



Ryan Schilreff
General Manager



GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

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May through September
Office hrs: 6:30–5:00, Mon.-Fri.



October through April
Office hrs: 7:30–4:00, Mon.-Fri.

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Drive an electric vehicle

I hope this article finds you well and enjoying a great summer! It is my goal to try to keep you informed about what's going on at the co-op, and there is never a dull moment around here. Please see the articles below and make sure to let us know if you are interested in the EV Experience in cooperation with Tri-State. We appreciate your support; it is much appreciated by all of us here at the cooperative.

EV experience

Tri-State is providing all of its member systems the opportunity to borrow an

electric vehicle through their EV Experience Program. Wyrulec is scheduled to have a Tesla Model 3 throughout the month of October. During this time, our members will have the opportunity to sign up for a time slot to test drive the Tesla during our business hours.

The purpose of this program is both to provide members an opportunity to experience driving an electric vehicle, as well as for us to develop an assessment about the infrastructure requirements we may see in the future.

— **Continued next page**



* Kevin Peterson *

Drive an electric vehicle

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We know that one of the barriers to electric vehicles in our area is lack of public charging stations. However, installation of home chargers is possible and may require an upgrade to the transformer that supplies power to your home.

We have added a lot of information about electric vehicles to our website — please visit wyrulec.com and click on the Electric Vehicle tab to see a cost calculator and answers to many common questions.

Mail-In Ballots

We have received around 400 voting ballots back via mail. We still have about 15 days before we reach the deadline for receipt of the ballots. I think we can say the mail-in ballot exercise was a success; we far exceeded the state of Wyoming's requirements to meet a quorum, and I want to thank all of you that took the time to send the ballots back to us and be engaged in your co-op.

It is our hope to have an annual meeting in person next year at the end of March, but only time will tell if that will be possible.

Construction Projects

ONEOK has told us to move forward with the Meriden transmission line and the new Meriden II substation to support the Elk Creek Pipeline. We will have contractors working on both the substation and transmission line over the next several months along Bear Creek Road west of LaGrange.

Ward Construction was the winning bidder on the transmission line and Addison Construction was the

winning bidder on the substation. We have worked with each of these companies in the past and they have a very good reputation.

I anticipate completing construction on each of these projects no later than the end of December.

The ONEOK Ft. Laramie projects are still on hold with no future build date.

We have just finished up inspecting 3,000 poles and the crews are working diligently to replace the critical poles and tighten loose hardware.

We completed the installation of a new transformer and regulators at the Ft. Laramie rural substation. The added capacity with the new transformer at Ft. Laramie will allow us to shift load from Guernsey to Ft. Laramie in case of an emergency outage or loss of the transformer in Guernsey.

We continue to add new services in each our rates classes, which is good for the co-op.

I want to give a big thanks to all our employees for their hard work and for keeping the cooperative moving in the right direction.

Rates & Cost of Service Study

Tri-State has taken a first look at their 2021 budget numbers and will finalize those numbers in September. At this time, they do not anticipate any wholesale rate increase for 2021! If this holds true, we should be able to continue to hold our retail rates stable for 2021 as well.

We did engage our rate consultant earlier in the year to look at our rate structures and make sure each rate

class is paying their fair share of the costs. This is something we try to do every five years, especially since we have seen substantial industrial load growth over the past five years.

Interestingly enough, while we have seen constant growth in our oil & gas load the last five years, we have seen a 60% decrease in that same load the past two months.

The nice thing about the cooperative's load characteristics is that we still have enough diversity between the industrial, irrigation, and residential rate classes to bring some stability to the company.

We anticipate the cost of service study to be complete in July, and the Board of Directors will review that information compiled by our consultants at our July board meeting.

Questions, Comments

If you have questions or comments or just want to talk about Wyrulec Company, please don't hesitate to contact me. To reach me at the office, call (307) 837-2225, toll free at (800) 628-5266, on my cell at (307) 575-2435, or via email at rschilreff@wyrulec.com.

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* Sheila Webb *

HOME ELECTRICAL SAFETY

Safety is Smart, Prevention is Power



Each year, electrical malfunctions account for **35,000 home fires** causing over **1,130 injuries**, **500 deaths**, and **\$1.4 billion in property damage**.

The average American home was **built in 1977**. Many existing homes **simply can't handle** the demands of today's electrical appliances and devices.

! Learn the warning signs of an overloaded electrical system:



Frequent tripping of circuit breakers or blowing of fuses



Dimming of lights when other devices are turned on



Buzzing sound from switches or outlets



Discolored outlets



Appliances that seem underpowered

⚡ How to avoid overloading circuits:



Label your circuit breakers to understand the different circuits in your home



Have your home inspected by a qualified electrician if it's older than 40 years or has had a major appliance installed



Have a qualified electrician install new circuits for high energy use devices



Reduce your electrical load by using energy-efficient appliances and lighting

ENERGY STAR Appliances: Do They Really Save You Money?

If you are in the market for a new appliance, you might wonder if buying an ENERGY STAR-certified version will make a difference in your energy bills.

The **short answer is yes**, when you compare its estimated energy costs to its less efficient counterpart.

In fact, there are really two costs to consider before buying an appliance: the cost itself and the projected monthly energy costs.

The energy-conscious appliances donning the square-shaped Energy Star logo use 10 to 15 percent less energy and water than standard models, according to Energy.gov. For example, Energy Star clothes washers

use about 40 percent less energy than conventional clothes washers while also reducing water bills.

And the **longer answer is yes**, if you consider the appliance's lifespan.

Energy Star appliances and other products used throughout your home can save you a collective \$750 over their lifespan,

according to Energy.gov. (Besides appliances, there are other Energy Star-certified products, such as lighting and electronics).

While selecting energy-saving designated appliances could have a slightly higher price tag, they don't always. Compare prices and don't assume they cost substantially more than less efficient models.

The biggest bang for your energy-savings buck might be your refrigerator, especially if it is 15 years old or older. By replacing your old fridge with a new Energy Star-certified model, you can save more than \$200 over a 12-year lifespan.

The typical U.S. family spends around \$2,200 a year on home utility bills. Switching to ENERGY STAR products can help lower these costs over time. You could also qualify for a rebate through Tri-State's Energy Efficiency Program. Contact Wyrulec or visit our website for details!

Tip: EnergyStar.gov offers a "Flip Your Fridge" calculator to estimate savings depending on the size and age of your largest kitchen appliance. Just visit EnergyStar.gov > find products > Refrigerators.



Source: Energystar.gov

About 90% of the energy used by washing machines goes to heating the water.

Save on energy costs by using cold or warm water.