# the Wheat Belt Connection

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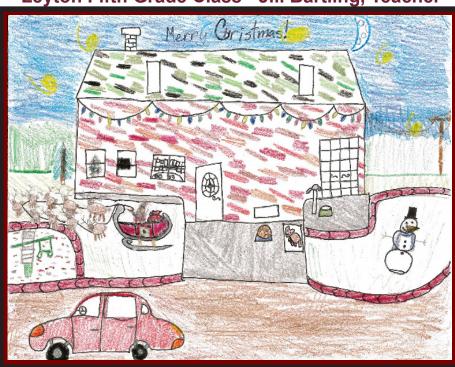


MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL - STAY SAFE

**DECEMBER 2018** 

# Christmas Cover Contest Winner

Halle Carter, Fifth Grade
Leyton Fifth Grade Class - Jill Bartling, Teacher



Thank you Halle Carter for helping us wish our customers a Very Merry Christmas. Halle is a Fifth Grade Student at Leyton, and shared her drawing in our Christmas Cover Contest. Halle is our Grand Prize Winner.

We enjoy these drawing, and are happy to be able to share them with our customers and friends. We want to extend a special Thank You to the teachers that allow the time and put forth the effort to be a part of our contest. We hope you have a wonderful Holiday Season.

#### **Wheat Belt Connection**

Editor

Pam Wieser

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# Drawing Winner

Yolanda Hruska

Congratulations to Robert and Celeste Rodgers of Bridgeport, our October "Lucky Winners!" Robert and Celeste are known for farming, ranching and their Quarter and Paint horses.

For many years, their team of horses provided wagon rides for weddings, holidays, birthday parties and community events. They have been married for 51 years, and enjoy spending time with their three children, five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. They are retired, however, they keep busy caring for their dogs, cats, goats and horses.

For their prompt payment, they receive a \$50 credit on their account. If you would like to be included in our next drawing, and avoid the \$5 delinquent fee, please send your payment before the 18th of the month. We offer several payment options: Automatic Bank Draft or Credit Card and Online Payment. For more information, give us a call or visit wheatbelt.com, and select the Customer Services menu.

# Bernie Fehringer & John Gortemaker Achieve Director Gold Credential

The NRECA (National Rural Electric Association) Gold Credential is reserved for those directors who have earned their CCD (Credentialed Cooperative Director) and BLC (Board Leadership Certificate), and continue their education beyond those certifications by earning three additional credits, and demonstrating an ongoing commitment to advancing their knowledge and performing their fiduciary duty to the best of their ability. Bernie Fehringer, President and John Gortemaker, Treasurer, have both received this status in 2018.

Congratulations Bernie and John!



John Gortemaker and Bernie Fehringer



Tim Lindahl, CEO, presents the Gold Credential Certificate to President, Bernie Fehringer

# Quotes to Ponder

"Gratefulness is being thankful for what you were given instead of feeling you deserved more!"

Unknown

"When I started counting my blessings, my whole life turned around."

Willie Nelson

"When you focus on what life has given you, you will find a happy life." "Jealousy sabotoges happiness."

> "Misery may love company, but a smile is contagious."

> > Unknown

"Vegetables are a must on a diet. I suggest, Carrot Cake, Zucchini Bread and Pumpkin Pie." Inspirational Quotes

"When someone is rude or unkind, keep a smile on your face, it is not only a reflection of your character, it takes away their perceived power." Unknown

more than holiday shopping!

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Tim Lindahl General Manager

Tim's Tidbits

# Rate Update



Your public power district operates on a not-for-profit basis, meaning that we provide electricity and charge rates to only cover the cost of the service we provide. We look for opportunities to reduce costs, without impacting reliability or safety. We utilize a long-term financial model to monitor trends, time major expenditures, and optimize our need for funding.

Our revenue comes from the rates we charge. From time to time, we utilize an outside firm to examine our rates and the cost to serve each class of customer, and also individual customers within a class. We conducted a study in 2017 to do just that. Over time, the cost to serve various customers can change. We want to be as fair as we can to make sure all of our customers are paying a fair portion for the energy they use, and the use of the electric system. The study showed that we needed to make some adjustments to our rates. It was decided to make these adjustments over time to make sure we are all in alignment, and to make sure we do not have a need to over collect in some years to cover years where we under collect. In conjunction with the study, a five-year rate plan was recommended to your board to better align our rates with costs.

The board of directors approved changes to the rates to reflect year two of that plan. We have

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.New Construction
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Riley Benish is our Reserve Champion Cover Contest Winner. Riley is a Leyton Fourth-Grade Student Allie Peters is Riley's Teacher

included the new rates that will take effect January 1 of 2019. In addition to our traditional rates, we continue to evaluate and recommend optional rates that reflect the cost of energy, based on the time of day it is used. These rates are designed, so that if you can use them, we pass the savings of energy costs to you. As our technology

in the field improves, we will continue to develop additional rates to allow you options in your energy use, and potentially save money on your energy bill.

