anderson
District 7 – Sandra Green
District 8 – Wade Robison
District 9 – Ron Niman

Proudly serving more than 10,000
residents and businesses throughout
Nevada and Utah.

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

“Powering Your Future”

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections

NV-40

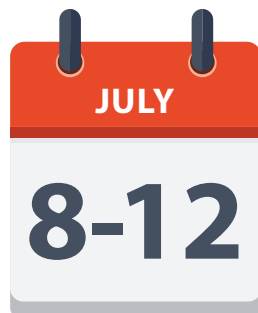
Important Dates



**Closed for
Independence Day**



Bills Due



**Michael J. Peterson
Youth Leadership
Camp**



Board Meeting

For more important dates, visit
mwpower.net/content/community-calendar

Wells Rural Electric Company

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M Jonathan Dahl
Secretary/Treasurer

Kirk Dahl
Orlin Kidner
Ouida Madison
Fred Montes de Oca
Lois Nannini
Jim Whited
Bruce Widmer
Bob Wilcox

Director Emeritus

D. Vernon Dalton

website:

www.wrec.coop

Outage Hotline:

(800) 566-6696
24 hours a day

Carlin office:

1322 Chestnut Street
P.O. Box 727
Carlin, Nevada 89822
(775) 754-6362

Wendover office:

1706 West Butte Street
P.O. Box 3699
West Wendover,
Nevada 89883
(775) 664-2204

Wells office:

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

NV-41

Your Electric Cooperative by the Numbers

A lot has changed since Wells Rural Electric Company (WREC) built its service center in 1977. Among the greatest of those changes is how much electricity is used by the average member.



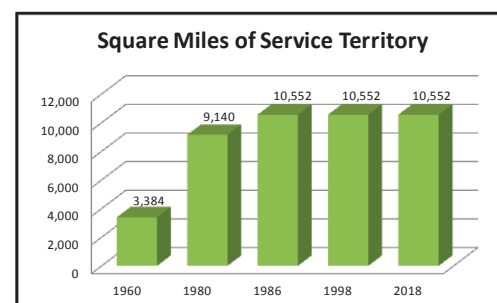
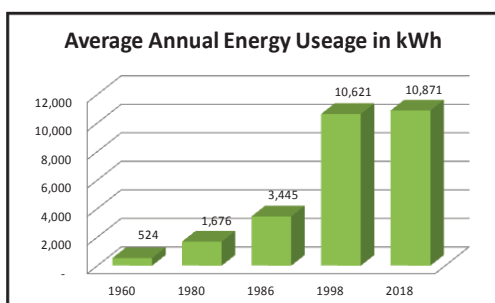
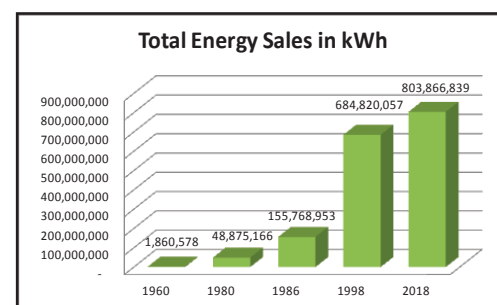
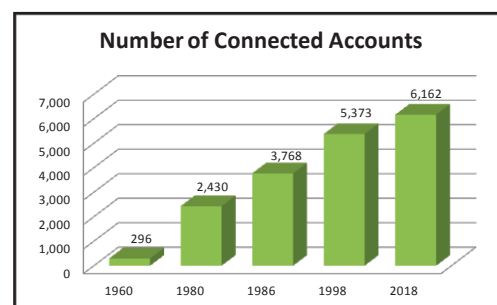
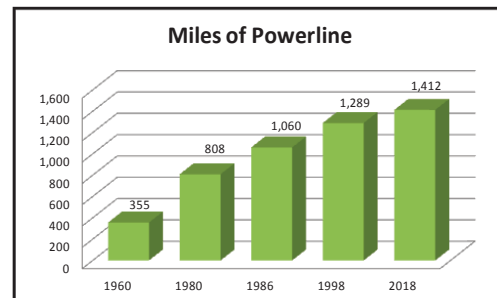
The following graphs illustrate how your not-for-profit, member-owned electric cooperative has grown to meet your changing needs.

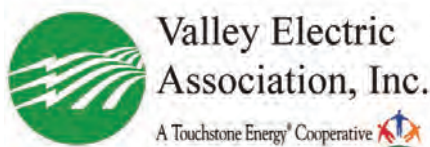
To better serve those needs, your locally-elected Board of Directors broke ground for the new operations center June 18. Construction should begin in just a few weeks. In addition to protecting the inventory and equipment your cooperative uses, the new operations center will enhance our ability to serve you, increase efficiency, improve security and support our commitment to safety.

We appreciate the interest in the project from local contractors who submitted very competitive bids. Not only are our members getting a much-needed facility upgrade, a significant portion of the money invested in this project will stay in the local economy.

We look forward to keeping you informed about the progress of the new operations center through *Ruralite*, wrec.coop and on Facebook.

Clay R. Fitch
Chief Executive Officer





NV-42



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Internet Service



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Pahrump, NV 89041

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OFFICE PHONE

800-742-3330 (within Nevada)
or 775-727-5312, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday-Friday, except holidays

AFTER HOURS & EMERGENCY

We are here 24 hours a day,
seven days a week for your
emergency needs.

(775) 727-5312

Website: www.vea.coop

Email: wmc@vea.coop

LETTER FROM THE CEO

Member participation

I've been impressed by the number of members who have volunteered to serve on one of four new committees created by the Valley Electric Association Board of Directors.

Within days of posting a sign-up form on the VEA website in late May, we received dozens of applications. I suppose I should not have been surprised by the response because of the level of passion I have witnessed during my three-plus months in Nevada.

Still, it is heartening to see the willingness by so many to do the hard work necessary to make VEA a better Co-op.

Each of the four committees will be chaired by a Board member and will be made up members (or spouses of members) from each district. The committees will meet at least quarterly beginning in July. This new structure will strengthen the relationship between the membership and the Board.

The **Finance Committee** will review reports from the accounting staff and auditors and make recommendations about the Cooperative's fiscal operation. Members will review the annual work plan and budget, recommend external audit firms and advise the Board on rate issues.

The goal of the **Policy Committee** will be to review and make recommendations for revisions to VEA policies. Each of the more than 100 policies will be reviewed on a three-year cycle — no small task considering the dozens of policies that will need to be reviewed or created each year.

The **Member Liaison Committee** will advise the Board on matters involving communications by sharing news and information from their district and

assist with research pertaining to VEA services, strategies, bylaws and finances.

