

In August of 2024 Tri-State G & T (TS) formed a Contract Committee to review the current contract language in our Wholesale Electric Service Contract (WESC) as required by policy. Along with delegates from all other TS memberships, I along with NEA/TS Director Bill Wilson attended many meetings from August through March of this year. TS was seeking recommendations from the committee regarding contract language but also to ask members to extend our current contract obligations from 2050 to 2066.

The benefits of the extension would to insure we maintained our reliability and resilience in an unsteady market. TS is joining the Southwest Power Pool which also helps reduce rate variability. Being a member-owner of TS also has benefits such as patronage capital allocations and ownership in many valuable assets.

TS credit ratings have fallen over the last couple of years, one of the factors cited is member unrest. United which was TS largest member filed paperwork to exit TS and there have been at least two additional members follow suit. TS theory is if members extended their contracts it would show the rating agencies that most members are not unsatisfied with their membership with TS which would help raise the credit rating which in turn gives them better leverage to borrow money for needed infrastructure and other important investments.

The NEA board voted to extend the contract to 2066 as did the majority of other members. There is a small portion of members that did not renew, while the TS membership provides us with many benefits there are also the draw backs such as being headquartered in Colorado and as such they have very stringent requirements to meet when it comes to renewables and the many “go green” initiatives set forth by the Colorado government.

Wyoming Coops continue to fight for fairness in cost causation meaning if the regulations that are mandated by a state cause increased costs for the G & T then that state should bear the financial responsibility rather than all states having to foot the bill, especially when we disagree with the path those regulations are taking us down. Shutting down coal fired plants and replacing them with non-dispatchable resources at a very high cost is not something Wyoming Coops think their membership should have to pay for.

Just like everything in life, we must take the good with the bad and hope for the best. I have a hard time wrapping my head around what NEA will look like 41 years from now but we are doing our best to stay committed to our membership and keep the lights on!

-Shawna

*HAPPY INDEPENDENCE  
DAY TO ALL OUR MEM-  
BERS!*

*OUR OFFICE IS CLOSED  
ON THURSDAY, JULY  
3RD AND FRIDAY, JULY  
4TH FOR THE HOLIDAY  
CELEBRATION.*



### Office Hours

Monday—Thursday

7:00 a.m.— 5:00 p.m.

Closed Fridays and Holidays

(New Years Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas)

Phones numbers for outages.

After hours:

SRS Dispatch

1-800-322-0544

During Business Hours

307-334-3221

Niobrara Electric Assn.

3951 US HWY 20

PO Box 697

Lusk, WY 82225

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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AW Manning	Lance Creek, WY

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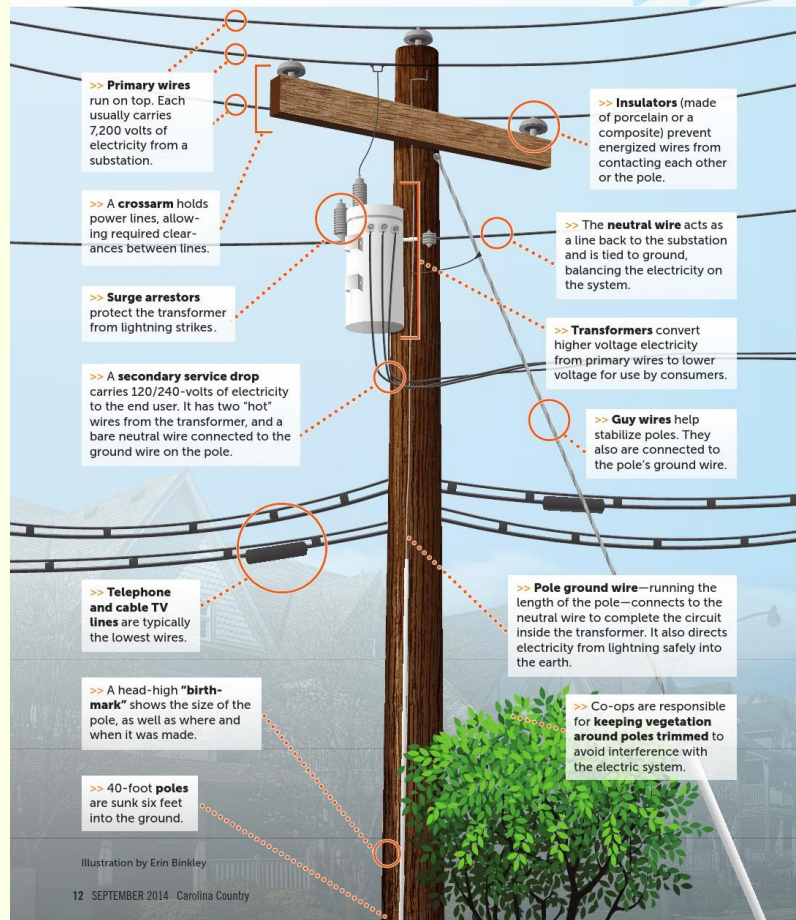
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#### District 3

Sec./Treas David Keener	Marsland, NE
Bill Wilson	Harrison, NE
Jim Dunn	Harrison, NE

## >> What's on that pole?

This illustration shows basic equipment found on electric power distribution poles. Not all poles have all this equipment on them. They vary according to location and the service they provide.



Now that summer storm season is upon us and outages are inevitable, please remember when calling in an outage to have your account information readily available for dispatching accuracy. Dispatch will need the name on the account, a meter number and any supporting information you can provide about time of the event, location, best contact phone number, and any known damage. You may also be asked if you have checked your breaker on the meter pole. During system wide or large area outages, it may take time to get through to our office or SRS dispatch by phone. We may be aware of the outage but always appreciate member calls to report information. Check our Facebook postings, if able, for outage progress updates.

