



# Carbon Light Lines

November 2011

## SEPTEMBER 2011 BOARD ACTIONS



CLAY THOMPSON

### DIRECTOR FOR DISTRICT 3

- Approved Department Production and Financial Reports.
- Approved Policy 4-10; *Use of Cooperative Vehicles* as amended and Policy 4-12; *Performance Feedback Reports* as suggested by Management and Staff.
- Approved Board President Robert Johnson to sign the RUS Loan Acknowledgment Agreement from RUS for the RUS WY21 – X8 Construction Work Plan in the amount of \$9,431,000.
- Approved Director Rabidue as the Voting Delegate for the Mid West Electric Annual Meeting and Director Thompson as the Alternate Delegate.

Find your name in "asterisks" somewhere in this newsletter & you can claim a \$10 bill reducer by calling Carbon Power & Light.



## CARBON POWER & LIGHT SENDS A LOCAL TEACHER TO SCHOOL

BY JOE PARRIE

Carbon Power & Light, along with our power supplier Tri-State Generation and Transmission, invited Encampment School Teacher, Mr. Art Archibald, to a climate training class held at Tri-State's headquarters in Denver during the summer break. The one-of-a-kind teacher professional development curriculum, "CSI: Climate Status Investigations" was developed with the U.S. Department of Energy and National Energy Laboratory to equip educators with the knowledge, skills and confidence to investigate global climate change with their students.

More than 25 middle and high school teachers were drawn to Tri-State's Westminster headquarters to attend the two-and-a-half day training event presented by Tri-State and the Keystone Center for Education.

"As a teacher, I learned using hands on based lessons how to explore the science of global climate change in classroom settings. I, along with other teachers, investigated climate using several activities. All the activities can be used as is or adapted

to different grade levels. The entire course was designed to integrate the areas of language arts, science, math and social studies. The activities are presented in a non-biased format in order to allow students to investigate the issue from several points of view and at times take on the role of an opposing opinion. In other words, put themselves in the other person's shoes" Archibald said. Archibald also commented that the program was "very professional, very well done, and had interesting activities".

Carbon Power & Light is proud to have helped support this training opportunity, and would like to thank Mr. Archibald for his interest and participation in the program.

Providing educational opportunities, like the Climate Status Investigations Training Class, Colorado Electric Institute's Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp, CP&L Electrical Safety Presentation, and Carbon's Scholarships Program, represents some of the ways that Carbon supports education in the communities that we serve.

1-800-359-0249

[www.carbonpower.com](http://www.carbonpower.com)

**"TRI-STATE INCREASES  
WHOLESALE RATES BY 4.8% "**

From the Manager ~ *Charles Larsen*



**This month's Question/Comment from the  
Member-Owner survey:**

*"When I first began to receive the WREN, I read it diligently; however, I quickly became offended by its right-wing politically conservative agenda and stopped reading it. I do not need my electrical cooperative to adopt political sides. It should be politically neutral".*

**Response:**

*"I'd vote for that" BUT, unfortunately Local, County, State and National politics play a huge role in the operation of your Cooperative. Monitoring the entire political scene is a part of our daily routine. The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) is on the forefront of what is happening in Washington, D.C. The Wyoming Rural Electric Association (WREA) also keeps tabs of what is going on in Washington and has an ear to the ground for what is transpiring on the political front in our home State. Carbon Power and Light (Carbon) works closely with our local leaders, our elected county and state officials while at the*

same time staying current with the updates from NRECA and WREA. As an example: For many years now we have been inundated with numerous regulatory requirements (37 regulatory agencies/entities...at last count). Many of these regulations were born and nurtured in politics. Carbon, WREA and NRECA have to be at the forefront and have our voices heard on your behalf. *Because...* once placed into law, the majority of these regulations add to Carbon's overall operating expense... an impact on all of you.

All of this has nothing to do with being political-ly Left or Right...it has everything to do with... *what is best for the Member-Owners of Carbon as a whole.*

Stay tuned for more survey questions and comments from our Member-Owners' next month!

**Increase in Wholesale Power Costs:** Last month I reported that our wholesale power supplier, Tri-State had approved a 4.8% rate increase for January 1, 2012. Based on that approval, Carbon is currently in the process of working with our rate consultant, C.H. Guernsey and Company to review our most recent cost of service study and determine how each of our rate classes will be impacted by the Tri-State increase. I hope to have this information available to include in next month's report.

Hope you are having a great Wyoming Fall Season. Thanks for being there for us.

*Chuck*

# Scholarships Available

## for College & Electrical Degrees

Applications available online at: [www.carbonpower.com](http://www.carbonpower.com)

Students have the opportunity to obtain financial assistance toward their college education. Carbon Power & Light, Basin Electric and Tri-State G&T Scholarship information/application(s) will be available at your High School Counselor's office by December.

