



CLAY THOMPSON
District 3 Director

**Board Actions
SEPTEMBER 2016**

Approved the Department Production and Financial Reports.

Approved Work Order Inv #526 for \$6,805.48 .

Approved Board Resolution 16-04 Construction Work Plan and Environmental Report.

Approved the construction cost of a 3-phase conversion for \$320,910.60

Approved Policy 4-4 Work Related Injuries.

Approved to select Director Johnson, Director Forster and Director Rogers as the Union Negotiation Committee.



Look Up For Power Lines and Stay Safe!! Safe Electricity Urges Caution and Awareness. Things we see every day can almost fade from view. But failure to notice high voltage power lines can be a deadly oversight. Safe Electricity wants to raise awareness about the dangers of overhead power lines and the precautions to take around them.

Often when we undertake outdoor activities, we don't even think about power lines. Taking a few moments to become aware of your surroundings is a critical step to keeping yourself and your loved ones safe.

Safe Electricity encourages everyone to follow these guidelines as they prepare to work outdoors this year: Look up and around you. Always be aware of the location of power lines, particularly when using long metal tools like ladders, pool skimmers and pruning poles. Lower your long equipment when you are moving it. Carry ladders and other long items horizontally whenever possible.

Be careful when working on or around your roof, installing rooftop antennas and satellite dishes, doing roof repair work or cleaning gutters. Never go up on the roof in bad weather.

Be especially careful when working near power lines attached to your house.

Never trim trees near power lines – leave that to the professionals. Never use water or blower extensions to clean gutters near electric lines. Contact a professional maintenance contractor.

Never climb trees near power lines. Even if the power lines aren't touching the tree, they could touch when more weight is added to the branch.

If your projects include digging, like building a deck or planting a tree, call your local underground utility locator before you begin. Never assume the location or

depth of underground utility lines. This service is free, prevents the inconvenience of having utilities interrupted, and can help you avoid serious injury.

Another instance where people often come in contact with power lines is through vehicle crashes. In accidents that bring down power lines, our instincts tell us to flee danger. However, it's almost always best to stay in your vehicle and wait for help.

If you must get out because of fire or another danger, jump clear of the vehicle without touching it and the ground at the same time. Then hop with feet together —don't run or stride. Electricity spreads out through the ground in ripples, like a stone dropped in water. The voltage is highest in the ring closest to the vehicle and decreases with distance. Hop with feet together so that one foot won't be in a higher voltage zone than another, which could make you a conductor for electricity.

If you come upon, or witness an accident involving toppled power poles and lines, don't leave your vehicle to approach the accident scene. Often our inclination is to step in and help those in danger and offer assistance to the injured. However, in accidents involving power poles, the best thing you can do is call for help. Wait for trained assistance to arrive, or you could become an additional victim in need of rescue.





Member-Owned Service Proud



RUSSELL WALDNER, GENERAL MANAGER

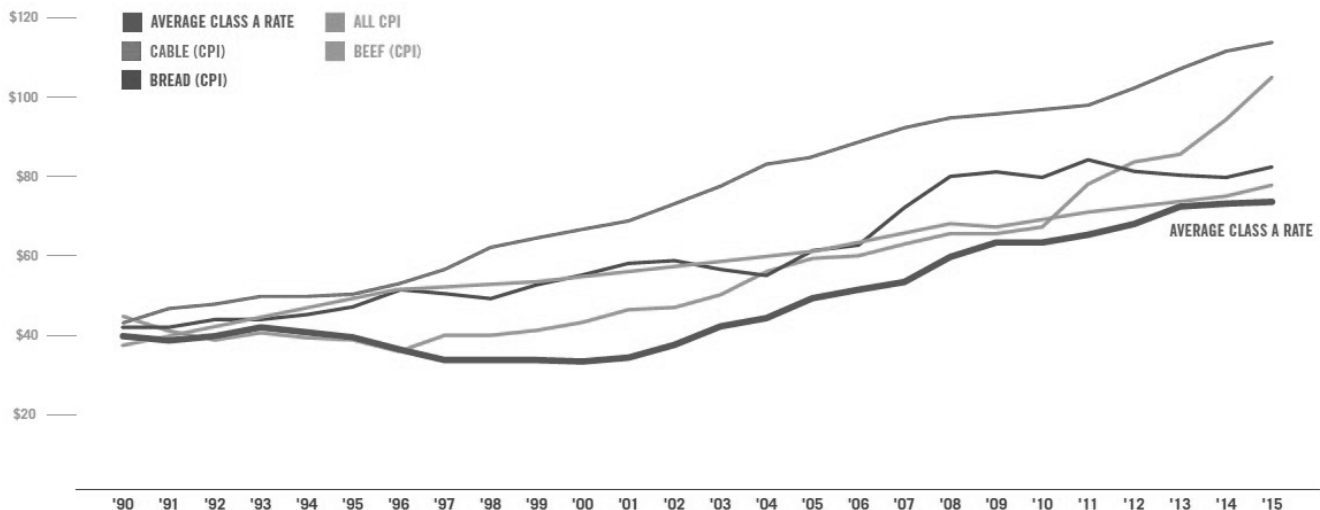


RUSSELL WALDNER

Last month I shared the information about the need for rate increases and some of the ways we were minimizing those increases. This month I have some positive news about those increases. Tri-State Generation and Transmission, Inc. (Tri-State) our wholesale power supplier and a member owned Cooperative voted on a smaller than projected increase. The Tri State Board voted on a 4.23 percent increase for 2017 as opposed to a 6.78 percent increase.

