



April 2025



Wheat Belt PPD Weighs Contract Extension with Tri-State Generation as Decision Deadline Approaches



LACEY GULBRANSON
General Manager/CEO

Many of our customers know that Wheat Belt is under contract with Tri-State Generation and Transmission out of Westminster, CO. This contract is considered an all-requirements contract, meaning that Wheat Belt will purchase all our power (demand and energy or kW and kWh) from Tri-State. In return Tri-State is contracted for the generation and transmission reliability side of the equation. Wholesale power contracts are multi-decade contracts to support the construction of power generating plants that have a useful life of over 30 years. Wheat Belt has been contracted with Tri-State since the inception of Tri-State in 1952. (Fun fact: Wheat Belt's first General Manager, Charles Ham was the first President of Tri-State's Board and later served as the Vice President).

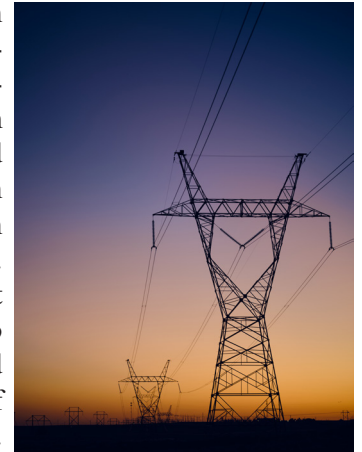
Our current contract with Tri-State was signed in 2006 and currently is set to expire in 2050. Tri-State is actively going through a process to seek contract extensions through 2066. I have sat on Tri-State's Contract Committee for the past year as Wheat Belt's representative.

Wheat Belt's Board of Directors has been deliberating the issue of

extending our contract with Tri-State until 2066 or remain with a current contract end date of 2050. Each month the Board is provided with additional information to help them reach a decision by mid to late May of 2025. Our Board was recently at Tri-State's office in Colorado where discussion was held about the pros and cons of signing a contract extension. And just last week (March 7)

Tri-State hosted a regional meeting to discuss contract extension where some of our board was present to help

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Editor - Kelli Chaon

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Wheat Belt Weighs Contract Extension cont'd from 3-A
inform their decision making.

Our Board works diligently to make the best business decisions for Wheat Belt (company, customers and employees). And as always, Wheat Belt PPD is committed to delivering electricity safely, reliably and efficiently focusing on respecting individuals, producing quality work and valuing integrity for the greater good of the customers and employees.



- The Board approved Safety Bonuses for the employees in the amount of \$4,750. This will be divided between the inside and outside employees.
- Jay Spearman with Northland Securities reported the Wheat Belt Bonds in the amount of \$4.7M have been sold as per the request of the board.
- Director Morgan reminded the board of Tri-State G&T's upcoming Annual Meeting on April 1 & 2, at the Omni Interlocken Hotel in Broomfield, CO.
- Lacey Gulbranson, General Manager, reported Tri-State will be filing their Demand Response Tariff with FERC in the coming weeks. They will also be filing a tariff for High Impact Loads in the coming months.
- Operations Manager, Rollie Waite, reported on the RESAP Training held at Wheat Belt. Ken Macken, NRECA's Safety Director, conducted the training. There was great attendance from area systems for the training.
- Discussions have been held at the Statewide regarding the training facility located north of Sidney. Waite stated there will be a meeting in March to discuss what type of building is needed, and the funding of the project.
- Gulbranson discussed with the board our current software capabilities and that we are currently exploring other options available to see if there are other options that could serve our needs better.

Lineworkers are Wired for Service

BY: KELLI CHAON *Customer Engagement Manager*

In the quiet hours before dawn breaks, while many of us are still nestled in our beds, lineworkers begin their day, often clad in flame-resistant clothing, safety glasses, rubber gloves and thick, heavy boots.

They are the individuals who epitomize dedication to service in its purest form. As we celebrate Lineworker Appreciation Day on April 14, this is an important moment to reflect on the essential role they play in our daily lives.

Amid towering utility poles and power lines, lineworkers exhibit a strength that goes far beyond the physical. Whether battling inclement weather, troubleshooting technical problems or navigating treacherous heights, lineworkers demonstrate resilience and a quiet determination to keep our lights on, our homes comfortable, and our communities connected.

Wheat Belt PPD crews travel across our seven-county service territory, building, maintaining and repairing parts of our local system. Their extraordinary skills ensure our homes remain connected to the grid, businesses stay operational, and emergency services remain accessible—a lifeline that connects us all.

In moments of crisis, when the lights go out and we find ourselves in the dark, lineworkers emerge as beacons of hope. Their swift response restores normalcy, offering reassurance in times of uncertainty. Whether repairing storm-ravaged power lines or ensuring continuity during emergencies, their unwavering commitment illuminates life when we need it most.

Wheat Belt PPD crews also answer the call beyond the boundaries of home. Our crews travel to fellow systems, near or far, when widespread outages occur, and additional support is needed.

This month, as we celebrate the remarkable men and women who ensure reliable power, let's recognize their unwavering dedication to the local communities they serve.

The next time you flip a switch, please take a moment to remember those who make it possible—lineworkers, who are wired for service and dedicated to illuminating life.

Wheat Belt Linemen are Wired for Service

THROUGH RAIN AND HAIL
SNOW AND WIND
OUR LINEMEN ARE THERE!

LINEWORKER APPRECIATION DAY - APRIL 14TH, 2025



LUCKY DRAWING

Congratulations to Brandon and Michele Jensen, our February “Lucky Draw Winner”!

Brandon and Michele have a home in the Lewellen area and have been Wheat Belt customers since 2017. Michele works in accounting and Brandon works in construction. In their spare time, they enjoy hanging out at the lake and spending time with friends.

The Jensen’s received a \$50 credit on their account for their prompt payment. If you would like to be included in our next drawing, and avoid a \$5 delinquent fee, please send your payment before the 16th of the month.

For your convenience, we offer several payment options. Please give us a call at 308-254-5871, or visit wheatbelt.com, and select the Customer Engagement page for more information.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Turn your suds into savings. Lower your energy use in the laundry room by washing clothes with cold water whenever possible, as heating water accounts for most of the energy used in a laundry cycle. Wash full loads to make the most of energy savings, and use high-efficiency detergent designed for cold washes. For drying cycles, clean the lint filter before each load to improve airflow and use dryer balls to reduce drying time.



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Kelli Chaon

OFFICE HOURS:

7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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Our Mission

Deliver electricity safely, reliably and efficiently.