The **Charitable Foundation** will come up with ideas for recharging the VEA foundation and will help ensure that the needs of communities served by VEA are represented in the organization's mission.

The complete text of the new policy on committees can be found on VEA's website — www.vea.coop.

The committees take the place of the VEA Ambassador Program, which I believe was well intentioned but structurally flawed. The committee process must link the membership, the Board and the staff, and the Ambassador program was independent of the Board. I've said many times that some of the issues at VEA can be explained not by the Ambassador Program itself but by its lack of connectivity with Board members.

We will need participation by members from all districts. We will reimburse committee members who must travel to Pahrump to attend meetings. For those who are unable to travel but still wish to serve, remote video access will be set up in each of the outlying communities.

I am excited to get started.

Until next month,

Dick Peck
Interim Chief Executive

Chief Executive Dick Peck has spent 47 years in the public power industry, including 24 years as a CEO of rural utilities in the West and four years of consulting in South America and Southeast Asia.



Commissioners

Joe O'Leary

Paul Rogers

Shan Rowbotham

General Manager

Matt Boast

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

Need Help With Your Utility Bills?

The following organizations may be able to help.

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

OFFICE HOURS

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



WA-43

Stay Back, Stay Safe

Working with electricity can be a dangerous job, especially for lineworkers.

USA Today lists line repairers and installers among the most dangerous jobs in the U.S. That's why safety is the No. 1 priority for your utility. This is not empty talk. We have created a culture of putting the safety of our crews and the community above all else.

Our mission is to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy to you, our consumer-members. Yes, we strive to deliver affordable and reliable electricity to you, but equally important, we want our employees to return home safely to their loved ones. This requires ongoing focus, dedication, vigilance—and your help!

Distractions Can Be Deadly

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If you have a dog, try to keep it indoors while lineworkers are on or near your property. While most dogs are friendly, some are defensive of their territory and can't distinguish between a burglar and a utility worker. Our crews work best without a pet "supervising" the job.

We recognize that for your family's safety, you want to make sure only authorized workers are on or near your property. You will recognize our employees by the service trucks with our name and logo on them. You also may recognize our lineworkers because they live right here in our local communities.

Slow Down and Move Over

In addition to giving lineworkers space while they are near your property, be sure to move over or slow down when approaching a utility vehicle on the side of the road. If you can't move over—or when on a two-lane road—slow to a speed that is 20 mph less than the posted speed limit. This is an extra barrier of safety to help those who help all of us return home safely to their families. ■



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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4005 23rd Street
P.O. Box 226
Baker City, OR 97814
541-523-3616

567 West Pierce
Burns, OR 97720
541-573-2666

400 Patterson Bridge Road
P.O. Box 575
John Day, OR 97845
541-575-0161

2408 Cove Ave.
La Grande, OR 97850
541-963-3155

www.otec.coop
communications@otecc.com

Report Outages at
866-430-4265

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Vice President Wayne Overton,
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Union County
David Baum, Union County
Robert Cargill, Harney County
George Galloway, Union
County
Greg Howard, Union County
Gary Miller, Grant County

Les Penning, CEO

Ron Williams, Attorney

OR-48

Politics and Unintended Consequences

The term "cap and trade" has been used so many times during this legislative session—through media coverage, public hearings and Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative publications—it is now almost a household phrase.

It is ironic that OTEC's power supply is almost 95% carbon free, yet we are not able to fully celebrate the environmental and economic attributes we enjoy from this resource. That reality is directly related to the fact our member-owners have so many other concerns about the potential economic pressures and uncertainty that it overshadows the great, clean hydro resource we have enjoyed here in the Northwest for more than 80 years.

As of June 17, 2019, HB 2020—Oregon's cap-and-trade bill—has passed the House. This is in spite of many concerns surrounding the ultimate impact on jobs and fuel costs, as well as Oregon's small impact on overall global emissions and carbon footprint.

At the time of this article, the bill is making its way through the Senate. If this bill is passed through the Senate, a primary focus for your cooperative will move from communicating potential impacts of this legislation to the rule-making process.

During the rule-making process, clarity will be brought to the law's generalized language. Specifics will be clarified around the actual economics and other details required to implement and enforce the new law.

Unfortunately, laws of this scope can have broad reach and many variables. Regardless of good intentions, legislation can have negative consequences and impacts on our environment, both physical and economic.

We hope that during the rule-making process, and with our engagement, the tremendous amount of uncertainty and the negative economic impacts can be removed,

or at least minimized to provide stability. We want our Oregon businesses to remain competitive in their markets and not allow neighboring states to pull businesses out of Oregon.

Another issue on a federal level that we want to make you aware of—and get your support for—is called the 85/15 rule. This rule states only 15 percent of electric cooperatives' revenue can come from nonmember sources for the cooperative to maintain its tax-exempt status.

As an unintended consequence of the 2018 Tax Cut and Jobs Act, electric cooperatives such as OTEC could lose their tax-exempt status by receiving Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursement funds in the event of a major disaster that damages our utility infrastructure. This circumstance has already happened to an Oregon co-op due to a major snowstorm earlier this year. Losing our tax-exempt status would have negative impact on the overall financial health of the cooperative.

This issue has somewhat of a simple fix, though it is finding itself entangled in partisan political turmoil.

We believe both of these issues are important to our members. If you would like to follow more closely, go to www.ORECA-Action.org for details and to sign up to be fully informed and engaged on these and future issues. You also can stay current and find additional details on these and other subjects at otec.coop.

Have a safe and happy Fourth of July.



Les Penning
CEO



Member-owned since 1921

Ohop Mutual Light Co.

34014 Mountain Highway E.
Eatonville, WA 98328
Phone: 253-847-4363
Power problems: 253-847-4363
Pay by phone: 888-477-8085
Email: office@ohop.coop
www.ohop.coop

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Director Rob Collins
Director Jerry Walter

General Manager

Kenneth Klotz

WA-49

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Kenneth Klotz
General Manager



45710 SE North Bend Way
P.O. Box 1426
North Bend, WA 98045-1426
Telephone: 425-888-0623
Toll-free: 800-472-0208
www.tannerelectric.coop

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Chief Financial Officer

Rob Carr

Operations Manager

Nick Himebauch

Executive Assistant

Lisa Peabody

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Roger Guay
Jeff Gillette
Paul Bay
Dutch Siedentopf
Steve Nicholes

*An electric utility owned
by those we serve in:*

North Bend
Ames Lake
Anderson Island

*Tanner Electric Cooperative is an
equal opportunity provider and
employer*

WA-50

Apply for Youth Tour 2020

*The 2020 National Rural Electric Cooperative
Association Youth Tour is June 18-26*

Tanner Electric Cooperative offers a scholarship to one student for the trip of a lifetime, all expenses paid! The winner travels to Washington, D.C., where they meet their U.S. representatives and senators. The unique trip provides an opportunity to watch history come alive as participants explore museums, memorials and monuments with a chaperone and other students.

