




Co-op News

from

Wyrulec Company

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives 
The power of human connections

February 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

January seemed to be a long month due to the extreme below zero temperatures we experienced for that period. It is good to know that we are on the upside of winter and soon it will be spring.

2009 summary

December of 2009 ended a year of reduced energy sales relative to previous years for your cooperative. This was driven by reductions in most rate classifications including large power, irrigation, and residential. We did, however, end the year with sales slightly above budget which allowed us to meet our USDA Rural Development financial obligation

parameters. Schmidt and Company, our outside auditor, will perform the audit for 2009 and the final audited results will be available at the annual meeting March 30th.

Energy efficiency seminar

We are pleased to announce that we will be providing an energy efficiency seminar for the general public to be held February 9th at 1:00 p.m. at the Rendezvous Center in Torrington. The session is estimated to last about three or four hours and refreshments will be provided. Below is the tentative agenda for this important educational presentation. Several vendors will be on hand to show their products. We hope you can attend and enjoy the camaraderie of your friends and neighbors and learn more about smart energy usage.

Proposed agenda — Wyrulec Energy Seminar, Feb. 9

HVAC

- Ground Source Heat Pump
- Air Source Heat Pump
- Electric Thermal Storage

AWH

- Marathon
- Heat Pump AWH

General energy issues

- Home Energy Performance Programs in Wyoming — Connie Wilbert, Wyoming Home Performance Program Manager, Wyoming Energy Council
- Audits — Home Performance Assessment
- Financing needed improvements
- Weatherization

Western Area Power Administration

- Tools used for energy audits (Use their "tool kit" to illustrate how a good home assessment is done)



Your cooperative is a proud member of
Nebraska Rural Electric Association

Continued on page 2

From your manager

Continued from page 1

Tri-State

Programs to assist and educate members to save energy, purchase new energy saving technology and to use energy wisely

