

Carbon Light Lines

February 2012

DECEMBER 2011 BOARD ACTIONS



JERRY RABIDUE

DIRECTOR FOR DISTRICT 2

- Approved Department Production and Financial Reports.
- Approved the Work Order Inventory #491 in the amount of \$126,776.42.
- Approved donating to the Saratoga Police Department for a safety program in the amount of \$62.50 which includes classroom materials for 25 children.
- The Board selected the Voting Delegates and Alternates for NRECA's 2012 Annual Meeting located in San Diego CA in March.

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



2012 International Year of Cooperatives

NRECA MARKS LAUNCH OF THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF COOPERATIVES

COOPERATIVE ENTERPRISES BUILD A BETTER WORLD

On the final day of National Cooperative Month (in October), electric cooperatives joined other cooperative enterprises in marking the launch of a year-long celebration of the cooperative business model.

The United Nations has designated 2012 as the International Year of Cooperatives, the theme of which is "Cooperative Enterprises Build a Better World."

"Co-ops have a more than 200 year history. In the United States, the first

known co-op dates back to an insurance cooperative formed by Benjamin Franklin. And co-ops continue today to provide a tremendous service to people throughout the world. Cooperatives are a model of self-reliance and an example of people working together to improve their quality of life," said National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) CEO Glenn English, who is a member of the National Cooperative Business Association Hall of Fame.

The nation's more than 900 not-for-profit consumer-owned electric cooperatives provide power to more than 42 million people in 47 states.

The International Year of Cooperatives coincides with the 50th anniversary of NRECA International Programs, a partnership among America's electric co-ops dedicated to bringing power and economic development to rural villages all over the world. Since its creation in 1962, NRECA International Programs has assisted with electrification efforts that have improved the quality of life for more than 100 million people in more than 40 nations.

RECOGNIZE THESE CO-OPS?



1-800-359-0249

www.carbonpower.com

COMING SOON . . .

From the Manager~ *Charles Larsen*



Coming Soon...Your Co-op Connections Card:

Several years ago the Rural Electric Cooperatives created a national brand...Touchstone Energy Cooperatives. At that time Cooperatives across the nation recognized the need for innovated resources and the strength of a national network, in our efforts to enhance our unique relationship with our Member-Owners.

One highly successful program developed under the Touchstone Energy brand is..."*Co-op Connections*". The Co-op Connections program is a "card-based" benefit program for Rural Electric Members, designed to deliver added value to your Cooperative Membership. The program offers a variety of discounts at participating local and national businesses. Those businesses benefit from increased customer visits by Cooperative Member-Owners. One example of the benefits associated with the Co-operative Connections Card is that it provides Member-Owners access to savings for prescription drugs ranging from 10% to 60% from participating pharmacies locally and across the nation.

Carbon's Board of Directors and Management have been carefully monitoring the growth of the Co-op Connections program and we have visited with some local businesses to gather their input and interest in the program. Based on our findings, the Board of Directors has voted to approve moving forward with the offering of the Co-op Connections Card program to our Member-Owners. We will continue providing you with more detailed information on this program in upcoming newsletters and our goal is to provide you with your cards via an insert mailing in our April billing statements.

Outages: Wyoming has always been a little on the "windy side"...OK... maybe more than a little. This winter however, we have experienced several significant wind storms whose heightened velocities have created several problems for us. We've experienced substation damage, downed poles, broken insulators, downed wires and a significant number of trees blowing down and contacting our power lines.

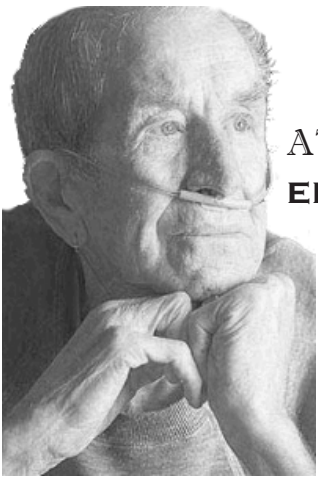
This has created an additional amount of outage time for our Member-Owners and a significant amount of extra work for our line crews...work that has been completed in some very unfavorable conditions. At the same time, our office personnel and after-hours dispatch service has been working diligently to address our Member-Owner calls to report outages.

On the positive side of this (if there is such a thing) is the fact that due to our power line clearing project on the National Forest to address the bark beetle issue, we have had few wind related problems in those cleared areas. If we had not completed this work prior to these recent and violent winds...we would have had serious and extensive maintenance problems/expenses.

Before I leave this subject; as I sat and monitored the calls coming in during a recent major outage in the Platte Valley, it was apparent from the conversations office personnel were having with the impacted Member-Owners that many of those calling in were apologizing for calling in to report the outage. You are the Member-Owners of Carbon Power and Light...and...I ask that you **PLEASE CALL** if you are experiencing any problems...power outages or otherwise. It is very important that we hear from you in an outage situations as it helps us pinpoint problem areas and to dispatch our crews accordingly. In the case of a wide spread power outage, the phone lines can get pretty busy, but please be patient and keep trying until you are successful.

