



# PRECorp News

MAY 2018

## PRECorp launches new website

By Tim Velder, PRECorp Marketing Communications

If you logged on to the [www.precorp.coop](http://www.precorp.coop) website recently you likely noticed a new look.

PRECorp, working with our partners at Touchstone Energy, migrated to a modernized platform for its cooperative site, and the site for the Powder River Energy Foundation. These sites were initially created in 2011 and were functional on most personal computers. Over the years, these platforms became outdated because of new search engines and mobile technology.

Many members likely noticed the clunky way the websites performed on mobile telephones and handheld tablets. This new site is mobile friendly, so you can access this site for all of the PRECorp business you need.

There is also a "Search" bar right at the top of the site so users can quickly find content without having to hunt for specific items.

The screenshot shows the website's navigation bar with options like 'Pay Online', 'Contact Us', 'General', 'Report Outage', and 'Call Before You Dig'. A search bar is located at the top left. The main content area features a large landscape image with the following callouts:

- Search the site.** (pointing to the search bar)
- Report and track outages.** (pointing to the 'Report Outage' button)
- Connect to Smart Hub and social media.** (pointing to social media icons)
- Engage with local economic development and information.** (pointing to the 'Community Partnerships' section)
- Connect to the Foundation.** (pointing to the 'Powder River Energy Foundation' link)

The 'COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS' section includes three cards:

- Powder River Energy Foundation:** A Helping Hand for Northeast Wyoming. Foundation Site
- PRECorpBizWorks Economic Development Web Portal Link:** Economic Development
- PRECORP LOCAL ACTION NETWORK:** Local Action Network

### In This Issue

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**Telephone Town Hall**



**MIKE EASLEY,**  
CEO

This month's CEO Straight Talk article is the last in a series of four articles introducing you to the PRECorp Strategy Map. My first article explained the power of the PRECorp Moonshot, the mission focus of the PRECorp Purpose, and guiding force of the PRECorp Vision 2030.

In my second article, I described the importance of the outcomes we are striving for in the Member Perspective and in the Financial Perspective. In last month's article, I described our Strategic Themes of 1) Monitor, Predict and Harness the Power of Accelerating Technologies, 2) Mitigate Wholesale Power Supply Risk, and 3) Member Engagement and Community Development, as well as the various objectives supporting these themes.

I have actually saved the best for last as this month I will talk about **Talent and Technology** and our **Principles and Values**. If you look at the Strategy Map on the page below, these perspectives are at the bottom of the Strategy Map because

they form the foundation for everything we do. If we don't have our People, Values and Principles right, we can't really do anything.

The Talent and Technology perspective represents how we will go about supporting and developing the PRECorp Team. We also leverage technology to enable our people to work efficiently and smartly. This is one reason we have been able to reduce our employee count by 20 positions over the past 2 years. The better we can support and develop our team, the less time we will spend "grinding our gears". If we waste energy and time, we can't serve you at the high level to which we aspire.

**[The Strategy Map] is a one-page representation of who we are, our reason for existing, how we get things done, and what we need to do to serve you, our member-owners.**

We live in a very fast-paced world these days and things change very quickly. We rely on our Principles and Values to keep ourselves on course when we experience confusion and uncertainty in the face of rapid change, problems, and other difficult situations when the path forward may be a bit hazy. These principles and values are our "true north". You can't lose your way if your compass continues to point to true north.

There is clearly a lot going on within the PRECorp Strategy Map. It is a one-page representation of who we are, our reason for existing, how we get things done, and what we need to do to serve you, our member-owners. The Strategy Map is not something we put in a file somewhere and forget about. It is something we keep in front of us each and every day.

You might consider saving this copy of the Strategy Map and putting it someplace you can find later. If you wonder why we have done something, this map should explain it. If it can't, then let me know and I will help you connect the dots. If I can't connect the dots, then chances are we may have drifted, and your help to keep us on the course of service to you will be greatly appreciated.

*Mike*



# 2018 PRECorp Annual Meeting - 8.25.2018

# SERVING YOU

As part of the preparation for the PRECorp Annual Meeting Saturday, August 25, at the Gillette Cam-Plex Energy Hall, members are encouraged to contact us as soon as possible about interest in the following **NEW** activities planned for the Annual Meeting. For information go to [www.precorp.coop](http://www.precorp.coop) and select "2018 Annual Meeting".

