

Annual General Meeting Postponement Update

The Board of Directors of West Wetaskiwin REA recognizes the importance of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) to our members. The ability for members to attend an AGM in our service area and vote on important agenda items is a fundamental principle of the cooperative business model.

However, upon updated consultation with local government, Rural Utilities and the Government of Alberta, it was determined that to practice sound pandemic management the AGM scheduled for March 26th would have to be postponed. That decision was taken with the affirmation from Rural Utilities there would be no negative consequences for West Wetaskiwin REA to defer the AGM and postponement plans were supported by an initial Order in Council.

Additionally, Dr. Deena Hinshaw, Alberta's Chief Medical Officer, has announced there will be no gatherings greater than 15 people permitted in an interior venue or 50 people maximum in an exterior setting over the course of the summer.

As of the publication of this newsletter, we are unable to provide a revised date.

With regard to the three Directors whose term expired as of March 26th, those Directors have technically 'stepped down'. The Board, following Rural Utilities directives, requested those Directors to remain for an interim term until an election can be held at the AGM. We are happy to report these individuals have agreed and West Wetaskiwin REA continues to govern with a full contingent of Directors.

In keeping with health protocols, your Board of Directors currently meets via Zoom to be protocol compliant.

If members have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact any of the Directors or the office for information. We will continue to monitor the guidelines for gatherings within the province and will keep members informed.



For power troubles or service requests,
contact: FortisAlberta (the distribution
system operator for West Wetaskiwin
REA): Toll-free: 1-855-333-9473
or 780-310-9473

For REA inquiries contact:
West Wetaskiwin REA
R.R. #1 Station Main,
Wetaskiwin, Alberta T9A 1W8
Phone: 780-335-9378 (WEST)
E-mail: westwet@telus.net
www.westwetaskiwinrea.com

For billing or account inquiries contact:
Battle River Power Coop
Box 1420
Camrose, Alberta T4V 1X3
Toll-free: 1-877-428-3972
E-mail: brpc@brpower.coop
www.brpower.coop

Contact with Powerlines



Contact with power lines can be 100% preventable when you plan ahead, know the size of your equipment and watch for lines. However accidents do happen and we should all be prepared.

If you do happen to contact a power line with your vehicle/equipment, avoid injury or death with these steps:

- 1 Break the contact.** Do what you can to break the electrical circuit. When possible, drive away from the contact point or move the arm of your sprayer or backhoe, or whatever is touching the line, away from the line.
- 2 Be aware.** If your vehicle/machinery hits a utility pole with enough force to down the pole, the power lines may fall on it or nearby, and the area around your machinery will, in all likelihood, become charged with electric energy. While downed lines may show they are live by arcing and sparking with electricity, this is not always the case. The electricity in a power line always seeks a path to the ground that might include a tree, a vehicle, or a fence. These objects then become energized. If you touch the energized line or object, the electricity can flow through your body. **Keep away from any object that is in contact with a power line (minimum 10 meters or 33 feet).**
- 3 Stay inside your vehicle and keep others away.** If you can't break the contact or move the equipment or vehicle, stay inside the equipment or vehicle, keep others away and call for help. **Always remember the 10 meter minimum distance.**



Call for help. Call 911 or FortisAlberta's emergency line - **310-WIRE (9473)** so emergency crews can isolate and ground the line to make it safe to work around.

If you must exit your vehicle, follow these steps to stay safe:

- 1 Open the door to your vehicle.** Be sure to open it as wide as possible so you will not make contact when exiting.
- 2 Jump from your vehicle, landing with both feet together.** When jumping, make sure you don't touch the vehicle and ground at the same time.
- 3 Shuffle or hop, don't step.** After you jump, move away slowly by shuffling and keeping both feet together or by bunny hopping slowly away from the vehicle. Do this until you are at least 10 meters away. Make sure the heel of one foot never passes the toe of the other. Don't touch anything (vehicle, passengers) until you're clear and don't return to your vehicle until help arrives and tells you it's safe.

Hop or shuffle away from an energized line until you are 10 meters (33 feet) away



Regulated
Rate
Option



The Regulated Rate Option (RRO) may increase or decrease from month to month as it is priced on the open market and subject to many factors relating to supply and demand. It is not a 'regulated' rate, rather is a default rate. If you do not have a contract with an electricity retailer, then you are on the RRO. For May 2020, the RRO is priced at \$0.06316 per kWh, reflected on your enclosed orange bill. For June 2020, the Battle River Power Coop monthly RRO billing rate is \$0.06303.

Members are free to purchase electricity services from a retailer of their choice. For a list of retailers, visit ucahelps.alberta.ca or call 310-4822 (toll free in Alberta).

Information on West Wetaskiwin REA's Code of Conduct Regulation Compliance Plan can be found on our website: www.westwetaskiwinrea.com