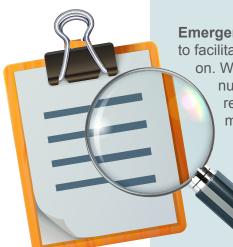


MEMBER NEWSLETTER

May 2023

Distribution Tariff What's it all About?

There are three components to the delivery of electricity in Alberta: generation, transmission and distribution. Distribution charges cover the cost of moving electricity from transmission lines through lower voltage lines to the end user. Distribution charges invariably are higher for rural Albertans versus urban dwellers because of lower



population density and longer distances between enduser sites.

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) regulates distribution rates for the large for-profit utility corporations, municipally owned electric utility rates are approved by local municipal governments and Rural Electrification Associations (REAs) have Boards, elected by their members, which approve Distribution Tariffs (DT) on behalf of those members. The DT covers many facets of the delivery and management of the REA including, but not limited to:

Our goal, as your Board of Directors, is to safeguard the future success of the West Wetaskiwin REA and to ensure our members receive reliable, cost efficient electricity delivery. In establishing the current DT we had to consider the increased vegetation management cost to retain system reliability and the increased cost for pole changes and legal fees. The end result was the need for a fair increase to continue our financially stable status. That increase is 5% and reflected in the table on the following page. **Emergency response** from powerline technicians to facilitate unplanned repairs to keep the power on. Within this activity is the 24-hour toll free number to respond to calls from members regarding outages, etc., and the outage map on the website www.brpower.coop.

Ongoing repairs and maintenance keeps the system in sound working order. This includes activities like pole testing and pole replacement on a regular basis. Currently this occurs on a rotational

basis, pole testing in an area in one

year determines how many replacements will be required the following year.

Vegetation management is a critical activity to keep our system reliable and we continue to work with our system operator to find ways to keep this cost as low as possible.

Board of Director and administrative expenses to manage the REA. Directors incur costs when meeting regularly to make decisions on behalf of the REA and to attend external meetings and events. Administration includes work fulfilled by the office manager and regular office expenses including phone and website.

Professional fees are a budget line item and include the annual audit and financial reporting, miscellaneous communications support and currently the additional legal costs to counter the application to the AUC by Fortis for rate increases they claim results partly from our intermingled systems.

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: <u>www.westwetaskiwinrea.com</u>

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

West Wetaskiwin REA Distribution Tariff (DT) – Effective June 26, 2023

Breaker Size	Current DT	DT Effective June 26, 2023*
IDLE	\$39.05	\$41.00
3 KVA (25/41)	\$49.95	\$52.45
5 KVA (35/50)	\$60.94	\$63.99
7.5 KVA (50/75)	\$74.68	\$78.41
10 KVA (75/110; 80)	\$88.41	\$92.83
15 KVA (100/150; 100)	\$115.88	\$121.67
25 KVA (150)	\$170.68	\$179.21

*Note: Distribution Tariffs are subject to change

West Wetaskiwin Rural Electrification Association – 2023/2024 Board of Directors

Subsequent to the 2023 Annual General Meeting, following is the current Board of Directors.

Dean Knull	President/Chair
Ron Holmlund	Vice-Chair
Kevin Cummings	Director
Ron Stevens	Director
Neil Stone	Director
Dave Watt	Director
Mike Wollin	Director

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 2023, the RRO is priced at \$0.14207 per kWh, reflected on your enclosed orange bill. For June 2023, the Battle River Power Coop monthly RRO billing rate is \$0.19239.

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).