



Member Owned ~ Service Proud
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Carbon Light Lines

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www.carbonpower.com

October 2021



JOHN PAGE
District 2 Director

Board Actions JULY 2021

Approved the
Department
Production and Financial
Reports.

Approved Resolution
21-02 Authorized
Signatures on
Corporate Checks.

Approved the NRECA
Regional Meeting
Delegate Director
Jacobsen and alternate
Director Curry.



Power On: October is National Co-op Month
By Anne Prince

As an electric cooperative, our top priority is always to provide reliable, affordable energy to you, the consumer-members we serve. Because we are a co-op, our mission is to enrich the lives of our members and serve the long-term interests of our local community--and this mission has never been more critical than in recent months. One of the seven principles that guides all co-ops is "concern for community." To me, this principle is the essential DNA of Carbon Power & Light, Inc., and it sets us apart from other electric utilities.

October is National Co-op Month, and electric cooperatives across the country are highlighting the many ways we "Power On." Keeping this theme in mind, I recognize the essential role we play in serving a special community like ours.

Who would have fathomed in March, that the COVID-19 virus would amount to a test of our community and our nation? The changing circumstances due to the pandemic have created both challenges and opportunities. Over the past several months, we've all been challenged to operate differently, and Carbon Power & Light, Inc. has stepped up to help our members and strengthen the safety net for our more vulnerable neighbors.

As an essential service, and to ensure reliability of your power supply, we modified our operations to safeguard business continuity. Some staff worked remotely. In the office, we limited and modified meetings and gatherings *Tyra Relaford* to allow for safe separation. We also closed our walk-in office availability and in-person service calls to ensure the health and safety of our employees and our valued members.

For the health and safety of everyone, we think these measures were the prudent course of action for the times.

For our members impacted by COVID-19 who needed help with their electric bills, we waived late fees and worked with those hardest hit to make special payment arrangements.

And while we certainly missed visiting with you in person, we found new ways to stay connected. More Facebook posts tell you about all of these efforts to explain how much we care about this community--because we live here too.

We've seen other local businesses rising to meet similar challenges during this time, because that's what communities do. While the challenges caused by COVID-19 have been daunting, I'm heartened to see how everyone is pulling together.

In 1941, Carbon Power & Light was built by the community to serve the community, and that's what we'll continue to do - Power On.

Anne Prince writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the national trade association representing more than 900 local electric cooperatives. From growing suburbs to remote farming communities, electric co-ops serve as engines of economic development for 42 million Americans across 56 percent of the nation's landscape.



Member-Owned Service - Proud



RUSSELL WALDNER, GENERAL MANAGER



Owners. EV's (electric vehicle) may be the answer, we have been told they add 583 kWh to an average monthly electric bill.

As always, if you have questions or concerns please contact us.

We are currently developing a 10-year technology roadmap. This will help us make the best use of our technology budget and determine the best use of future technology that may be of value to Carbon's Member-Owners. This graphic was presented during our discussions.

I was reminded of how Chuck Larsen would occasionally look back to see where we were headed.

