



Ryan Schilreff
General Manager



CO-OP NEWS

DECEMBER 2016



GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

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Torrington, Wyoming 82240

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How to reach us

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Fax: 307-837-2115

E-mail: wyrulec@wyrulec.com

Website: www.wyrulec.com

May through September

Office hrs: 6:30–5:00, Mon.-Thu.

October through April

Office hrs: 7:30–4:00, Mon.-Fri.

**Winter
hours in
effect**

Board of Directors

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President

Clay Peterson
Vice President

Julie Kilty
Treasurer

Kenda Knudsen
Secretary

Jack Preston
Assistant Secretary

General Manager
Ryan Schilreff

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Joe Kinnan
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Tiphanie Fuss
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A busy time of year

This time of year is always busy as we make our way through the holiday season and prepare for the upcoming new year. A few things I would like to cover in this month's article are locked gates during storms and budgeting for the 2017 operating year. You should have received my rate increase letter outlining the new rates that will go into effect January 2017. If you should have any questions about the rate increase or any other topics, please do not hesitate to call me.

From all of us at Wyrulec we wish you a happy and safe holiday season.

Please don't lock us out

It seems like every year we experience one or two severe storms that cause extensive outages throughout our service territory. During these storms, it is our goal to restore power to you as quickly and as safely as possible.

Last year I took the opportunity to ride along with our operations crew during a large storm. I experienced firsthand being locked out which affected our ability to get our line re-energized and restore power.

Please keep in mind that while a specific powerline serves you, it may also serve several other members down the

line and the equipment to restore power to other members might be located on your property.

We fully understand the need to lock gates and secure your property. To eliminate the access problem, many members allow us to put an additional Wyrulec padlock on their gate so we have access during critical outages.

The ability to restore power quickly to homes and livestock wells is crucial and is our number one priority. If you have a gate that needs to be locked year around and we have powerlines in the area, please give us a call to see if we

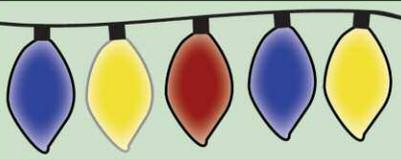
Continued next page

Wyrulec Company will be closed Dec. 23 & Dec. 26 for Christmas and Jan. 2 for New Year's.
We wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



...plus good access to great treats!

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Light up holiday savings with LEDs

Decorating with lights this holiday season? Consider light-emitting diodes (LEDs). They cost more initially but last twice as long as traditional lights, and you'll recover the difference in three to four years.

- **Efficient.** LEDs use between 1 kWh and 3 kWh of energy, compared to between 12 kWh and 105 kWh for traditional lights, saving \$11 every holiday season.
- **Durable.** LEDs last about 4,000 hours. They're also made of plastic and less likely to break.
- **Don't want to use LEDs?** Consider trimming back the number of hours your traditional lights are on to six hours or less each day.

Sources:
Consumer Reports,
Alliance to Save Energy
Robert Stauffer



Busy time of year

Continued from *William Erskine*

have equipment we would need access to during a storm. If you have special instructions or security codes to get through locked gates, please let us know so we can update that information in our system. We appreciate your help and cooperation in keeping the lights on.

Annual budget time

Every November I prepare a draft budget for the Board of Directors. I answer any questions they may have and make adjustments accordingly. In December, I will update the proposed budget with actual numbers from November and present the final draft of the budget for approval. This allows us to have everything in place to start the new operating year.

Many factors go into preparing the operating budget but one of the biggest is our cost of purchased power.

For every \$1.00 of revenue we received last year, \$0.66 went straight to our cost of purchased power. Our cost of power also represented 69.9 percent of our total expenses last year.

Once we make allocations for the cost of power there is little left that we can adjust. The budget must also be adequate to meet our financial obligations and the ratios set by our lenders.

In conjunction with the operating budget, I also submit a capital budget to the Board of Directors which includes machinery and equipment purchases needed over the next year.

As many of you know, these items continue to increase in price and many of the purchases we need to

make at Wyrulec are categorized as special equipment purchases.

To give you an example, we will need to replace a bucket truck next year. The truck in the rotation is 12 years old and will have just over 200,000 miles on it when we rotate it out.

The replacement cost on the truck is \$202,000 with a 277-day lead time on delivery.

We look at several factors before replacing machinery and equipment, but as a rule we trade our pick-ups when the mileage is between 130,000 and 150,000.

We try to use our large trucks (bucket and digger trucks) for no less than 10 years before rotating them.

We also try to stay consistent on planned rotations so we don't get hit with several large purchases in one year. Your employees do a great job of controlling costs wherever they can.

We will continue to focus on this as we move through the 2017 operating year.

If you have questions, you can reach me at the office by calling (307) 837-2225, on my cell at (307) 575-2435 or email me at rschilreff@wyrulec.com.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month Energy



Electric bills increase during the winter for a variety of reasons — holiday gatherings, houseguests, shorter days, and longer nights. Small measures, like turning down your thermostat, replacing incandescent bulbs with LEDs, and washing clothes in cold water, can help control energy costs.