Sarah and I would like to wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas, and the best in the New Year!!

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Alignments





# **RATE SCHEDULE**

Rate Schedule: A-1
GENERAL PURPOSE - SMALL

Original Issue Date: Unknown Revision/Effective Date: 1-1-2019 Page 1 of 1

### **Qualifying Service**

Any single-phase service, 25 kVA or less connected transformer capacity. Services classified as <u>Irrigation</u> do not qualify for this rate schedule.

#### **Rates**

Basic Charge: \$42.65 per month

Energy Charge: 0 - 50 kWh \$0.0000

51 - 1600 kWh \$0.0969 1601 kWh and above \$0.0879

## Power Factor Charge

None

### **Production Cost Adjustments**

In the event that adjustments are made to the District's wholesale cost of power, charges or credits shall be made to this rate accordingly. Such charges or credits shall be billed separately as "Production Cost Adjustments." If changes are made to the wholesale supplier's power rate for the District, the District reserves the right to change this rate to reflect the wholesale supplier changes.





#### RATE SCHEDULE

Rate Schedule: A-2

GENERAL PURPOSE - LARGE

Original Issue Date: 1-1-2003 Revision/Effective Date: 1-1-2019 Page 1 of 1

#### **Qualifying Service**

Any single-phase service, 26 - 50 kVA connected transformer capacity.

or

Any multi-phase service, 0 - 50 kVA connected transformer capacity.

Services classified as Irrigation do not qualify for this rate schedule.

#### **Rates**

Basic Charge: \$72.22 per month

Energy Charge: 0 - 750 kWh \$0.0947 751 kWh and above \$0.0887

### **Power Factor Charge**

None

# **Production Cost Adjustments**

In the event that adjustments are made to the District's wholesale cost of power, charges or credits shall be made to this rate accordingly. Such charges or credits shall be billed separately as "Production Cost Adjustments." If changes are made to the wholesale supplier's power rate for the District, the District reserves the right to change this rate to reflect the wholesale supplier changes.



#### RATE SCHEDULE

Rate Schedule: **C-1** 

**LARGE POWER** 

Original Issue Date: Unknown Revision/Effective Date: 1-1-2019 Page 1 of 2

#### **Qualifying Service**

Any single-phase or multi-phase service, greater than 50 kVA and less than 1000 kVA connected transformer capacity, delivered from the 12.5/7.2 or 24.9/14.4 kV distribution system.

Services classified as <u>Irrigation</u> do not qualify for this rate schedule.

#### **Rates**

Basic Charge: \$82.50 per month
Retail Demand Charge: \$2.75 per kW, per month

Energy Demand Charge: \$12.03 per kW, per month

Rate

Energy Charge: (per kWh) \$0.0536

#### **Determination of Billing Demand**

The energy billing demand shall be the maximum kilowatt (kW) demand established by the customer for any fifteen (15) consecutive minute period during the month for which the bill is rendered, as indicated or recorded by the District's metering equipment.

The Retail Demand shall be based on the maximum kilowatt (kW) demand established by the location for any fifteen (15) consecutive minute period recorded during the current month or previous eleven (11) months, as indicated or recorded by the District's metering equipment.

#### **Power Factor Charge**

A power factor charge will be assessed to compensate for average power factor lower than eighty-five (85%) lagging. The power factor charge will be calculated by increasing the demand charge by one percent (1%) for each one percent (1%) by which the average power factor is less than eighty-five (85%) lagging.

The District will consult with the customer regarding power factor correction and applicable charges before applying the provisions of this clause.

#### **Minimum Monthly Charge**

The minimum monthly charge shall be the highest of the following, as determined by the District:

- The monthly minimum billing amount as specified by contract between the District and the customer or.
- The Basic Charge plus the Retail Demand Charge, as listed in this rate.

**Production Cost Adjustments** 

In the event that adjustments are made to the District's wholesale cost of power, charges or credits shall be made to this rate accordingly. Such charges or credits shall be billed separately as "Production Cost Adjustments." If changes are made to the wholesale supplier's power rate for the District, the District reserves the right to change this rate to reflect the wholesale supplier changes.







#### RATE SCHEDULE

Rate Schedule: I-1			
IRRIGATION			
Original Issue Date: Unknown	Revision/Effective Date: 4-1-2019	Page 1 of 2	

#### **Qualifying Service**

Applicable to electric service used for water pumping loads for agricultural irrigation purposes.

