




Co-op News from Wyrulec Company

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives 
The power of human connections

November 2010

How to reach us

Wyrulec Company
500 Main St. • PO Box 359
Lingle, Wyoming 82223
307-837-2225
800-628-5266
Fax: 307-837-2115

E-mail: wyrulec@wyrulec.com

Website: www.wyrulec.com

Office hours: 7:30 am–4:30pm

Board of Directors

Dewey Hageman
President

Julie Kilty
Vice President

F.E. "Wally" Wolski
Secretary

Brent Mullock
Treasurer

Jack Preston
Assistant Secretary

General Manager

Rollie Miller

Senior Staff

Joe Kinnan
Operations Manager

Cindy Potter
Office Manager

From your manager



Miller

Strategic planning

Recently your board of directors and senior management held a strategic planning session in Torrington. *Robin Brown* Although some of the issues are discussed on an ongoing basis, this was an opportunity to focus on the core mission and strategic direction of the cooperative. Although power supply and overall reliability were key points, the potential oil recovery loads and the new headquarters building were the primary discussion topics.

Oil recovery loads

The oil recovery loads, if really at the levels as some have predicted, will have a dramatic and profound impact on your cooperative. Serving these new and in some cases short-lived loads without impacting the existing members will be challenging. The line extension policies, which are a primary concern when serving new load, are being evaluated to ensure equitable treatment of all members, new and old. For instance currently your cooperative provides a credit of \$3,100 plus the cost of the transformers (about \$3,500) for a new three-phase load in the service territory. Costs over and above those credits must be paid by the member. The problem lies in the fact that our existing plant and policies are not designed to handle numerous new three-phase loads such as the new oil wells sometimes located in remote parts of the service territory. Therefore, substation and feeder upgrades will also be necessary and those costs can be substantial. The bottom line is that the risk associated with this issue is being evaluated thoroughly by your board and management and policy changes may be necessary.

Much to consider when planning new facility

The proposed new headquarters building continues to be evaluated. It would combine the office/warehouse/truck garage into one facility. The existing office building was constructed in the early 1950's and is in need of significant upgrades and repairs. It has served the cooperative less effectively over the years as we have become more dependent on technology and the time has come to rebuild/replace. The board has been discussing options for the last few years and continues to discuss it during every meeting. We have signed a contract to purchase eight acres behind the pole yard along Highway 85/26. I will continue to provide updates as they develop.

National association holds meeting in Denver

Last month the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) held its regional meeting in Denver. This is our national organization that is utilized primarily

Continued on next page



From your manager

Continued from previous page
ly to coordinate the individual efforts of the some 900 electric cooperatives throughout the country. One of our own directors, Mr. Wally Wolski, is the board chairman of NRECA.

We are provided interesting insight of NRECA each month at

the board meetings from Wally. Touchstone Energy®, the brand that almost all cooperatives use to create a “strength in numbers” position, is part of NRECA. *Ken Thomas* Wally’s tenure as chairman of NRECA will expire next February. We are proud of Wally’s accomplishments at NRECA and

hope you will congratulate him if you get the opportunity.

Questions, comments?

If you need to reach me, feel free to call me in the office or on my mobile at (307) 575-2435. You can also reach me via email at rmiller@wyrulec.com.

Employee Spotlight

❖❖❖❖❖ Wendy Pontarolo



Q: How long have you lived in Wyoming?

A: 27 years. We moved from Alliance, Neb., when I was 3 and I’ve lived here ever since.

Q: What did you do before you came to work for Wyrulec?

A: I was a tech-in-training at Pami-da Pharmacy for 2½ years

Q: What is your job title at Wyrulec?

A: Member Services Representative

Q: What brought you to Wyrulec?

A: The friendliness of the Wyrulec staff has always attracted me to this company. I was very excited when I saw an opening come up this summer. I was thrilled when they offered me the job!

Q: Describe your family.

A: My husband Russell grew up around the Lingle/Ft. Laramie area. He currently works at the Wyoming Medium

Correctional Institution as an instructor. We have a dog named Harley and 3 cats: Scooter, Kiwi, and Munchkin.

Q: Do you have any hobbies? *Carole J Coxbill*

A: I like to spend quality time with my family and friends. I enjoy shopping, cooking, going to the local lakes in the summer, going for motorcycle rides, and spending time with my animals.

Q: What words of advice have you found useful?

A: Live each day to the fullest! Always try to be positive and kind, whether it’s to someone you know or a complete stranger.

Q: Why do you enjoy working for a co-op?

A: I have really enjoyed my first month here at Wyrulec. The staff has been so helpful... it takes a while to learn the ropes of a new job, so it’s nice to know that I have their support and patience. It’s nice helping the public with any questions or concerns they have about their electricity service. It’s also been great to see all the friendly faces come through the door and I hope to see many more as the months go by.

Sixty years of growth, improvements, service

Sixty years ago, in 1950, Wyrulec Company was a fledgling electric cooperative. It had been in existence for only 14 years, having been organized Oct. 9, 1936. The first Wyrulec power lines were energized Dec. 5, 1937. By 1950, 1,020 miles of line were energized and 1,749 meters were being served.

The figures to the right highlight some of the differences between the co-op in 1950 and today. As one might expect, the scale of the operation has increased dramatically, but perhaps the greatest gains are in efficiency. *Tom Strong* Simply put, more is delivered for less.

