

27th year 3rd Issue

April 2016

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LOCAL BUSINESSES PARTICIPATING IN THE CO-OP CONNECTIONS ®

SAME AS IT ONCE WAS - 10% off
store items.

HERREN BROTHERS - 10% off True
Value items not otherwise marked for
discount.

MILLER SOAP COMPANY LLC -
10% off products (does not include
shipping)

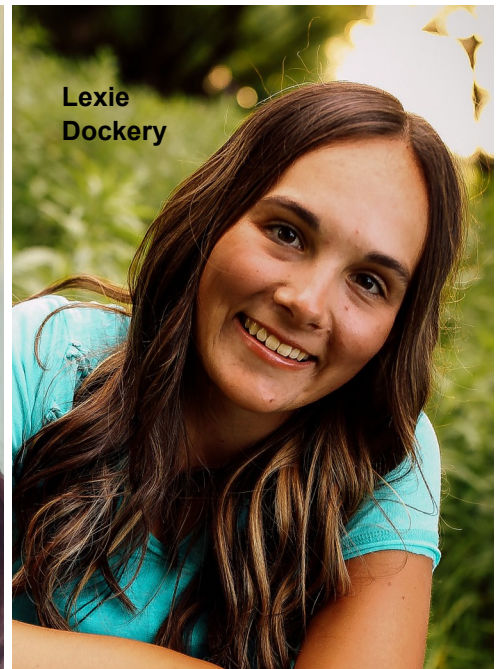
FINE GRIND - 10% Off purchase

COUNTRY CORNER HAIR SHOP -
10% off products

Help us recruit local business by en-
couraging your favorite business to
contact us to learn about joining the
program. There is no charge to the
business and all advertising is done
through us - it is a FREE service to
connect businesses and members for
a mutual benefit!



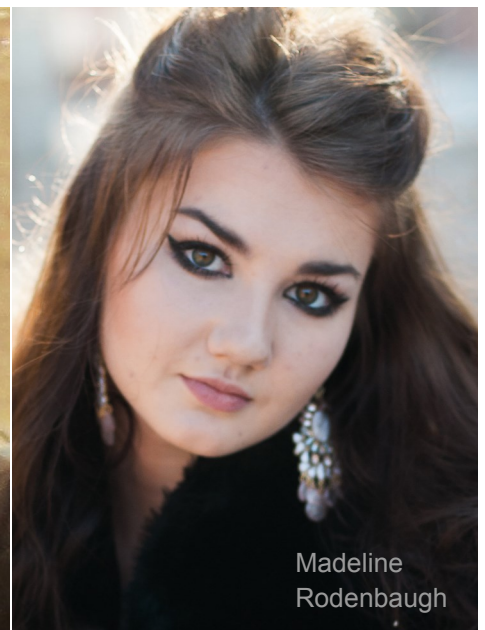
**Taryn
Thayer**



**Lexie
Dockery**



**Chelsea
Baars**



**Madeline
Rodenbaugh**

NEA, along with Basin Electric and Tri-State G&T, are pleased to provide
our membership with scholarship opportunities. Congratulations to all of
our 2016 winners!!!

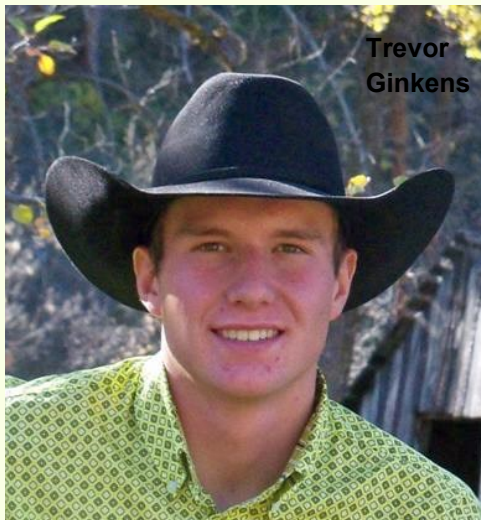
NIOBRARA ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION INC