Lighting displays

Equipment displays

Brochures

Member Energy Efficiency Credit Programs

Wyrulec

AMR capabilities

Programs

Rebates

Weatherization kit give-a-way

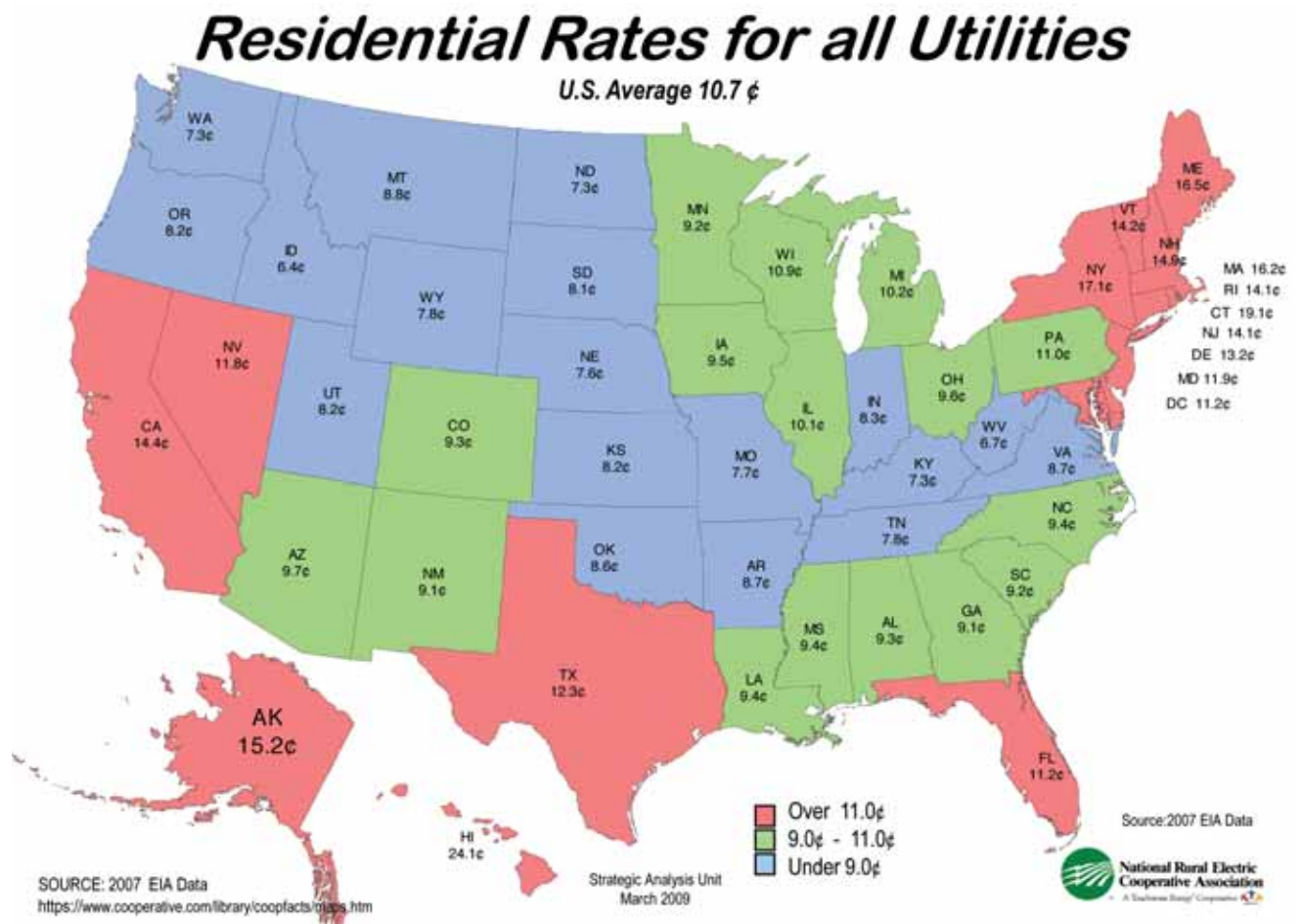
Brent L. Anderson

Annual meeting

As you may know, the Wyrulec Company Annual Meeting will be held March 30th at the Rendezvous Center beginning at 4:30. Supper will be served at 6:00 with the meeting commencing at 7:00.

The Nominating Committee, comprised of Robert Ward, Diana Guest, Jack Revelle, Doug Frederick and John Patrick, met on January 21st and summarized the board of director candidates up for election at this year's meeting. Voting will take place on the board seats for Districts 1 and 2. These districts are for the areas basically north and northwest of Torrington and Lingle.

We hope you will join us for a great meal and to formally conduct the official business as outlined in the by-laws of your cooperative. More to come on this in the next few days.



Tracking electricity usage

By SCOTT GATES

Eat potato chips straight out of the bag and they'll be gone in no time. Pour them into a bowl first and they disappear a little slower.

The same goes for electricity. Learning to track how much electricity your home consumes remains good way to start managing electric use.

Easier than ever before

Devices are appearing in stores that provide a constant, digital reading of how much electricity your home or even individual appliances are using. One type, like the Kill A Watt^(tm), fits between an electrical outlet and an appliance to give you an instant reading of how much electricity an appliance draws.

Another type connects to your electricity meter and wirelessly relays use information to a small screen inside. * Barry K. Arnold * Called an in-home display, the device looks similar to a wireless weather monitor and can help make consumers more aware of energy being used day to day.

Those who use tools, change habits

Research conducted by the Arlington, VA-based Cooperative Research Network (CRN), the research arm of Arlington, Va.-based National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, shows that most consumers who have an in-home display use less energy than those without one. And even after homeowners stop paying attention to the devices, most still use 1 to 3 percent less energy than before.

"The question of whether in-home displays catch on and become permanent fixtures in the American home is still open," explains Brian Sloboda, program manager with CRN. * Alfred E. Barkman * "However,

for anyone wanting to take a proactive approach to understanding electric consumption, the in-home display may be worth exploring. You could use the knowledge that an in-house display provides to change the way you use electricity in your home and save some money."

Keep track of what meter says

There's also the old-fashioned way of tracking electricity use: reading your meter. As your home draws current from power lines, your electricity meter keeps a steady record of every watt being used. Many meters today are digital, replacing the older—though still reliable—design that uses spinning disks and dials.

Digital meters are not challenging

Digital versions make tracking energy use a breeze: jot down the number you see, and check it again in a month. The difference between the two represents the amount of electricity that has been used for that month, or a typical billing period. Check it more frequently to get an idea of how you use electricity in a given week, or even day by day.

Reading mechanical meter easy, too

To read an older model meter (with spinning dials), write down the numbers as shown on the small dials from left to right. Some of the dials spin clockwise, some counter-clockwise, but record each number closest to the dial hand. Once you have the full reading it can be compared to later readings, as described above.

