

## **MEMBER NEWSLETTER**

August 2021

## EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 16, 2021

### Battle River Power Coop will be the Distribution System Operator for the West Wetaskiwin REA.

Call Toll-free: 1.877.428.3972

## Distribution System Operations Changeover Update

As of November 16, 2021, Battle River Power Coop will be responsible for operating the West Wetaskiwin REA distribution system. From that date you will see Battle River Power Coop vehicles and employees in our service area and they will handle all aspects of our system operations from construction, to daily maintenance, vegetation management, and emergency response.



Battle River Power Coop has a toll-free line that is available 24/7/365 to respond to emergencies. Their website also has an outage map

which tracks both pre-planned and unplanned outages and there is an Outage APP that can be downloaded to a cell phone.

We will also be sending out magnets with new contact information for Battle River Power Coop.

# Electricity Contracts and RRO

Currently, Battle River Power Coop provides the Regulated Rate Option (RRO) for West Wetaskiwin REA.

Additionally there are several companies providing retail electricity services (contracts) to West Wetaskiwin REA members. The list of providers can be found on our website:

www.westwetaskiwinrea.com/electricity-providers.html.

Battle River Power Coop has connected with those companies to ensure that appropriate documents are signed by November 16th with the Coop to eliminate any disruption to those contracts.

In the event that a company has not signed their documents by November 16th, members will continue to receive electricity but will automatically revert to the RRO.

West Wetaskiwin REA and Battle River Power Coop are confident that all companies currently providing retail electricity services will continue to do so.

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: <u>westwet@telus.net</u> 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: <u>brpc@brpower.coop</u> <u>www.brpower.coop</u>

## Stay Safe this Fall Harvest and Use Caution When Working Around Power Lines

#### Check the height and width of your Try to break the electrical circuit by moving whatever equipment. Know the height to ensure you can part of your equipment is touching the line away from cross safely under power lines. Know the width the line. If that is not possible, stay in your vehicle and so you don't snag guy-wires and impact power warn others to stay away as downed power lines can pole integrity. Exercise caution and if equipment energize the ground up to 10 meters (or 33 feet). is higher than 4.1 meters (13.5 feet). Contact our system operator for assistance. If you accidently drive onto a downed energized power line, the area around your machinery will most Plan before you move tall equipment so you likely be charged with electric energy. Some downed 2 can confirm clearance measurements. lines show they are live by arcing and sparking, but that is not always the case. The electricity in a power line seeks a path to the ground (a tree, a fence or a Stay ten meters (33 feet) away from power vehicle that is parked on it) and those objects become **lines.** Pay special attention when lifting truck energized (even if the wire on the ground doesn't look boxes, back hoes or any other equipment that live). lifts when operating. Try to drive your vehicle off the line and be at least 10 Downed power lines = energized powerlines. meters (33 feet) before you disembark. Stay at least 10 meters (33 feet) away and warn Δ

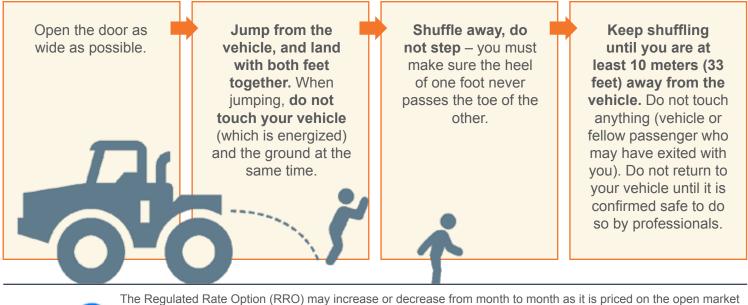
Call 911 for immediate assistance so the contact area can be isolated and equipment and driver safely moved away.

**Contact with Power Lines** 

### If you come in contact with a powerline and you must exit your vehicle, follow these steps:

others of the danger. Remember power lines

don't have to fall to be dangerous.



### 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 August 2021, the RRO is priced at \$0.15861 per kWh, reflected on your enclosed orange bill. For September 2021, the Battle River Power Coop monthly RRO billing rate is \$0.13208.

Members are free to purchase electricity services from a retailer of their choice. For a list of retailers, visit <u>ucahelps.alberta.ca</u> 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: <u>www.westwetaskiwinrea.com</u>