Who can apply?

- High school juniors (minimum age 16½).
- GPA of 3.0 or higher and in good standing at school.
- Parent/guardian must be a member of the cooperative.

How to apply

- Visit our website for full details about eligibility and Youth Tour rules at www.tannerelectric.coop/content/youth-tour-washington-dc.
- Complete the online application and submit your essay electronically to the North Bend office.

The application deadline is November 1. Call Administrative Assistant Lisa Peabody at 425-888-0623 or email lisa@tannerelectric.coop if you have questions.





Parkland Light & Water Co.

www.plw.coop

Owned By
Those We Serve

12918 Park Ave.
P.O. Box 44426
Tacoma, WA 98448-0426
253-531-5666

OFFICE HOURS
Mon-Thu, 7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

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Janet Detering - Secretary
Elaine Walter - Treasurer
Mark Mulder - Public Relations

GENERAL MANAGER
Susan Cutrell

*Incorporated in 1914—
The country's oldest
mutual cooperative*

**To report an outage or utility
emergency, call the main office 24/7.**

**To track an outage, follow us on
Twitter @PLWCo.**

WA-52

Heat Pump Water Heater Program

Reduce electric water heating costs up to 50% with a heat pump water heater. Parkland Light & Water offers incentives of \$300 to \$500 for HPWH, depending on the size of unit installed and type of intake and/or exhaust ducts used. Several manufacturers offer additional incentives.

HPWHs use electricity to move heat from one place to another instead of generating heat directly, like a refrigerator running in reverse. While a refrigerator pulls heat from its interior and exhausts that heat into the surrounding room, a HPWH pulls heat from the surrounding air and transfers it into the tank to heat the water.

Qualifying HPWHs are integrated units, also called one-piece, drop-ins or stand-alones. Some can be fitted with intake and/or exhaust ducts, depending on the needs of a particular installation location.



Prime Window and Door Replacement Program

Site-built homes, manufactured homes and multifamily buildings are eligible for window and door replacements with Energy Star-qualified products. Projects must be completed by a qualified window contractor.

Qualifying homes must have single-pane windows, single pane with storm windows or double-pane windows with metal frames. New windows must have a National Fenestration Rating Council rated U-value of 0.30 or lower or 0.22 or lower. New sliding glass doors must have a NFRC rated U-value of 0.35 or lower or 0.30 or lower. Existing exterior doors must be uninsulated substandard doors.

Incentives range from \$2 to \$4 a square foot of windows replaced. The incentive for exterior doors is \$40. New doors must be Energy Star rated.

Smart Thermostat Program

Reduce heating costs and improve comfort levels in the home with a smart thermostat listed on BPA's smart thermostat-qualified list.

Site-built homes, manufactured homes and multifamily buildings with electric forced-air furnaces, air-source heat pumps and ground-source heat pumps as their primary heating source are eligible.

The incentive is \$100 if purchased from a retail store and installed by the end user and \$125 if installed by a contractor. Buy the thermostat, then submit the application and receipt of purchase with make and model number to PL&W. You will receive the incentive in the mail in about four weeks.

For more information about Parkland's Residential Programs, contact Mike Porter, program manager, at 503-730-3122 or mike.porter@evergreen-efficiency.com.



495 E. Columbia River Highway
PO BOX 216

Clatskanie, Oregon 97016
(503) 728-2163 Office
www.clatskaniepud.com

Office Hours: 7 am to 5:30 pm
Monday - Thursday
Closed Friday - Sunday

Please call to report outages
(503) 728-2163

Automated Secure Payment Center
1-844-262-2431

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GENERAL MANAGER

Marc Farmer

CPUD \$10 Bill Credit Drawing

Account #12056002

If this is your account number,
please call the office to claim your
prize. Congratulations!

Community Calendar

July 4: Clatskanie Heritage Days

See pages 28 & 29 for details
Parade starts at 11 am - all day events
in the park, ending with the fireworks
spectacular.

July 11: Rainier Chamber Meeting

Noon at the Rainier Methodist Church

July 12 - 14: Rainier Days in the Park

See pages 4 & 5

July 17 - 21: Columbia County Fair

Come see Clatskanie PUD at the fair on
the 19th & 20th for the EV Event.

July 17: Clatskanie PUD Board

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

OR-60

At the halfway point of the calendar year, I thought this might be a good opportunity to give a status report on the District.

So far this year we had two of our long time staff members retire, which saw a lot of knowledge and experience ride off into the sunset. Their contributions are appreciated and we wish them the best. With those retirements we have restructured our staff to accommodate current and future needs of the District. Our staffing has gone from our peak optimum efficiency of 36 staff members to 31, but with some recent hiring we will be back up to 34. We just filled our vacant positions for a Groundman, a Customer Service Representative, and a Financial Analyst. The remaining two positions will be hired during the second half of the year.

We have purchased our first electric vehicle (EV). You will see it at both the Clatskanie Heritage Days and Rainier Days in the Park parades, other community meetings and events, and around our service area. It will be very noticeable as we had it professionally wrapped by a local company to promote our EV programs. The EV replaces one of our older vehicles that we have surplus from our fleet.

We are also completing the installation of EV charging stations in Clatskanie at the District office, and in Rainier at the new transit station. They are for the use of our customers and the public. They are competitively priced to cover our costs to provide the service, not as a profit generator, since we are a not-for-profit electric utility. With more and more people purchasing electric vehicles and our area being the halfway point between Portland and the coast, we wanted to accommodate the public and make sure we can provide service to our own customers. An upcoming edition of Ruralite will have a feature article about our EV, charging stations, and future projects we are developing.

Our crews have been working on the A Street project in Rainier and will have our portion completed this summer. We are excited for the citizens of Rainier to have this project moving forward to significantly improve the safety in that area.

The District won First Place Safety Awards at both the regional and national levels for utilities our size. This is due to the efforts of all of our staff and the support of our Board to maintain a high level of safety inside and outside the work place. Congratulations to all of our staff for achieving these awards.

Going forward we are working on energy efficiency projects, economic development projects, awaiting the final rate impact numbers from BPA which will be announced later this month, and working on a plan for our meter replacement program described in last month's issue. We will also begin negotiations with the union on a new labor contract as the current contract expires next year. There is always a lot going on to keep us busy, but we remain focused on serving our customers and working safely.