## Free Blood Draw:

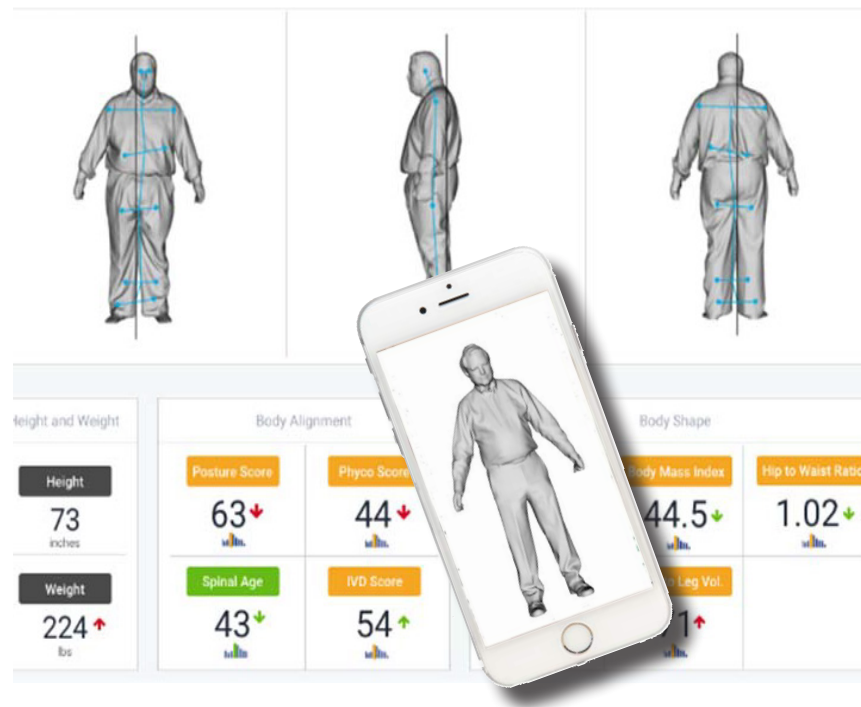
Wyoming Health Fairs will conduct wellness blood draws from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. on August 25. PRECorp will pay the cost of the basic blood draw for members and their spouses. Attendees may pay for additional tests if they so choose.

Those wishing to have their blood drawn for a standard blood panel test must fast for 12 hours. Coffee and light snacks will be provided to blood draw participants prior to lunch being served at 11 a.m. Member registration and voting will be available starting at 8 a.m.

Call PRECorp Member Service at 1-800-442-3630 if you would like to take advantage of a free blood test.

## Tour of Dry Fork Station, Integrated Test Center:

Up to 40 PRECorp members can be part of a special tour of the Dry Fork Station Power Plant and Integrated Test Center north of Gillette at 10 a.m. as part of the Annual Meeting on August 25. Members who would like to participate in this one-hour tour should call PRECorp Member Service at 1-800-442-3630 as soon as possible. It will be on a first-come, first-serve basis.



## Wellness Body Scan:

A newly designed body scanning machine will be available thanks to a partnership between Wyoming Health Fairs and Spiral Therapy, Inc.

This scanner will debut at the Annual Meeting to demonstrate how this scanning device can detect unique data points related to a person's body alignment and structure. The technology develops personalized treatment and physical therapy plans for healing and working toward a pain-free life.

For more information go to [www.precorp.coop](http://www.precorp.coop) and select "2018 Annual Meeting".

## 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 2018 are as follows:

- May 22 - Gillette
- June 18-19 - Sheridan
- July 17 - Sundance
- August 21 - Gillette
- September 17-18 - Sheridan
- October 16 - Sundance
- November 20 - Gillette
- December 17-18- Sheridan

### Other events to remember:

- **Wednesday, May 16:** Telephone Town Hall, 6:30 p.m., call 1-844-881-1317.
- **Saturday, June 2:** Durham Ranch Buffalo Stampede 5K/10K Walk/Run.
- **Monday, June 4:** PRECorp office hours change to 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Wednesday, August 22:** Telephone Town Hall, 6:30 p.m., call 1-844-881-1317.
- **Saturday, August 25:** PRECorp 73rd Annual Membership Meeting, Gillette Cam-Plex Energy Hall and Heritage Center Theater.

## OFFICE HOURS CHANGE NOTICE:

**Beginning Monday, June 4, Powder River Energy Corporation offices and member service phones will open at 9 a.m. and close at 5 p.m. weekdays. Call 1-800-442-3630 for more information.**

## Telephone Town Hall Meeting with CEO set for May 16

PRECorp members are invited to participate in quarterly Telephone Town Hall meetings with CEO Mike Easley.

