

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

October 2021



West Wetaskiwin REA announces the official start of our expanded co-operation with Battle River Power Coop as they assume responsibility as the Distribution System Operator for West Wetaskiwin REA effective November 16, 2021.

Battle River Power Coop has been providing the Regulated Rate Option for our members for several years and having them operate our system will further the co-operative advantage to members of both organizations. We look forward to building on our current relationship and to a mutually successful future partnership.

We remind members that effective November 16, 2021 at midnight, the power trouble phone number is 1-877-428-3972, available 24 hours per day.

New Services or Changes to Services

Effective immediately, new service requests and/or changes to existing services will require the completion of a form located on the REA website at the address: (www.westwetaskiwinrea.com/new-or-changes-to-services.html).

The form (see visual right) requires basic details such as contact information, legal land description, an area to provide a brief outline of the request and the submission date. The form can be submitted electronically and goes directly to the REA.

West Wetaskiwin REA will review the form and forward it to Battle River Power Coop.

From there Battle River Power Coop will contact the individual and make arrangements to facilitate the request. West Wetaskiwin REA will retain the responsibility for electric service contract signing.

For Power Troubles:

Battle River Power Coop (our distribution system operator)
Toll-free: 1-877-428-3972

For RRO Billing and Account Inquiries:

Battle River Power Coop | Box 1420 Camrose, Alberta T4V 1X3
Toll-free: 1-877-428-3972
E-mail: brpc@brpower.coop | Website: www.brpower.coop

For REA Inquiries, New Service and Service Change Requests:

Contact West Wetaskiwin REA, RR #1
Station Main, Wetaskiwin, Alberta T9A 1W8
Tel: 780-335-9378 (WEST)

E-mail: westwet@telus.net | Website: www.westwetaskiwinrea.com

For service requests: go to www.westwetaskiwinrea.com/new-or-changes-to-services.html

Retail Electricity Service

Members may purchase electricity services from a retailer of their choice or choose the Regulated Rate Option (RRO) provided by Battle River Power Coop. Regardless of who supplies your electricity, West Wetaskiwin REA provides the distribution service for that electricity.

The REA has a number of members who have chosen to obtain their electricity from a retailer. Battle River Power Coop, as our new distribution system operator, reached out to every retailer currently providing service to our members with updated retail agreements that would allow them to continue that service.

The majority of those retailers have signed retail service agreements with Battle River Power Coop.

However, despite the invitation to continue to provide service to our members, ATCO and ENMAX (as of the publication of this newsletter) have not signed a retail service agreement and subsequently will not be able to offer electricity services within our service area.

West Wetaskiwin REA is optimistic this situation will be resolved prior to November 16th. If it does not, those members will continue to receive electricity under the RRO; West Wetaskiwin REA and Battle River Power Coop will ensure those members will not be without electricity.

For a general list of retailers providing services within the province you can contact the Utility Consumer Advocate toll-free in Alberta @ 310-4822. For a list of retailers serving the West Wetaskiwin REA service area, you can visit our website: www.westwetaskiwinrea.com/rates/electricityproviders.

Meters and Meter Reading Update

Battle River Power Coop obtains meter reads via air. Using advanced technology they fly over their service area. This requires an ITRON meter to facilitate the two-way communication from the meter to the plane.

At the onset of our discussions Battle River Power Coop was assured that ITRON meters would be shipped and available for installation by the date of the turnover. Very recently they were notified that the COVID-19 gridlock, currently affecting many supply chains, has impacted the timely delivery of those meters. Despite valiant efforts and unique ideas to overcome that reality, those specific meters are anticipated to arrive in late December or early 2022.

Until said meters are installed, you will see Battle River Power Coop employees facilitating meter reads as follows.

At the turnover date, November 16th, member meters will be read to obtain a final consumption number as of that date. These readings will be reflected in the invoices issued as of that cut-off date.

Subsequently, Battle River Power Coop will continue to read member meters until the new ITRON meters are installed. This means you will see employees of the Coop on all member properties to carry out those readings. We will continue to keep members informed when more definitive dates are available.



**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 October 2021, the RRO is priced at \$0.12531 per kWh, reflected on your enclosed orange bill. For November 2021, the Battle River Power Coop monthly RRO billing rate is \$0.12823.

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