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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Harold Short

General Manager/CEO

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

Stay Back and Stay Safe

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That's why for Kotzebue Electric Association, safety is the No. 1 priority. This is not empty talk. Over time, we have created a culture of putting our crews' safety and that of the community above all else.

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Ambler	Nightmute
Andreafsky	Noatak
Anvik	Noorvik
Bethel	Nulato
Brevig Mission	Nunapitchuk
Chevak	Old Harbor
Eek	Oscarville
Ekwok	Pilot Station
Elim	Pitkas Point
Emmonak	Quinhagak
Gambell	Russian Mission
Goodnews Bay	St. Mary's
Grayling	St. Michael
Holy Cross	Savoonga
Hooper Bay	Scammon Bay
Huslia	Selawik
Kaltag	Shageluk
Kasigluk	Shaktoolik
Kiana	Shishmaref
Kivalina	Shungnak
Kobuk	Stebbins
Kotlik	Teller
Koyuk	Togiak
Lower Kalskag	Toksook Bay
Marshall	Tununak
Mekoryuk	Upper Kalskag
Minto	Yakutat
Mt. Village	Wales

Alaska Village Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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



AK-105

Paul Flynn retires as Stebbins PPO

After 27 years of keeping the lights on in Stebbins, Paul Flynn is hanging up his headphones and going back to spending time enjoying his subsistence lifestyle and, most importantly, being a Grandpa.

Over his decades as a power plant operator, Paul became known as one of AVEC's most dedicated power plant operators. Even before he became a power plant operator, Paul was involved with the original installation of an underground power line between Toksook Bay and Tununak. That would have had to be in 1970.

Our traveling technicians have always respected Paul for his commitment and honesty. They also have some stories to share. In one instance, Paul refused to use one of the generators for several years. When asked why, he said the generator had gremlins in it. Apparently whenever he walked by it when it was running, it would shut down for no reason. So he stopped running it. As it turned out, there was a wire in the generator that had a nick in its insulation and it would cause intermittent shutdowns. The gremlins were chased out and Paul resumed using the generator.

When the old Stebbins power plant was shut down for the last time in July 2014, Paul was the last one to shut down the generators and leave the plant. He spent a few minutes with the old generators, probably giving them their last pat and wishing them goodbye, before going into the new plant to tell the new generators who was boss. Although Paul could have retired years ago, he would not do so until he had his replacement trained to a level where he felt comfortable leaving the responsibility of operating his power plant in someone else's hands.

City Councilman Ward Walker shared a couple of anecdotes: "I remember once I was re-bolting the mast on my roof and I was in the process of slowly being pulled off the roof by the weight of the wire and he happened by and scrambled up the ladder and got everything secured. He just chuckled at the situation and didn't make me feel like the idiot that I was. Another time a customer had a floating ground that I had discovered, and he got the beast of burden out and got it all squared away. I've done four homes for new services too, and each time he came out and approved the whole thing, gave me advice and helped me get it all squared away—always going the extra mile." Ward described Paul as unflappable, always helpful, friendly, and humble.

Those are words that everyone at AVEC would heartily agree with. Paul is a well liked and respected member of the AVEC family and we all wish him the best in his richly deserved retirement!



Meera Kohler
President and CEO



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

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

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

CA-106

General Manager's Message

2019-2020 Fiscal Year Budget

This is the time of year when we begin implementing our budget for the next fiscal year, which begins July 1. We begin developing our budget in April of each year by reviewing our expenses for the past year and looking for ways that we can reduce expenditures without compromising service to customers. We also develop a capital budget each year, prioritizing projects that are necessary to keep our system running smoothly to continue to provide reliable, affordable power.

This year proved to be quite challenging, as we are seeing cost increases in a number of areas. Probably the biggest challenge is the rising cost for our wholesale power supply. There are a few things driving this increase, including rising costs for transmission service from the California Independent System Operator (CAISO). Over the past 12 years, our cost for transmission from the CAISO has risen by over 350%. We currently pay approximately \$24/Megawatt-hour for transmission, which is 3-4 times as much as most other areas in the western US.

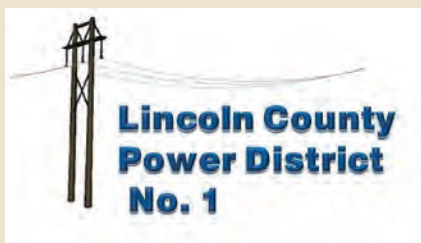
Another thing impacting the cost of wholesale power is wildfire mitigation. As most people are aware, PG&E has announced that they will occasionally be de-energizing transmission lines during times of wildfire danger. Since our only viable interconnection to the California transmission grid is through PG&E's Caribou line, we expect that we will be islanding with Honey Lake Power (HLP) during those events. We are very grateful to have such a good partner in HLP. They have enabled us to keep customers in power during many outages of the PG&E line over the past several years. The energy we purchase from them costs roughly twice as much as our normal supply from the Western Area Power Administration, though, so we are budgeting for increased costs in anticipation of more outages from PG&E.

The biggest item in our capital budget this year is the interconnection to the Reno-Alturas transmission line in Wendel. This project will greatly improve the reliability of our wholesale power supply while providing fairly significant savings in transmission costs, helping to offset some of the cost of constructing the interconnection facilities. We expect to have permits and contracts in place by the end of the summer, and we will begin detailed design and construction once those hurdles are cleared.

Wildfire mitigation will drive some cost increases locally as well. We have been working on developing a wildfire mitigation plan for our system, which we are required to provide to the state by January 1, 2020. The plan will likely include a variety of measures, such as increased tree-trimming, more frequent inspections, different control schemes, and perhaps some de-energization of lines during extreme fire danger conditions. We are budgeting for the purchase of two commercial drones to aid in line inspections in some of the more remote areas of the system.

As a community-owned utility, we are dedicated to providing high-quality, reliable service to our customers at the lowest practical cost. There is always a lot of give and take during our budget process, but we always try to prioritize the things that will improve our system and our ability to provide the best service.

—Doug C. Smith, General Manager.



Lincoln County Power District No. 1

201 Bullionville Road
Panaca, Nevada 89042

Phone: 775-728-8200
Toll free: 888-649-3814

Email: lcpcd@lcpcd1.com

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GENERAL MANAGER

David Luttrell

Board meets the second Tuesday
of each month



MISSION STATEMENT

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

NV-107

Summer Reminders

With summer here, I want to talk about two important events: high July and August temperatures and our late summer fire season.

We see our hottest temperatures in July, so electrical consumption in Lincoln County is at its highest. The amount of electrical energy used in July is nearly double what's used in October—our lowest energy use month. Temperatures and energy use in August will be nearly as high as July.

