

Member meetings for 2020 Rate Case set

Powder River Energy is seeking a rate adjustment in a general rate case with the Wyoming Public Service Commission (PSC).

Changes affect residential and industrial classes. The cooperative is also changing the basic charge in order to capture fixed costs being lost due to declining sales, and to bring the basic charge closer to cost of service.

Members who would like to meet in-person with PRE-Corp staff can do so at any of three public availability sessions. Dates and times are as follows:

- **Tuesday, February 18:** 4:30 p.m., Gillette office
- **Tuesday, March 17:** 4:30 p.m., Sheridan office
- **Tuesday, April 21:** 4:30 p.m., Sundance office

More information on the web

Go to www.precorp.coop/2020-rate-case for complete documentation in the case file, rate calculators to predict what your bill would be based on your usage, and a portal for asking questions.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Are you using your fireplace efficiently? Remember to turn down the thermostat when burning a fire, and close the damper when a fire is not burning.

Source: energy.gov



Events calendar

The PRECorp Board of Directors meets the third Tuesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. at rotating locations in Sundance, Gillette, and Sheridan. Meetings might be moved to avoid conflicts with state or national cooperative events. The tentative dates for 2020 are as follows:

- January 21 - Sundance**
- February 18 - Gillette**
- March 17 - Sheridan**
- April 21 - Sundance**
- May 19 - Gillette**
- June 16 - Sheridan**
- July 21 - Sundance**
- August 18 - Gillette**
- September 15 - Sheridan**
- October 20 - Sundance**
- November 17 - Gillette**
- December 15 - Sheridan**

Other events to remember:

- **Friday, January 31** - Application deadline for Basin Scholarship; Youth Leadership Camp
- **Monday, February 17** - All Employee Meeting, PRECorp Offices closed
- **Friday, February 28:** Application deadline for *PRECorp Scholarship* and *Swanda Scholarship*. Swanda Scholarship applicants must be Crook County high school seniors entering ag-related studies in post-secondary schools.

Four tips for winter electrical safety

Bitter cold winters can increase the number of additional electrical appliances that are plugged in at home, the office, or the shop. Accidental fires do not only threaten property, they can also threaten lives. Be sure to safeguard your loved ones with the following safety tips.

1. **Don't overload outlets.** Overloaded outlets are a major cause of residential fires. Avoid using extension cords or multi-outlet converters for appliance connections—they should be plugged directly into a wall outlet. If you're relying heavily on extension cords in general, you may need additional outlets to address your needs. Contact a qualified electrician to inspect your home and add new outlets.
2. **Never leave space heaters unattended.** If you're using a space heater, turn it off before leaving the room. Make sure heaters are placed at least three feet away from flammable items. It should also be noted that space heaters take a toll on your energy bills. If you're using them throughout your home, it may be time to upgrade your home heating system.
3. **Inspect heating pads and electric blankets.** These items cause nearly 500 fires every year. Electric blankets that are more than 10 years old create additional risks for a fire hazard. Inspect your electric blankets and heating pads – look for dark, charred or frayed spots, and make sure the electrical cord is not damaged. Do not place any items on top of a heating pad or electric blanket, and never fold them when in use.
4. **Use portable generators safely.** Unfortunately, winter storms can cause prolonged power outages, which means many consumers will use portable generators to power their homes. Never connect a standby generator into your home's electrical system. For portable generators, plug appliances directly into the outlet provided on the generator. Start the generator first, before you plug in appliances. Run it in a well-ventilated area outside your home. The carbon monoxide it generates is deadly, so keep it away from your garage, doors, windows and vents.

NATIONAL CUT YOUR ENERGY COSTS DAY

By sealing uncontrolled air leaks in your home, you can save **10%-20%** on heating and cooling bills.



POWDER RIVER ENERGY CORPORATION

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www.precorp.coop

As an official publication of Powder River Energy Corporation, the purpose of Power Lines is to communicate to member/customers information concerning their electric cooperative, and to offer suggestions and ideas regarding the safe, efficient, and economical use of electric energy. **Powder River Energy Corporation is an equal opportunity provider and employer.**

Back issues of the Power Lines can be found on PRECorp's website at: www.precorp.coop/company-and-news.