CURRENT RATES - EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2016

SINGLE PHASE SERVICE (1P) (1,20,40,46,10,13)	Facilities Charge	\$31.00 per month (Min)
	Energy Charge	0.10781 per kWh
SINGLE PHASE TIME OF USE (1P-TOU) (5,25)	Facilities Charge	\$31.00 per month (Min)
	Energy Charge	0.15366 per kWh on Peak 0.05879 per kWh off Peak
SINGLE PHASE SEASONAL (1PS) (111)	Facilities Charge	\$372.00 per year (Min)
	Energy Charge	0.10781 per kWh
THREE PHASE SERVICE (3P) (41,42,47,57,61)	Facilities Charge	\$50.00 per month (Min)
	Energy Charge	0.10426 per kWh
THREE PHASE TIME OF USE (3P-TOU)	Facilities Charge	\$40.60 per month (Min)
	Energy Charge	0.15366 per kWh on Peak 0.05879 per kWh off Peak
IRRIGATION SERVICE (I) (130)	Facilities Charge	\$100.00 per month
	Annual Minimum	\$9.75 per HP (10 HP Min)
	Demand Charge	\$18.00 per kW per month
	Energy Charge	\$0.04716 per kWh
LARGE POWER SERVICE (LP) (55,56)	Facilities Charge	\$300.00 per month (Min)
	Demand Charge	\$23.15 per kW per month
	Energy Charge	\$0.05267 per kWh
SECURITY LIGHTING (SL)	175W MV Light	\$14.48 per month (Min)



**Rachel
Lashmett**



**Trevor
Ginkens**



**Kassidy
Miller**



Angelina
Bannan



Pryce
Millikin



Taylor
Rempp

\$9500.00 from NEA, Basin Electric and Tri-State G&T in Scholarships awarded!!!



Rustin
Starkey



Frank Falcon



Jerry
Gutierrez

www.niobrara-electric.org

www.facebook.com/NiobraraElectric



NEA NEWS is a publication of Niobrara Electric Association., Inc

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Touchstone EnergySM

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday

7:30 am—5:00 pm

**Fridays 7:30 am—
4:00 pm**

Electrician Department

7:00 am—5:30 pm (M-F)

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 the Niobrara County Sheriff's office will take all other calls and dispatch NEA personnel.

After some lengthy study, the rates are changing. The part that gets challenging to outline is up or down? It depends. Our rate structure from our power supplier changed back to the way it was a few years ago, and with the change, the usage patterns that cause the expenses change. Also, our rate has put quite a bit of our operating expenses in the energy (kWh) portion of the bill. The reality is that much of our cost happen no matter how much energy we sell. So that says that the costs should be paid by facilities charge, not the energy. This is why a few of the rate classes saw increases in the facilities charge. We did also adjust the per kWh charge down to create a "revenue neutral" or near 0% adjustment. Revenue neutral means that for all services in a given rate class, there will be no change in revenue. It does not mean "no rate change". With that said, low kWh users will see a slight increase in the overall bill and high kWh users may see a slight decrease, especially if you look at the total cost per kWh used.

For those that haven't worked with "demand" charges before, it is the idea of how much you need at once. Hauling cows is a great example of that. It's time to move my herd of 50 cows. I need to get all 50 to Torrington next week. The cows are the kWh you need to move. If you assume a small bumper pull trailer can haul 2, a pickup and a gooseneck can haul up to 20 and a semi take 50 per trip, your demand is how many you want to move at one time. If I am patient and have all week, I can take them 2 at a time, 25 trips (very low demand), or a lot faster as two and a half loads in the gooseneck, or one trip in the semi (high demand). Looking at just the equipment cost, the semi can handle high demand, but has a lot more investment to recover and has to be there if that is the way you want to be able to work. This is a very simplified example and doesn't take into account many of the other variables, but it gets to the point that demand drives the size and expense of the equipment out there, the wire, transformers, and all the way up to Tri States big generators. The costs are in turn associated to the customers that drive demand. Irrigation saw the bulk of their increase in demand to keep up with our changing wholesale rate structure.

The commercial accounts have provided the most kWh sales to the system in recent years, and with the old rate that was a large portion of our bill. With the new rate, they pay a lot of their expenses through demand, and less revenue was needed from the energy sales, so that is why the energy portion went down slightly.

All of these changes are our attempt to balance the revenue needs of the cooperative with the types of services that are on the system and make it so that each rate pays a fair amount for the energy needed and cost incurred.

Manager Kenny Ceaglske

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	
Jack Hammond	1	Lance Creek, WY	
Jim Dunn	3	Harrison, NE	
Kenny DeGering	2	Lusk, WY	
Andy Greer	1	Lance Creek, WY	
JD Wasserburger	2	Lusk, WY	Vice President

February Board Meeting

- Director Greer reported on WREA business.
- Director Hammond reviewed Tri-State business.
- Director Keener spoke concerning NREA business.
- Manager Ceaglske reported on capital credit retirement and rate changes.
- Line Superintendent Rick Bridge spoke about outages and vehicle needs.