Thanks for being there for us and for allowing us to serve you.

Chuck



ATTENTION: INDIVIDUALS WHO DEPEND ON ELECTRICITY FOR MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

During severe weather, power outages that occur during the cold winter months can be as small as

an inconvenience to some or a matter of life and death for those who rely on electricity for medical equipment.

If you have life support systems which rely on electrical power, you should have an emergency plan to follow when there is a power outage. If you are dependent on supplementary oxygen and you don't have such a plan, here are some suggestions.

Contact Carbon Power & Light and tell us you are a user of life support equipment that is dependent on electricity. Ask that your name be placed on our Oxygen Contact List. In the event of a planned outage, you will be notified prior to the outage so you can plan ahead.

During unplanned outages, individuals should have a back up plan in place. If you do not have a plan, here are a few suggestions to get started:

* For oxygen users, contact your oxygen provider and ask how much oxygen needs to be placed in your home so that oxygen flow is uninterrupted, even during a power outage or snow emergency. This length of time is dependent on a number of factors, including how easy it is to get to your home with snow or ice on the ground. You will want to know how long the cylinders last. Have your oxygen

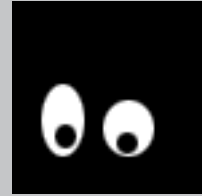
provider label the cylinders now with the number of minutes each will last at your flow rate. Remember, it is the obligation of your oxygen provider to keep you supplied during emergencies.

* If you are remotely located, perhaps you should consider purchasing and installing a generator. Remember there are precautions to installing a generator, so please call Carbon Power & Light for proper installation requirements, we do not want our linemen hurt due to an improper generator installation.

Preparing in advance requires additional effort on your part. You will be glad you have a plan in place when the power goes out. Remember, no one knows how long an unplanned outage will last, perhaps a few minutes, a few hours or perhaps for days. In any event, immediately call Carbon Power & Light and report the outage. We do not know you have lost power unless you notify us.

Other types of emergency items to have close at hand is bottled water, a battery powered radio, extra batteries, a couple of flash lights, a pager, two way radios, a cell phone and/or a phone that does not need to be plugged into an electrical outlet, non-perishable food, etc.

And if necessary, establish a support team of people, more than one person, who can help you in the event of an emergency.



How Prepared are You?

When severe weather causes power outages, Employees of Carbon Power & Light (CP&L) begin working immediately to restore service as quickly as possible.

CP&L Employees are working round-the-clock to restore power to Member-Owners who are affected by the outage. While the line crews labor diligently outdoors to restore power as quickly as possible, many other Employees are working indoors, answering telephones and responding to Member-Owner inquiries and concerns.

CP&L thanks its Member-Owners for their patience and understanding and be assured that:

- (1) The phones at the office are never, never taken off the hook.
- (2) The phones are staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, every day of the year.
- (3) CP&L communicates regularly with local newspapers, and radio stations, sharing with them information related to scheduled outages.

Carbon Power & Light not only prides itself in affordable rates, but also reliable service that is ready when you flip the switch on. *DD&L*

Member Statistics Report	Nov. - 2010	Nov. - 2011
Total Utility Plant	\$34,546,501	\$35,319,532
Cost of Purchased Power	\$1,163,647	\$948,778
Expenses Less Power Cost	\$382,036	\$361,617
Tax and Interest Paid	\$51,129	\$45,413
Interest Received on Investments	\$7,367	\$2,627
Miles of Energized Line	1,883	1,906
Consumers Per Mile	3.3	3.2
Total Meters	6,151	6,164
Residential/Rural	3,897	3,840
Residential/Seasonal	1,478	1,573
Large Power/Commercial	688	660
Other	88	91
Total kWh Used	17,719,847	10,186,224
Residential/Rural	4,065,745	4,126,782
Residential/Seasonal	275,001	389,321
Large Power/Commercial	13,097,778	5,375,267
Other	281,323	294,854
Average Residential kWh Used	1,043	1,075
Average Residential/Rural Bill	\$131	\$134
Average Seasonal kWh Used	186	248
Average Seasonal Bill	\$49	\$55

Job Position:
*Billing Clerk
for Carbon Pow-
er & Light*



*Laurie was cho-
sen by her co-
workers as the
2011 Employee
of the Year.*

*Laurie started
her career with
Carbon on March 3, 2009 as the Cashier/Re-
ceptionist. In July of 2011, she assumed the*

Laurie Johnston **Employee of the Year**

*responsibilities of the Billing Clerk. Laurie is
mainly responsible for billing, delinquent ac-
counts and capital credits.*

*Laurie and her husband Robert will travel to
San Diego California in March to represent
Carbon at the NRECA 70th Annual Meeting.*

Congratulations Laurie!

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

<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 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 th St. Rawlins, WY 82301	Bank of the West 302 N. 1 st Saratoga, WY 82331
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OFFICE HOURS

MAY - SEPTEMBER

Monday - Thursday
7 AM - 5:30 PM

OCTOBER - APRIL

Monday - Friday
8 AM - 4:30 PM

