



Member Owned ~ Service Proud
Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative

Carbon Light Lines

March 2014



JIM ROGERS
District 3 Director

Board Actions January 2014

Approved Department Production and Financial Reports.

The Board moved to hold a future strategic planning session.

Approved the revisions recommended by Staff, and Management to Policy 4-2, *Employee Benefits*.

The Board moved to sign the 2014-2016 IBEW #322 Contract as presented.

Accepting Board of Director Nominations

Carbon Power & Light



Board of Director nominations for Carbon Power & Light are being accepted until April 14, 2014

Board of Director nominations are underway. To be considered for nomination to serve on the Board of Directors, the name of the willing person must be submitted to the nominating committee 75 days before the annual meeting or by April 14, 2014.

Each year, Carbon Power & Light appoints three Member-Owners from each district to serve as the Nominating Committee for the purpose of nominating qualified candidates to run for election to serve on Carbon's Board .

If you are a Member-Owner of Carbon Power & Light and would like to be a candidate for the Board, or would like to nominate a candidate, contact one of the *Nominating Committee Members in the district where you reside by April 14, 2014.

See page three for more information on what it means to be a qualified candidate.

**Due to the deadlines associated with this newsletter, the names of the Nominating Committee were not available at the time of printing. Please call Marcy Knotwell to contact a member of the Nominating Committee within your district. ■*



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Programmable thermostats can save up to \$160 a year in energy costs. Match thermostat settings to your schedule: cold when you're away and warm when you're at home. In winter, set the thermostat to 68 degrees during the day (lower at night when you're snug in bed). By turning your thermostat down 10 to 15 degrees for at least eight hours, you can shave 5 to 15 percent from your heating costs.

Source: TogetherWeSave.com, U.S. Department of Energy



General Manager Charles "Chuck" Larsen

Seasonal

Seasonal Tariff: As we have done since 2001, at the beginning of each year we review all of our General Service single-phase accounts to determine...based on their kilowatt-hour (kWh) usage in the prior year, those that fall within the parameters of our "Seasonal" rate tariff. Once this is done, a letter is sent to those

Member-Owners who fall within those tariff parameters informing them of the Seasonal tariff change to their account. Conversely, we also send a letter to those accounts that were under the Seasonal Tariff during the prior year, and whose kWh usage has changed during that year causing them to be removed from the Seasonal Tariff and back to the General Service Tariff.

Because of the Tariff Title "Seasonal" we generally field numerous questions from those Member-Owners who were changed to this rate for the first time. The main question being..."I'm not a "snowbird" I live here year-around... why am I considered "Seasonal"? In 2001, when the Cooperative via a "Cost of Service Study" determined that it needed to implement a "Seasonal"

rate, we were actually focused on those accounts that were truly "Seasonal", and because their kWh usage patterns were not contributing to their fair share of the fixed costs to operate the Cooperative for an entire year. In defining a "Seasonal" account the Cooperative developed the following formula:

- Seasonal accounts shall be determined from those General Service single-phase accounts that were connected for the entire previous calendar year. These accounts will be evaluated using the seasonal test formula which is as follows: *Each account where the annual monthly average kWh usage multiplied by forty percent (40%) is greater than the lowest seven (7) months average kWh usage. In addition, any account that consumes less than one thousand (1000) kWh per year shall be considered seasonal.*

Once the Seasonal Tariff was implemented it was apparent that we had several General Service single-phase accounts that aligned with a "Seasonal" kWh usage pattern, even though they were truly not "snowbird" in nature... thus some of the confusion and resulting Member-Owner questions.

We have attempted to come up with a different name for the tariff to eliminate these concerns and questions... unfortunately the "kWh usage pattern" for these accounts is generally *seasonal in nature* and the "Seasonal" title for the tariff seems to suit it the best.

I realize this is a bit confusing...but, I hope this at least explains why we continue use the term "Seasonal" for this tariff.

Meeting

Annual Meeting: I know that it's just the beginning of 2014, but plans are already underway for your Annual Meeting in June. As we do each year, the "Nominating Committees" will be meeting in March to nominate candidates for the Board of Director positions that are up for consideration (one in each of the Cooperative's three (3) districts). You will find more information on this elsewhere in this newsletter and in future newsletters.

We have certainly had our share of cold weather these past few weeks. I'm looking forward to some warmer days. Stay warm...and as always... call if you have questions. Thanks for being there for us. ■

Chuck





are you Qualified to serve?

INTERESTED IN RUNNING FOR A SEAT ON THE BOARD AND YOUR NOT SURE IF YOU QUALIFY?

