

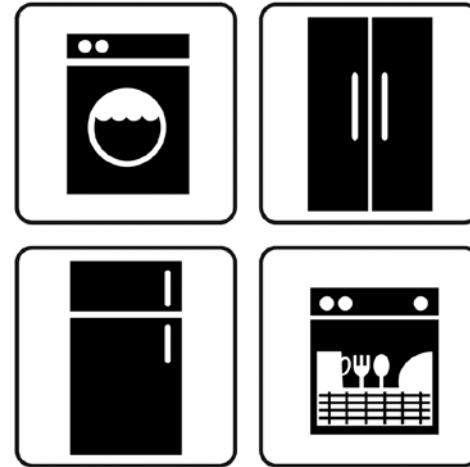
ENERGY STAR APPLIANCE REBATES

Putting new appliances in your home can pay off in many ways.

The new appliances generally have more capabilities than the older models they replace, but you'll also find that new Energy Star®-rated appliances use less electricity than your old appliances.

In addition, North West REC will pay you a rebate when you replace your old appliances with Energy Star models. The rebates are \$50 for clothes washers and \$25 each for refrigerators, freezers and dishwashers. The maximum rebate per cooperative member-account is \$250.

So look for the Energy Star label when you are appliance shopping and remember to request your rebate. Forms are available on the cooperative website (www.nwrec.coop) or call your cooperative office at 712-707-4935 or 800-766-2099 for information.



OFFICES CLOSED

Our offices will be closed in observance of Independence Day on Monday, July 4, 2011.

Please call 1-800-766-2099 in case of outage or emergency.



North West Rural Electric Cooperative

P.O. Box 435 • 1505 Albany Place SE • Orange City, IA 51041-0435

Office Hours:
Monday through Friday
7:30 a.m. till 4:00 p.m.

Orange City office open
during noon hour

Ida Grove & Le Mars offices
closed 12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Outside Depository Available
for After Hours Payments

Phone:

ORANGE CITY (712) 707-4935
(800) 766-2099

IDA GROVE (712) 364-3341

LE MARS (712) 546-4149

Lyle D. Korver
CEO & General Manager

Darwin Dirks
Assistant Manager & Director of
Operations Services

Verdell Buss
Director of Finance &
Office Services

Lorraine Egendorf
Editor



NEWS Lines

"Published monthly for the member-owners of North West Rural Electric Cooperative"

Volume 14 . No. 5. June 2011

FARM SAFETY & GRAIN BINS

Safety is an important part of living and working on a farm. One important aspect for creating a safe environment on your farm is proper clearances for electric lines around grain bins.

When starting to plan for a new grain bin or move an existing bin, please contact North West REC at 712-707-4935 or 800-766-2099 and Northwest Iowa Power Cooperative 712-546-4141 to ensure you of meeting the National Electric Safety Code requirements. We will provide assistance in planning for a safe environment for everyone working and living around grain bins.

According to the Iowa Electric Safety Code found in Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 199 – 25.2(3) b. An electric utility may refuse to provide electric service to any grain bin built near an existing electric line which does not provide the clearances required by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) C2-2007 "National Electrical Safety Code," Rule 234F. This paragraph "b" shall apply only to grain bins loaded by portable augers, conveyors or elevators and built after September 9, 1992, or to grain bins loaded by permanently installed augers, conveyors or elevator systems installed after December 24, 1997. (As adopted by the Iowa Utilities Board.)

If you have any questions concerning clearance regulations, please call our office 712-707-4935 or 800-766-2099 for the safety of everyone involved.