Carbon has just wrapped up the data collection process for our cost of service study and will be applying the increases to the appropriate rates and share that information with you as soon as it is approved.

Again I feel this is worth repeating, Carbon will continue our efforts to maintain the austerity we have through the first 7 months of 2016 to offset any needed increase in Member-Owner electric rates. As always if you have any questions or suggestions please contact us.



I have included information provided by Tri-State on their cost containment activities.

- Despite rate pressures, Tri-State kept rates stable for 2016 and mitigated the 2017 rate increase by achieving a multitude of short-and long-term cost-saving and revenue enhancement efforts. Previous forecasts predicted a need for a much larger 2017 rate increase of 11.52 percent.

- The rate increase is driven by increased expenses and lower revenues, including an unplanned mid-year rate increase of approximately 12 percent from Basin Electric Power Cooperative and reduced non-member sales revenue.

- Since 1990, Tri-State's average annual rate increase is 3.1 percent, which remains competitive compared to U.S. electricity prices and the consumer price index.

- To address rate pressures, Tri-State continues to focus on controlling costs and increasing revenue, including attracting non-member sales.

A third-party analysis shows Tri-State's rate increases over the past five years have been limited to 12.8 percent compared to a wholesale power provider industry average of 17.9 percent.

WHAT WE DID TO MINIMIZE THE RATE INCREASE

With extensive cost mitigation and revenue creation efforts in Tri-State's 2016 budget and 2017 proposed budgets, the association has significantly reduced the rate pressures that were forecasted in the 2015 Long-Term Financial Forecast.

Tri-State staff has implemented many company-wide short-and long-term efforts to reduce costs.

TRANSMISSION Tri-State has optimized transmission systems, revised tariffs to eliminate discounts and joined the Southwest Power Pool as a member for its east-side transmission facilities.

GENERATION & MARKETS Tri-State continues to improve its economic dispatch system, initiate renewable projects in a financially sound manner and implement measures to reduce reserve obligations.

OPERATIONS Tri-State remains on course to standardize electrical equipment and fleet operations, complete energy efficiency measures at headquarters and reduce the use of outside contractors on construction projects.

CORPORATE Tri-State reduced the interest expense on debt, reduced the use of external consultants and counsel, streamlined operations by combining similar jobs into a single department, challenged regulatory and legal proposals with significant cost implications, re-evaluated and reduced membership and marketing efforts that did not provide continued value and revised employee benefits plans.

DEFERRED REVENUE Many of Tri-State's members asked the board of directors to consider recognizing deferred revenue in addition to the \$10 million in the proposed budget. In response to the members' concerns, staff recommended and the board unanimously approved a budget that recognized \$40 million of deferred revenue in 2017, which reduced the rate increase to 4.23 percent.

Member Statistics Report	August 2015	August 2016
Financial		
Total Utility Plant	\$40,0053.22	\$41,440,506
Cost of Purchase Power	\$604,157	\$577,112
Expenses Less Power Cost	\$476,405	\$494,318
Tax & Interest Paid	\$58,446	\$53,071
Interest Received on Investments	\$1864	\$3,580
Energized Line & Consumers		
Miles of Energized Line	1,942	1,963
Consumers Per Mile	3.2	3.2
Meters		
Total Meters	6,159	6,199
Residential/Rural	3,305	3,389
Residential/Seasonal	1,625	1,583
Large Power/Commercial	1,125	1,121
Other	104	106
kWh Usage		
Total kWh	7,076,276	7,143,215
Residential/Rural	1,935,375	1,982,624
Residential/Seasonal	319,188	309,325
Large Power/Commercial	4,047,643	4,191,420
Other	774,070	659,846
Averages		
Avg. Residential kWh Used	552	585
Avg. Residential/Rural Bill	\$89	\$94
Avg. Seasonal kWh Used	196	195
Avg. Seasonal Bill	\$55	\$55



Carbon Power & Light wishes you and your family a wonderful and safe Thanksgiving holiday. There is so much to be thankful for and we thank you for everything that you do.

Our office will be closed November 24-25, 2016 for the holiday.

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

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

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Save energy and money by lowering your water heater thermostat to 120 degrees Fahrenheit. This will also slow mineral buildup and corrosion in your water heater and pipes.

Source: energy.gov

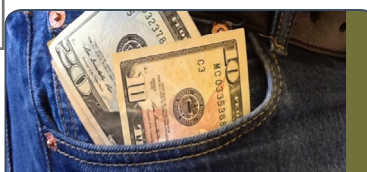


ATTENTION ETS USERS

Day Light Saving Time Ends November 6, 2016!
 Kenneth Crum

To maximize your energy efficiency and lower your costs, double check your timers on your ETS units to make sure you are heating your home/office on the off-peak time.

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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