Rates

Basic Charge: April - September Single Phase -

\$64.00 per month Retail Demand Charge -\$1.40 per kW, per month

\$135.00 per month Retail Demand Charge \$2.80 per kW, per month

October - March
No basic or retail demand charge

Energy Demand Charge: April 1 - September 15 \$10.32 per kW, per month

September 16 - March 31 [No energy demand charge]

Energy Charge: April 1 - September 15 \$0.0574 per kWh September 16 - March 31 \$0.1556 per kWh

#### **Determination of Billing Demand**

The energy billing demand shall be the maximum kilowatt (kW) demand established by the customer for any fifteen (15) consecutive minute period during the month for which the bill is rendered, as indicated or recorded by the District's metering equipment.

The Retail Demand shall be based on the maximum kilowatt (kW) demand established by the location for any fifteen (15) consecutive minute period recorded during the current season or the previous year's April - September, as indicated or recorded by the District's metering equipment.

#### Minimum Monthly Charge

The minimum monthly charge shall be the following, as determined by the District:

- . The monthly minimum billing amount as specified by contract between the District and the
- The applicable basic charges plus the Retail Demand Charge, as listed in this rate.

#### **Production Cost Adjustments**

In the event that adjustments are made to the District's wholesale cost of power, charges or credits shall be made to this rate accordingly. Such charges or credits shall be billed separately as "Production Cost Adjustments." If changes are made to the wholesale supplier's power rate for the District, the District reserves the right to change this rate to reflect the wholesale supplier changes.



#### Wheat Belt Public Power District **Board of Directors**

#### RATE SCHEDULE

Rate Schedule:	I-2			
Time of Use IRRIGATION				
Original Issue Date	e: Unknown	Revision/Effective Date: 4-1-2019	Page 1 of 2	

#### **Qualifying Service**

Applicable to electric service used for water pumping loads for agricultural irrigation purposes.

#### Rates

Basic Charge: April - September

\$66.38 per month Retail Demand Charge -\$1.40 per kW, per month

Multi-Phase -\$137.78 per month

Retail Demand Charge -\$2.80 per kW, per month

October - March
No basic or retail demand charge

April 1 - September 15 \$10.32 per kW, per month September 16 - March 31 [No energy demand charge] Peak Period Demand Charge:

Energy Charge: April 1 - September 15

Peak Period Energy Charge \$0.0522 per kWh Off Peak Period Energy Charge \$.0626 per kWh September 16 – March 31 \$0.1578 per kWh

#### **Determination of Billing Demand and On Peak Period Energy**

The energy demand shall be the maximum kilowatt (kW) demand established by the customer for any fifteen (15) consecutive minute period during the month for which the bill is rendered, as indicated or recorded by the District's metering equipment during the peak period. The peak period is Monday through Saturday, 12:00 noon to 10:00 PM Mountain Time, excluding the following holidays: Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Labor Day.

The Retail Demand shall be based on the maximum kilowatt (kW) demand established any time by the location for any fifteen (15) consecutive minute period recorded during current season or the previous year's April - September, as indicated or recorded by the District's metering equipment.

#### Minimum Monthly Charge

The minimum monthly charge shall be the following, as determined by the District:

- The monthly minimum billing amount as specified by contract between the District and the customer. If the original term of the contract has expired, then
- The applicable basic charges plus the Retail Demand Charge, as listed in this rate. Rate Requirements

A service must be assigned to this rate no later than five full business days prior to the last day of the month and remain on the rate for on calendar year.

#### **Production Cost Adjustments**

In the event that adjustments are made to the District's wholesale cost of power, charges or credits shall be made to this rate accordingly. Such charges or credits shall be billed separately as "Production Cost Adjustments." If changes are made to the wholesale supplier's power rate for the District, the District reserves the right to change this rate to reflect the wholesale supplier changes.



First Place Winner McKenna Hillis **Garden County Second Grade Dustin Styskal, Teacher** 



**Honorable Mention Auvi Cranmore Levton Third Grade** Becky Murray, Teacher

# Dean Gipfert Honored as Recipient of the Jack McEnerney Safety Award

Dean Gipfert, Sidney Area Foreman, was honored in Mid-October with the Jack McEnerney Safety Award at the annual Job Training and Safety Conference held in Kearney, Nebraska.

He was also blessed with the surprise appearance of his family at the presentation. The award is kept secret until the night of the banquet where the recipient is announced after an introduction with details of his dedication to safety, fellow employees and his community. This was no easy task as you can imagine with a crew this size.

Dean received a plaque and a traveling plaque that is displayed in Wheat Belt's front office as well as a special award jacket.

The importance of working safely has always been stressed at Wheat Belt. We want each, and every employee, to be able to go home to family at the end of the day. It is the most important accomplishment of every day.

Promoting safety as a culture comes from those that have lived it many years. Dean stressed this with his acceptance speech.

Congratulations Dean, and thanks, Nancy, for all the covert help!

By Pam Wieser



Wheat Belt Public Power District P O Box 177, Sidney, Nebraska Serving parts of Cheyenne, Deuel, Morrill, Garden, Arthur and Keith Counties

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