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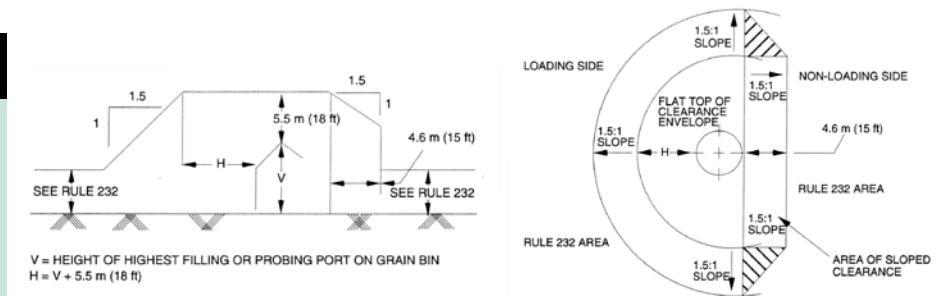
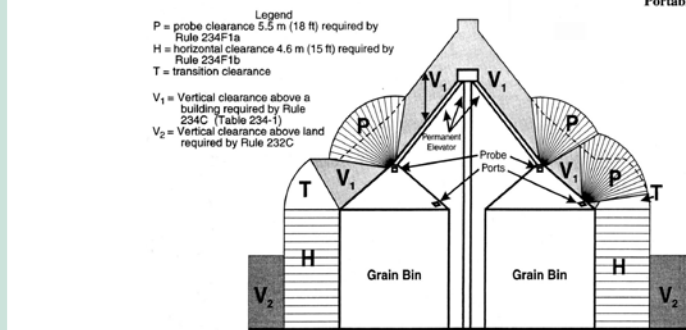


Fig 234-4(b)
Clearance Envelope for Grain Bins Filled by
Portable Augers, Conveyors, or Elevators



Dimension V is determined by Rule 234C and Table 234-1, Row 1b(2).

Fig 234-4(a)
Clearance Envelope for Grain Bins Filled by
Permanently Installed Augers, Conveyors, or Elevators

2010 PATRONAGE DIVIDEND ASSIGNMENT

Your patronage dividend is one of the primary benefits in being a member of North West REC. Your cooperative had an excellent year of financial operations in 2010, so the board of directors assigned \$1,400,000 in patronage dividends to the member-owners. North West REC members who received electric service during the year 2010 will receive a patronage dividend assignment. Your portion of this assignment is based on the amount of electricity you purchased from the cooperative in 2010.

Shown here is an example of the patronage dividend allocation notice as printed on your electric bill that you will receive in May. The patronage has no cash value and cannot be used in payment of electric bills.

Patronage dividends are retained by the cooperative until the board of directors approves them to be paid. Upon approval, a certain percentage of past allocations are retired to the members.

If a member becomes deceased, patronage dividends can be refunded. The member's estate then needs to fill out the required paper work to have the past patronage dividends refunded.

If you have a change in address, please keep the cooperative informed of your new address. This will ensure any future patronage checks mailed to your correct address.

REC NORTH WEST REC
Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative
PO Box 435 1505 Albany Place S.E.
Orange City, IA 51041-9676

Phone: (800) 766-2099 or 707-4935
Office Hours: 7:30 am to 4:00 pm Monday - Friday
www.nwrec.coop

Ida Grove 5975 Hwy. 175 East 384-3341 1-800-766-2099
Le Mars 2496 Lincoln Ave. SW 546-4149 1-800-766-2099

Before reporting an outage, check your fuses, breakers, and equipment first.
IF CALLING TO REPORT AN OUTAGE CALL 1-800-766-2099.

KWH USAGE HISTORY

Current Month's Average KWh Per Day	11060
Last Year	75
This Year	77

Average Cost Per Day

Last Year	4.59
This Year	5.31

A M J J A S O N D J F M A

YOUR PATRONAGE DIVIDEND ALLOCATION FOR 2010 IS \$89.85. PLEASE SEE YOUR NW REC NEWSLETTER FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

A late payment charge of 1.5% per month on the unpaid balance will be charged if payment is not received in our office by due date.

Account Number	Map Location	Service From	Service To	Due Date	Amount Due
12345	84-04-37-2222	04/01/2011	04/30/2011	06/10/2011	148.00

Meter Number	Rate Description	Present Reading	Previous Reading	Difference	Multiplier	Kwh Used	Kwh Charge
3000000	1 - RESIDENTIAL SINGLE P	6558	6445	113	20	740	78.08
3999999	451 - 451 SUB DUAL HT AC	2602	2564	38	40	1520	55.20

OTHER CHARGES		AMOUNT	BILLING INFORMATION		AMOUNT
Previous Bill		336.00	Current Electric Charge		133.28
Payment Received		-336.00	Power Cost Adjustment .0055377		12.52
WIND POWER		0.20	Local Option Tax		1.46
Operation Roundup		0.54	Total Current Billing		147.26
Total Other Charges		.74	Net Amount Due		148.00
			Gross Amount Due After 06/10/2011		148.00

PLEASE DETACH BOTTOM PORTION AND RETURN WITH YOUR PAYMENT

Account Number 12345

Name: NORTH WEST REC MEMBER

Amount Due on 06/10/2011 148.00

Amount Paid:

Amount After Due Date: 148.00

NORTH WEST REC* 4
PO BOX 435
ORANGE CITY, IA 51041-0435

Primary phone number: 712-999-9999
If not correct, please update. _____
Thank you.

