



Recently NEA and the other seven (7) Tri-State Wyoming Cooperatives have been the subject of multiple articles in the Cowboy State Daily news:

“Rural Wyoming Co-ops to Get More Green Power from Colorado-Based Parent Company”,

“Colorado – Based Tri-State Ditching Coal Power Alienates Its 8 Wyoming Co-ops”,

“Co-ops in Wyoming and Beyond Look to United Power as Template to Leave Tri-State”.

The headlines of these articles are very misleading. It seems, for unknown reasons, they are trying to lead our members to believe WY Co-ops want to leave Tri-State. I can tell you firsthand, this is not the case.

First, Tri-State is not our parent company, it's a cooperative like NEA, and as such we are member-owners of Tri-State. All eight (8) cooperatives have been working closely with Tri-State on the energy transition. Yes, Tri-State is adding renewable energy and retiring coal fired plants, but with our help they are trying to make a seamless transition. Always keeping in sight the number one goal which is to continue to provide reliable, affordable power.

Secondly, I can assure you we are far from “alienated” and we are not looking to United Power for anything. They did exit Tri-State but at a significant cost to their membership. That is not in the cooperative model we follow.

In fact, when these articles came out, the WY Co-ops met with Tri-State and are working together to dispel these inaccurate headlines and assure you, our member-owners, that Tri-State is the best place to be for our power supply needs.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact me at 307-334-3221 and I'd be happy to discuss it with you.

Shawna Glendy, General Manager

NEA

OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE

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

nea@niobrara-electric.org

SAFETY SPOTLIGHT



Grass and brush fires can travel up to **15.5 miles per hour** and can spread to tens of thousands of acres within a few hours of ignition.

Source: National Fire Protection Association

The Summer of 2024 has seen numerous fires in and around Niobrara Electric's service territory. Lightning and cigarette butts are often culprits. Vehicle accidents and working tools that produce sparks can also have the unintended consequence of producing fires. Controlled burns need thoughtful planning and active management to ensure they stay "controlled".

Recommendations for controlled burns:

- Advance planning.
- Notify local authorities and neighbors, electric co-op (if near co-op equipment).
- Permitting if necessary.
- Forecast and weather monitoring.
- Clear vegetation around structures and electric poles if in vicinity. Wetting adjacent area may be beneficial.
- Controlled burns gone wrong could get expensive. The person who causes damage to a utility pole is responsible for the fees associated with replacing it.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

District 1

President John Hester Keeline, WY

Bradyn Bruegger Lance Creek, WY

AW Manning Lance Creek, WY

District 2

Vice Pres. JD Wasserburger Lusk, WY

Andy Barnette Lusk, WY

Neal Wurdeman Lusk, WY

District 3

Sec./Treas David Keener Marsland, NE

Bill Wilson Harrison, NE

Jim Dunn Harrison, NE



We are a member of

