

HIGHLIGHTS

VOL. 43, ISSUE 5

Look for us online @ www.bighornrea.com

JUNE 2022



Why Does Big Horn REA Offer Member Rebates?

Rebates are not just for major appliances.

You might be surprised that Big Horn offers rebates for a variety of electric equipment from electric leaf blowers, to air source heat pumps that can heat and cool your home with one unit, to variable speed drives to help reduce the cost of your irrigation efforts. Why does Big Horn offer these incentives? It is called Beneficial Electrification. Beneficial Electrification is a new term that means taking a deeper look at energy consumption and understanding if we electrify the appliance or equipment, i.e. change a propane furnace to an electric cold climate air source heat pump or changing a diesel motor pump to an electric motor, that it will reduce consumer cost to operate and help grow load and thus reduce long term costs for the electric utility. A dual benefit to the consumer and Big Horn.

It is pretty easy to see how adding an electric heat pump water heater is a win-win by reducing consumer cost and increasing electric sales to recover the cost of the incentive in a year. But what about an irrigation motor incentive? A new efficient motor will save our irrigators money, but how does it help Big Horn? By switching a businesses to more efficient equipment, Big Horn can reduce future costs of replacing neighborhood level transformers. Not incurring costs, such as transformer upgrades, helps us keep rates stable. Big Horn looks daily at ways to reduce cost to keep our rates low and beneficial electrification is an important piece to this effort.

You might be even more surprised to learn that Big Horn is actual leading Wyoming in providing rebates to consumers for purchasing energy efficient appliances,

HVAC equipment, water heating equipment, business lighting, and electric motors and variable speed drives. Tri-State Generation and Transmission, our wholesale power supplier, tracks incentives among its 42 members across Wyoming, Nebraska, Colorado and New Mexico and not only are we the best in Wyoming, but we are also tied for the best incentives with two other Tri-State members. As we are owned by you, our members, we are proud to have earned this recognition and be on the leading edge. The rebate program provides an opportunity to support you by keeping more money in your pocket and also help keep our rates stable. To find out more information about the incentives offered check out our rebates offered at www.bighornrea.com/energy-efficient-rebates or call the main office line at 307-568-2419.

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**Ballots are due to
James Reilly, CPA,
P.C., PO Box 2528
Cody, WY 82414-2528
no later than 1:00 pm
on June 15, 2022**



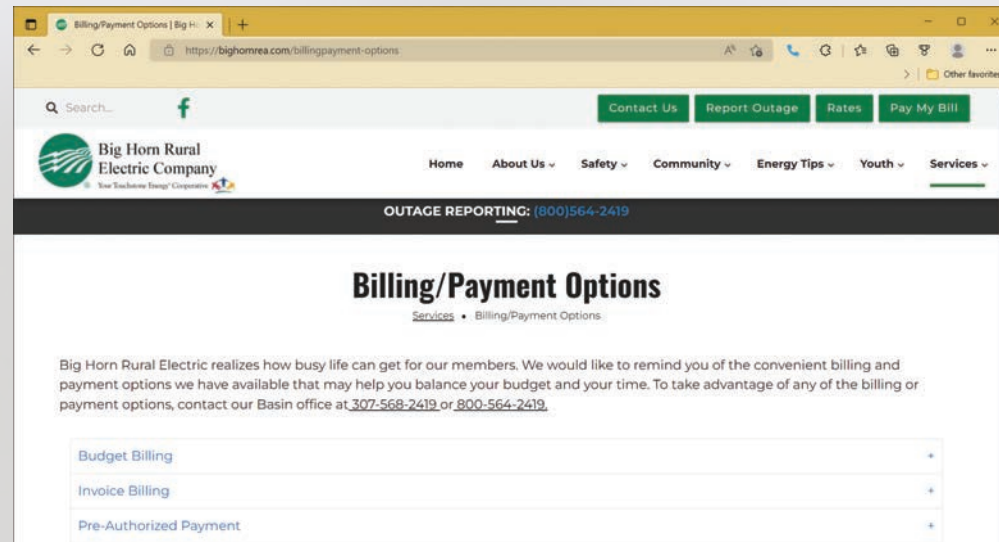
Does your mail service have you going postal? If so, now is a good time to sign up for AutoPay!

- It's easy, convenient, and fast!
- Saves you time – your monthly payment is processed automatically.
- No postage or check – save the hassle of writing a check every month, paying postage and getting it mailed on time.
- Avoid late payments and past due bills – whether you're home or away this service keeps your payments on time since the payments are already scheduled for you – payments are run on the 21st of each month or the

Friday before of Monday after if it falls on the weekend.

- Get the form on our website at <https://bighornrea.com/billingpayment-options>

under Pre-Authorized Payment. Fill it out and return it with a voided check before or after your payment and we'll get you set up!



New Services! Approximate costs.

If you were in attendance at the district meetings, you know that we had handed out a sheet that had the approximate cost

of a new service. If you weren't in attendance, don't worry we didn't forget about you! If you're thinking about getting a new

service here is a calculation for a cost of service. Make sure to keep in mind that there is a lead time on transformers and meter bases.