Mike will be live on the phone at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 16, to take your questions and highlight the cooperative's activities for 2018. Members

will receive a telephone call at the beginning of the meeting. If you would like to call in to join dial 855-312-2107.

Future meetings will be held at 6:30 p.m. on the following dates:

- Wednesday, August 22;
- Wednesday, Nov. 14.

## Pole testing notice to members

Powder River Energy journeyman linemen and technicians are inspecting and testing poles and other infrastructure throughout its service territory in Campbell, Crook, Johnson, Sheridan, and Weston counties as part of our maintenance program. Landowners and local residents are notified ahead of time

that PRECorp personnel could be working within power line rights-of-way or using binoculars in their area. PRECorp personnel can provide two forms of identification on demand if there is a question about their presence on your property. Call 1-800-442-3630 if you have any additional questions.



## Save the date:

The 17th Annual Durham Ranch Buffalo Stampede 5k/10k Walk/Run, will be held Saturday, June 2, at the Durham Ranch north of Wright, Wyo., on Hwy 59. The event will raise funds for Powder River Energy Foundation programs in northeast Wyoming. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. The walk begins at 8 a.m. and the run at 8:30 a.m. The cost is \$20 per person and \$40 per family. A free breakfast is also served. For more information on the event go to: <http://durhambisonranch.com>

**HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURE: Powder River Energy Corporation offices will be closed Monday, May 28, in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.**

# Purdy appointed to Board seat

By Tim Velder, PRECorp Marketing Communications

The Powder River Energy Board of Directors appointed Buffalo area rancher James “Jim” Purdy to fill out the remainder of the term of Pam Kinchen who resigned in December. Purdy’s term will run through August 2019 when the seat comes up for election by the cooperative membership.

Purdy was born and raised in Johnson County and has been involved with the family ranch southwest of Buffalo and other businesses for 50 years. He currently serves as a member of several corporations and partnerships associated with the ranching operation along with several commercial and industrial real estate operations.

“It’s important to support and be actively involved in our communities and with those industries that

serve us,” Purdy said. “I’ve been a pilot for many years, owned and operated an aerial spray service, and served as the Manager of the Johnson County Airport. Currently, I’m a member of the Johnson County Airport Board, serving as Vice Chairman. I’m also a member of the Wyoming Stockgrowers Association, National Cattlemen’s Beef Association and serve as Director Emeritus of the American Quarter Horse Association.”

He also supports local youth organizations and volunteers his aircraft and pilot services to military service



men and women.

“I believe firmly in member-owned companies and cooperatives and appreciate that we’re able to receive services from such an entity.” Purdy said. “While it’s a privilege to have the opportunity to serve on the Board of Directors of PRECorp, I consider the position a duty and responsibility to serve our members and their needs for affordable, reliable and sustainable energy.”

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Purdy adds that seeking new technologies, stewarding our environment, and developing economic opportunities are key in PRECorp’s ability to serve members. Purdy also appreciates the work of the Powder River Energy Foundation and its philanthropic focus on education.

## Foundation donates to Buffalo preschool programs



The Powder River Energy Foundation recently donated \$4,000 to the Learning Tree Christian School in Buffalo. Pictured are students in the Kindergarten class with School Director Dianne Urruty, School Board Member Anna Buckingham, Foundation Board Member Susie Berry, and teachers KeniKae Michelena and Trenea Wagner. The school provides proactive early childhood educations to more than 100 children ages 3-6. The donation will enable the school to provide Love & Logic parenting classes free of charge to families in the community and helping achieve the motto of: “Better families make better communities.”

(Photo by Tim Velder/PRECorp)

# May is Electrical Safety Month

May is National Electrical Safety Month. But at PRECorp, safety is a daily emphasis, throughout our system, all year long - at work and at home.

Because we are looking out for the best interests of our members, we raise awareness about safety and ways to avoid accidents, keep our employees safe, and provide reliable service for our members.

Although you don't see the actual electricity flowing through the line, you would certainly feel it if you had an encounter with electricity. Touching lines or equipment with high voltages can not only cause injury, it can take a life.

However, safety concerns stretch beyond the immediate tasks of climbing poles and restoring power. We must consider safety in all aspects of our day.

People have accidentally driven

vehicles and large equipment into power poles. Sometimes drivers underestimate the height of their vehicle and become tangled in power lines. Diggers sometimes discover too late they have hit power cables buried underground.

Animals and even tiny insects are also in the picture. These creatures find ideal hangouts on our power lines, cross arms, insulators, and other attachments. Bugs hide in the tight spaces in the guards and insulators, and birds daringly try to root them out. The resulting electrocutions for the predators can knock out power or cause a fire.