17094000007420100004900000004900005022011b

Kuiper, Ted
Kunkel, Kristi
Kunze, Chad

-L-
Larson, Robert E
Lawrence, Gary
Layman, Jeff
Lemke, Ken
Linke, Mardell
Lorenzen, Jack
Loutsch, Charles
Ludvigson, Karen
Luken, Dorothy

-M-
Mace, Tom
Mann, Keith
Mattingly, David E
McCargar, Lynn
McCorkell, Chad H
McCurry, Chris
McMahan, Darcy
McQuillen, Bob
Mettler, Gene
Miller, Jerry H
Miller, Josh
Miller, Sharon
Mohl, Richard
Mohning, Janet
Montagne, Dennis
Morehead, John
Moss, Gerald
Mulder, Irwin
Murillo, Bertha
Murphy, Jason

-N-
Negus, Roger
Nelson, Brian
Nelson, Mark
Niemeier, Kevin
Nissen, Richard
North Central Const
NW Ag Alliance Inc

-O-
O'Connor, Michael

O'Dell, Richard T
Oetken, Jeffrey
Ohr, Scott
Olson, Mike
Otto, Kevin
Owen, Troy
Oxendale, Jim

-P-
Patterson, Jeffery H
Patterson, Jeffries
Patterson, Michael
Peden, Brad
Pelelo, Lila
Penning, Ruth
Petersen, Jerod
Petersen, Julie
Petersen, Justin
Peterson, Chris J
Phillips, Carey
Poeckes, Roger
Pollard, David
Porsch, Geneva
Potratz, Lee
Poulson, Stacey
Pratt, Earl
Pratt, Jarred
Prinsen, Tom
Pulos, John

-R-
Radke, Curtis
Rahbusch, Harold
Ray, Thomas E
Rehder, James
Reynolds, Richard
Rico, Debora
Riedmann, Terry
Riessen, Christina
Riggs, Charles
Riley, Randell R
Robins, Lisa
Robinson, Joe
Roegel, Pete
Rohlf, Howard
Rosenbeck, Edward F
Ross, Brad
Rothrock, Anthony

Rochau, Glen Estate
Rozeboom, Harry D
Rozeboom, Scott
Rozell, Kent
Ruhner, Ray
Ryan, Michael

-S-
Salem, Kallid
Saunders, Todd
Schaffer, Michael T
Schenck, James
Schlesser, Milo V
Schmidt, Kenneth
Schneider, John G
Schroeter, Eric
Scott, Gary
Sifuentes, Jorge I
Sheets, Tom
Simmons, Jeff
Siouxperior Hog Conf
Skinner, Jack
Sneller, Jason
Sorensen, Mark
Southern, Ken
Spencer/Sandiland, Grace
Starks, J M
Starley, Donald
Steinbeck, M L Estate
Steinbeck, Thomas
Stevens, Daniel
Stockton, Sherri
Stoddard, Barry
Stordahl, Brian
Stueven, Duane M
Sullivan, Stephen
Sunt, Tammy

-T-
Taylor, James
Ten Napel, Dan
Thelen, Shawn
Thomas, Patrick
Thompson, Patrick
Thorborg, Mark
Thoreau, Nyla D
Todd, Robert
Toenjes, Wendell

Torticill, Wyatt
Trebbe, Kerry
Trobaugh, Lyle
Trobaugh, Sharon
Twyford, Mark

-V-
Van Tuyl, Mark Sr
Van Voorst, Henry
Vanderham, Luverne
Vander Lugt, Ray
Vander Ploeg, Mark
Van't Hul, Doug
Ver Hoef, Howard
Verschorr, Jason
Vulgamore, Rodney

