

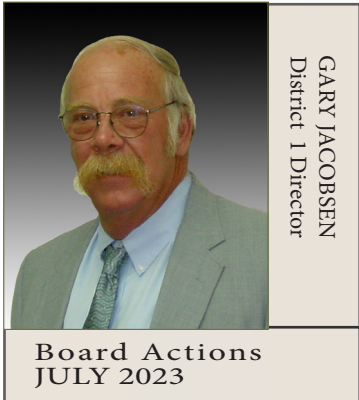


Member Owned ~ Service Proud  
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

# Carbon Light Lines

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307.326.5206 • 800.359.0249  
info@carbonpower.com  
www.carbonpower.com

October 2023



GARY JACOBSEN  
District 1 Director

## Board Actions JULY 2023

Approved the Department Production and Financial Reports.

Approved Work Order Inventory #562 for \$325,735.80

Approved the authorization to sign the WY-21 Y8 Note Extension.



All Ghouls and Goblins are welcome at Carbon Power & Light's office for some tricks and treats during the Halloween Walk in Saratoga on October 31 🎃  
3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

☠️ Stop by if you dare!

## There are Seven Cooperative Principles that give all co-ops guidance.

By Adam Schwartz, NRECA

October is National Co-op Month. The time of year when the 29,000 plus co-ops in the U.S. take a few moments to ensure their employees, members and the general public truly understand the value of the cooperative business they own. While I applaud any effort that brings more attention to co-ops, my feelings are best represented by a T-Shirt slogan, "October is Co-op Month - But I Cooperate All Year Long!"

Cooperatives around the world operate according to the same core principles and values, adopted by the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA). Cooperatives trace the roots of these principles to the first modern cooperative founded in Rochdale, England in 1844.

One of the ways co-ops demonstrate that they are different from investor-owned businesses is by actually living the principles. Principle 6: *Cooperation Among Cooperatives*, is our focus this month, and there are many examples that demonstrate how co-ops do this every day. In theory this sounds so simple, answering the question, "Can't we all just get along?" As it turns out, it's easier to get along when we focus on what our personal or organizational self-interest

is - and find others who have a similar self-interest.

This is how Carbon got started. Ordinary folks realized they would be better off working together if they wanted to bring electricity to their community. Once the co-op was established, we soon realized that if we work with our sister co-ops, we can gain control of our power supply, so we formed over 60 generation and transmission cooperatives such as Tri-State G&T, your local generation and transmission cooperative.

This pattern kept repeating, and soon electric co-ops cooperated to form new co-ops that offer a variety of services, such as financing, insurance, IT services

and more to ensure that they had ownership and control over these core products. This was done to help serve you, our member-owners, by making sure there would be no interruption in these vital services that help us bring electricity to you.

### **All cooperative businesses have at their foundation these seven cooperative principles to follow:**

- 1. Voluntary and Open Membership**
- 2. Democratic Member Control**
- 3. Members' Economic Participation**
- 4. Autonomy and Independence**
- 5. Education, Training and Information**
- 6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives**
- 7. Concern for Community**

This cooperation among cooperatives continues today, not only with co-ops directly related to the provision of electricity but in other sectors as well. Electric co-ops partner with credit unions, food co-ops, housing co-ops and others to help bring critical services to rural residents and businesses throughout the country. So while we take special note of the value of our cooperative in October, we are delighted to be a part of our community delivering vital services to you all year long.



## Member-Owned Service - Proud



### RUSSELL WALDNER, GENERAL MANAGER



In Wyoming there is a lot of discussion around Rocky Mountain Power's 30% rate increase.

We are not anticipating any huge rate increases. As previously noted in my August article Carbon will have a 6% wholesale rate increase from Tri-State at the beginning of 2024. We are still evaluating the impact to our rates.

In most cases electric rates are determined by cost of service and the revenue requirement of any utility. At Carbon we use this method to determine electric rates for all our Members, based on the class they fall into. All of our single phase homes are one class and we have three phase service, commercial service, large power, extra-large power and a few others. The cost of service determines what it is costing Carbon to serve each rate class and then allocates those cost to that rate class. At the same time we need to know what

revenue we can expect from that rate class to balance out our margins. With Carbon being a Member owned cooperative all excess margins (any money collected through rates not needed to satisfy expenses) is allocated to the Members and returned to them through our capital credit process.

**On the back page of Carbon's insert is a rate comparison provided by the Wyoming Public Service Commission and available on their website:**



Member Statistics Report	July 2022	July 2023
<b>Financial</b>		
Total Utility Plant	\$50,068,297	\$57,569,886
Cost of Purchase Power	\$603,167	\$627,181
Expenses Less Power Cost	\$500,148	\$529,485
Tax & Interest Paid	\$58,488	\$57,921
Interest Received on Investments	\$2,215	\$15,467
<b>Energized Line &amp; Consumers</b>		
Miles of Energized Line	1,994	2,013
Consumers Per Mile	3.3	3.3
<b>Meters</b>		
Total Meters	6,511	6,682
Residential/Rural	5,345	5,504
Irrigation	52	54
Large Power/Commercial	1,064	1,074
Other	50	50
<b>kWh Usage</b>		
Total kWh	8,239,223	8,549,961
Residential/Rural	2,748,991	2,815,299
Irrigation	544,393	484,050
Large Power/Commercial	4,789,171	5,085,367
Other	156,668	165,245
<b>Averages</b>		
Avg. Residential kWh Used	514	512
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. \*Gerald Anderson\* 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](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

Roger Cox  
 Gary Jacobsen  
 Debbie Reichert

DISTRICT 2

Shae Johnson  
 Kenny Curry  
 Everett Summers

DISTRICT 3

Joe Devine  
 Clay Thompson  
 Jim Rogers

For online bill pay: [www.carbonpower.com](http://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

Did you know fall is the perfect time to schedule a tune-up for your heating system? Home heating accounts for a large portion of winter energy bills, and no matter what kind of system you have, you can save energy and money by regularly maintaining your equipment.

