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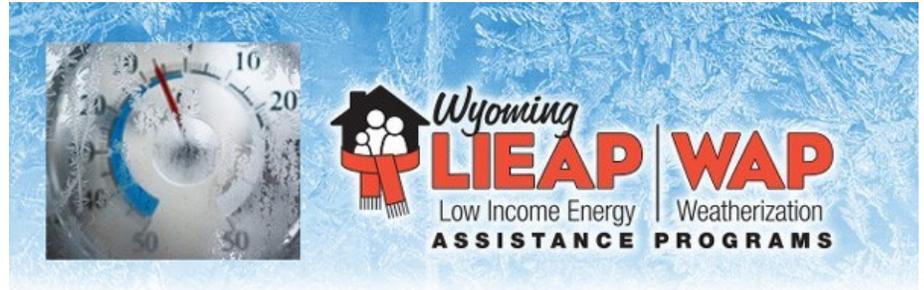
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**CO-OP CONNECTIONS LOCAL  
BUSINESS PARTICIPANTS:**

- Herren Brothers True Value
- Same As It Once Was
- Country Corner Hair Shop
- Rough and Refined
- Miller Soap Company

(CHECK WEBSITE FOR REGIONAL  
AND NATIONAL DISCOUNTS)

Want to be a Business Participant?  
Call our office for more information.



LIEAP provides vital assistance for home heating bills to keep low-income Wyoming households, seniors and veterans warm and safe during the winter months. Assistance is available to both renters and home owners. Income guidelines are included in the complete application packet which is available at <http://dfsweb.state.wy.us> and at [www.lieapwyo.org](http://www.lieapwyo.org). Applications may also be requested by calling the LIEAP office at 1-800-246-4221, or by sending an email request to [lieapinfo@thealignteam.org](mailto:lieapinfo@thealignteam.org). Applications are also available at all local Department of Family Services (DFS) offices, Senior Centers and other local partnering agencies. Applicants should mail completed applications and supporting documents to:

P.O. Box 827, Cheyenne, WY 82003; fax them to 307-778-3943; or email them to [lieapinfo@thealignteam.org](mailto:lieapinfo@thealignteam.org)

**REMINDER...** scholarships must be at the NEA office by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, February 24th to make the deadline for submission.

**BE THINKING ABOUT...** Youth Energy Leadership Camp applications will be coming out soon. If you are a high school Freshman, Sophomore or Junior, consider attending this all expense paid, educational opportunity.

**Incumbent Directors Up For Re-Election in 2017:**

**District 1, John Hester**

**District 2, Joel D Wasserburger**

**District 3, Bill Wilson**

At the December Board Meeting the Board appointed the 2017 Nominating Committee members.

Appointed Committee Members are:

Ken Dixon, Denzel Coffey, Richard Ladwig, Cheryl Lund, Stan Rennard, Dan Hanson, Jon Woodrum, Rodney Gray and Donald Mack.

**February 15th, the Nominating Committee will meet at the NEA office, 5:30 p.m.**

The Committee meets for the purpose of nominating qualifying (confirmed member of the cooperative, who resides within the area serviced by the cooperative and receives service from the cooperative in the district he or she is to represent) members to serve NEA's three districts.

Nominations are published in service area newspapers the following week and will be posted at headquarters and on our website & Facebook page until Annual Meeting in May.

Cooperative Members become Board members by choosing to run for election, via Nominating Committee or by petition. Service on the Board requires commitment of time and an understanding of responsibility to the membership with decision making on everything from infrastructure expenditure to legislative debate.

Nominations can be made by petition of 15 or more members acting together. **Nominations by petition must be submitted at the NEA office no later than April 18th to be printed on the ballot.**

**Annual Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 18th.**

New rates were approved by the NEA Board in late November. NEA has posted these rates on Facebook, SmartHub and our website, as well as, publishing in local newspapers during the month of January. February 1st new rates are in effect. If you have questions or concerns regarding your billing, call and speak with Julie. If you have questions or concerns regarding the new rates, call and speak with Kenny.