-W-
Wagner, Paul
Waterman, Scott
Webster, Jessica
Weiler, Mike
Welles Farm #15514
Wendl, Joe
Weyen, Rick
White, Terry
White, Richard
Whitney, Yul
Wilde, Lon
Williams, Gayle
Winter, Tricia
Wohlert, Mrs. Dennis
Woodard, John
Worden, Mary K
Wyatt, Steve

-Y-
Yanacheak, Wendy
Young, Mark

-Z-
Zelmer, Mark
Zonnefeld, Loren

WE NEED YOUR HELP

North West REC, located at 1505 Albany Place SE, Orange City, IA 51041 is holding unclaimed property (resulting from a refund or patronage dividend) due to the persons listed below. Please call 1-800-766-2099 to claim this property or to update an address.

-A-	Braun, James	Fedders, Calvin	Hetrick, Craig
Ackerman, Stacy	Brown, Angie	Ferry, Jason	Heying, Tom
Adams, Jeff	Brown, Todd	Fischer, Kean	Hibma, Gerrit
Adams, Keith	Bull, Delmer	Forney, David	Hill, Steve
Albert, C	Burnside, Randy	Fritz, Daeon	Hinrichen, Tim
Albert, Steve C			Hirsch, Marilyn
Alberts, Merle			Hohl, Roger
Alday, Joseph	-C-	-G-	Holloway, Albert
Allen-Tennant, Susan	Cadwell, Donald A	Gallo, Sandra	Hughes, Mary
Altena, Wayne	Carin, Gary	Garthright, Shirley	Huygens, Jeff
Anderson, Eric W	Carlson, James	Gaswint, Dale	
Andrews, Darwin	Carter, Suzette	Gau, Sandra K	-J-
Archer, Brian	Cender, Jean	Gigaroa, Patrick	Jarvis, Ricky
Askew, Stephen	Chalus, Brad	Gilbert, Brian L	Jensen, Dave
A T & T	Chase, Patricia	Gill, Angel	Jepsen, Gary
Austin, Sara	Christoffers, Donna	Gill, Edward S	John, Michael
	Clark, Charles	Glanzer, Brian	Johnson, Carol S
	Clark, Margie	Goebel, Joe	Johnson, Charles
-B-	Cotton, David	Goettsch, Gary	Johnson, Michael P
Baker, Steve	Coughlin, Casey	Granstra, Darin	Johnson, Nannette
Bales, Mark	Crabtree, Lee	Gray, Joshua	Jones, Jerry
Balison, Mike		Gray, Robert	
Banks, Belmer	-D-	Greco, David	-K-
Bautista, Brenda	Davelaar, David	Grewe, Robert	K & R Farms
Beaulieu, Tom H	Davis, Paul	Grosenheider, Mrs. Fred	Kassen, David
Bechler, Richard	Davison, Philip	Gunderson, Rev J	Kepper, Eric
Bell, Brett	De Bruin, Brad		Kern, Arthur
BEM Farms Inc.	De Vries, Tanya	-H-	Kirk, Dawn
Bendixen, Robert	Dell, John	Habel, Theodore	Klemme, Kevin
Berger, Joan	Deppen, Roger	Harbaugh, Richard	Klemme, Matthew
Beyer, Davis	Durston, Helen	Hardy, George R	Knutson Mortgage Corp
Birkhofer, Dallas		Harms, Harvey	Koldenhoven, Rick
Black, William J	-E-	Harn, J R	Konz, Matt
Blum, Francis	Eickholt, Donald	Harrington, Rhonda	Koopman, Mike
Blume, Brandon	Ellis, Matt	Hart, Kevin	Kosters, Henry D
Bockelmann, Norman	Erickson, Patty	Harvey, Milton	Krayenhagen, Mike
Bohan, Chad	Ewing, Ken	Harvey, Patricia	Kruckman, Rhonda
Boomgaarden, Michelle		Hayes, Jeff	Kruckman, Rhonda G
Bootsma, Jason	-F-	Heinrichs, Paul	Kruse, Billy N
Brady, Bruce	Farley, Scott	Hesse, Earl	

POLE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM CONTINUES

One of the key ongoing maintenance programs we do annually in order to try to improve our service reliability is pole testing and treating. Each year we test and treat approximately 3,000 poles.

