



PRECorp News

AUGUST 2021

Now is a good time to consider new rate, billing options, member programs

With fall and winter weather approaching, members may consider making some changes to realign business customer rates, consolidate other rates, improve the billing process and take advantage of new rate options.

Please call PRECorp Member Service at 1-800-442-3630 if you have any interest in these options and how they might improve your service from PRECorp.

Invoice Group billing bundles many accounts

One way to consolidate multiple bills and accounts is an option called Invoice Group Billing. Members can put all accounts, *that are on the same rate*, on one billing statement. Members still have all the information on the various metered services they own, but in a much more consolidated format and a bottom-line number for the monthly bill.

Many options to avoid late fees

Recent changes to Public Service Commission rules require payments to be received in our office, or paid electronically, by the due date. With mailed payments, some instances allowed for a postmark date as a basis to waive late fees. Now, however, any payment received after the due date – postmarked or not – is subject to a late fee.

The best way around this is to utilize on-line payment options. AutoPay ensures timely payment through our online automated payment feature. SmartHub allows members to control when they pay their bills by scheduling the payment

using a PC or the phone app. Additionally, members can securely pay anytime over the phone with toll-free Interactive Voice Response (IVR).

Heat Rate offered across rate classes

For the past year, members in all classes can utilize a discounted electric resistance heat option, simply referred to as the Heat Rate. A dedicated Heat Rate meter must be installed to measure your heating usage, and calculations are made accordingly.

Budget Billing flattens the curves

Residential members who prefer to pay the same monthly amount, and who have at least 12 months of usage history, should explore the Budget Billing option. This program calculates a monthly amount for the next 11 months based on a member's average monthly usage over the previous year. The usage is reviewed twice yearly, to ensure there are no major variances. October is the clearing month for Budget Billing accounts. Accounts are brought back to a zero balance, and the monthly amounts for the next 11 months are calculated.

Time of Use program could lower your bills

Our Time-of-Use Rate option is one more way we continue our promise to provide members with affordable rates and options that fit their individual energy needs. The con-

...continued on page 3.



MIKE EASLEY,
CEO

I wanted to share with you some thoughts in preparation for our 76th Annual Member meeting scheduled on August 21, 2021. I recall our time together last year when we met for our 75th Anniversary in Sundance. We had planned to have a giant celebration in recognition of our milestone anniversary, but instead we had a scaled down version of the meeting due to various COVID-19 impacts and restrictions. I think we had a great meeting despite the adjustments made to effectively deal with our reality.

We accomplished what we needed to accomplish.

One might say that dealing with our present reality and continuing to accomplish our priorities is a part of being resilient, and I am very proud to say that the PRECorp team is just that. Our resiliency has been built and tested over time and reflects the overall culture of Wyoming, more specifically, our corner of this great State. Serving you is our priority.

We all face things beyond our control each day and rather than give in, we persevere, we buckle down, and we “Cowboy Up”. What is most inspiring is that we do this without thinking, it is who we are and what we do, and it has worked for us for 76 years.

This past year we adjusted to the slow motion bust of the Coal Bed Methane (CBM) industry. Our biggest growth drive just over ten years ago is now an industry which struggles to survive. As its largest company deals with bankruptcy and many of our members deal directly with its impacts through financial losses, all of us deal with it indirectly through the impacts on the cooperative.

We have made countless adjustments over the years to protect you from all sorts of challenges, and we have been very successful in doing so. In 2021, we adjusted our budgets and operating plans to help us work through the chal-

lenges relating to the declining sales of CBM. We have successfully landed on the other side of the “boom-and-bust” cycle related to CBM, with grace, strategy, and minimal impact to your cost of service and reliability. This is a true sign of resilience.

Our plans and strategy are fluid, adjusting as needed. The energy industry continues to evolve as market, politics and other forces impact the coal industry. It was nearly 25 years ago when the PRECorp Board first began to prepare the organization to be ready for a shift in the coal industry. Back then it was the threat of retail competition. When that threat faded, the Board continued its efforts preparing for declines in the coal industry, just in case.

I often say that I would take luck over skill, and we have been blessed with both. I do think luck goes to the prepared. As we look to the next year and what our 2022 Annual Member Meeting may look like, it will be a safe bet to say that we overcame our challenges by working together, maintaining our focus and remembering what matters most. In the world of cooperatives, and especially our world at PRECorp, what matters most is serving you, our member-owners.

The heart of service takes on many forms. As we adjust to events in the industry, it is our resilience that gets us to the other side with the best possible outcome overall. Your quality of life is important to us, and we hope that our continued focus on providing you the best possible service at the lowest cost is meeting your needs and equipping you for success in the challenges you face.

We are all in this together and by staying focused on our priorities, we will continue to be successful and good neighbors as we all work together to make northeast Wyoming an even better place to live.

Mike

Discounted pricing offered to members

PRECorp is partnering with WeatherFlow to offer multi-function Tempest Weather Stations to members at a discounted price. In addition, PRECorp is offering a loan program for members who would like to pay for the unit over time.

Go to www.weatherflow.com/precorp for more information on the product and how to order.

