

SEPTEMBER 2025



# **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

## **OUTAGES**

On the mornings of August 11th and 12th, Wyrulec experienced large outages which resulted in the loss of power to approximately 1,600 meters each day. Those outages occurred because our transmission provider, Western Area Power Administration's (WAPA), delivery point to Wyrulec south of Lingle had a component failure in their substation. At approximately 8:50 Monday morning, August 11th, we experienced the first outage. Working with the WAPA crews out of Gering we were able to help switch part of our load to a WAPA substation in Guernsey and the other part to a WAPA substation in Torrington, restoring power in about two hours. It's nice being



Ryan Schilreff General Manager

able to switch our load to other delivery points, but we are limited by the amount of additional capacity each of those delivery points can handle this time of year, and we were at the limit. WAPA then tested their substation, which resulted in a good test, but they did suspect a relay might have been the cause of the outage. Later that evening WAPA switched our lines back to the normal feed out of Lingle. The next morning at 8:35 (Tuesday the 12th) we lost power again. This time we were able to switch a portion of our load to WAPA Guernsey in about forty minutes. However, switching the remaining load to WAPA Torrington took much longer. During the switching process, WAPA's switch located between Torrington and Lingle would not close in due to a malfunction. WAPA had to dispatch another crew out of Gering to fix the switch, which took about another hour. We were finally able to switch and restore power to our members in just over three hours. This time it was apparent that the problem was a relay in the substation, which was either repaired or removed. WAPA switched a small portion of our load back to the Lingle substation later that day to see if they could maintain reliability overnight and into the next day. Later that next day all our load went back on the Lingle transformer. I want to thank our crews and the WAPA crews for working together to get power restored in a timely manner.

### **NOTIFICATIONS**

Many times, when we experience large outages, the phones become overwhelmed, and our members can't get in touch with our dispatch company. We use Facebook to try to keep you up-to-date and informed on large outages. We also have a place on our website that relays outage information to the membership, and our Facebook feed shows there as well. In addition, we're

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How to reach us 877-WYRULEC

**E-mail:** wyrulec@wyrulec.com **Website:** www.wyrulec.com

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

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

### **Board of Directors**

Dewey Hageman President

Mark Knaub Vice President

Ben Scott Secretary

Kenda Knudsen Treasurer

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**General Manager** Ryan Schilreff

**Senior Staff**Miles Duffy
Operations Manager

Tiphanie Fuss Office Manager

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# **CONTINUED... MANAGER'S REPORT**

exploring another option that would allow us to send mass text messages to our members. We think this would also be a good way to keep you informed on outage information in your area. We will be discussing this option with the board of directors at our next scheduled board meeting.

### Rates

A few months ago I wrote about anticipating wholesale rate increases over the next three to four years. Many of the Generation and Transmission providers in the state and across the nation are announcing double digit rate increases as they raise equity to build out new generation and transmission assets. Tri-State is no different, as they will build out billions of dollars' worth of transmission and generation assets over the next several years. Tri-State must maintain an equity position of 20% based on its financial covenants, so for every five hundred million dollars in assets they build, they must raise one

hundred million dollars from the membership to keep that required equity position. Tri-State's initial forecast is based on their 2026 budget numbers and projects an increase between 6% and 8.8% to the membership, starting January 2026. What this means to Wyrulec is an annual increase in our cost of purchased power between \$1.0M and \$1.5M. I think these numbers will change some prior to Tri-State finalizing its budget in September. Wyrulec will look at passing some or all of this increase through to the membership based on each rate class's share of the increase. Wyrulec will receive no additional operating margins from this increase; it will be a straight pass through. I would anticipate this type of increase over the next three years. I will keep you informed as we get additional information so you may plan accordingly.

Feel free to contact us at 877-WYRULEC if you have any questions about these topics or your cooperative in general.

# **AUGUST PHOTOS**



Wyrulec staff and their families enjoyed participating in the parade during the Goshen County Fair



Wyrulec provided electrical safety information for Goshen County Bus Drivers



A 10 mva transformer, weighing 66,000 lbs, is being lifted onto a truck to be taken for repairs

# SAFETY YIELD DURING HARVEST

Especially during the busy harvest season, help decrease the chances of an electrical-related incident:

- Always use a spotter when operating large machinery near lines.
- Use care when raising augers or the bed of grain trucks around power lines.
- Keep equipment at least 10 feet from lines at all times, in all directions.
- Inspect the height of the farm equipment to determine clearance.

- Always lower extensions to the lowest setting when moving loads.
- Never try to move or raise a power line for clearance; instead call us.

If your equipment does come in contact with a power line, do not leave the cab. Immediately call 9-1-1, warn others to stay away, and wait for the utility crew to cut the power.

For more information about electrical safety, including farming-related safety tips, visit:



# **ENERGY EFFICIENCY** TIP OF THE MONTH Take advantage of "shoulder months," which refer to the transitional periods between peak heating and cooling seasons. During the fall, these milder weeks typically occur between September and November. Shoulder months offer a great opportunity to reduce home energy consumption as the need for extensive heating or cooling is reduced. Look for simple ways to boost indoor comfort without running your heating and cooling system. Use ceiling fans and open windows on breezy days to ventilate your home. On cooler days, add a layer of clothing and avoid running the heat.





Our phones have become lifelines to the world — use these quick tips to keep them powered up during an outage:

- 1. Charge ahead: Fully charge your phone before predicted storms or outages.
- 2. Use your car: Keep a car charger handy, but only charge devices when the engine is running to avoid draining your car battery.
- 3. Emergency gear: Keep a charged portable power bank ready for emergencies. Look for emergency radios and portable speakers that double as charging jacks.
- 4. Laptop backup: Use your laptop's USB port to charge your phone (note: this will drain the laptop battery).
- 5. Conserve battery: Turn off Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, GPS, dim your screen and use airplane mode or power down to save energy.
- 6. Alternative chargers: Use solar-powered or hand-crank chargers for emergency calls.

Regularly check your emergency charging gear to ensure it's ready when you need it!

Learn more:



The following names have been drawn for a \$25 bill credit.

Contact
Wyrulec
Company at
877-WYRULEC
to claim your
credit!

RA Buzz Orton

Russ Trowbridge

> Chester Freouf

> > •

Lane Darnall

•

Darci Morgan