Vines, trees, and bushes tend to grow quickly into our lines. Keeping vegetation trimmed and away from the poles, power lines, and other electrical equipment takes regular maintenance. Fires can start when lightning hits a pole,

or wind slaps power lines together. It doesn't take much of a spark on dry grass or timber for high winds to push a fire several miles across open Wyoming countryside.

Are there some hazards around power services to your residence, ranch, or business that could result in a tragedy? If you notice potential hazards involving PRECorp facilities, call 1-800-442-3630, to report the facility location and nature of the problem.

Here are a few things to keep in mind regarding hazards on your property:

- Do not attach anything to a power pole. Nails, tacks, staples, wires, satellite dishes, deer stands, basketball hoops, signs, and other items create immediate hazards for you and our crews if they need to respond to an outage.

... Continued on Page 8.

## Linemen honored in state proclamation

Powder River Energy linemen attended an April 13 proclamation signing at Wyoming Governor Matt Mead's office in Cheyenne. Pictured are Sundance Journeyman Lineman Katlin Stensland (left) and Kaycee Journeyman Lineman Benito Maya (right), with Gov. Mead in the center.

"Linemen Appreciation Day is an opportunity to thank linemen for their work to keep the power on and the public safe," Gov. Mead stated in the proclamation. "Linemen work 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to keep the power on - often under dangerous conditions or in severe weather."

(Photo courtesy WREA)



# Electrical Safety Month...

from page 7.

- Be aware of clearances with your vehicles and equipment. Look up. Look all around you to make sure you aren't working too close to a pole or overhead line. A few seconds to walk around your vehicle can save you the aggravation of an accident or power outage.
- Do not pile or stack items beneath power lines.
- Look up. Carefully check the location of all overhead wires before using a ladder. All ladders that touch power lines - even ladders made of wood - can shock or electrocute people touching them.
- Call 811 or 1-800-849-2476 (One-Call of Wyoming) at least two days before you dig. Large construction projects that dig deep into the ground are commonly thought of as the occasions when underground line locates are necessary. Because of landscaping or erosion, lines could be close enough to the surface that you could hit them with that first plunge of the shovel. The service is free. Repairs are not.
- Check for weather damage around your home, ranch, or business.
- If you encounter a damaged power pole or line, always assume it is energized. Do not touch or try to move downed power lines. Stay in your vehicle if you hit a power pole or power line. If you must get out of the vehicle, keep both feet together and jump clear. Do not step onto the ground.
- If you happen upon an accident involving a pad-mount transformer, power pole, or line, call 911

- immediately. Do not approach the scene because electricity from energized lines can kill you, even if you are a few yards away.
- Heed the warning signs posted on PRECorp electrical facilities.

## In the home

Because of the higher loads of the newer electric devices, demand for energy can overburden an older home's electrical system.

### Some tips:

- Make sure entertainment centers and computer equipment have plenty of space around them for ventilation.
- Use extension cords as a temporary solution, and never as a permanent power supply.
- Do not place extension cords in high traffic areas, under carpets, or across walkways, where they pose a potential tripping hazard. Heat can also be trapped and cause a fire.
- Use a surge protector to protect your computer and other electronic equipment from damage caused by voltage changes. This equipment has a limited life expectancy.
- The wattage of the bulbs you use in your home should match the wattage indicated on the light fixture. Overheated fixtures can lead to a fire.
- Keep all liquids away from electrical items such as televisions and computers.
- Heavy reliance on power strips is an indication that you have too few outlets to address your needs.

- Have additional outlets installed by a qualified, licensed electrician.
- Check refrigerator coils quarterly to eliminate dirt buildup. This can increase efficiency and remove fire hazards.
- Ensure all countertop appliances are located away from the sink. GFCI outlets are required in kitchens, bathrooms, and outdoors.
- All appliance cords should be placed away from hot surfaces. Pay particular attention to cords around toasters, ovens and ranges. Cords can be damaged by excess heat.

## And remember fire safety:

- The top and the area above the cooking range should be free of combustibles, such as potholders and plastic utensils. Storing these items on or near the range may result in fires or burns.
- Nearly two-thirds of fire deaths result from fires in homes without working smoke alarms. Smoke alarms should be located on every level of your home, inside each bedroom and outside each sleeping area.
- Test smoke alarms every month. Batteries should be replaced every six months, and be aware that smoke alarms have a limited life expectancy.
- Consider installing a carbon monoxide detector.
- Talk to your family - including small children - on planning an emergency escape route - they are more likely to remember the plan if they're involved in creating it.