The Tempest senses light, rain, wind, barometric pressure, temperature, humidity, lightning, and other factors with wireless transmission. The units are warranted, but are very durable and low maintenance, with no moving parts.

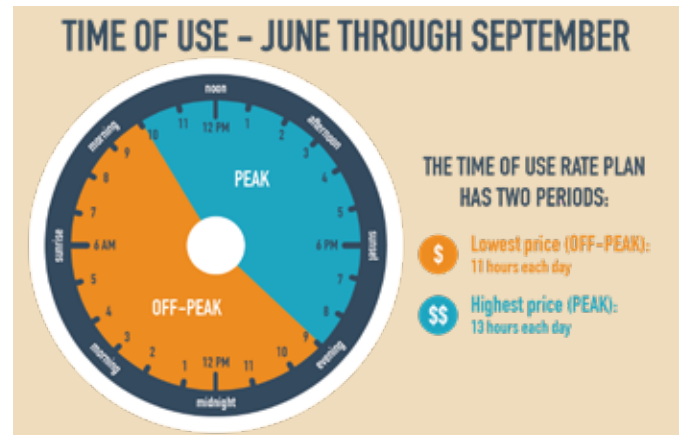
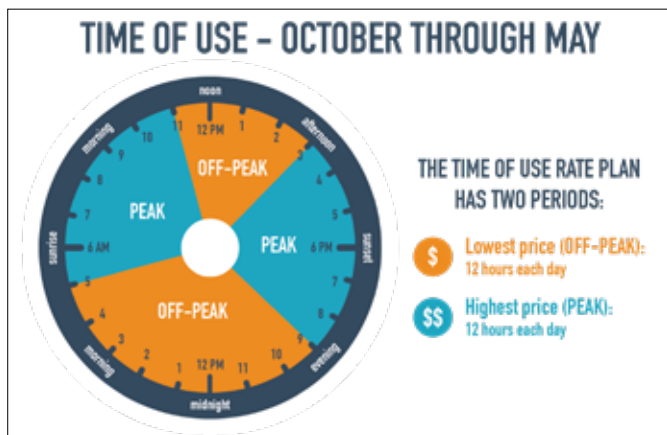


Data flows to WeatherFlow databanks and local collectors can publish to a data cloud. The live data readings at an individual ranch are visible on that user's mobile device using a simple app.

While a user can see what's happening at their place, readings from across a network of stations can also be seen and stored. This benefits the local residents who need this data for storm reporting or insurance claims. This is particularly important for the agriculture industry where review of accurate weather data is part of the daily chores.

Other potential benefits aside from the discounted purchase price, include a 'data dividend' of \$20 a year for two years for making the information public.

For more information on this weather station program, contact PRECorp at 1-800-442-3630.



Billing and programs review... from page 1.

cept behind this program is fairly simple: rather than a single flat rate for each unit of energy used (e.g. kWh), you pay different rates for the electricity you use based on the time of day and season. Under this voluntary rate option, when you consume electricity is just as important as the amount of electricity you use.

On Time-of-Use, rates are lower during evenings and overnight because of the decreased demand for electric-

ity during those times. To help lower costs, you can shift energy use to off-peak periods (when electricity prices are lowest).

Our Time-of-Use Rate also changes seasonally, because electricity demand differs between summer months and the rest of the year. These rates can make a big difference for members particularly in the areas of heating and cooling; major appliances; and water pumping equipment.

CONGRATULATIONS

To the 2021 Powder River Energy scholarship winners.

The PRECorp Scholarship programs awarded a total of \$63,250 to college and post-secondary students of members in Campbell, Crook, Johnson, Sheridan, and Weston counties, with dollars from unclaimed Capital Credits and funds raised through charitable events. The Powder River Energy Foundation Board of Directors reviews the applications and awards the scholarships. Apprentice Lineman Scholarship and Kathleen Tavegie Memorial Scholarship awardees are also noted on this page.



Ashlynn Fennema
Leiter



Jordyn Diaz
Wright



Carter Hanson
Gillette



Kindal Cunningham
Gillette



Joslyn Strohschein
Wright



Joseph Kennah
Hulett



Calvin Rule
Buffalo



Haley Mooney
Gillette



Annie Mitzel
Sheridan



Hailey Wehri
Newcastle



FaithHoney Anderson
Devils Tower



Kylee Myers
Gillette



Mason Amann
Sundance



Lynelle Wendling
Moorcroft



Sara Sweet
Newcastle
Kathleen Tavegie
Memorial
Scholarship



Ethan Devlin*
Kaycee: PRECorp
& Apprentice
Lineman
Scholarship



Hunter Garoutte
Moorcroft
Apprentice
Lineman
Scholarship



Matthew Hutton
Gillette
Apprentice
Lineman
Scholarship



Landon Martin
Beulah
Apprentice
Lineman
Scholarship



Tanner Hofland
Sundance
Apprentice
Lineman
Scholarship



Mason Jensen
Buffalo
PRECorp
Scholarship



Recipients not pictured:

Shania Miller, Moorcroft
Rhianna Heaster, Sundance
Payton Timberman, Moorcroft
Landon Keever, Upton (Lineman
Scholarship)



Regular business: 1-800-442-3630 Report an outage: 1-888-391-6220

www.precorp.coop

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