RATE CLASS	CURRENT RATE	RATE EFFECTIVE 2/1/2017
1. SINGLE PHASE -		
FACILITIES CHARGE	\$31.00	\$33.00
ENERGY CHARGE	\$0.10781	0.10600
Average Increase for class 0.65 percent		
2. SINGLE PHASE – SEASONAL		
FACILITIES CHARGE	\$372.00	\$396.00
ENERGY CHARGE	\$0.10781	\$0.10781
Average Increase for class 4.21 percent		
3. SINGLE PHASE - TIME OF USE		
FACILITIES CHARGE		
Single Phase	\$31.00	\$33.00
Three Phase	\$40.60	\$40.60
ENERGY CHARGE		
On-peak	\$0.15366	\$0.15366
Off-peak	\$0.05879	\$0.05879
Average Increase for class 1.31 percent		
4. THREE PHASE		
FACILITIES CHARGE	\$50.00	\$55.00
ENERGY / kWh	\$0.10426	\$0.10200
Average Decrease for class 0.82 percent		
5. IRRIGATION		
MONTHLY FACILITIES CHARGE (6 months)	\$100.00	\$110.00
DEMAND CHARGE / kW	\$18.00	\$19.45
ENERGY / kWh	\$0.004716	\$0.04716
Average Increase for class 4.87 percent		
6. LARGE POWER		
FACILITIES CHARGE	\$300.00	\$300.00
DEMAND CHARGE / kW	\$23.15	\$23.75
ENERGY / kWh	\$0.05267	\$0.05267
Average Decrease for class 1.09 percent		
7. Lighting		
(70 & Security Lighting)	\$14.48	\$15.00

[www.niobrara-electric.org](http://www.niobrara-electric.org)

[www.facebook.com/NiobraraElectric](https://www.facebook.com/NiobraraElectric)



NEA NEWS is a publication of Niobrara Electric Association., Inc

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**Touchstone Energy<sup>SM</sup>**

### Office Hours

Monday—Thursday

7:30 am—5:00 pm

Fridays 7:30 am—  
4:00 pm

**Electrician Department**

**7:00 am—5:30 pm (M-F)**

**Outages** ....1-800-322-0544  
or 307-334-3221

Phones are answered 24 hours a day. Phones will be answered by Niobrara Electric Association during office hours and the Niobrara County Sheriff's office will take all other calls and dispatch NEA personnel.

Welcome to the start of the new year! With the new year comes new activities and plans for 2017. The biggest of those is the work plan rebuild of about 15 miles of line along Highway 270 from the bottom side of 77 Hill to Lance Creek. We had the bid opening in early January and it came in lower than we had expected the project to cost, so we will be extending the length of the rebuild a couple miles to take in more deteriorated line. We may also use the contractor to install some new poles close to the Van Tassell sub to allow for us to take it out of service for major maintenance.

Another project we are looking at is an additional building for the Harrison outpost. Through the years, the equipment that we use has been getting larger. The latest bucket truck that will be arriving in the spring will be the last straw that will put us at or beyond the capacity of the buildings that we currently have. The new building will house the two biggest pieces of equipment, the bucket and the digger truck, as well as better material storage with a little room for growth. We hope to get many years of good service from the new building.

As you can see by the earlier article, it is already time to start thinking about Annual Meeting. The start of the process is the Nominating Committee, with notices and Annual Meeting following in May. Time flies, the good news is that is also about how far we are from spring and summer weather.

Have a great day and stay safe,

Kenny

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### District

John Hester	1	Keeline, WY	President
Andy Barnette	2	Lusk, WY	
David Keener	3	Marsland, NE	Sec./Treas
Bill Wilson	3	Harrison, NE	
Jack Hammond	1	Lance Creek, WY	
Jim Dunn	3	Harrison, NE	
Kenny DeGering	2	Lusk, WY	
Andy Greer	1	Lance Creek, WY	
JD Wasserburger	2	Lusk, WY	Vice President

### **December Board Meeting**

- Director Hammond reviewed Tri-State business.
- Director Greer shared WREA business.
- Director Keener spoke on NREA business.
- General Manager Kenny Ceaglske discussed updating policies, credit checks for new services, other capital projects and PSC activities.
- Line Superintendent Rick Bridge spoke about new safety training provider, pre bid meeting for the Lance Creek job and pole change outs.