Poles that are rejected due to excessive rotting conditions are replaced. The other poles are treated with a pole treatment which significantly extends the life of the pole. The very low 2% or lower rejection rate we typically have each year is a strong indication of the strength of the Cooperative's system.

This year you might see the contractors working in Plymouth and O'Brien counties. Please contact our office if you have any questions.



The base on this pole is being treated to extend the life of the pole.

OUTDOOR ELECTRICAL SAFETY TIPS

Be alert to electrical hazards and make sure everyone in your family knows how to be safe around electricity.

Follow these safety tips:

- Check all outdoor electrical cords. Are they frayed? Broken? Properly grounded? Replace if needed.
- Use approved covers with outdoor electrical outlets.
- Unplug appliances and tools when not in use.
- Never build a pool or spa, or place a child's pool, under electrical lines.
- Never fly kites or model airplanes near overhead power lines.
- During storms, stay out of lakes, ponds, pools and spas.
- Don't touch metal fencing after a storm.
- Assume any downed wires are energized. Stay away and keep others away!
- Do not attach signs to utility poles. Nails or tacks could cause an accident to a lineman.
- Never climb trees near power lines. Even if the power lines aren't touching the tree, they could touch when more weight is added to the branch.
- Never go into an electric substation for any reason.

Stay safe this summer and enjoy your time outdoors!

CAMPS PROMOTE FARM SAFETY



North West REC has had a busy spring presenting the high voltage demonstration to several schools and safety camps. More than 550 students have had the opportunity to learn important safety procedures and precautions for around the farm.

Representing North West REC at the Orange City Area Hospital were Gaylen Schneider and Ken Miller. They explained the dangers of electricity through the high voltage demonstration.

If you are interested in learning about electrical safety by having a safety demonstration in your school or presented to a group of any kind, please contact our office at 1-800-766-2099.



Lyle D. Korver

“Even though wholesale power costs have increased over 50% in the last five years, we have only had one retail rate increase.”

MANAGER'S REPORT

WHAT IS THE POWER COST ADJUSTMENT ON MY ELECTRIC BILL?

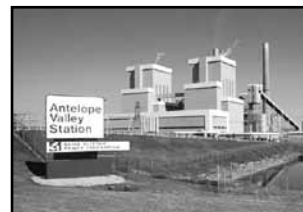
We have noticed an increase in the number of phone calls from our members this past month questioning the power cost adjustment (PCA) line item on their April 20 electric bills. Since it has been quite a few months since we have had information about the PCA in our newsletter, I thought it might be a good idea to give an update on the PCA.

At the outset, it's important to note that purchased power costs account for approximately 79% of the Cooperative's total operating expenses and these wholesale power costs have increased over 50% in the last five years.

What is causing wholesale power costs to increase?

Approximately 20% of our purchased power is hydro generation from the dams on the Missouri River. Even though water levels in the reservoirs is very good again, there was a seven year drought period during the last decade and this caused hydro rates to double over the last five years.

The remaining 80% of our purchased power comes from Basin Electric and is primarily coal generation, along with some wind, other renewables and natural gas. Basin has needed to add some new generation to meet the increasing demand for electricity throughout their nine state service area and this has increased wholesale costs. Another factor is additional environmental costs associated with increased EPA regulations on coal generation.



What about retail rates?

Even though wholesale power costs have increased over 50% in the last five years, we have only had one retail rate increase. That increase was 11.8% and went into effect on July 1, 2009. That was the first increase in retail rates in 26 years.

It became necessary last year for the Cooperative to have increased revenues to offset at least a portion of the increasing wholesale power costs. In lieu of another rate increase, the Board of Directors made the decision to implement a power cost adjustment (PCA). The PCA was implemented on April 1, 2010.

What is a PCA?

