



JUNE 2023



## 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.

### Board of Directors

Julie Kilty  
*President*

Dewey Hageman  
*Vice President*

Mark Knaub  
*Secretary*

Ben Scott  
*Treasurer*

Kenda Knudsen  
*Assistant Secretary*

**General Manager**  
Ryan Schilreff

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

Tiphannie Fuss  
*Office Manager*

I hope this article finds you well and off to a great start to the summer. As I write this, we are just coming off of four days of continuous rain. I'm not sure of the exact accumulation here, but reports out of the Gering, Nebraska area are around 7 inches total. What a life saver after the last three years of drought. This month I have several topics to bring you up to speed on, which are outlined below. Two of my favorite holidays are coming up, Memorial Day and the Fourth of July. I hope you get an opportunity to take some time out of your busy schedules and celebrate these holidays with your families. If you have any questions about your cooperative, we are here to help.



**Ryan Schilreff**  
*General Manager*

### Tri-State Annual Meeting

I had the opportunity to attend the Tri-State annual meeting in Denver, where there were several great presentations. One of the terms I kept hearing was "Resource Adequacy". What this really means is - do we have the resources to meet reliability now and in the future for our members? There were varying opinions on this topic, which is a little scary. One of Tri-State's goals is to enter an organized market in 2026. This means they will be a participant in a market with several other generation and transmission organizations. Each of the participants will bid their assets into this market, and the lowest cost generation assets will be dispatched first. The goal is to bring efficiency and lower costs to all participants in the market. Right now, Tri-State is looking to join the Southwest Power Pool on the Western Interconnect, as they already operate in this market



Julie Kilty was recognized at the Tri-State annual meeting for her 10 years of service on the Tri-State board of directors.

Your cooperative is a proud member of these fine organizations



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on the Eastern Interconnect. Before a participant can enter the market they must prove they have the resources available to serve their load at peak demand. However, there is also a downside to an organized market. If the market experiences a lack of "Resource Adequacy" at any time, all participants will share in curtailments; meaning rolling brownouts or outages. The representative for the Southwest Power Pool stated he is concerned about resource adequacy in the future, given our rapid transition to green energy and the ability to have dispatchable generation available to meet peak demands.

On another note, I want to congratulate Julie Kilty, Wyrulec's Tri-State representative, as she was re-elected as Secretary of the Board for Tri-State, serving on their Executive Committee. Julie represents Wyrulec and Wyoming cooperatives well and continues to ask the tough questions. She is very well respected by the Tri-State staff and her other 41 colleagues on that board.

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)

We are expecting a ruling from FERC in June regarding United Power's exit from Tri-State and the methodology that will dictate the dollar amount United must pay to break their wholesale contract 28 years early. This could have a significant impact on the cooperatives who receive power from Tri-State. If the approved methodology doesn't produce a high enough dollar amount, the remaining members could be stuck with additional debt for generating assets and assets that will become stranded over the next several years. Wyrulec has reached out to our United States Legislators and briefed them on the potential impact an adverse FERC ruling might have. We are very fortunate to have legislators that keep the lines of communications open and support our

cooperative business model. I will keep you updated on the outcome of the proceedings as I get information.

### Inflation Reduction Act.

The United States Department of Agriculture has released the details of two programs which allow electric cooperatives to apply for grants, loans, loan forgiveness, and tax credits to advance energy initiatives in rural America. The first program is called Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE), which allocates \$1 billion in funding for partially forgivable loans for renewable energy. The second program is Empowering Rural America (ERA), which allocates \$9.7 billion for rural electric cooperatives to deploy renewable energy systems. We are trying to educate ourselves on the process and requirements for funding opportunities. It is my hope that we can take advantage of this opportunity to benefit the membership.

### ONEOK Elk Creek Pipeline

We have been working with ONEOK on a new compressor station south of Fort Laramie. This load would be identical to their load that we energized a couple years ago out by Meriden. The full load requirement is 8.2 megawatts of electricity, which is a great addition for Wyrulec. Because of the location we must also work with Tri-State to build a new delivery point for long-term reliability. While we anticipate energizing the new load in late 2024 from our Fort Laramie delivery point, the process on the new delivery point will take about three years. ONEOK has been a great partner to work with and we look forward to completing the construction phase of this new substation and transmission line.

If you have any questions about your cooperative, feel free to reach out to me at 877-WYRULEC.







**The following names have been drawn for a \$25 bill credit. Contact Wyrulec Company at 877-WYRULEC to claim your credit!**

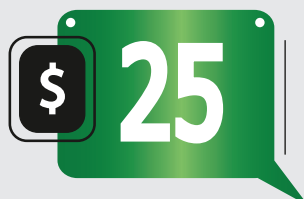
Justin Ryan

Kelli Hageman

Mervin Mecklenburg

Wesley Easter

Heather Birdsall



### Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Looking for additional ways to save energy this summer? Your laundry room is a great place to start. Wash clothes with cold water, which can cut one load's energy use by more than half. Your washing machine will use the same amount of energy no matter the size of the clothes load, so fill it up when you can. When drying clothes, separate the heavier cottons. Loads will dry faster and more evenly if you separate heavier cottons like linens and towels from your lightweight clothing.

Source: Dept. of Energy



If your machinery, vehicle, or other equipment makes contact with a power line, **DO NOT** get out of your cab. Your equipment and the ground could both be energized.

To avoid being electrocuted, call 911 and wait for your electric utility to de-energize the scene.

**ONLY** exit your cab if you have to due to smoke or fire. If you must get out, make a solid jump out without touching any part of the tractor or vehicle, and hop away as far as you can, keeping both feet together as you hop.



**DON'T GET OUT**