Most months, the electric energy we get from Hoover Dam meets all the need in Lincoln County. But in July and August, we have to buy nearly 30% more energy from the wholesale energy markets at nearly double the cost of Hoover Dam hydroelectric power. We pay for the extra non-Hoover power through the Purchased Power Adjustment Rate, which changes every year based on the amount of non-Hoover power we had to buy in the prior year. So while energy conservation is a good idea anytime, it pays double dividends in July and August by reducing your power bill for these months and reducing the Purchased Power Adjustment Rate on your bill next year.

Go to our website and click on the energy conservation tab for some helpful ideas or the Together We Save link at the bottom of our home page to do an interactive analysis of conservation ideas. If you are thinking about replacing your air conditioner, don't forget about our rebate program.

At the district, we take the risk of wildfire seriously and know that one could occur at any time with devastating consequences. Because rural electric systems serve large areas that have low population density, the power lines are radial. That means there is only one power line bringing power to an area. If that line is damaged by fire, electric service is interrupted.

Last summer, the Cranston Fire in rural Southern California caused an outage that lasted 10 days for some customers of the utility serving the area.

In the past eight years, we have cleared vegetation from right-of-ways with power lines serving Pioche, Dry Valley, Rose Valley, Eagle Valley, Mt. Wilson and Lake Valley. Given the vegetation growth that has occurred from our higher-than-normal spring rains, the 2019 wildfire risk in Nevada is high. We will be clearing vegetation on the right-of-way with the main 69-kilovolt transmission line serving Lincoln County.

While we take measures to prevent losses from fire, I want to encourage our customers also to be prepared. I encourage you to visit www.ready.gov/wildfires and www.redcross.org/prepare. Those sites are great resources and provide tips to protect you and your family and help improve the chances that your personal property will be spared if a fire occurs near your home.



David Luttrell, General Manager



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Umatilla Electric Co-op
Umpqua Indian Utility
Wasco Electric Co-op
West Oregon Electric Co-op

OR-400

Case in Point

What is that on the cover of our magazine? A graphic of a U.S. Senate bill?

We have a tradition of putting extraordinary people on our cover, such as electric co-op leaders and legislators, but S. 1032—the RURAL Act—is no run-of-the-mill piece of legislation. The RURAL Act allows co-ops to receive grants for a host of programs—including disaster aid, broadband and economic development—without losing their tax-exempt status.

It's a complicated tax issue, and I will not bore you with the details. What you need to know is that this bill needs to pass. And soon. The Oregon delegation with its incredible seniority and clout is well-positioned to make it happen. Our senior senator, Ron Wyden, is the ranking member of the Senate Finance Committee.

I know passing legislation is difficult, and the U.S. Congress is largely viewed as a broken institution. But I also know Congress has a profound capacity to do the right thing, and when it wants to act fast, it can act fast. I am hopeful that if we can make the case for this bill's passage, the U.S. Congress will respond with alacrity.

Members of Congress often talk about how they are interested in the well-being of rural America. Now they have a chance to back up their words by supporting the RURAL Act.

Ted Case

Executive Director



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Kevin Short

IMPORTANT DATES

- July 4—Cooperative office closed.
- July 27—Annual Meeting.
- September 2—Labor Day, co-op office closed.

EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARIES

JULY AND AUGUST

Congratulations!

- Brian Baharie 4 years
- Don Downing 13 years
- Kevin Short..... 13 years

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A Message from the Manager

The Three Rs

Growing up in the middle of the last century, schoolchildren were taught the importance of a basic skill set. The Baby Boomers—so called for the population explosion in the U.S. following the end of World War II—learned that reading, writing and arithmetic were key to a successful life and career, no matter the discipline. It seems odd at this juncture to point out that the name of only one of these subjects actually began with an R, but promotional campaigns are sometimes like that. Reading, 'Riting and 'Rithmetic was the way it was usually promoted, rather ironically.

For this year's annual membership meeting, we've chosen to revive the lesson of the three R's in our own way that reflects the cooperative difference: Ready, Resilient and Responsible.

One of the major takeaways from last year is how our cooperative needs to operate in line with these principles. We need to be **Ready** for whatever is thrown at us in the way of catastrophic events, such as wildfire, extreme weather or any disruption in service. We must be as **Resilient** as possible to spring back from these events in as good or better condition than before. Finally, we must be **Responsible** to our members in our reporting, communication and fiscal duties to provide the best possible service under any and all conditions.

The past 12 months have placed some of the most extreme stress and pressure on our cooperative that we have ever experienced. Immediately following the 2018 annual meeting, we suffered through the Cranston fire, losing grid access for 10 straight days during the hottest week of the summer. In February, we experienced torrential rains and flooding, causing significant damage to area roads and infrastructure.

It's been a difficult and trying year that has put us all to the test. Through it all, however, our members have proven to be the most resilient people I have ever had the privilege of knowing.

Anza Electric was born at the height of the Baby Boom and has come of age during some of the most interesting times in our country's history. We have learned our three R's the hard way—through experience. As we celebrate our 68th year serving our members' utility needs, let's all remember that we got here together, and that's exactly how we need to move forward facing the challenges of tomorrow.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our annual membership meeting July 27 at Hamilton High School, beginning with registration and breakfast at 7:30 a.m. The business meeting begins promptly at 9 a.m., with our Cooperative Connection business partners on hand, as well as information and prizes for all.



Kevin Short

ANZA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

P.O. Box 391909 • Anza, CA 92539

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



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Duncan Valley Electric Cooperative Inc.

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

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Steven Lunt
CEO

BOARD MEETINGS

July 15
August 19
September 16

*Generally the third Monday
of the month*

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



CEO's Message

Re-telling the Cooperative Story

As a child, I enjoyed the story of the Three Billy Goats Gruff. When it was story time, that's the one I wanted to hear. I knew the story, I knew how scary it was and I knew the eventual outcome, yet I still wanted to hear it over and over.

My children loved the story, and now my grandchildren want to hear the same old story. We all delight in a tale fraught with a villain and a hero, drama and suspense. After the goats have used cleverness and strength to overcome their obstacle, the goats—and we—are rewarded with a happily ever after ending. We all know the story of these three goats, and we are excited to retell it to the next generation.

While not a fairy tale, there are parallels between classic fairy tales and the cooperative story. Primarily, the cooperative story is a great one. It's not a story of imaginary events and people, but a real story that contains the same elements of villains, heroes, drama and suspense. It culminates with good persevering and winning against the odds.

But our story isn't over. New chapters emerge

regularly that require clever thinking and sometimes brute force to overcome the troll under the bridge.