Source: TogetherWeSave.com

Tip of the Month Energy Efficiency Tip

Efficiency Tip of the Month Energy

Tip of the Month Energy Efficiency

February Deadline for Scholarship Applications

High school seniors graduating in 2017 and qualified college students are encouraged to apply for a variety of scholarships made available through

scholarships to qualified students. Of these eight scholarships, four will be awarded to students attending accredited vocational or trade schools.



Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Tri-State Generation & Transmission, and Wyrulec Company. These scholarships are awarded to students in order to encourage continuing education or higher education.

BASIN ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATIVE SCHOLARSHIP

Basin Electric Power Cooperative will award one applicant a scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.

TRI-STATE GENERATION & TRANSMISSION SCHOLARSHIPS

\$500 scholarships will be awarded to two applicants by Tri-State Generation & Transmission.

WYRULEC COMPANY SCHOLARSHIPS

Wyrulec Company will be awarding eight \$1,000

To be eligible for these scholarships, the parent, legal guardian, or the applicants themselves must receive their electric power from Wyrulec Company.

The applicant must be a student who is enrolled or intends to enroll in an accredited two-year college, four-year college, or vocational technical school. Applications can be obtained from area high school or college guidance offices, on our website at www.wyrulec.com under the Youth Programs tab, or can be picked up in person at our office.

Marian Sittner Additional qualifying information is available on our website.

If you have questions, please contact Amber Kalinowski at amberk@wyrulec.com or by calling 307.837.2225. *Vance Underwood*

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED AT WYRULEC COMPANY'S OFFICE ON OR BEFORE 4:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2017.



Holiday cooking efficiency tip:

Every time you open the oven door to check that dish, the temperature inside decreases by up to 25 degrees! Hold off on peeking inside so that your oven doesn't have to work harder than necessary to heat holiday treats.



America's Electric
Cooperatives

Help with heating bills is available

LIEAP's application period continues through February 28, 2017.

If you need assistance with your primary heating bills during the winter months, the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) and Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) may be an option for you.

For additional information, visit the website or give the LIEAP office a call. Application is required.

You can download the application at www.lieapwyo.org, or call the LIEAP office at 1-800-246-4221 to have one mailed to you, or visit Wyrulec Company to pick up an application.

Employee Spotlight

❖ ❖ ❖ Sawyer Rutt ❖ ❖ ❖

- Q:** How long have you lived in Wyoming?
A: 24 years.
- Q:** What did you do before you came to work for Wyrulec?
A: I graduated from Southeast High School in 2011. Before this job opportunity presented itself, I worked for Dietzler Construction Corporation.
- Q:** What is your job title?
A: I was hired as a groundsman.
- Q:** What brought you to Wyrulec?
A: I made this career change because I was tired of traveling for work.
- Q:** Describe your family.
A: I would best describe my family as loving.
- Q:** Do you have any hobbies?
A: My hobbies include hunting, going to



the lake, riding ATVs and spending time with my family.

- Q:** Words of advice you would share?
A: Never give up.

Holiday Ideas

S K E P A S C A U S E E
 A H E D E M D O E I Y M
 B E O H M O W I O L A A
 K O T R S K R I T K P T
 G N A H E E S N T R I T
 I L A E T A A H A H C E
 A R H T N U T I E Y A N
 E G A T L S S U O D N D
 U B A B E E N T R O D E
 A P I U D N O O O K L E
 L O F L S E C I V R E S
 T S O B T V L Q E J L Y
 S S I S H E L A R O I D
 U I P N E R U G A I T L
 J B L E G O P I E C E O
 L E D N A F N I Z Y R T

In this wordsearch, find twelve ideas for holiday activities, some of which involve electricity usage. Since most of the ideas are phrases, the words involved are often merely near each other. The "/" symbol indicates where a word heads off in a new direction. Also, "share a turkey" is a good idea, but share is misspelled, as is candlelight.

- ❖ Attend candlelite services
- ❖ Ba/ke
- ❖ Do share cookie with Santa
- ❖ Just lau/gh
- ❖ Keep good batteries in the smoke alarm
- ❖ Never pull the rug over a cord
- ❖ Praise consta/ntly
- ❖ Re/joic/e
- ❖ Shore a turkey
- ❖ Try zinfandel
- ❖ Use LED bulbs if possib/le
- ❖ Sing

Puzzle Prizes

Name: _____

How should we contact you / contact info: _____

Byron Juma: adult child

Mail entries to:

Wyrulec Company, Dec. Puzzle
 PO Box 359, Lingle, WY 82223

or drop them off at:

Wyrulec Company
 3978 US Hwy 26/85,
 Torrington, WY 82240

Deadline Jan. 1 — Five winners will be drawn from all those submitting puzzles by Jan. 1.

Calling five special elves

Read this nifty newsletter and stay up-to-date on the issues that affect your electricity costs. If you come across your name in these fascinating sheets, call the Wyrulec Company office at 307-837-2225. We'll arrange for you to get a \$25 bill credit.



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