

Member Safety Measures to Support a Stable Distribution System

Protect Guy-Wires, Power Poles & Lines

A guy-wire, guy-line, or guy-rope, also known as simply a guy, is a tensioned cable designed to add stability to a free-standing structure. Some utility poles buried in the ground have sufficient strength to stand on their own; but others need guy-wires to support loads and to resist ground movement.

While guy-wires are not energized that doesn't mean they may not occasionally conduct electricity, in particular if they are compromised by uncommon forces like contact with motorized vehicles such as snowmobiles, farm equipment and/or livestock.

Repeated contact with livestock can decrease the stability of a pole (see photos below). An unstable utility pole could result in a single member power outage and/or a distribution system disruption.

Members are encouraged to check their property for potential livestock and guy-wire/power pole interactions.



Cattle rubbing



Horses nibbling

Use Caution When Moving Equipment

Check the height and width of your equipment.

When moving equipment it is important to know their height and width. When working around power lines, enlist the help of a spotter. Note the maximum height for equipment for farm yard entrances or field access roads is 4.15 meters (13.6 feet). For width, you need to stay 7 meters (23 feet) away from power lines when parked or operating.

Equally important, pay special attention when operating grain augers, air seeders, when lifting truck boxes or operating back hoes.

Plan ahead before moving tall equipment near or around power lines.

Map your route and remember where any overhead power lines are located. If power lines require lifting, you must contact ATCO at least 10 days in advance for a power line lift. If the height of your load is more than 4.15 meters (13.6 feet) it is considered "over height" and you will need to get a permit from Alberta Transportation.

Remember, ATCO can help you plan the safest and most efficient route - for farm customers call **1-855-277-1670**.



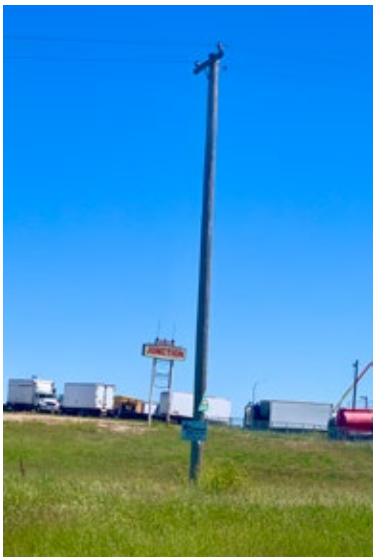
For power outages, emergency power troubles and service requests, contact the distribution system operator for FENN REA: **ATCO Electric**
Phone toll-free: 1-800-668-2248

FENN REA
Box 31, Fenn, Alberta T0J 1K0
Phone: c/o Philip Jarmin,
1-403-740-9384
Email: fennrea@gmail.com
www.fennrea.com

Battle River Power Coop
Member Care & Billing
Box 1420, Camrose AB T4V 1X3
Phone toll-free: 1-877-428-3972
Email: brpc@brpower.coop
www.brpower.coop

Why You Shouldn't Attach Signs, Posters, or Birdhouses to Power Poles

Attaching signs, posters, birdhouses, or other items to power poles or placing them too close to poles may seem harmless, but it can pose serious safety risks and cause operational challenges for utility workers and the public.



1. Worker Safety

Power poles are regularly accessed by utility workers who perform maintenance or emergency repairs. Nails, staples, screws, or any fasteners used to attach items to poles can damage the protective gear utility workers wear, such as insulated gloves and climbing equipment, increasing their risk of injury.

2. Interference with Maintenance

Anything attached to a power pole can obstruct maintenance tasks, slowing down repairs or routine inspections. Crews may need to remove these items, which can delay the restoration of power during outages.

3. Fire Hazards

Non-approved items on power poles can increase fire risks, especially in dry conditions. Electrical faults or sparks could ignite materials such as paper or wood, potentially leading to larger fires.

4. Legal and Liability Concerns

It is illegal to attach anything to a power pole. If someone is injured or damage occurs due to items attached to poles, you could be held legally responsible for the incident.

While it might seem convenient to use power poles for notices or decorations, it's vital to avoid this practice. Keeping poles clear ensures the safety of utility workers, prevents maintenance delays, and reduces fire hazards.

Regulated Rate Option (RRO)

The RRO rate 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. If you do not have a contract with an electricity retailer, then you receive the default RRO rate.

For September 2024, the RRO is priced at \$0.12444 per kWh, which is reflected on your enclosed bill. For October 2024, the Battle River Power Coop monthly RRO billing rate for FENN REA members is \$0.11766. The RRO rate is also listed on www.fennrea.com.

Members are free to purchase natural gas services or 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).