Cost of a new Service in 2022

The diagram shows a utility pole with various components labeled with their costs. The components and their costs are:

- 2022 Lead time on Transformer: 98 Weeks
- 2022 Lead time on meter base: 3 weeks
- Misc: Straps, jumper wire, clamp, etc. Cost: \$38.00
- 2017 Lead time on Transformer: 1 Week
- 2017 Lead time on meter base: 1 week
- Cut-out/bracket Cost: \$206.40
- 35' Pole Cost: \$415.80
- 15' conduit, wire, weatherhead Cost: \$187.36
- Guy wire, anchor rod/plate, fiberglass rod, guy cover Cost: \$218.83
- Avian cover up protection Cost: \$56.65
- 15 kVa 7,200-volt transformer Cost: \$1103.77
- Single Phase AMR Meter COST: \$255.11
- 200 Amp Meter Base: COST: \$424.89
- Ground rod, ground wire, ground clamp Cost: \$85.63

TOTAL MATERIAL COST: APPROXIMATELY \$2,992.44

TOTAL MATERIAL COST in 2021: APPROXIMATELY \$2,219.25

TOTAL MATERIAL COST in 2017: APPROXIMATELY \$1,750.20

These costs do not include powerline wire, lineman labor time or truck time.

DISTRICT MEETINGS 2022

A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who attended our District Meetings last month!! We surely enjoyed seeing all your smiling faces, sharing some information with you, and having a chance to visit with you and answer your questions.

In Burlington, Peter Rusin our Tri-State G & T representative, attended the



Members in attendance at the District 1 meeting in Burlington.

district one meeting where he gave a little more information on rebates, and electric power tools.

Shawn Taylor the WREA Executive Director gave members at our district three meeting a report on 2022 Wyoming legislative



WREA Executive Shawn Taylor speaking during the Ten Sleep meeting.

budget session, highlighting the issue of crypto-mining and the legislature wanted to de-regulate some of the



Members in attendance at the District 2 meeting in Shell.

certificated territories to attract crypto-mining operators, but the bill failed. He also reported that WREA helped introduce a bill related to protecting co-ops' territories which was



Members in attendance at the District 5 meeting in Lovell.

tabled for further study.

In total for all meetings there were close to 300 members that attended our district meetings.

Local caterers from each district provided a free dinner from the co-op.

Tri-State also provided a Tesla Model 3

for test drives before and after the district meetings as well as at Big Horn afterwards.

Prizes were drawn and awarded after each meeting. The prizes included meat bundles from our fair animal purchases, energy credits, gift cards from a local place in each one of our districts. Last, but not least was the electric chainsaw. We drew one ticket in each district to be a potential winner of the chainsaw and the final winner of the electric chainsaw being Jean Nelson of Meetetsee.



Members in attendance at the District 3 meeting in Ten Sleep.

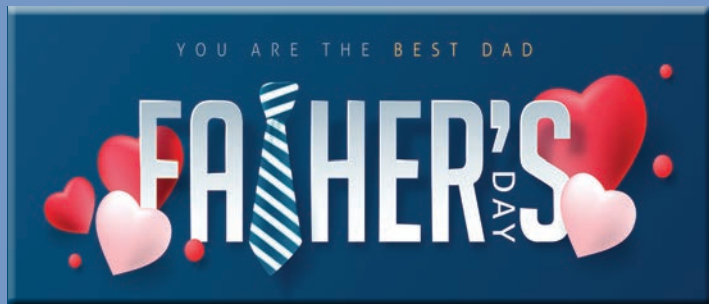
Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

If you're looking to add smart technology to your home, consider smart plugs. Smart plugs are inexpensive and can be used to control lighting and other electronic devices through a smart phone app.

With smart plugs you can conveniently manage lighting, home office equipment, video game consoles and more. By powering off unused devices when you're away, you can save energy (and money!)

Source: energystar.gov

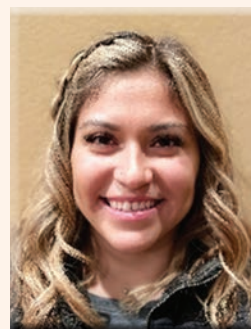




Watt's Cookin'

At Big Horn REA

JAZMIN JARA



Jazmin has worked for Big Horn for almost a year. She is our member services representative. If you've called the office,

you have more than likely talked to Jazmin!

What do you bring to your co-op?

A strong work ethic, good people skills, good personality, education in Business Administration and Spanish and a positive attitude.

What is the best thing about working at Big Horn?

The members and the employees. Everyone makes it easy to show up every day.

What is your favorite meal from childhood?

My mom's enchiladas and fajitas.

Recipe

Jazmin's Enchilada Casserole

Ingredients:

1 ½ lbs of ground beef	1 cup sour cream
1 onion	1 cup of picante
1 garlic clove	1 lb cheese
1 cup taco sauce	Chili powder, ground cumin, salt and pepper (measure with your heart)
12 Corn tortillas	

Brown the ground beef with the onion and garlic. Grease 9x12 baking pan, pour ½ cup taco sauce on bottom of pan. Layer 6 tortillas over sauce. Add another ½ cup of taco sauce and add all the meat mixture. Spread 1 cup of sour cream over the meat mixture, then add cheese. Layer 6 more tortillas, 1 cup of picante and more cheese. Bake covered at 375 for 40 minutes. Uncover for last 5 minutes.

HIGHLIGHTS

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For Outages or Trouble

Call the office number: **ANYTIME**
(307) 568-2419 or 1-800-564-2419

After 5 p.m., weekends and holidays all calls will be answered by our professional answering service, who will contact the appropriate person(s).

Big Horn Rural Electric Company is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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