

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

July 2023

West Wetaskiwin REA Financial Report

We are pleased to inform our membership that the full financials for the West Wetaskiwin REA, which were presented at the Annual General Meeting, are available for review. These comprehensive financial reports provide a detailed breakdown of our organization's fiscal performance, including crucial insights into the rising costs associated with vegetation management and maintenance on our distribution system.

As part of our commitment to transparency and accountability, we have made these financial statements accessible to all members on our official website: www.westwetaskiwinrea.com/. By visiting the website, you will find various forms of documentation that shed light on the financial challenges posed by the ongoing vegetation management and maintenance requirements.

We believe that providing access to these financials will enable our members to have a comprehensive understanding of the current situation and the measures being taken to address the rising costs. We encourage you to explore the reports and reach out to us if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your ongoing support and engagement with the West Wetaskiwin REA. Together, we strive to ensure the reliability and sustainability of our distribution system while keeping the best interests of our members at heart.



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 <u>www.westwetaskiwinrea.com/new-or-changes-to-services.html</u>

Breaking Down your Monthly Bill

When you receive your energy bill in Alberta, you may come across several charges that contribute to the total amount. To help you better understand your Battle River Power Coop bill, let's break down the common charges you may encounter.

1. Energy Charges

Energy charges, also known as consumption charges, reflect the cost of the electricity you have used during the billing period. These charges are calculated based on the amount of energy measured in kilowatt-hours (kWh) for electricity.

Usage is calculated at the applicable energy rate; either an Energy Contract or the Regulated Rate Option (RRO). While a contract rate is stable each month the RRO varies from month to month. The RRO is purchased on the open market and is subject to supply, demand, weather, and other influences.

2. Administration Charges

Administration charges cover the costs associated with the administrative tasks and customer services provided by your energy provider. These charges include activities such as maintaining customer accounts, processing payments, and handling customer inquiries. This charge makes it so that we can have a real, local person answering all our members questions and concerns. Administration charges are typically fixed amounts added to your bill.

3. Distribution Tariff

The Distribution Tariff is related to the delivery of electricity from the distribution station to your home or business. These charges cover the costs of operating and maintaining the local distribution infrastructure, including power lines, poles, and meters. Distribution Tariffs are established annually by the Board of Directors. For breakers sized under 25 kVA, there is a fixed monthly fee. Breakers over 25 kVA include a consumption based variable and are reset monthly.

Understanding these charges on your energy bill can help you make sense of your energy costs and identify areas where you can potentially save money. If you have any specific questions or concerns about your energy bill, please contact Battle River Power Coop at 1.877.428.3972.

4. Transmission Charges

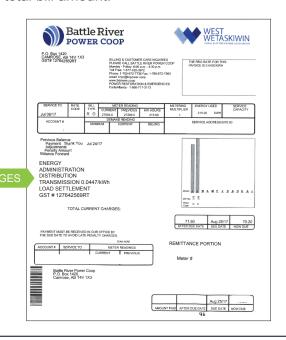
Transmission charges apply to the bulk transportation of electricity from generation facilities to the distribution system. These charges cover the costs associated with operating and maintaining the high-voltage transmission infrastructure, including power lines, transformers, and substations. Transmission charges are determined by the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) and are included in your energy bill. This amount is a "flow through;" all funds collected are remitted to FortisAlberta, the Load Settlement Agent, for processing.

5. Load Settlement Charges

This is the fee charged by FortisAlberta, the Load Settlement Agent. The load settlement accounts for the hourly energy consumed by end-users of each retailer, including Battle River Power Coop. No portion of this fee accrues to the Coop.

6. Goods and Services Tax (GST)

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) is a federal tax levied on most goods and services in Canada, including energy. The GST is applied to your energy bill, and it is calculated at 5% of the total bill amount.



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 July 2023, the RRO is priced at \$0.29376 per kWh, reflected on your enclosed orange bill. For August 2023, the Battle River Power Coop monthly RRO billing rate is \$0.30026.

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).