As I and other cooperative representatives meet with legislators and regulators, we love to tell the cooperative story. We remind officials that cooperatives were started because other utilities considered us "rural people" insignificant and unworthy of their time or investment. We live in "flyover country."

We had our own heroes who used their wits and hard work to form cooperatives. The strength of their words led communities to band together to bring affordable electricity to rural America.

Around 15 years ago, the Arizona Corporation Commission set rules requiring all utilities to procure renewable energy. The cooperatives met with the commissioners and laid out the issues that make us different from investor-owned utilities. We told the cooperative story. The



Steven Lunt

commissioners agreed cooperatives needed a different plan.

Cooperatives banded together and built their own renewable generation at a cost five times lower than the early adopters

of renewable energy. We found a more cost-effective way because that's what cooperatives do. It is part of our story.

Duncan Valley Electric Cooperative is currently the leading adopter of renewables among all energy providers in the state, with 25% of our energy needs coming from renewables. We have done this with minimal impact to our cost of energy. We have done this not because of government mandates, but because we found the best way to serve our members.

Most often, Duncan Valley is Little Billy Goat Gruff. But when we join with the rest of the cooperative community, we are part of one tough old goat. We have a great story to tell and a great story to still write.

—Steven Lunt



Electrical District No. 2

P.O. Box 548
Coolidge, AZ 85128

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Fax: 520-723-5252

*To report an emergency
or a power outage after
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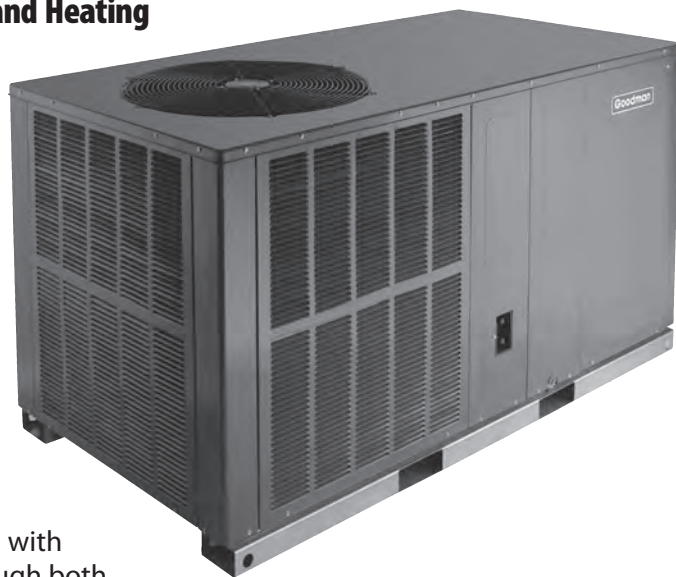
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Kenneth W. Robbins

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

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Maintain Your Equipment

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



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

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

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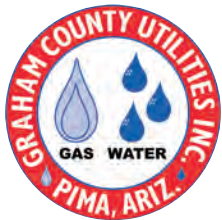
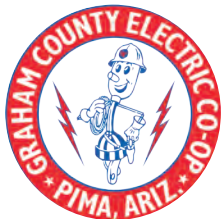
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CEO and General Manager:

Kirk Gray



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Manager's Message

We Are Always Here For You

By the time you read this we will be well into our official monsoon season, which begins June 15 and ends September 30. But as we have witnessed this spring, thunderstorms can develop anytime during the year. Rest assured, we are prepared to provide outage restoration and communications 24/7/365. We want to provide you with some tips and suggestions on how to be prepared for outages year-round.

It is a good idea to have a storm emergency kit available during extended outages. First, make sure you have drinking water available, at least 1 gallon per person, per day. Make sure you have easy to prepare nonperishable food. Make sure you have flashlights and extra batteries and/or candles. It is a good idea to have a fully stocked first-aid kit available. Keep several days' worth of prescription medications on hand, because your local pharmacy may be affected by outages. It is a good idea to have a cellphone and battery operated cellphone charger available. If possible, keep extra cash on hand in case the need arises, because your local ATM machine may be affected by outages.

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



enclosed area because of the danger of carbon monoxide poisoning. Remind everyone of the National Weather Service's rule of thumb, "When thunder roars, go indoors." Lightning can strike 10 miles in advance of a storm.

Our phone system can handle a large volume of incoming calls during a large outage. In the case of large scale outages, please be

patient while waiting to talk to dispatch personnel. Although our system will handle the call volume, the wait times may be substantial. Please listen to the voice prompts as options have changed. Unless you have an

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

These are just a few tips and suggestions to help make outages a little more bearable. Regardless of the magnitude of an outage, our line crews and dispatch personnel work tirelessly to get as many member's power, gas and water back on as soon as possible. Our primary concern is the safety of our crews, the safety of the general public and the safety of you, our member-owners.

—Kirk Gray



Marlboro Electric Cooperative Inc.

www.MarlboroElectric.coop

676 Hwy. 9 East
P.O. Box 1057
Bennettsville, SC 29512

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MISSION STATEMENT

The focus of Marlboro Electric Cooperative Inc. is to make electric energy available to its members at the lowest cost consistent with sound economic principles and management.

An Out-of-This-World Day

For nine years, the city of Columbia employed the slogan “Famously Hot.” This is arguably an understatement, as summers in Columbia are scorchers—the kind of heat that engulfs you the second you step outside. I discovered this phenomenon in 1969, when I graduated from Clemson and moved to the capital city for my first job.

It was July 20. It was a hot and humid Sunday afternoon in Cola Town. My friends and I were huddled around a TV in the living room of my tiny apartment. On the screen, a clock was counting down to zero. The scratchy sound emanating from the TV’s small speakers crackled in the otherwise silent room.

“Down a half,” one voice said. “Forward drift?” asked another.

Although we didn’t know what the jargon meant, we knew what was at stake. As everyone held their breath, a few of us said a silent prayer.

Then, a calm voice thundered from the television, “Tranquility Base here. The Eagle has landed.”

With those words, the cramped apartment erupted with cheers as American astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin landed on the moon. We watched as Walter Cronkite silently removed his glasses, speechless as he attempted to come to grips with the moment he and about 500 million people worldwide just witnessed.

Six hours later, we were still glued to the TV. Shortly before 11 p.m., as Armstrong’s famous first step took place, my buddies and I watched with amazement as a grainy black-and-white transmission showed the 38-year-old Ohio native carefully navigating the ladder down to the moon’s surface. An American was standing on the surface of the moon. I will never forget the pride I felt as I watched Buzz Aldrin plant our flag on the desolate surface.

To say that landing on the moon was dangerous is putting it mildly. Although extensive photography and mapping had been done, NASA could not be 100% sure the soft lunar surface would support the weight of the landing craft. In fact, President Richard Nixon had a speech prepared in the event the astronauts became stranded or perished during the landing.

