



**Ryan Schilreff**  
General Manager



FEBRUARY 2021



GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

3978 US Hwy 26/85  
Torrington, Wyoming 82240

PO Box 359, Lingle, 82223

**How to reach us**

307-837-2225 • 800-628-5266

Fax: 307-837-2115

E-mail: [wyrulec@wyrulec.com](mailto:wyrulec@wyrulec.com)

Website: [www.wyrulec.com](http://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.

**Winter  
hours in  
effect**

**Board of Directors**

Kenda Knudsen  
*President*

Julie Kilty  
*Vice President*

Mark Knaub  
*Treasurer*

Dewey Hageman  
*Secretary*

Clay Peterson  
*Assistant Secretary*

**General Manager**  
Ryan Schilreff

**Senior Staff**  
Miles Duffy  
*Operations Manager*

Tiphanie Fuss  
*Office Manager*

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Your cooperative is a proud member of these fine organizations



# Starting the New Year

As I write this article it is January 14th, and this is the first article for the WREN magazine as we start off a new year. Starting a new year is always busy for any company, and here at the cooperative it seems like it's a sprint until the end of March, with all the regulatory reports that must be submitted to the various agencies. We hope your year is off to a good start and we look forward to serving you in 2021.

## 2020 Financials

We are currently closing out the financials for 2020 and we have scheduled our financial audit for later this month. Our margins for the year were down significantly in 2020 as compared to 2019. The main driver behind this was about a 60% decrease in our industrial pumping load, due to both Covid and the demand for oil and gas.

We have yet to see this load come back up, which will make 2021 very challenging to meet adequate margins. We did meet all our financial requirements and maintained compliance with all our mortgage requirements in 2020.

## Energized Transformer

One of the large projects we were working on this past year was the new compressor station for the ONEOK Elk Creek Pipeline. We completed the

major portion of the line build and energized the transformer at the end of December. This was a great project for the cooperative as we replaced several miles of old line.

## Planning for Annual Membership Meeting

One very important thing we start doing this time of year is schedule and plan for our annual membership meeting.

Last year we had to cancel the meeting and conduct business by mail. This year the Wyrulec Board of Directors would like to do everything we can to try to hold an in-person meeting.

To do this, the board of directors thought it best to move the normal March meeting date out until June 24th. It is our hope by that timeframe we can get back on track with in-person meetings. We will keep you updated on how we progress as that date draws closer.

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](mailto:rschilreff@wyrulec.com).

# 2021 Annual Meeting

The Board Seat for District #5 will be up for re-election at the annual meeting scheduled for June 24, 2021. Julie Kilty currently represents this district, and she plans to run for her Board Seat as an incumbent. If you are interested in running for this position, or would like any further information, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee listed below. Nominations must be received by April 23, 2021.

- District #1: Art Davis .....307-532-7726
- District #2: Douglas Frederick .....307-532-0302
- District #3: Kent Hunter .....307-532-3926
- District #4: Jack Revelle .....308-631-8026
- District #5: Curtis Grandstaff .....307-834-2459

Article IV, Section 3 of Wyrulec Company By-Laws states: It shall be the duty of the board to appoint, not less than ninety days before the date of the meeting of the members at which directors are to be elected, a committee on nominations consisting of one member from each direc-

torate district referred to in Article IV, Section 2 of these By-laws. No officer or member of the board shall be appointed a member of such committee.

1. The committee shall prepare and post at the principal office of the Cooperative at least sixty days before the meeting, a list of candidates for each directorship to be elected.
2. Any fifteen (15) or more members may make other nominations in writing over their signatures not less than (30) days prior to the meeting, and the secretary shall post the same at the same place where the list of candidates selected by the committee is posted.

## Website Update

We have launched an updated and redesigned website — go check out all the new features at [wyrulec.com](http://wyrulec.com)!



\* Dayspring Ranch LLC \*

## New Journeyman

We would like to congratulate Sawyer Rutt on his completion of the apprentice program. This program consists of four years of extensive curriculum and training. Sawyer has worked hard and as of January 1st he is a Journeyman Lineman on the Wyrulec Crew!

# Mother Nature's wrath can mean service disruptions

Although we work hard to maintain our equipment, monitor power delivery 24/7, and do all we can to keep the lights on, there are circumstances beyond our control that can interfere with power delivery. Winter weather is one example. Winter storms can impact the distribution of electricity due to ice, heavy winds, sleet, and other extreme conditions.

Regardless of the reason, know that when the lights go out – even during extreme weather – we are doing all we can to safely and efficiently restore power.

Along with causing outages, wintery conditions can cause hiccups with power delivery that include blinking lights or ebbs and flows in the amount of power that comes into

*Continued next page*

## New Payment App!

We have added a new way to conveniently pay your bill - download the Wyrulec App in the Google play store (for Android devices) or the App Store (for Apple devices or iPhones). You can also use the App to view your usage and payment history. Give us a call if you need assistance with your online login.

**Username \***

**Password \***

Required Field \*

Remember me?

