



Big Horn Rural
Electric Company

HIGHLIGHTS

LOOK FOR US ONLINE AT WWW.BIGHORNREA.COM

PHOTO BY TERESA BOYER



BIG HORN RURAL ELECTRIC OFFERS SCHOLARSHIPS



Big Horn Rural Electric Company will be awarding scholarships to recognize and encourage the continuing education of the cooperative's member-students.

In addition, the Mike Lowe Memorial Scholarship is being offered to an applicant who plans to attend an approved regional electrical line-worker training program. Applicants must be current members or dependents of current members receiving electricity at their primary residence from Big Horn Rural Electric.

Wyoming Rural Electric Association is also offering a \$3,000 electrical line-worker scholarship to encourage, promote, and educate line-workers for careers with Wyoming's electric cooperatives. This scholarship is available to high school graduates and older "non-traditional" students interested in a career in the electric industry. Applicants do not have to be members of Big Horn Rural Electric to qualify.

Applications for all scholarships are available at the office of Big Horn Rural Electric, 415 South St. in Basin, on the website at www.bighornrea.com, and at each of the area high schools. **All applications are due by February 7, 2025, by the end of the business day.**

Offering scholarships is just another way that Big Horn REA practices the cooperative principle of Concern for Community.



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'Tis the Season

The holiday season is the time when we cherish old traditions and enjoy creating new ones. We're wishing all our members a merry and bright holiday season, and we look forward to serving you and our community in 2025!



MERRY
Christmas

Merry Christmas

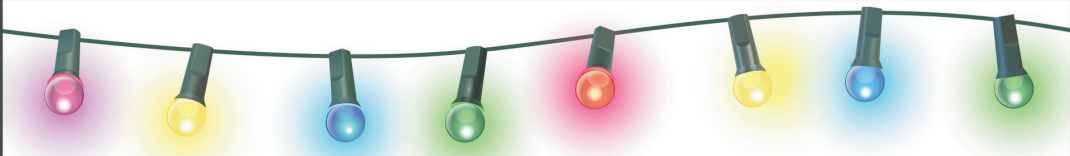
Our office will be closed December 25th and January 1st for the Holidays. Please call 1-800-564-2419 in case of outage or emergency.

Happy New Year

REMINDER

Any irrigation account that is utilizing the energized service during the non-irrigation months of November through March for anything other than the moving of a pivot to farm around and/or to keep the control panel energized, will be billed each month the applicable rate.

For example: aerator; stock tank heater, small building with lights, and pumping water from a culvert - during any of the months of November through March, the account will be placed on the small general service and you will receive a monthly bill for the base facility charge of \$44.00 per month plus the applicable cost for energy used.



MERRY, BRIGHT AND EFFICIENT HOLIDAY LIGHTING

Decking the halls doesn't have to take a toll on your energy bill! Keep your holiday lighting merry, bright and energy efficient with LED light strands.

- Consider replacing older light strands with new ENERGY STAR LED® lights. LED strands are 70 percent more efficient and last 10 times longer than the average-old standard bulbs.
- You can get the look of cozy lighting with LEDs. Just look for "warm white" on the label.
- Unlike older light strands, LED lights give off virtually no heat, making them safer for kids and pets (and reindeer).
- Save energy by setting a timer for outdoor lighting and decorations. Program the timer so the lights turn on in the evening and turn off later at night when you typically go to sleep.

Source: Dept. of Energy



»»» ENERGY EFFICIENCY: TIP OF THE MONTH

If you're planning to purchase electronic gifts this holiday season, look for the ENERGY STAR label, which indicates higher energy efficiency performance. Electronics that receive the ENERGY STAR rating are up to 25% more efficient than standard products.

This holiday season, give the gift of energy savings with ENERGY STAR-rated electronics and equipment.

Source: energystar.gov

THE LINEMAN'S CHRISTMAS EVE

by Kevin Hughes

'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the house not a creature was stirring 'cause the power was out.

How could this happen? What trouble could be?
The house is all dark, even the lights on the tree.
The lineman's asleep all cozy and warm,
his power apparently was spared by the storm.
Deep into slumber but soon to awake,
'cause a tree on the line has caused it to break.
The calls swamp the office,
"MY POWER IS OUT!"

Get them here quickly because I carry clout."
The dispatcher calls and with a hint of despair
he informs the lineman the lines need repair.

In three or four hours the trouble is found, you see the road didn't pass where the tree went down.
After walking through snow and fighting the storm, the line is now clear and the power is on.
And now it's the morning the kids shout with glee and their eyes shine as bright as the lights on the tree.
The lineman goes home now, as tired as can be. The storm just ignored it was his Christmas Eve.
He's not asking for praise or for you to applaud, 'cause according to him, it's just part of the job.
But please just remember, as you pick up the horn, and you call to the office he may be out in the storm.



5 WAYS TO PAY YOUR BILL

 1 IN PERSON Stop by our Basin office	 2 PHONE Call toll free 1-800-564-2419	 3 MAIL Send via the US Postal Service	 4 ONLINE Login at www.bighornrea.com	 5 AUTOMATIC Deduct from a bank account each month
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At Big Horn REA we offer multiple ways to pay your bill. Here are a few things to keep in mind.

- Bills are due on the 25th of each month. If your account is on draft or automatic pay, your payment will be taken out of your bank account on the 21st of each month. Keep in mind, if the 25th falls on the weekend the due date will be moved to the following Monday. The same is applicable to the accounts on draft.
- If your account is on bill-pay, keep in mind that it doesn't happen automatically. Bill-pay payments are mailed to us in check form, so sometime we get them after the 25th of the month.
- There is a penalty of 1.5% for late payments. Late payments are considered the day after the due date.



LOADING ...



MANAGER'S MESSAGE

Where does the time go? 2024 has flown by, and with that being said it has been a solid year for Big Horn, with no rate increase for 2025! Material costs have levelled out, but have not gone down, and we are still experiencing a lead time on trucks and transformers of up to 2 to 3 years.

In the past 6 months, we have had a few changes. Jeff Umphlett and Randy Theasmeyer retired from Big Horn. Jeff was the General Manger for the last 16 years and Randy was our Operations Superintendent for a little over a year. Going forward Big Horn will not have a Line Superintendent position but instead have a General Foreman position. Clint Getzfreid was offered and accepted this position out of the Basin office. The General Foreman can line up jobs and still respond to outage calls and fill in on the crew as much as needed whereas the superintendent was strictly management.

This year, like every year, we have been busy! We completed our Big Trails job in Ten Sleep, converting the line from single phase to three phase as well as new services and additional irrigation load. Big Horn continues to see projected growth in our service territories with a current total meter count at 4,088.

Staff and management have been working diligently to secure federal funding for large projects that will benefit all members and help keep rates low. Big Horn has been awarded two grants totaling five million dollars to improve our electrical system by converting overhead powerlines to underground. Two million dollars was awarded for work to be done in the Ten Sleep Canyon. The other three million dollars was awarded for the Shell to Burgess Junction area. Big Horn is currently waiting to hear back from the Department of Energy regarding which environmental studies will be needed before we start on the projects.

Big Horn is thankful for all our members and hopes everyone has a safe and joyous holiday season and enjoys prosperity in 2025!

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FOR OUTAGE OR TROUBLE

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

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



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Make sure to check out our QR Code to reach our website quicker, and follow us on Facebook for any outage updates!

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