

Carbon Light Lines

October 2011

AUGUST 2011 BOARD ACTIONS



DICK CLIFTON

DIRECTOR FOR DISTRICT 3

- Approved Department Production and Financial Reports.
- Approved the Work Order Inventory #489 in the amount of \$119,567.19.
- Approved Director Jerry Rabidue as the representative for the Basin Electric Annual Meeting.
- Approved electing Director Gary Jacobsen as the CFC Representative.

Home Office Energy Tip:

An ENERGY STAR labeled computer uses 70% less electricity than computers without this designation. If left inactive, ENERGY STAR labeled desktop computers enter a sleep mode and use 4 watts or less. Spending a large portion of time in low-power mode not only saves energy, but helps equipment run cooler and last longer.



JOURNEYMAN LINEMAN KELBY LANG

KELBY LANG joined Carbon Power & Light in August of 2009 as a 3rd Year Apprentice. While being employed at Carbon, Kelby has successfully completed his hours of academic training and field requirements earning his Certificate of Completion as a Journeyman Lineman.

Kelby will be able to climb power poles, use aerial lifts, glove and stick high voltage energized lines to make repairs and construct new overhead and underground electrical transmission lines.

Congratulations Kelby!



HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Carbon Power & Light will have Tricks and Treats for the ghouls and goblins during the Halloween Walk in Saratoga!

Stop by for some spooktacular goodies.

100 E. Willow St. - Saratoga



“TRI-STATE INCREASES WHOLESALE RATES “

From the Manager ~ *Charles Larsen*



Increase in Wholesale Power Costs: Following an extensive review of their 2012 consolidated budget, the Board of Directors of Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association Inc. (Carbon Power and Light Inc.'s wholesale power supplier) at their September meeting, voted to approve a **4.8 percent increase** in their wholesale power costs. This increase is proposed for implementation on January 1, 2012. Whereas, we have just recently received this information, we have not had the opportunity to work with our rate consultant to determine what impact that this increase will have on the wholesale component of Carbon's retail rates. Once this information is available we will provide a detailed breakdown in an upcoming newsletter, for each of our rate classes.

Bark Beetle Clearing Project: After our late spring startup, the contractor has been moving quickly through the Lake Creek and Keystone areas. Work in those areas should be completed soon. From there the contractor will move on into the Albany/Lake Owen areas. Once again, I would like to express my appreciation, for the cooperation shown by our Member-Owners in those cabin communities as we complete this very difficult project.

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

“Energy efficiency is the 5th fuel. It would help if Carbon Power encouraged home analysis help and encouragement to make homes and businesses as sustainable as possible”.

Response:

Actually...this very topic has been discussed several times over the years in our monthly newsletter. Carbon offers through our Member Services Department, home/business energy audits free of charge to our Member-Owners. As part of this process our Member Services personnel utilize the Cooperative's ability to compile hourly usage data via our TWACS (two way automatic communication system) metering system. This analysis provides the Cooperative's personnel and the Member-Owner a detailed review of their electrical usage patterns. Carbon's energy audit process can also include a “blower-door test”...a process that determines areas of air infiltration into the home. In addition, the Member-Services personnel onsite during the audit provide the Member-Owner with helpful hints and information on how to better weatherize their home/business and how to more efficiently utilize their electrical equipment.

Carbon's monthly newsletter insert to the WREN Magazine, *Carbon Light Lines* and the WREN magazine continually include articles on energy efficiencies in the home/business.

Carbon also offers the highly efficient Marathon Hot Water heaters for sale to our Member-Owners. Included with the purchase of a water heater are rebates that are available from both Carbon and our wholesale power supplier, Tri-State.

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

Chuck





ples. They can cut through the wire insulation and create a fire hazard. Only use UL-approved hangers.

√ Take exterior lights down within 90 days. The longer they stay up, the more likely they are to suffer damage from weather and critters chewing on them.

√ Store lights safely. Tangled lights can lead to damaged cords and broken sockets. After the holidays, coil each string loosely around a stiff piece of cardboard, wrap it in paper or fabric to protect the bulbs, and store in a sturdy container until next year.

HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

Lights, inside and out, are beautiful parts of the holiday season. But as with all electrical devices, you need to take special precautions. Before you deck the halls, run through this checklist to keep your holidays merry and bright.

√ Inspect light strings. Discard any that are damaged. Frayed or cracked electrical cords or broken sockets are leading fire hazards.

√ Follow the manufacturer's instructions for connecting multiple strings. The general limit is three strings. Light strings with stacked plugs can usually accommodate greater lengths than end-to-end connections.

√ Replace burned-out bulbs promptly. Empty sockets can cause the entire string to overheat.





√ Make sure outdoor lighting is UL-rated for exterior use. Exterior lights, unlike those used inside the house, need to be weather-resistant. The same goes for any extension cords used outdoors.

√ Don't use outdoor lights indoors. They're too hot for interior use. For the coolest bulbs and greatest energy efficiency, try LED lights, which come in a wide range of styles and colors.

√ Don't attach light strings with nails or sta-

Just a Little Current Can Kill You

ELECTRICITY effects depend on the pressure (measured in voltage, or volts), the current (measured in amperage, or amps), and the duration of the contact. High-voltage electricity from power lines can burn you from the inside out. It can also blast you clear of the circuit, but the shock or fall can be fatal. Low-voltage electricity (such as that found in your home and shown in the chart below), can cause muscle spasms that lock you to the circuit. It can also interfere with your heartbeat, even if the amperage is very small.

Milliamps	Effects
1	Can just feel it 
GFCI Trip Setting > 5 10	Can't let go 
20 30 40 50	Possibly Fatal 
Holiday Lights > 60 70 80	Probably Fatal 
100 - Watt Bulb > 800	
Hair Dryer > 8000	A milliamp is 1/1000th of an amp, a measure of electric current.

Source: Culver Media LLC

Member Statistics Report	July - 2010	July - 2011
Total Utility Plant	\$33,570,820	\$34,699,422
Cost of Purchased Power	\$487,757	\$1,069,496
Expenses Less Power Cost	\$396,669	\$961,134
Tax and Interest Paid	\$54,237	\$48,063
Interest Received on Investments	\$9,702	\$3,042
Miles of Energized Line	1,881	1,896
Consumers Per Mile	3.3	3.3
Total Meters	6,164	6,165
Residential/Rural	3,887	3,831
Residential/Seasonal	1,494	1,581
Large Power/Commercial	686	657
Other	97	96
Total kWh Used	7,484,154	18,007,797
Residential/Rural	2,503,604	2,381,328
Residential/Seasonal	300,214	290,508
Large Power/Commercial	3,906,216	14,599,978
Other	774,120	735,983
Average Residential kWh Used	644	622
Average Residential/Rural Bill	\$90	\$88
Average Seasonal kWh Used	201	184
Average Seasonal Bill	\$51	\$43

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

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

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DISTRICT 3

Dick Clifton

Clay Thompson

Tom Dunn

For online bill pay, go to 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 5th St.
Rawlins, WY 82301

Bank of the West
302 N. 1st
Saratoga, WY 82331

WANTED

INFORMATION LEADING TO THE ARREST OF A PERSON OR PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR VANDALIZING COOPERATIVE OWNED EQUIPMENT

\$500 REWARD

TO REPORT AN INCIDENT CALL: THE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY OR CARBON POWER & LIGHT AT 326-5206 OR 800-359-0249

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

OFFICE HOURS

MAY - SEPTEMBER

Monday - Thursday

7 AM - 5:30 PM

G Allan Johnson

OCTOBER - APRIL

Monday - Friday

8 AM - 4:30 PM