Login Register

Version 19.1.0

## STAYING SAFE DURING AN OUTAGE

We work hard to provide the most reliable service possible. Rest assured, if the power is out, we are on it!

The length of time it takes to restore your power depends on several factors, including the:

- Extent of the storm's destruction
- Severity of utility equipment damage
- Number and extent of outages
- Accessibility to damaged equipment

### STAY SAFE UNTIL POWER IS RESTORED

- Stay far away and keep others away from downed power lines, which could be live and deadly.
- If you come across a downed line, immediately call 9-1-1 to report it.
- Never enter a flooded room; the water could be energized.
- If you are standing in water, do not turn on/off power or flip a switch.

### Prepare for a storm by gathering these items:

Bottles of water	Extra batteries
Non-perishable food	Pet supplies
Portable phone charger	Blankets
Prescriptions	Warm clothing
Battery-operated radio	First-aid kit
Flashlights	Hand sanitizer

THANK YOU for your patience during outages. When the lights go off, we are working safely and efficiently to restore power. The safety of our employees, as well as those we serve, is our TOP priority.

## Mother Nature's wrath can mean service disruptions

Cont. from previous page

your home. Although blinking lights can be a symptom of other problems such as loose wiring connections or overloaded circuits, they can also be caused by extreme weather conditions.

### Wintery conditions include:

**Ice/freezing rain:** Ice accumulation on power lines makes them heavy. One-half an inch of ice can add as much as 500 pounds to a power line. This added weight can impact power distribution and even bring down a power line. Ice that forms on power lines also increases its surface area, which means gusts of wind have more to catch. The weight of ice on tree limbs can cause them to fall on power lines as well.

**Wind:** Wind can cause tree branches to brush power lines, which can result in blinking or flickering lights. This is why it's so important for us to keep trees cleared around power lines and poles. In addition, heavy winds (or extreme wind plus ice) can cause lines to move and sway. If they gain enough momentum, they can gallop or jump. This, in turn, can cause disruptions in service since the extreme motion can cause lines to either break or make contact with each other, which they are not meant to do.

**Melting Ice:** Melting ice can be extremely heavy, putting extra strain on power lines and causing the lines to touch or rest on one another. Because of this, melting ice can cause outages even though the temperature is rising. Depending on conditions, melting ice can cause as many or more problems than the ice itself.

### Wind or ice + tree branches:

In any weather condition (or even in calm conditions), tree-related issues cause the most power outages in many service areas. Branches, limbs or even tree trunks can fall into power lines and cause problems. Add wind, freezing rain, or ice to the mix for an increased potential for problems.

**Icy Roads:** Vehicles sliding on ice or that collide with one another can strike a power pole or pad-mounted transformer, causing an outage or other problems.

**Blizzards:** Heavy snowfall, icy roads, or reduced visibility can make it a little more difficult for our crews

to get out and fix problems, although we do all we can to get out there to address service issues as soon as possible.

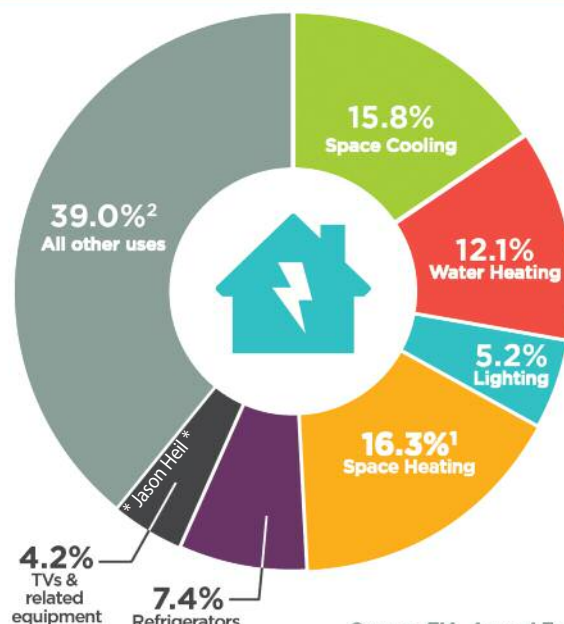
### Organize

Be sure to have a storm preparedness kit ready before a storm strikes to help get you and your family through a power outage. Items to gather include bottled water, non-perishable food, blankets, warm clothing, hand sanitizer, first aid kit/medicine, flashlight, radio, back-up phone chargers, extra batteries, and toiletries.

To learn more about preparing for storms and electrical safety, go to [SafeElectricity.org](http://SafeElectricity.org).

## How Americans Use Electricity

The latest data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration shows the combined use of clothes washers and dryers, computers, dishwashers, small appliances and other electrical equipment (noted as "all other uses" below) accounts for nearly 40% of electricity consumption in American homes.



Source: EIA, Annual Energy Outlook 2020

<sup>1</sup>Includes consumption for heat and operating furnace fans and boiler pumps.  
<sup>2</sup>Includes miscellaneous appliances, clothes washers and dryers, computers and related equipment, stoves, dishwashers, heating elements, and motors.