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AUCTION

Miscellaneous electrical parts, tools and other items will be auctioned at the NEA on Thursday, March 30th.

Matney Auction Service will begin the auction at 10:00 a.m.



RETAIL RATE ADJUSTMENT

After approving the budget in the January 2023 Board Meeting, the NEA Board of Directors voted to implement the first retail rate adjustment since January 2019, due to economic pressures. Much of the increase will be seen in the monthly facility charge, however there is a slight 1% increase in the energy charge as well. Per Wyoming State Statute 37-17-104, NEA must give members 30 days’ notice of this rate adjustment. This increase will be effective May 1st, 2023.

As with almost every industry in today’s economy, the cost of doing business for NEA has risen significantly over the last two (2) years. NEA has experienced decreased margins due to lost industrial loads during and after the pandemic, significant inflationary costs of materials, (i.e., 35’ poles have increased by \$10,245 per load since November 2020), special equipment costs, operating costs, fleet expenses, and fleet assets to name a few.

We have also had to retain counsel and consultants for regulatory issues facing us in the last few years such as invasion of our certificated territories resulting in lost revenues, right of way issues, and issues which have arisen with our wholesale power supplier regarding Colorado’s carbon reduction requirements. These fees are expensive but necessary for insuring Wyoming members are not harmed either by changing laws or Colorado regulations.

And finally, the cooperative business is by nature, very capital intensive. The cost of maintaining and upgrading our aging system is extensive and to increase reliability and continue to decrease outages and outage times, we must invest in the improvement of our system, not simply maintain it.

Should you have questions or comments please contact us. New rates will be available on the website and on SmartHub soon. You can obtain a copy of the new rate guideline by contacting our office 1-800-322-0544 or 307-334-3221.

Shawna Glendy, Niobrara Electric Association General Manager

nea@niobrara-electric.org

PO Box 697 Lusk, WY 82225

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer."



Touchstone EnergySM

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday

7:30 am—5:00 pm

Friday 7:30 am—4 pm

Outages1-800-322-0544
or 307-334-3221

Phones are answered 24 hours a day.

Phones will be answered by Niobrara Electric Association during office hours and SRS will take all other calls and dispatch NEA personnel.

IRRIGATORS, YOU WILL BE RECEIVING A LETTER SOON. HERE IS SOME OF THE INFORMATION COMING IN YOUR IRRIGATION LETTERS.

CONNECTION OF ACCOUNT—Before an irrigation account will be connected member-owners must comply with the following:

1. **Functional capacitors** must be installed and operational on all irrigation systems.
2. Member-owner must pay the **prepayment, or alternatively, furnish a bank Letter of Guarantee**. The prepayment shall equal to three times the annual minimum charge or the total sum of the three highest monthly billings for the previous year whichever is greater. Said payment must be made fourteen (14) business days prior to connection, but no later than May 1st of each year, whichever occurs first. Said payment shall be held by the association without payment of interest. Any undisputed, unpaid balance owed after crediting of unused prepayment shall be due and payable per the applicable billing statement and the irrigation tariff. In lieu of a prepayment, the irrigation member-owner may provide NEA with a Letter of Guarantee from a financial institution guaranteeing payment of an amount equal to the prepayment described above.
3. If you do not plan to operate your irrigation system this year, please notify the NEA office prior to April 15, 2023. If you want the lines and service removed, payment of an idle service charge equal to 75% off the annual minimum charge plus 6 months of the facilities charge must be paid prior to May 1, 2023. Once the service has been connected for the season, regardless if used or not, you will be billed 100% of the minimum annual charge plus the facilities charge.

Please check out information page on our SmartHub Product for online billing and payment information. <https://niobraraelectric.smarthub.coop/Login.html>

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	
AW Manning	1	Lance Creek, WY	
Jim Dunn	3	Harrison, NE	
Neal Wurdeman	2	Lusk, WY	
Bradyn Bruegger	1	Lance Creek, WY	
JD Wasserburger	2	Lusk, WY	Vice President

BOARD ROOM NEWS

No lost time incidents. One minor staple injury.

2023 budget was approved and Nominating Committee was appointed.

Management spoke on WREA, Tri-State Rate Design Committee update, up coming annual audit and PSC/Continental issues.

Director Wilson spoke on Tri-State business.

Director Keener spoke on NREA business.

No WREA Director report.

We are a member of