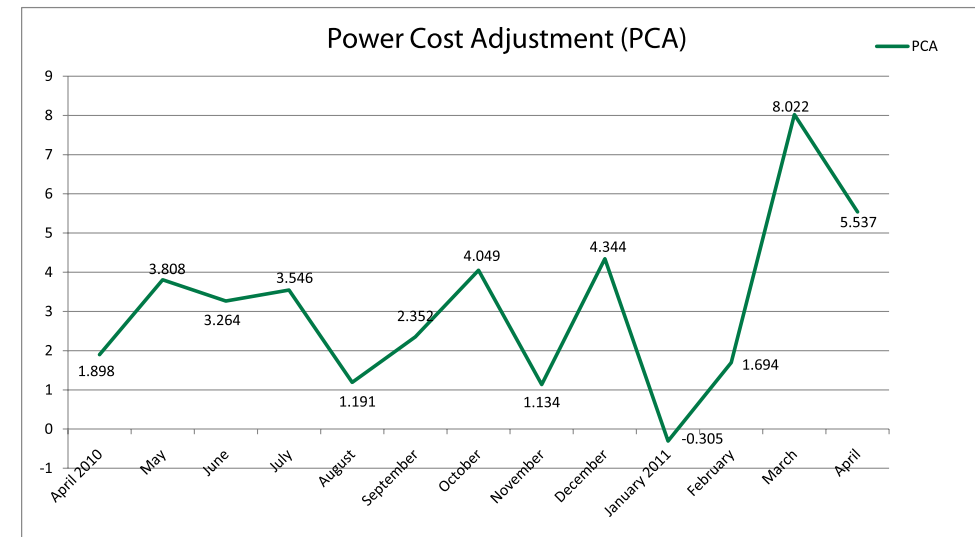
A PCA is a method of either collecting from or returning to the members the difference in wholesale power costs compared to the base wholesale rate. It is not designed to recover any other operating costs – just the changes in the wholesale power costs.

How is the PCA applied to my monthly bill?

The PCA changes monthly and is applied to each member's monthly kWh usage. The PCA averaged less than 3 mills or 3/10 of a cent during the months of April, 2010 through December, 2010. As an example, if a member's usage averages 1,500 kWhs per month and the PCA for that month was 3 mills, the amount that would be added to the monthly bill is \$4.50. This is a separate line item on the bill.

Why was the PCA higher last month?

With another increase in wholesale power costs that went into effect on January 1, 2011, we are anticipating that the PCA will average around 5 mills per kWh for 2011. It was a small credit (-.305) in January, 1.69 mills in February and then 8.02 mills in March. (It will be 5.537 mills in April.) The graph below shows the PCA for each month since it was implemented in April, 2010.



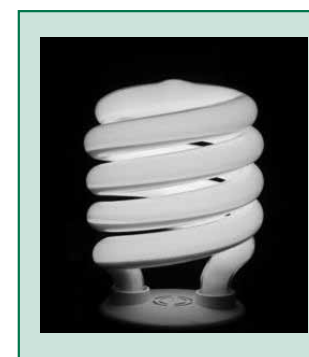
Why does it fluctuate monthly and why was it higher in March? (The March PCA was applied to March usage and billed on April 20.) The primary reason that the PCA fluctuates monthly is that it is based on the average cost per kWh purchased from our power supplier and this is significantly impacted by weather. For example, in months where there are wide fluctuations in daily temperatures, we will typically see a higher average cost per kWh than in months when the temperature is fairly consistent. This obviously depends a lot on the time of year. In March, we had a very cold morning on March 2nd and this caused a higher peak demand than we had experienced last March. This pushed average power costs up for the month.

Will another rate increase be necessary?

We are hopeful that the PCA revenue will be adequate during the balance of this year so that it won't be necessary to do a rate adjustment. However, our power supplier is projecting that wholesale rates will increase again next January. Depending on how much they increase, it may be necessary to implement a retail rate increase sometime during 2012. We will keep you informed and will make every effort to delay a rate increase as long as possible.

We hope this answers some of the questions you may have had regarding the PCA. We continue to work hard to operate as efficiently as possible and to control the 21% of our operating expenses that we have some control over. We are pleased that even with the higher PCA this year, North West REC continues to have very low electric rates compared to other RECs in Iowa and the U.S. We will work hard to keep them that way.

Please feel free to contact us if you want additional clarification about the PCA or anything relating to your electric bill.



We have CFL bulbs remaining after our district meetings. We invite our members to stop at one of our offices, and we will give you **two FREE bulbs** until the supply is gone.