



Member Owned ~ Service Proud

Carbon Light Lines

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



100 E. Willow Ave. • Saratoga, WY • 82331-0579
307.326.5206 • 800.359.0249
www.carbonpower.com

July 2015



JERRY RABIDUE
District 2 Director

Board Actions MAY 2015

Approved the Department
Production and Financial
Reports.

Approved Resolution 15.07;
Tri-State's Load Forecast Study.

Approved Resolution 15.08;
RUS Transfer of Budget
Purpose Funds.

Approved Work Order
Inventory #514 for \$47,629.74.

CARBON POWER & LIGHT'S JOURNEYMAN LINEMAN PJ SAPUTO SHARES THE LOCAL TRIBUTE IN HONORING WYOMING LINEMEN

~if they sent a lineman to the moon, there wouldn't be a dark side~

Linemen leave their families and put their lives on the line every day to keep the power on 365 days a year under dangerous conditions to build, maintain and repair the electric infrastructure. Linemen are the first responders of the electric cooperative family, getting power back on and making things safe for all after storms and accidents. There would be no electric cooperatives without these brave men and women.

Wyoming Governor Matt Mead is very supportive of our industry and as such, signed a Governors Proclamation back in April of 2014 declaring April 18th as Linemen Appreciation Day to thank our linemen for the work they do.

Carbon Power & Light's Journeyman Lineman PJ Saputo, as well as other linemen, joined Gov. Matt Mead in honor of Wyoming Linemen.



**Wyoming Governor
Matt Mead honors
Wyoming Linemen
and declares April
18th as Linemen
Appreciation Day**

*Gov. Mead (L) and Carbon
Power & Light's Journeyman
Lineman PJ Saputo (R)*





Member-Owned Service Proud



[RUSSELL WALDNER, GENERAL MANAGER]

Here we go; *my first* Carbon Light Lines article as the General Manger of your great little Electric Cooperative.



RUSSELL WALDNER

“ KEEP IT (the cooperative)
RUNNING AS SMOOTH AS IT IS
RIGHT NOW.” ”

President Johnson asked if I had any big changes planned and I replied, “Keep it running as smooth as it is right now.” Chuck has given me the information, direction and training. Now I need to demonstrate that the confidence placed in my abilities has not been misplaced.

We will continue to meet the challenges placed before us by regulatory agencies and the environment in a fashion that will maintain safe, reliable and affordable electricity. We will complete this task with vigor toward protecting our way of life and strive to make this a better place than when we first arrived on the scene as has been to date.

When I first came to Carbon Power & Light I was so excited to learn all the challenges the *new* had to offer and figured it would take at least a couple of months. Within the first two weeks Chuck and I visited a Member-Owners place that Chuck had not

been to. I thought to myself, “he has been here for 13 years and this is the first time he has been here,” wow this is not going to happen as fast as I had planned. The excitement of the new has been an ongoing part of being an employee of Carbon, and it is all fresh again with this opportunity.

Chuck has always asked after my brief descriptions of the issue at hand, “Russ what is the rest of the story?” In this case only time will tell.

If ever you have questions or concerns please contact us...as member-owners you can make improvements.

In Chucks honor...*Thanks for being there for us.*

Russell

Electrical Safety and Children

When you are done using a radio, CD player or any other electrical gadget outdoors, bring it inside with you. If it rains, the electrical device could get wet and cause an electrical shock when used later.

Water often attracts kids, but water and electricity never mix,” warned Hall. “Teach older children to exercise caution before plugging in a radio, CD player, or any electrical gadget outdoors, and never leave any electrical appliances outside.”

Safe Electricity Director Molly Hall

stay safe exploring the great outdoors this summer

By Abby Berry, NRECA

Summer is in full swing, and that means it is time for fun in the sun! As you find yourself spending more time outdoors, Carbon reminds you to stay safe.

Planning a home improvement project?

When working outdoors, you may be using tools, such as ladders, power tools, shovels – or even paintbrushes with extendable arms. These items help you get the job done but have the potential to be dangerous if used improperly.

Pay attention to where you place metal ladders or dig for fence posts.

Before you start any project, always look up and avoid overhead power lines. Keep a minimum of 10 feet between you and overhead lines.

If you are planning a project that requires digging, remember to dial “811” first to find out if the area you will be working in is clear of underground power lines. Power tools should be kept away from wet surfaces, and outlets should not be overloaded.

Exploring the great outdoors is a great way to spend time with the family, but keep these safety tips in mind.

Children should never climb trees near power lines – always assume a wire is live. Fly kites and remote controlled-airplanes in large open areas like a park or a field, safely away from trees and overhead power lines.

Planning to take a dip in the pool?

Electrical devices, such as stereos, should be kept at least 10 feet away from water sources, and outdoor electrical outlets should always be covered. If you hear a rumble of thunder, exit the pool right away.

Speaking of thunder, summer storms can be dangerous if you’re caught in the

wrong place at the wrong time. If you find yourself outdoors during a storm, move toward suitable shelter with covered sides, and stick to low-lying ground if possible.

These are just a few tips to remember when you are spending time outdoors this summer with your family. Have some fun out there, and always keep safety in mind!



BE PREPARED FOR SUMMER STORMS AND OUTAGES

If your power goes out, be prepared:

Check fuses, circuit breakers, and if the neighbors’ power is out.

Report outages to Carbon Power & Light; dispatch and line crews are available 24/7.

