

CO-OP-NEWS

DECEMBER 2023

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How to reach us 877-WYRULEC

E-mail: wyrulec@wyrulec.com Website: 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.

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

Tiphanie Fuss Office Manager

Your cooperative is a proud member of these fine organizations



Deadline for Scholarship Applications

Wyrulec Company takes great pride in serving our members and our communities. We firmly believe that investing in our youth is crucial for the future of our communities. We recognize the importance of supporting our youth and celebrating their achievements, and we strive to empower them as they seek a bright future where they will continue to positively impact their communities. By providing annual scholarships, we encourage young individuals to pursue their educational goals and hope to foster a sense of confidence and contribute to their success. Over the last 10 years, Wyrulec has awarded nearly \$100,000 in scholarships.

Along with our power suppliers, we offer a variety of scholarships to support the education of new or returning students. To be eligible for these scholarships the parent, legal guardian, or the applicant themselves must receive their electric service from Wyrulec Company at their primary place of residence. The applicant, parent, or legal guardian does not have to be a member of the cooperative, as long as they reside on the cooperative's service line. (Such as

under a landlord or rental agreement, or provided residence with employment.)

The applicant must be enrolled, or intending to enroll in an accredited two-year college, four-year university, or vocational or trade school.



Applications for all these

scholarships can be picked up at our office or printed online at www.wyrulec. com, under the Education tab. Most applications can also be completed online.

Basin Electric Power Cooperative Scholarship

One scholarship of \$1,000

Tri-State Generation & Transmission

Two scholarships of \$1,000 each

Wyrulec Company

• Total of (8) scholarships of \$1,000 each. Up to four of these scholarships will be awarded to students attending vocational or trade schools.

More information is available on our website. For questions, please feel free to contact our office.

The deadline for applications is February 1, 2024. Applications will be accepted at the Wyrulec office until close at 4:00 pm, and accepted online through the end of the day.

GUIDE TO THE ELECTRIC GRID

Electricity plays an essential role in everyday life. It powers our homes, offices, hospitals and schools. We depend on it to keep us warm in the winter (and cool in the summer), charge our phones and binge our favorite TV shows. If the power goes out, even briefly, our lives can be disrupted.

The system that delivers your electricity is often described as the most complex machine in the world, and it's known as the electric grid. What makes it so complex? We all use different amounts of electricity throughout the day, so the supply and demand for electricity is constantly changing. For example, we typically use more electricity in the mornings when we're starting our day, and in the evenings when we're cooking dinner and using appliances. Severe weather and other factors also impact how much electricity we need.

The challenge for electric providers is to plan for, produce and purchase enough electricity so it's available exactly when we need it. Too much or too little electricity in one place can cause problems. So, to make sure the whole system stays balanced, the electric grid must adjust in real time to changes and unforeseen events.

At its core, the electric grid is a network of power lines, transformers, substations and other infrastructure that span the entire country. But it's not just a singular system. It's divided into three major interconnected grids: the Eastern Interconnection, the Western Interconnection and the Electric Reliability Council of Texas. These grids operate independently but are linked to allow electricity to be transferred between regions when backup support is required.

Within the three regions, seven balancing authorities known as independent system operators (ISOs) or regional transmission organizations (RTOs) monitor the grid, signaling to power plants when more electricity is needed to maintain a balanced electrical flow. ISOs and RTOs are like traffic controllers for electricity.

The journey of electricity begins at power plants.

Power plants can be thought of as factories that make

electricity using various energy sources, like coal, natural gas, solar, wind and nuclear energy. Across the U.S., more than 11,000 power plants deliver electricity to the grid.

Wyrulec Company receives power from our generation and transmission (G&T) co-op, Tri-State. We work closely with Tri-State to provide electricity at the lowest cost possible. Being part of a G&T benefits members like you by placing ownership and control in the hands of your co-op, prioritizing affordability and reliability, supporting local economic development and fostering a sense of community.

To get the electricity from power plants to you, we need a transportation system.

High-voltage transmission lines act as the highways for electricity, transporting power over long distances. These lines are supported by massive towers and travel through vast landscapes, connecting power plants to electric substations.

Substations are like pit stops along the highway, where the voltage of electricity is adjusted. They play a crucial role in managing power flow and ensuring that electricity is safe for use in homes and businesses.

Once the electricity is reduced to the proper voltage, it travels through distribution power lines, like the ones you typically see on the side of the road. Distribution lines carry electricity from substations to homes, schools and businesses. Distribution transformers, which look like metal buckets on the tops of power poles or large green boxes on the ground, further reduce the voltage to levels suitable for household appliances and electronic devices.

After traveling through transformers, electricity reaches you--to power everyday life.

We're proud to be your local, trusted energy provider. From the time it's created to the time it's used, electricity travels great distances to be available at the flip of a switch. That's what makes the electric grid our nation's most complex machine—and one of our nation's greatest achievements.

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

Tylyn Craig Charlotte Montoya Paul Case Brady Cross

Mathew Makinen





CRITICAL CONNECTIONS: HOW ELECTRICITY GETS TO YOU

The electric grid is considered one of the most complex machines in the world, delivering the electricity we need for everyday life.

step 1 GENERATION

Power plants generate electricity using a variety of energy sources, like solar, natural gas, nuclear and wind energy.

step 2 STEP-UP

TRANSFORMER A step-up transformer increases the voltage to push the electricity over long distances.

step 3 TRANSMISSION LINES

High-voltage electricity travels over long distances through these lines.

step 5

DISTRIBUTION SUBSTATION These substations lower the voltage

again so the electricity is ready to travel on distribution lines.

step 6

DISTRIBUTION LINES Lower-voltage electricity travels through distribution

lines, like the ones you typically see on the side of the road.

step 4 TRANSMISSION SUBSTATION

Voltage is lowered at a transmission substation so electricity can travel across the local distribution system.

step 7 FINAL STOP

A transformer located on the ground or a utility pole reduces the voltage a final time, then electricity is sent inside your home, school or business.

The date for the Wyrulec Annual Meeting has been changed from March 28 to March 26, 2024. District #5 will be up for election. If you are interested in running for the Board of Directors, please contact our office for information about the bylaws and the nomination process.



Rotate ceiling fans counterclockwise to circulate warm air.



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The Wyrulec holiday closures are: Monday, December 25 Monday, January 1

*Account payments will be honored through December 26th before late charges are assessed.