To be qualified to serve on the Board, the person submitting their name for nomination shall be:

- a bona fide resident of the district they seek to represent, and
- a natural person and a Member-Owner of the Cooperative.

The person seeking to represent the Cooperative cannot be employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling electric energy or supplies to the Cooperative, or a business primarily engaged in selling electrical or plumbing appliances.

THE ROLE OF A BOARD OF DIRECTOR CONSIST OF SEVERAL RESPONSIBILITIES, SOME OF WHICH ARE LISTED HERE:

Assist and work with other Directors through attention to effective discussion during regular and/or special meetings. Encourage effective appraisals of Board performance that will insure continuing and systematic attention to

THERE ARE NINE MEMBER-OWNERS, SUCH AS YOURSELF, THAT COMPRISE CARBON'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS. YOUR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE IS A MEMBER-OWNED, MEMBER-CONTROLLED, NONPROFIT ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COOPERATIVE.

responsibilities concerning the present and future operational needs.

Accept and work with, or on, any committee or other special assignment.

Inform and advise the General Manager on matters concerning the Members' interest which may be brought to the attention of the Directors.

Recognize the General Manager as the operational official through whom all complaints, problems and other matters should be communicated when concerned with matters of the Cooperative or its Employees.

Willing to serve a three year term. Terms are staggered with two other Directors within the district.

Posses personal characteristics such as leadership in the community, have high integrity, high ethic standards and have

respect for the community. Have the ability to exercise sound judgment and logical reasoning.

Posses a commitment to attend the monthly Board meetings; annual meetings; and/or special meetings when warranted. This amount of commitment is approximately 30 days out of the year you would be committing yourself to.

HOW DO I GET STARTED AND NOMINATE A CANDIDATE OR SUBMIT MY NAME FOR CANDIDACY?

The Nominations Committee, in their sole discretion and by majority vote, shall have the authority to determine if the person submitting his/her name or the name of another is a qualified nominee for a Board of Director.

If you would like to be a candidate or you would like to nominate someone, contact Marcy Knotwell at 307.326.5206 or 800.359.0249 to obtain the name (s) of the Nominating Committee Members in the district in which you reside by April 14, 2014. ■

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

Member Statistics Report	Dec. 2012	Dec. 2013
Total Utility Plant	\$36,136,559	\$37,471,216
Cost of Purchased Power	\$759,484	\$854,776
Expenses Less Power Cost	\$341,594	\$326,572
Tax and Interest Paid	\$47,604	\$23,107
Interest Received on Investments	\$2,822	\$1,621
Miles of Energized Line	1,914	1,925
Consumers Per Mile	3.2	3.3
Total Meters	6,205	6,257
Residential/Rural	3,889	3,455
Residential/Seasonal	1,536	1,575
Large Power/Commercial	689	1,124
Other	91	103
Total kWh Used	10,872,175	11,367,058
Residential/Rural	4,997,841	4,353,324
Residential/Seasonal	367,533	465,003
Large Power/Commercial	5,183,581	6,201,597
Other	323,220	347,134
Average Residential kWh Used	1,285	1,260
Average Residential/Rural Bill	\$161	\$153
Average Seasonal kWh Used	239	295
Average Seasonal Bill	\$56	\$62

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

DISTRICT 1

Gary Jacobsen – Secretary
Laurie Forster
Dan Hodgkiss – Treasurer

DISTRICT 2

Robert Johnson – President
Jerry Rabadue – Vice President
Kenny Curry

DISTRICT 3

Dick Clifton
Clay Thompson
Jim Rogers

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.

Rawlins National Bank
202 5th Street
Rawlins, WY 82301

Capital West Bank
21st & Grand
Laramie, WY 82070

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



**Play Fun, Online Games,
Read Exciting Comics,
Discover New Careers,
and Watch Cool Videos!**

Take a journey and experience interactive online games that educate pre-K through 5th grade learners! *My American Farm* is built for educators, learners and their families. The site offers free downloadable lessons of agriculture activities to explore.

Discover the amazing world of energy as you use the Energy Expert 5000 to power up Energyville. Power Up is just one of 19 interactive games on this site. To get started, log on to myamericanfarm.org/games/power_up/.

Working together and sponsored by: The American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture and DuPont Pioneer.

OFFICE HOURS FOR CARBON POWER & LIGHT

— MAY - SEPTEMBER —

Monday - Thursday
7 AM - 5:30 PM

— OCTOBER - APRIL —

Monday - Friday
8 AM - 4:30 PM
John Myles