I turned off the TV and stepped outside my apartment for some fresh, sweltering air. I looked up. There it was, shining down on me from 240,000 miles away. It was the same moon that it had been the night before. The same moon I gazed up at as a child in rural Dillon County. This time, however, it felt different. Now I knew there were two men, not all that different than me, who might be gazing back.

Will humans return to the moon? I believe so. NASA and several other private organizations are working on programs to do just that. There are even talks of eventually sending humans to Mars. Perhaps we’ll even venture to Venus, which they say is roughly as hot as July in Columbia. Regardless, when it happens, I hope you experience the same feelings of pride, awe and elation I had on that warm Sunday evening, 50 years ago.

JOHN ALFORD

Trustee



Willie Wiredhand is the longtime mascot and spokesplug of electric cooperatives around the country. He was adopted in 1951 by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Here’s your task: Willie is hidden somewhere in every issue of *Currents*. See if you can find this friendly face among the news and stories as you read!



FLORIDA Currents

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

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EREC
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Cooperative

President's Message

EREC Welcomes New GM/CEO



Sam Walker

On behalf of the board of trustees for Escambia River Electric Cooperative, I take great pleasure in announcing new General Manager/CEO Ryan Campbell. Ryan comes to us from Corn Belt Electric Cooperative in Bloomington, Illinois.

The board underwent an extensive process to select the right candidate for this position. Using the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's career search, the position was advertised for possible applicants. Qualified candidates were personally interviewed by the board of trustees and carefully considered.

As the successful candidate, Ryan is well

qualified to provide leadership and direction for our electric cooperative.

Ryan has a bachelor of science in electrical engineering from the University of Florida and a master of business administration from Columbia Southern University. He is a licensed professional engineer in Florida, Kentucky and Illinois.

Ryan has progressive experience in engineering and management positions in the electric co-op field through his work at Baldwin Electric Membership Cooperative in Alabama, Pennyrite Rural Electric Cooperative in Kentucky and Corn Belt Energy Cooperative in Illinois.

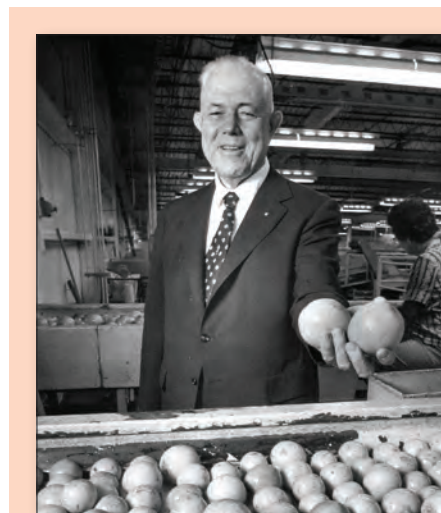
Ryan's love of rural communities and dedicated involvement in their success will be a great asset to our cooperative and community.

Please join me in welcoming Ryan to Escambia River Electric Cooperative. ■



Ryan Campbell

Escambia River Electric Cooperative offices are closed Thursday, July 4, for Independence Day. Have a safe and happy Fourth!



Inside

July 2019
Vol. 8, No. 9

A Juice Giant 12

Sicilian Anthony Rossi fulfills an American dream, turning \$30 into a \$495 million citrus empire marketed as Tropicana.

Also In This Issue

Side Roads 10

In the Kitchen 16

Great Picture Hunt 18

Travel Journal 20

Festival Roundup 22

Outdoor Pursuits 24

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



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JULY 2019

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District 1, Key Largo

David C. Ritz

District 1, Key Largo

Craig Belcher

District 2, Tavernier

Joseph Roth

District 2, Tavernier

George D. Hertel

District 3, Islamorada

CONTACT US:

(305) 852-2431 (800) 858-8845

Pay by Phone 1-855-385-9912

www.FKEC.com

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 377, Tavernier, FL 33070

MEMBERS SHOULD KNOW:

To combat summer cooling costs consult FKEC's Energy Saving Guide. Free copies are available at an FKEC office or online at www.fkec.com/Green/

Unless otherwise noted, "FKEC NEWS" writing, design & photography by:
Nikki Dunn Cullen, news@fkec.com

SCOTT NEWBERRY

Chief Executive Officer

Hurricane Prep: What Can You Accomplish in 72 Hours?

In May, I attended a hurricane workshop at which Ken Graham, the Director of the National Hurricane Center in Miami, gave a very interesting presentation. One statistic in his presentation really stood out to me, and I want to share that with you.

During the entire time we've been recording hurricanes, only four category 5 storms have ever hit the United States (the Labor Day hurricane of 1935, Hurricane Camille, Hurricane Andrew, and Hurricane Michael), and in every single case, each of those category 5 storms was only a tropical

Historically, every Category 5 storm to hit the United States was only a tropical storm 72 hours before impact.

storm 72 hours before impact. This means that every tropical storm has the potential to impact us as a major hurricane in far less time than the five to seven-day time frame we usually plan for.

We all really need to think about this historical data as we conduct our hurricane planning. This makes doing what you can to prepare now so critical.

At FKEC we work year-round to prepare for a major storm. We are constantly considering and improving the



storm strength of our system and facilities, maintaining line clearance, training our employees, and researching storm resources. We also compile hurricane supplies such as food at the start of each season.

This approach served us well during Hurricane Irma, and to be even better prepared we have implemented all the lessons we learned from that 2017 category 4 hurricane.

As we enter the 2019 hurricane season, I encourage all of you to think about what you would do if you went to bed one night with a tropical storm swirling around in the Atlantic or Gulf, and woke up the next morning to find out that in less than 72 hours that storm would be hitting here as a category 5 hurricane.

To help you prepare, we have included some key information in this issue of Florida Currents.

CONTACT US

863-946-6200 (member services)
844-201-7203 (24-hour phone payments)
www.gladeselectric.com

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

214 SR 70 West
Lake Placid, FL 33852

808 N. Parrott Ave.
Okeechobee, FL 34972

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. July 23 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
Chief of Engineering Travis Turner
Dir. of Communications Jennifer Koukos
Dir. of Employee Services Yvonne Bradley
Dir. of Safety Pedro Navarro

FL-153

CEO's Message

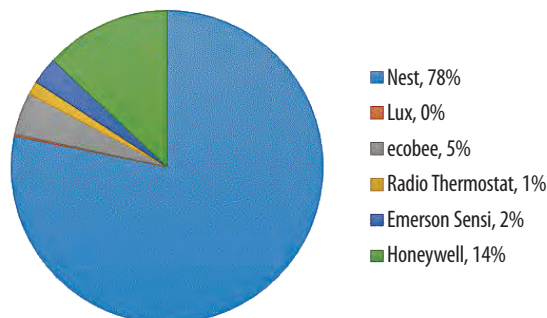
Smart Thermostat Pilot Program Update

Last year at this time, I asked you to participate in a smart thermostat control pilot project our power supplier, Seminole Electric Cooperative, was testing. Preliminary results are below.