To qualify for these scholarships, graduating seniors whose parents or legal guardians receive electrical service from Carbon Power & Light, Inc. and are a US citizen, are eligible to submit an application(s). Application(s) must be postmarked by February 3, 2012 to be considered.

*Other available scholarships are:* WREA Lineman Scholarship, Rocky Mountain Electric Scholarship and the Dar Hackworth Scholarship. These scholarships are geared toward those wanting a career in the electric industry. For more information on any of these scholarships, please call Marcy Knotwell or log onto [www.carbonpower.com](http://www.carbonpower.com).



### COMPUTER PROBLEMS?

*We Can Help!*

Call Carbon Power & Light's Computer Support Specialist at 307-326-5206 or 800-359-0249.  
100 E. Willow St., Saratoga WY.

CARBON POWER & LIGHT WILL BE  
CLOSED FOR THE  
THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY,  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH AND  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

\*Gary L. Babel\*



### ELECTRICAL SPACE HEATERS ARE ENERGY GUZZLERS!



While space heaters can warm up a chilly evening, consider this:

- Running a 1,200-watt heater for just **three hours** a night will **add \$13** to your monthly electric bill.

Use electric space heaters sparingly and give them space - keep three feet of space clear in all directions to avoid the potential of a fire.

For more information, contact the Member Services Department at Carbon Power & Light.

1-800-359-0249

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[www.carbonpower.com](http://www.carbonpower.com)

<b>Member Statistics Report</b>	<b>August - 2010</b>	<b>August - 2011</b>
Total Utility Plant	\$33,873,234	\$35,013,202
Cost of Purchased Power	\$438,040	\$1,085,209
Expenses Less Power Cost	\$347,770	\$393,409
Tax and Interest Paid	\$46,217	\$57,047
Interest Received on Investments	\$9,310	\$82,112
Miles of Energized Line	1,881	1,898
Consumers Per Mile	3.3	3.2
Total Meters	6,166	6,169
Residential/Rural	3,893	3,835
Residential/Seasonal	1,495	1,583
Large Power/Commercial	684	658
Other	94	93
Total kWh Used	6,827,548	18,074,485
Residential/Rural	2,312,972	2,340,344
Residential/Seasonal	267,405	275,505
Large Power/Commercial	3,734,019	14,614,547
Other	513,152	844,089
Average Residential kWh Used	594	610
Average Residential/Rural Bill	\$85	\$87
Average Seasonal kWh Used	179	174
Average Seasonal Bill	\$48	\$48

Carbon welcomes any comments or questions consumers may have. If you have a question on any part of the cooperative business, please write the cooperative and we will see that your question is answered. Any comments or questions can be addressed to Carbon Power & Light, Inc. PO Box 579, Saratoga, WY 82331, ATTN Newsletter.

Visit our website at [www.carbonpower.com](http://www.carbonpower.com)

Edited by Charles Larsen

**IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH YOUR POWER:** Please check your breakers. If you can determine that your neighbors are also without power; call Carbon at 1-307-326-5206 or 800-359-0249.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

<u>DISTRICT 1</u>	<u>DISTRICT 2</u>	<u>DISTRICT 3</u>
Gary Jacobsen – Secretary	Robert Johnson – President	Dick Clifton
Laurie Forster	Jerry Rabidue – Vice President	Clay Thompson
Dan Hodgkiss – Treasurer	Kenny Curry	Tom Dunn

For online bill pay, go to [www.carbonpower.com](http://www.carbonpower.com) or by ACH.

For more information please call the billing department.

REMEMBER you can pay your bill at the following locations.

First National Bank  
21st & Grand  
Laramie, WY 82070

Rawlins National Bank  
202 5<sup>th</sup> St.  
Rawlins, WY 82301

Bank of the West  
302 N. 1<sup>st</sup>  
Saratoga, WY 82331

## NEW EMPLOYEE



*Journeyman Lineman Eric Loseke, joined Carbon Power & Light's Laramie crew in August.*

*Eric along with his wife Darcy and their two children, ages 4 and 2, moved to Laramie from Columbus NE.*

*Eric was a utility line worker for Loup River Public Power District in Nebraska before coming to Carbon.*

*Eric enjoys hunting and fishing and shooting his bow in addition to trap shooting.*

*Carbon Power & Light welcomes Eric and his family.*

### OFFICE HOURS

MAY - SEPTEMBER  
Monday - Thursday  
7 AM - 5:30 PM

OCTOBER - APRIL  
Monday - Friday  
8 AM - 4:30 PM