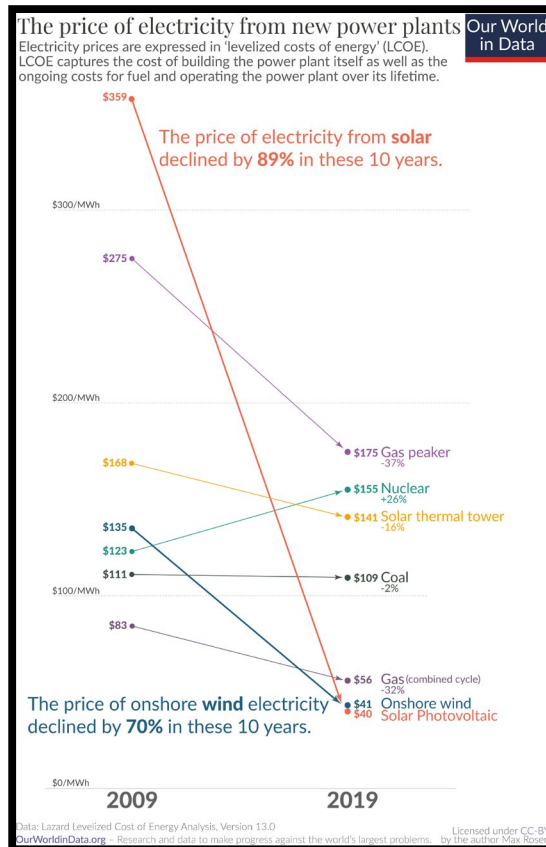
I started work at Carbon in 1991 and in 1991, the average residential monthly kWh was 695. The rates were, Facility Charge \$9.00 and the kWh charge was \$0.06448, making an average monthly bill in 1991 \$54.09 plus tax. Today the residential monthly average is 716 kWh. The rate is, Facility Charge \$30.00 and the kWh charge is \$0.120026, making an average monthly bill today \$76.45 plus tax. By the way, I'm the only average person.

I'm very impressed that all those device chargers only added 21 kWh to Carbon's average monthly bill 30 years later.

To break those numbers down to annual amounts, \$0.75 per year increase and for those that have a budget that means each year you added 1.4 percent more to your electric bill envelope. Being the average guy, I always had to look in other envelopes to find money for entertainment.

We get an annual report comparing all electric cooperatives in 145 ratios. That report for 2020 ranked Carbon at 765 out of 815 reporting. There are only fifty cooperatives with a lower monthly average kWh usage. In Wyoming, we are the lowest of all Wyoming cooperatives.

I have always felt that if we increase our average monthly billed kWh that we would be able to do more for our Member-



Source: Lazard Levelized Cost of Energy Analysis, OurWorldinData.org

Member Statistics Report	July 2020	July 2021
Financial		
Total Utility Plant	\$48,343,105	\$50,068,297
Cost of Purchase Power	\$567,387	\$603,167
Expenses Less Power Cost	\$488,655	\$500,148
Tax & Interest Paid	\$61,188	\$58,488
Interest Received on Investments	\$2,645	\$2,215
Energized Line & Consumers		
Miles of Energized Line	1,981	1,994
Consumers Per Mile	3.2	3.2
Meters		
Total Meters	6,392	6,511
Residential/Rural	5,230	5,345
Irrigation	52	52
Large Power/Commercial	1,060	1,064
Other	50	50
kWh Usage		
Total kWh	7,878,977	8,239,223
Residential/Rural	2,675,488	2,748,991
Irrigation	681,899	544,393
Large Power/Commercial	3,998,257	4,789,171
Other	148,402	156,668
Averages		
Avg. Residential kWh Used	512	514
Avg. Residential/Rural Bill	\$92	\$92

Carbon welcomes any comments or questions members may have. If you have a question on any part of the cooperative business, please write or email the cooperative and we will see that your question is answered. Mail comments to Carbon Power & Light, Inc. P.O. Box 579, Saratoga, WY 82331, ATTN: Newsletter or email info@carbonpower.com.

Visit our website at: 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

<u>DISTRICT 1</u>	<u>DISTRICT 2</u>	<u>DISTRICT 3</u>
Dan Hodgkiss	Shae Johnson	Dick Clifton
Gary Jacobsen	Kenny Curry	Clay Thompson
Laurie Forster	John Page	Jim Rogers

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

REMEMBER you can also pay your bill at the following location:

ANB
 3908 Grand Ave
 Laramie, WY

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Energy used for cooling and heating your home makes up the largest portion of your monthly energy bills.

By combining regular equipment maintenance and upgrades with recommended insulation, air sealing and thermostat settings, you can save about 30% on your energy bills while helping our environment.

Source: energy.gov





Photo by Matt Love

Rebuild on Rattlesnake Road making progress.



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

facebook
follow us on Facebook

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

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
Western Rural Electric Association