



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

March 2015



DICK CLIFTON  
District 3 Director

### Board Actions January 2015

Approved Department  
Production and Financial  
Reports.

Approved Policy 4-1  
*Employment* as presented by  
Management and Staff.

Adopted and approved Policy  
4-22 *Health Savings Account*  
(H.S.A) as presented by  
Management and Staff.

### Dates to Remember

**February 27th** - Board elects  
Nominating Committee.

**March 11th** - Publication of district  
Nominating Committee meetings in  
area newspapers.

**April 10th** - Deadline to submit your  
name as a candidate/incumbent to  
our Board of Directors.

**April 28th** - List of Director  
candidates/incumbents who were  
nominated are posted at the Saratoga  
office.

**May 12th - June 11th** - Publication  
notices for the 74th Annual Meeting  
of the Membership.

NOMINATION DEADLINE - FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2015

## Nominations are being accepted for Carbon Power & Light's Board of Directors

As a Member-Owner of Carbon  
Power & Light, you're eligible to  
run for our Board of Directors. Our  
Board makes important decisions  
that impact our communities.



As an electric cooperative, Carbon  
Power & Light is guided by an elected  
Board of Directors who represent  
it's members' best interest when  
making important decisions. Being a  
Member of the Board is an incredibly  
important position in our community.  
A director's decisions will impact  
issues, such as service rates, rights-of-  
ways and work plans. This position  
holds great responsibility and requires  
men and women who understand  
their community's needs to serve in  
the best interest of the cooperative's  
membership.

As a Member-Owner of Carbon Power  
& Light, you are eligible to run for our  
Board of Directors.

If you would like to submit your name  
as a candidate to the Nominating  
Committee or inquire about more  
information, please contact Marcy  
Knotwell by email at [mknotwell@carbonpower.com](mailto:mknotwell@carbonpower.com)  
or call 1.800.359.0249  
or 307.326.5206 before April 10, 2015.

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

### INCUMBENT DIRECTORS UP FOR RE-ELECTION THIS YEAR ARE:

District 1  
Gary Jacobsen

District 2  
Kenny Curry

District 3  
Jim Rogers



**2015 Legislature:** This is the time of year that we, along with our statewide organization [WREA], keep close tabs on the many bills before our State Legislature. Most bills that are introduced have no impact on our operation as a Rural Electric Cooperative. However...from time to time there are bills introduced that directly or indirectly have either a positive or negative impact on the Cooperative. My Staff and I, along with your Board of Directors have a responsibility to you; our Member-Owners to monitor those bills and either support or oppose them.

**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 are 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 in 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.

**Annual Meeting:** I know that it's just the beginning of 2015, but plans are already underway for your Annual Meeting in June. As we do each year, the "Nominating Committees" will be meeting in April, 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 enjoyed the warm February days that Mother Nature has granted us. Unfortunately...lest we forget...it is still winter and there is plenty of time for more cold and snow. As always...call if you have questions. Thanks for being there for us.

Chuck

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



# are you Qualified to serve?

## INTERESTED IN RUNNING FOR OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND YOUR NOT SURE IF YOU QUALIFY?

To be qualified to serve on the Board of Directors, any cooperative Member (in good standing) 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 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 same 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.

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YOUR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE IS A MEMBER-OWNED, MEMBER-CONTROLLED, NONPROFIT ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COOPERATIVE.

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- 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 submit your name as a candidate to the Nominating Committee or inquire about more information, please contact Marcy Knotwell by email at [mknotwell@carbonpower.com](mailto:mknotwell@carbonpower.com) or call 1.800.359.0249 or 326.5206 by April 10, 2015. ■

Member Statistics Report	Dec. 2013	Dec. 2014
<b>Financial</b>		
Total Utility Plant	\$37,471,216	\$38,943,630
Cost of Purchase Power	\$854,776	\$832,632
Expenses Less Power Cost	\$326,572	\$339,034
Tax & Interest Paid	\$23,107	\$46,100
Interest Received on Investments	\$1,621	\$1,860
<b>Energized Line &amp; Consumers</b>		
Miles of Energized Line	1,925	1,931
Consumers Per Mile	3.3	3.2
<b>Meters</b>		
Total Meters	6,257	6,104
Residential/Rural	3,455	3,303
Residential/Seasonal	1,575	1,556
Large Power/Commercial	1,124	1,140
Other	103	105
<b>kWh Usage</b>		
Total kWh	11,367,058	10,746,842
Residential/Rural	4,353,324	3,939,905
Residential/Seasonal	465,003	425,871
Large Power/Commercial	6,201,597	6,051,851
Other	347,134	329,215
<b>Averages</b>		
Avg. Residential kWh Used	1,260	1,193
Avg. Residential/Rural Bill	\$153	\$162
Avg. Seasonal kWh Used	295	274
Avg. Seasonal Bill	\$62	\$64

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 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 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 Rabadue	Clay Thompson
Dan Hodgkiss	Kenny Curry	Jim Rogers

For online bill pay or ACH: [www.carbonpower.com](http://www.carbonpower.com)  
 For more \*Robert A.Follum\* 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**



Did you know that 90 percent of the energy used to operate a washing machine comes from using hot water? A simple switch from hot to cold can save a great deal of energy! Also, consider air drying or even line drying to save even more household energy.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

**DAVIDSON** named  
**ROCK RIVER MAINTENANCE FOREMAN**



**Perry Davidson** replaced retiree, Larry Bouse as the Rock River Maintenance Foreman on January 2, 2015.

Perry began his career with Carbon in 1997 and earned his certificate as a journeyman lineman in 2000 from the Merchant Job Training and Safety Program, a four-year

power line training.

Perry will continue his duties as a journeyman lineman in addition to the added responsibilities of

the maintenance foreman in Rock River for Carbon Power & Light.

Perry resides in Rock River with his family.



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**Fast . Easy . Secure.**

Pay your electric bill in less time using Carbon Power & Light's online E-Bill.

You can easily pay your electric bill anytime, without worrying about mail delays or potential late fees.

Log onto [www.carbonpower.com](http://www.carbonpower.com) and click E-Bill to get started.

**Win \$10**

If you find your name in \*asterisks\* in this newsletter, contact Carbon Power & Light to receive a \$10 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**  
 Wyoming Rural Electric Association