If you have any questions about reading your meter or learning more about how much electricity your home uses, please contact Wyrulec Company at 837-2225.

Sources:

Cooperative Research Network
U.S. Department of Energy



Lint keeps dryers from operating efficiently

Household chores like laundry seem fairly safe. But hidden problems like lint buildup in a dryer could lead to higher energy bills due to inefficiency and, ultimately, create a hazard in your home. * Robert J. Stauffer *

"Lint is the bane of our existence," declares Brian Wallace,

president of the Coin Laundry® Association in Oakbrook Terrace, Ill. "We have to clean lint, not only as a safety issue, but to keep our energy costs down."

At coin-operated laundries, dryers are key to customer satisfaction. Other amenities pale if clothes don't dry fast enough, so

laundry owners remain adamant about maintaining proper air flow through commercial dryers. * Barbara A. Becker * With 30 to 50 dryers at an average laundry, operators clear trashcans of lint everyday from their screens.

The same principle applies at home, although on a smaller scale.

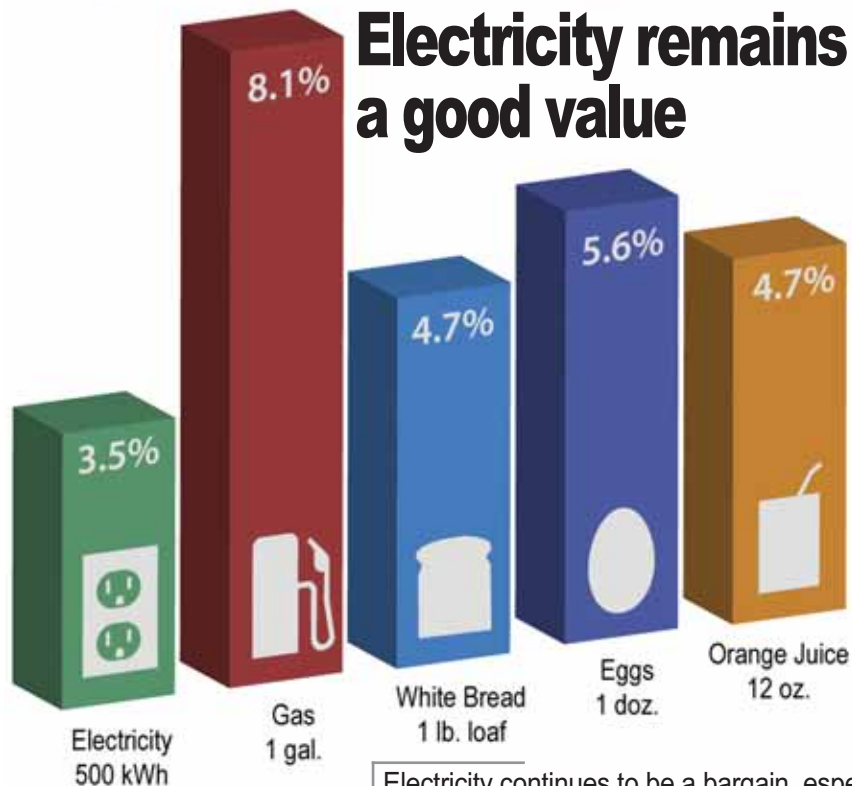
"Cleaning the lint filter after every cycle is a good habit," says Jill Notini, communications & marketing director for the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM).

AHAM also urges consumers to occasionally remove the filter and wash it with a nylon brush and hot, soapy water to remove residue. This not only improves air flow and energy efficiency, but also reduces the chance of a dryer fire.

Statistics on dryer fires show no difference between the natural gas and electric dryers. But without adequate air circulation, heat flow becomes stymied, clothes take longer to dry, and it costs more to operate the appliance.

Source:
Underwriters Laboratories

Average annual price increase over the past decade:



Sources:
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
NRECA

Electricity continues to be a bargain, especially when compared to other consumer goods. As demand for energy rises and fuel prices increase, Wyrulec is committed to providing safe electricity at the lowest possible cost.

Don't miss a word

Each month, we will be hiding the names of five members, one from each district, in this newsletter. If you see your name this month, please call and we'll give you a \$25 bill credit.

❁ No need to stand around in the dark ❁

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 light equal to a 100-watt incandescent. They are \$1.60 each. We have plenty.