	2009	1950
kWh purchased	116,556,881	431,258
cost of purchased power	\$7,987,232	\$51,248
miles of line	1,952	1,020
metered services per employee	248	146
total assets	\$30,731,374	\$1,312,657
total patronage capital	\$15,020,052	\$19,268

Interesting historical finds

The federal Rural Electrification Administration took a leading role ensuring the early success of distribution co-ops, including Wyrulec Company, in part by clarifying the duties and limitations of each person involved with the co-op.

from Rural Electrification Administration
2000 Massachusetts Avenue, Washington

Date: July 7, 1937
AIR MAIL

to: Mr. F.R. Pearson, President
Wyrulec Company
P.O. Box 66
Lingle, Wyoming

My dear Mr. Pearson:

I am glad to let you know that Mr. L.R. Brewer has been approved as your Project Superintendent at \$100.00 a month. It is now in order to requisition funds for this purpose in your next advance.

It is understood, of course, that this approval is only to carry through the period of construction and a short period for connecting up the original customers; and is not authorized to continue more than two months after the contractor has left the project. The selection of a permanent manager for the project when it gets into operation is a separate question to be decided at the appropriate time, on the basis of a formal recommendation of the Board of Directors and due consideration by the Rural Electrification Administration.

The salary of the project superintendent is charged against the cost of construction, but it is clearly designed, not to increase that cost, but actually to reduce it as a result of the stimulation which the manager is expected to give, through prompt action by lawyers, engineers and even by directors, with respect to such matters as: Obtaining of easements and rights of way, signing up customers, promoting the early wiring of projects, and preparing for education on utilization.

It is expected that, with a superintendent on the job, the attorney for the project can concentrate on the

more clearly recognized legal aspects and problems, and the engineer find the ground prepared so that he can concentrate on engineering duties. We shall expect to keep the superintendent informed of all contacts between this office and either attorney, engineer or directors.

The superintendent, of course, is not expected to assume the functions of the attorney or engineer or the directors. The directors will be responsible for all matters of policy and legal accountability, but we hope that they will back up the superintendent, in permitting him to do all of the things on which the policies have been established and on which his course of action has already been outlined, by them. He should be free to carry on routine matters without referring back to the Board, in order that he may carry through the schedule without needless delay. It will be his special duty to keep the directors informed of his activities, in order that they may be assured that he is carrying on the program which they have approved.

Hoping that this action will enable you to proceed at full speed with your project, and assuring you of our desire to cooperate with your superintendent, I am

Yours very truly,
John M. Carmody
Administrator
Robert B Burlingame



No photocopying, no backspacing to quickly fix a typographic error, no forgetting carbon paper... nonetheless, even small things weren't left to chance. This compliment was saved for 70 years.

from United States Department of Agriculture
Rural Electrification Administration, Washington

Date: May 8, 1941

to: Wyrulec Company
Lingle, Wyoming

Gentlemen:

Your April "Wyrulec Cooperative News" is excellent.

Very truly yours,

Allyn A. Walters, Head
Newsletter Unit

from United States Department of Agriculture
Rural Electrification Administration, Washington

Date: July 24, 1941

to: Superintendent
Wyrulec Co.

re: County Representatives on U.S.D.A. Defense Boards

Dear Sir:

The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture has established the United States Department of Agriculture Defense Board. There will be both State and County Boards.

The Secretary has directed that one man be appointed in each county touched by an REA project to serve on the County U.S.D.A. Defense Board.

His duties will be to bring before his county board the various ways in which REA can promote the milk and egg campaign, and other specific activities of the U.S.D.A. State Defense Boards. He will also serve as liaison between his County Defense Board and REA cooperatives in the county to secure the effective coordination of the cooperatives in this defense program.

This letter illustrates a number of things about the U.S.D.A., secretarial duties, local control, and the way business, including government, worked early in the last century.

A tentative selection has been made of the parties listed below to serve on the County Defense Boards in those counties served by your cooperatives:

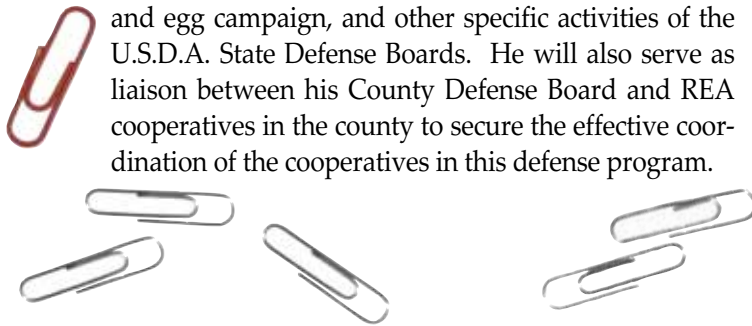
Goshen Mr. A.J. Haeffelin Torrington

Please review these names and make such changes and/or additions to this list as you deem advisable. If your project serves counties not included in this list, please add the name of the county and nominate a representative for each additional county.

In that I have been instructed to make my report to headquarters by July 31, it means that this matter must be given instant attention and the results returned to me if I am to be able to comply with my instructions.

Very truly yours,

Vincent J. Aquino
Elliott Hotel, Belleville, Kansas



❁ Don't stumble over the cornucopia ❁
We have CFLs in stock that are 100-watt replacements. They will fit into any light fixture rated over 23 watts (anywhere a 60- to 100-watt incandescent bulb is now). They operate at 23 watts but provide turkey-loving light equal to a 100-watt incandescent. They are \$1.00 each.

Dressed & ready
Each month, we hide the names of five members, one from each district, in this newsletter. If you see your name this month, please gobble and we'll give you a \$25 bill credit.