Phases I and II of the Cooperative Rewards Pilot ran from May 2018, wrapping up May 25, 2019. It included implementation, enrollment, thermostat control and data collection. As of May 25, more than 1,000 thermostats were targeted for control. Note that households may have more than one thermostat. All Seminole cooperatives participated in the pilot program. Seminole is now evaluating the data to determine if a full-blown, systemwide program is warranted. Your remaining participatory account credits are forthcoming upon completion of the data evaluation. I thank you all for making this experiment a success.



Jeff Brewington



Thermostat Control Periods

Data provided by EnergyHub**

Period	Summer 1 August-October 2018 (14 controls)	Winter November-March 2019 (10 controls)	Summer 2 April-May 25, 2019 (4 controls)
Load shed total energy savings	3.05 MWh	1.3 MWh	2.76 MWh
Average load shed per device	1.3 kW	0.65 kW* *Average Incompatible Mode (devices set to off or cool): 43%	1.01 kW* *Average load shed per device lower than expected due to thermostats set to off or cool and showing incompatible for Heat DR
Full participation in controls	81%	44.28%	67.7%

** Reporting does not take into account devices set in an incompatible mode, line losses, geographical weather-specific data or data collected at meter level.



Gulf Coast
Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

OFFICES

722 West Highway 22
P. O. Box 220
Wewahitchka, FL 32465
850-639-2216 or 800-333-9392

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

www.gcec.com

CEO/GENERAL MANAGER

John Bartley

TRUSTEES

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Vice President Jimmy Black
Secretary Rupert Brown
Treasurer Betty Moore
Robert Byrd
Gary Cox
Kinneth Daniels
Carl Goodson
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

Co-op Adjusts Rates

It has been more than eight months since Hurricane Michael, but the Category 5 storm continues to affect our area. Not a single meter on Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative's distribution system was turning once the storm passed. We realized early on that this was going to be more than a restoration effort. It took more than 75 years to build a system that was destroyed in a few hours, rebuilt in three weeks and that will take several years to completely fix.

GCEC provides electricity to 16,068 members and 20,118 meters across about 2,600 miles of line in parts of six counties: Bay, Calhoun, Gulf, Jackson, Walton and Washington. Prior to the hurricane, GCEC had 16,517 members and 20,924 active meters. The co-op's crew of 75 employees grew to almost 1,600 when contract and mutual aid crews from across the country rallied in the nonstop restoration effort to replace 349 miles of line, 3,500 poles and 2,095 transformers. Hurricane Michael caused more than \$25 billion in damages. GCEC's share equates to more than \$90 million.

To cover hurricane-related expenses, the co-op acquired a \$75 million emergency line of credit from the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation. GCEC relies on the Federal Emergency Management Agency and Florida Department of Emergency Management for reimbursement for much of its recovery costs and to reduce the impact of costs being passed on to GCEC members. As we have awaited reimbursement, interest charges on the emergency line of credit have totaled \$268,000 a month. This equates to more than \$16 per member per month just for interest.

Like other utilities impacted by significant storms, GCEC must adjust rates to cover nonreimbursed expenses. Because we are member-owned, we have a board of directors, elected by and from the membership. Our service territory is divided into nine areas, with one trustee elected from each area to ensure all members are equally represented.

Our rates have not been adjusted since 2012. However, the tremendous expense associated with Hurricane Michael made a rate adjustment unavoidable. GCEC bills include a new line item: Storm Cost Recovery. Revenue collected through this rate rider (refer to chart below) will be used only for storm restoration costs. It will be in effect a maximum of five years. The average member will see an increase of less than \$9 a month.



Doug Birmingham

Rate Schedule

Dollars/kWh

Residential	\$0.0110
General Service Non-Demand	\$0.0092
General Service Demand	\$0.0098
Large Power	\$0.0078

There is a careful balance between keeping GCEC financially sound and impacting our members' power bills as little as possible. Members who have questions about how to reduce their bills should contact us for energy conservation tips. We appreciate everyone's patience and understanding as we continue to recover from this storm.



Peace River Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

TO REPORT POWER OUTAGE

- Use the SmartHub app
- Text OUT to 8002823824
- Call 800-282-3824

CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS

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

MANATEE SERVICE CENTER

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

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District 5

MAURICE HENDERSON

District 6

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CHRIS PORTALE

District 8

ELLEN BACHMAN
VICE PRESIDENT

District 9

WILLIE DAWES
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.

BOARD MEETING DATES

July 23, 2019
August 27, 2019
September 24, 2019

ONLINE E-ZINE

Prefer to receive Florida Currents as an online e-zine? Sign up through your online account or call us at **800-282-3824**.

FL 155

Stay Back and Stay Safe

Working with electricity can be a dangerous job, especially for lineworkers. In fact, USA Today lists line repairers and installers among the most dangerous jobs in the U.S. That's why for Peace River Electric Cooperative, safety is the number one priority. And, this is not empty talk. Daily, we promote a culture of putting our crews' safety and that of the community above all else.

Our mission is to provide safe, reliable energy at an affordable cost for our consumer-members. But, equally important, we want our employees to return home safely to their loved ones. This requires ongoing focus, dedication, care—and your help.

Distractions can be deadly

If a lineworker is on or near your property during a power outage, for vegetation management or for routine maintenance, please allow them ample room to work. This helps protect our crews—and you. While we appreciate your kindness and interest in the work of our crews, we ask that you stay back and let them focus on their job. Even routine line work can be dangerous, so distractions can be deadly.

If you have a dog, please keep it indoors or restrained while lineworkers are on your property. While most dogs are friendly, some will defend their territory and don't know the difference between a burglar and a utility worker. Our crews work best without a pet "supervising" the job.

We know that for your family's safety, you want to make sure only authorized workers are near your home. PRECO employees can be recognized by their hardhats, shirts and service trucks with our name and logo on them. You may also recognize our lineworkers because they live right here in the local community.

Slow down and move over

In addition to giving lineworkers some space while they are around your property, we also ask that you move over or slow down when approaching a utility vehicle on the side of the road. This provides an extra barrier of safety for power crews—plus, it's the law.

Help us protect our crews and community by staying back and staying safe.

Randy Shaw
PRECO CEO

