



Ryan Schilreff
General Manager



APRIL 2021



* Stan Derickson

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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Outages Less than Expected

As I write this article spring is right around the corner, but the view out my office window tells a different story. We are about four days past the large storm that hit Eastern Wyoming and Western Nebraska, and there are extremely large piles of snow in the pole yard. This storm brought us a lot of anxiety here at the cooperative. We were mainly concerned with the potential icing on our lines and the wind forecasts of thirty-five plus miles per hour. Ice and wind can take our system down for days and make it challenging to restore power. Fortunately, we faired very well through the weekend when the storm was at its worst. Our Nebraska members experienced most of the outages.

Nebraska Outages

The Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) lost the supply of electricity to our McGrew, Nebraska substation, which left 443 of our meters off for about an hour and a half. We also had a pole go down in the middle of the storm which was very challenging to change. This caused outages that lasted between seven and 13 hours for seven residential services.

In Wyoming, we had 50 meters off for about an hour and a half and the rest of the system stayed energized for the

duration of the storm.

At times, it is the inability to get to the problem rather than the time it takes to fix the problem.

Community Help

I want to give a big thanks to Todd May, Dalton Ward, Ryan Olsen, Perkins Agri Business and Rick Henderson for using their machinery and equipment to help us get to the outages to restore power for our Nebraska members.

We also want to thank the Nebraska Department of Transportation for clearing the roads in front of our crews through the Wildcats so we could restore power.

Finally, I want to thank the employees of the cooperative for their dedication and hard work in maintaining reliable power for our members.

New Services & Service Upgrades

As we move towards spring, please remember if you are installing a new service with a motor, we can most likely get you a rebate on your purchase.

1 We need the information on the motor you purchased and your receipt of purchase, and we will do the rest of the work for you. The

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* Andrew Peterson *

New Services & Service Upgrades

Continued from previous page — rebates return around \$9 - \$10 per horsepower.

2 If you are upgrading a service with a new motor that has a higher horsepower rating than the old one, please make sure you contact us before the motor is installed so we can make sure we have the appropriate infrastructure in place for the increased horsepower. Depending on the size, Wyrulec may require your motors to have capacitors or soft starts installed before we will energize the service.

3 Lastly, if you are installing a new service or performing work on your equipment that

requires us to disconnect your service, you will need a state-issued electric wiring permit before we can energize or reenergize the service. In most instances if you have a contractor doing your work, they will obtain the permit for you. If you are doing the work yourself, you will have to obtain the permit and we are happy to help you with that process.

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.

To our heroes
in hard hats,
thank you for
keeping the
lights on.



Thank a Lineworker on April 12

If you were asked to associate an image or a person with Wyrulec Company, you would probably picture a lineworker. One of the most visible employees of the co-op, lineworkers work tirelessly to ensure our community receives uninterrupted power 24/7.

"Lineworker" is listed as one of the top 10 most dangerous jobs in the U.S. This is understandable as they perform detailed tasks near high-voltage power lines.

Dangerous Job

Regardless of the time of day, having to brave stormy weather and other

challenging conditions, lineworkers must climb 40 feet in the air, often carrying heavy equipment, to get the job done.

Being a lineworker is not a glamorous or easy profession. It takes years of specialized training, ongoing education, dedication, and equally important, a sense of service and commitment. How else can you explain the willingness to leave the comfort of your home to tackle a challenging job in difficult conditions, when most are sheltering comfortably at home?

Commitment

This dedication and sense of service

to the community is truly what sets them apart. That's why we set aside the second Monday in April to celebrate and recognize the men and women who work around the clock to keep the lights on.

Team Behind the Scenes

While lineworkers may be the most visible employees at Wyrulec Company, it's important to note that there is a team of highly skilled professionals working behind the scenes. Our management team provides ongoing expertise and guidance to the co-op.

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WHAT DOES A LINEWORKER DO?

On any given day or night, in all kinds of weather conditions, lineworkers install and maintain overhead and underground electrical systems.

We entrust our lineworkers with your safety, so they hold a very important job. We also rely on their expertise to power our world.

SAFETY COMES FIRST

Lineworkers must commit to safety above all else for the benefit of those they serve (you!), fellow crew members and themselves. They spend thousands of hours in safety trainings each year and must learn and apply numerous safety regulations.

THEY ARE SPECIALLY TRAINED TO:

- Climb poles to service power lines in areas inaccessible by trucks.
- Stand in an elevated bucket to assess and repair overhead lines.
- Install poles, overhead lines and other equipment.
- Work on both energized and deenergized lines.
- Install and service underground lines.

Safe
Electricity.org®



Thank a Lineworker

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We also have an electrician, a system technician, a mapping technician, and a purchasing agent that help keep things running smoothly on the operations side.

Our office staff is always standing by to take your calls and answer your questions. These folks work together to ensure we can deliver the service and reliability you expect and deserve.

Without them, our lineworkers wouldn't be able to "bring the light" to our community.

Proud to Serve

Our dedicated and beloved lineworkers are proud to represent Wyrulec Company, and they deserve all the appreciation and accolades that come their way on Lineworker Appreciation Day.

On April 12, and any time you see a lineworker, please remember to thank them for their exceptional service. Also know that you have a dedicated team of professionals working behind the scenes at the co-op whose commitment to service runs just as deep.

If your name is in these pages, call Wyrulec, 307-837-2225. You'll get a \$25 bill credit to spend any way you like on electricity from Wyrulec Company. It can be for your phone charger, your computer, even the electric grill!

Check your Wyrulec account online!

It's fast.

www.wyrulec.com

* Ken Bauer *

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Replace standard power strips with advanced power strips to save energy. Advanced power strips look like ordinary power strips, but they have built-in features that are designed to reduce the amount of energy used by standby electronics that consume energy even when they're not in use (also known as phantom load).

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) estimates that the average home loses \$200 annually to energy wasted by phantom load.

Source: www.nrel.gov



* Richard Young *



HERE'S WHAT \$1 OF ELECTRICITY WILL BUY YOU:



250 HOURS OF BREWING COFFEE