Combining proper equipment maintenance and upgrades with recommended insulation, air sealing and thermostat settings can save about 30% on your energy bills.

Source: Dept.  
of Energy



RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATIONS					
Utility Name	Effective Date	Major Service Location	Cust. Chg. Or Min. Bill \$/month	Total Bill \$/month	Average Cost per kWh
Beartooth Electric	7/1/2021	Park	30.00	101.72	0.135628
Big Horn Electric	1/24/2017	Sheridan	30.00	95.42	0.127220
Big Horn Rural Electric	1/17/2017	Bighorn, Park, Washakie	44.00	116.58	0.155437
Bridger Valley Electric Association, Inc.	4/1/2022	Uinta, Sweetwater, Lincoln	52.00	89.50	0.119333
Carbon Power & Light	1/1/2017	Albany, Carbon	30.00	120.02	0.160026
Fall River	1/1/2022	Teton	39.00	89.00	0.118667
Garland Light & Power	4/1/2023	Bighorn, Park	48.00	136.13	0.181500
High Plains Power	7/6/2017	Carbon, Fremont, Hot Springs, Natrona	30.00	111.34	0.148450
High West Energy	6/10/2021	Albany, Laramie	44.00	115.63	0.154167
Lower Valley Energy	4/19/2018	Afton	16.00	58.03	0.077373
Niobrara Electrical Association	5/1/2023	Converse, Goshen, Platte, Niobrara	46.00	126.30	0.168393
Powder River Energy	1/1/2023	Campbell, Crook, Weston	27.00	98.91	0.131881
Southeast Electric	5/1/2017		20.00	103.40	0.137867
Wheatland Rural Electric	10/1/2022	Albany, Goshen, Laramie, Platte	57.25	132.63	0.176833
Willwood Light & Power	3/20/2014	Powell Area	25.00	115.00	0.153333
Wyrulec Company	4/1/2023	Goshen, Platte, Laramie	35.00	125.23	0.166967
Yampa Valley	6/1/2022	Carbon	39.25	115.69	0.154253
<b>Average*</b>			<b>36.03</b>	<b>108.85</b>	<b>0.145137</b>

\* Does not reflect credits to member customers of REA.

INVESTOR OWNED UTILITIES					
Utility Name	Effective Date	Major Service Location	Cust. Chg. Or Min. Bill \$/month	Total Bill \$/month	Average Cost per kWh
Black Hills Power & Light Co.	9/1/2022	Newcastle	15.50	97.30	0.129737
Cheyenne Light Fuel & Power	3/1/2023	Cheyenne, Laramie County	16.50	128.12	0.170830
Rocky Mountain Power	7/1/2023	Various Town & Counties in Wyoming	20.00	81.83	0.109105
Montana Dakota Utility Co.	5/1/2023	Sheridan and Sheridan County	23.07	96.13	0.128170
<b>Average</b>			<b>18.77</b>	<b>100.85</b>	<b>0.134461</b>

MUNICIPAL OWNED UTILITIES					
Utility Name	Effective Date	Major Service Location	Cust. Chg. Or Min. Bill \$/month	Total Bill \$/month	Average Cost per kWh
Town of Basin (Summer)	7/1/2017	City	27.00	129.53	0.172700
Town of Basin (Winter)	7/1/2017	City	27.00	112.27	0.149700
City of Cody	10/1/2020	City	24.00	93.38	0.124500
Town of Deaver	7/1/2015	City	12.50	95.00	0.126667
Town of Fort Laramie	12/1/2017	City	15.00	120.00	0.160000
City of Gillette	5/1/2020	City	21.75	87.75	0.117000
Town of Guernsey	11/1/2021	City	17.00	99.50	0.132667
Town of Lingle	7/1/2019	City	15.50	113.00	0.150667
Town of Lusk	7/1/2020	City	12.00	92.25	0.123000
Town of Pine Bluffs	5/1/2017	City	4.50	80.53	0.107373
City of Powell	3/10/2020	City	27.00	112.88	0.150500
Town of Torrington (Summer)(City)	4/1/2023	City	8.00	80.46	0.107274
Town of Torrington (Summer)(Out of Town)	4/1/2023	Out of Town	8.00	80.46	0.107274
Town of Torrington (Winter)(City)	4/1/2023	City	8.00	66.81	0.089074
Town of Torrington (Winter)(Out of Town)	4/1/2023	Out of Town	8.00	66.81	0.089074
Town of Wheatland	7/1/2020	City	11.50	91.46	0.121943



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

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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