



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 2016



KENNY CURRY  
District 2 Director

## Board Actions MAY 2016

Approved the Department Production and Financial Reports.

Approved Resolution 16-03; Tri-State's Load Forecast Study.

Discussed scheduling of planned outages.

Approved discontinuing outside computer support for the membership starting July 1st.

## CARBON POWER & LIGHT'S LARAMIE AREA FOREMAN BRUCE MANORE 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 2016 declaring April 18th as Linemen Appreciation Day to thank our linemen for the work they do.

Carbon Power & Light's Laramie area foreman Bruce Manore, as well as other linemen, joined Gov. Matt Mead in honor of Wyoming Linemen.

*Happy 4th of July*



Gov. Mead (L) and Carbon Power & Light's Laramie Foreman Bruce Manore (3rd to right)



# Member-Owned Service Proud



[ RUSSELL WALDNER, GENERAL MANAGER ]

## DEVELOPMENT OF FORTITUDE



RUSSELL WALDNER

## "GO CARBON!!"

On a recent Tuesday morning I was alarmed by the sound of the shower. "Russell," my wife calls "something is wrong with the pump." I knew that was coming and was already headed for our well pit. Open it up and everything looks ok so I head over to the power box and hear extra hard work from the transformer nearby. Not good! Go back to well pit and smoke is rolling out of pump control box...run back to power box and turn it off. I went back in the house and the wife had made the most of her shower and was ready for her day. I got ready for mine and off we went. It was the day before the Carbon Power & Light, Inc.'s (Carbon) Board meeting and we had a staff meeting to review our department reports and discuss any pertinent issues. Following this meeting, I started my parts hunt to get the water going at home again. Now of course I needed a big bad pump for my water system and there was not a control box waiting on the shelf at

the hardware store. I located one in Casper, but on the fortunate side there was a super smart plumber that could fix my smoked one... Score! I asked for a fault locate to determine where my power line was bad. While that was happening, I noticed our colt was on the wrong side of the fence. I had let them into a small pasture with a big water tank because they had emptied the little all-weather one in the corral. I get my fencing pliers and head over there to see if I could get him back on the right side of the fence. In our years of owning horses, it is never a good sign when a young horse is on the wrong side of a fence. When I arrived the evidence of horse meets wire was very ugly. My new neighbor that I had not met was there to help. When we get him back to the right side of the fence, back in the corral and the bad power line was

located. Score! I thanked the guys, hooked up the trailer and headed to the vet. After the horse is stitched up we head home. Still no water but I'm done for the day. About dark thirty I wake up...so it must be time to fix the water. Get the water fixed... showers great and I'm ready for that Board meeting. I think to myself I made it through the day from hell and I'm so glad that days at Carbon aren't like that. But then, there are days like that at Carbon and the Member-Owners have to deal with the brunt of the circumstances as we work to get things back in working order. The burden is always lightened by those that can give you help, knowledge, information and support. It makes me very proud to be a part of a cooperative where the purpose is neighbor helping neighbor to achieve what we couldn't as individuals. Thankful for the entire Carbon team....**GO CARBON!**

## 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 see 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 \*June E Huss\* 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 2015	April 2016
<b>Financial</b>		
Total Utility Plant	\$39,922,023	\$40,489,451
Cost of Purchase Power	\$599,294	\$805,261
Expenses Less Power Cost	\$408,394	\$469,775
Tax & Interest Paid	\$49,440	\$63,735
Interest Received on Investments	\$27,805	\$3,507
<b>Energized Line &amp; Consumers</b>		
Miles of Energized Line	1,939	1,953
Consumers Per Mile	3.1	3.2
<b>Meters</b>		
Total Meters	6,106	6,169
Residential/Rural	3,262	3,367
Residential/Seasonal	1,619	1,584
Large Power/Commercial	1,120	1,113
Other	105	105
<b>kWh Usage</b>		
Total kWh	8,129,514	8,312,994
Residential/Rural	2,655,582	3,023,341
Residential/Seasonal	268,762	331,249
Large Power/Commercial	4,938,893	4,692,235
Other	266,277	266,169
<b>Averages</b>		
Avg. Residential kWh Used	814	898
Avg. Residential/Rural Bill	\$119	\$122
Avg. Seasonal kWh Used	166	209
Avg. Seasonal Bill	\$52	\$56

## 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.

### 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.

LED lights are different from 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.

### 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" 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.

### 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](http://www.carbonpower.com)  
Edited by Joe Parrie

**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](http://www.carbonpower.com)  
For more information,  
please call the billing dept.

REMEMBER you can pay your bill at the following locations:

Rawlins National Bank	ANB	Bank of the West
202 5th St	3908 Grand Ave	302 N. 1st St.
Rawlins, WY	Laramie, WY	Saratoga, WY



If you find your name in \*asterisks\* in this newsletter, contact Carbon Power & Light to receive a \$30 credit on your electric bill.



EVERY MEMBER HAS A VOICE  
MAKE SURE YOURS IS HEARD  
TOGETHERWESAVE.COM



#### CARBON POWER & LIGHT

Office Hours

#### MAY - SEPTEMBER

Monday - Thursday ~ 7 AM - 5:30 PM

#### OCTOBER - APRIL

Monday - Friday ~ 8 AM - 4:30 PM



**Carbon Power & Light will no longer be doing outside computer support as of July 1st 2016.**