Keep away from downed power lines, as well as trees and branches near power lines. Report these hazards.

Crews respond to hazards, substations, and major distribution lines first, followed by smaller tap lines and individual service lines.

Carbon Power & Light works 24/7 to prevent power outages for members.

Proactive efforts include replacing aging equipment, repairing and maintaining the system, and keeping vegetation out of the right-of way. However, unplanned outages from storms, wind and lightning are unavoidable.

Our goal is to restore power to members safely and quickly.

Report power outages to 800.359-0249 or 307.326.5206.

| Member Statistics Report | April 2014 | April 2015 |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Financial | | |
| Total Utility Plant | \$37,969,906 | \$39,922,023 |
| Cost of Purchase Power | \$616,098 | \$599,294 |
| Expenses Less Power Cost | \$416,367 | \$408,394 |
| Tax & Interest Paid | \$48,518 | \$49,440 |
| Interest Received on Investments | \$9,135 | \$27,805 |
| Energized Line & Consumers | | |
| Miles of Energized Line | 1,928 | 1,939 |
| Consumers Per Mile | 3.1 | 3.1 |
| Meters | | |
| Total Meters | 6,056 | 6,106 |
| Residential/Rural | 3,260 | 3,262 |
| Residential/Seasonal | 1,564 | 1,619 |
| Large Power/Commercial | 1,125 | 1,120 |
| Other | 107 | 105 |
| kWh Usage | | |
| Total kWh | 8,272,404 | 8,129,514 |
| Residential/Rural | 2,797,425 | 2,655,582 |
| Residential/Seasonal | 241,278 | 268,762 |
| Large Power/Commercial | 4,939,940 | 4,938,893 |
| Other | 293,761 | 266,277 |
| Averages | | |
| Avg. Residential kWh Used | 858 | 814 |
| Avg. Residential/Rural Bill | \$124 | \$119 |
| Avg. Seasonal kWh Used | 154 | 166 |
| Avg. Seasonal Bill | \$50 | \$52 |

Making the Digital Switch By Anne Prince, NRECA

Upgrade your lights from "analog" to digital with LED bulbs

Just as you upgraded your TV/ cable and phone from an analog system to digital for better sound and picture quality, the lighting industry has been modernizing its options and products in order to offer consumers greater energy efficiency. For the past several years, traditional incandescent bulbs have been phased out in favor of halogen and compact fluorescent (CFL) lights that offer greater efficiency. Even more recent innovations in technology have focused on Light Emitting Diode light sources, or LED bulbs, which are essentially digital light.

fluorescent and incandescent light sources, as LEDs do not contain a gas or filament of any kind. Instead, the entire LED is made up of a semiconductor, which is solid in nature and makes LEDs more durable. LED lights are small, packed electronic chip devices where two conductive materials are placed together on a chip (a diode). Electricity passes through the diode, releasing energy in the form of light. Unlike fluorescent lights that require a few minutes to warm up before reaching their full level of brightness, LEDs achieve full illumination immediately.

Longevity and efficiency in one

Known for their longevity and efficiency, LED lights have an estimated operational life span of up to 50,000 hours. This equates to 17 years of continuous operation, or 34 years of 50 percent operation. So if you were to use an LED fixture for eight hours per day, it would take approximately 17 years before it would need to be replaced.

The cost of "analog" lights

If you are still hanging on to your traditional or "analog" era lighting, your light bulb is operating at only 20 percent energy efficiency. Eighty percent of the electricity from the "analog" *Steve Borin* bulb is lost as heat. To illustrate how this inefficiency impacts your wallet, consider this. If you have traditional lighting and your electric bill is \$100, then you are spending \$80 to heat the room instead of light it. Using LED illumination with 80 percent efficiency, your electricity cost would be approximately \$20, saving you about \$80.

LED lights are different from



If you find your name in *asterisks* in this newsletter, contact Carbon Power & Light to receive a \$10 credit on your electric bill.



Ideal for outdoor use

LEDs are ideal for outdoor use because of their durability. LED lights are resistant to vibrations, shock and external impacts such as exposure to weather, wind and rain. In addition, they are temperature resistant and operate in colder outdoor temperatures.

Carbon welcomes any comments or questions members 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. P.O. Box 579, Saratoga, WY 82331, ATTN: Newsletter.

Visit our website at: www.carbonpower.com
Edited by Marcy Knotwell

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 day or night at 307.326.5206 or 800.359.0249.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

| DISTRICT 1 | DISTRICT 2 | DISTRICT 3 |
|----------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Gary Jacobsen | Robert J. Johnson | Dick Clifton |
| Laurie Forster | Jerry Rabidue | Clay Thompson |
| Dan Hodgkiss | Kenny Curry | Jim Rogers |


For online bill pay or ACH: www.carbonpower.com
For more information,
please call the billing dept.

REMEMBER you can pay your bill at the following locations:

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Rawlins National Bank | First National Bank | Bank of the West |
| 202 5th St | 21st & Grand | 302 N. 1st St. |
| Rawlins, WY | Laramie, WY | Saratoga, WY |



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



By cleaning your air conditioner's air ducts, you can lower your energy consumption by between 5 and 15 percent.

Source: energy.gov

CARBON POWER & LIGHT

Office Hours

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

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

YOUR COOPERATIVE IS A PROUD MEMBER OF
WREA
WYOMING RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION