



NINNESCAH RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Watts Ahead

Ninnescah Rural Electric Co-op, Inc.

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In Case of an Outage

If your electricity is off for more than a few minutes, please call 800-828-5538. The office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday–Friday. After hours, calls will be answered by dispatch and forwarded to our on-call personnel.

Rate Study Part 2: Revenue Requirement

Last month, you were informed that the Ninnescah Electric Cooperative had engaged the services of a consultant to perform a rate study. The purpose of the rate study is to determine whether the existing rates are sufficient to enable the cooperative to meet its service obligations to the members and its financial obligations to its lenders. There are several phases to the rate study, and this month we will discuss the revenue requirement phase.

The revenue requirement is simply an analysis of the co-op's existing revenues and expenses as a tool to predict future revenues and expenses. If we could accurately predict the future, this would be an easy process, but fortune-telling is not a recognized science. Instead, the traditional rate process utilizes a "test year." The test year is simply a twelve-month period of time that is used to predict future periods. Usually the most recent year is selected as a test year for the purposes of conducting a rate study, and that is what the co-op has done. But as everyone knows, not every year is the same. If unusual events occurred during the year selected to be the test year, those events are "normalized" to more accurately reflect a normal year. Examples of normalizing a test year would be adjusting for unusual weather such as ice storms, prolonged heat waves and drought.

The revenue requirement aspect of the study also examines the plant in service to provide electric service to the mem-

bers. A determination is made as to what plant will be included in the rate base used to determine rates. Any plant that becomes part of the cooperative's rate base must be used and useful in providing electric service to our members.

The revenue requirement aspect of the study also looks at the cooperative's rate of return and examines how much patronage capital is contributed by the members and how much debt is taken on by the cooperative. The study also examines the cooperative's capital credit policy and whether our patronage capital objectives are being met through current rates. The cooperative will also examine the cost of the debt it incurs versus the cost of its member's equity used in financing the operation of the cooperative. While most people believe it is always preferable to avoid debt if possible, that concept is not always true given the nature of operating a public utility. Oftentimes, borrowing some money for long-term (35-year or more) investments is preferable than recovering all of the costs of the investment from the members through rates.

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Don't Wait too Long to Pay a Delinquent Bill

A job Ninnescah Electric employees and some members dread each month is collection of delinquent electric accounts.

Ninnescah notifies the delinquent member three times prior to collection:

- ▶ We mail non-payment notices;
- ▶ The past due amount is listed on the new bill; and
- ▶ We make courtesy calls reminding members of the delinquent bill.

We will no longer make courtesy collection trips. This means if we have to go to your home, we will either collect the money or the meter will be disconnected for non-payment, and the additional charges listed below apply.

Trip Charges (per meter)

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Collection Charges | \$50 + tax |
| Disconnect/Reconnect Charge before 3 p.m. | \$100 + tax |
| Disconnect/Reconnect Charge after 3 p.m. | \$150 + tax |
| Plus the amount of your delinquent bill. | |

If you have any questions about a delinquent bill or need to make payment arrangements, please call our office Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 620-672-5538 or 800-828-5538.

Welcome New Members

Jon F. Messenger – *Kingman*

Cows and More LLC – *Medicine Lodge*

Donald W. Batson – *Haysville*

Lynn M. &/or Trevor J. Simons – *Garden Plain*

Rate Study Part 2: Revenue Requirement

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Finally, the study will examine how much margin the cooperative should recover in rates. Margin is simply the difference between what the cooperative receives for providing electric service applied against what it costs to provide electric service. As you know, these margins, if any, are allocated to the members at the end of each year in accordance with the cooperative's not-

for-profit member-owned status.

At the conclusion of the revenue requirement aspect of the study, we will know what revenue will need to be collected from the members to fulfill our mission to you to provide sufficient electric service. Next month, we will examine how the decision is made to recover the revenue through the use of a cost-of-service study.

The Power Behind Your Power

As April arrives, it brings with it the showers that produce spring flowers. It also heralds the beginning of a potentially stormy season that can inherently include power outages. While Ninnescah Electric strives to provide reliable electricity to our members, there are times when Mother Nature has other plans. Most of us can ride out a storm from the comfort and convenience of our homes. However, there is a group of professionals who spring into action when the weather takes a turn for the worst — co-op lineworkers.

One of the Most Dangerous Jobs

Braving stormy weather and other challenging conditions, lineworkers often climb 40 or more feet in the air, carrying heavy equipment to restore power. Listed as one of the 10 most dangerous jobs in the U.S., lineworkers must perform detailed tasks next to high voltage power lines. To help keep them safe, lineworkers wear protective clothing and equipment at all times when on the job. This includes special fire-resistant clothing that will self-extinguish, limiting potential injuries from burns and sparks. Insulated and rubber gloves are worn in tandem to protect lineworkers from electrical shock. While the gear performs a critical function, it also adds additional weight and bulk, making the job more complex.

In addition to the highly visible tasks lineworkers perform, their job goes far beyond climbing to the top of a pole to repair a wire. They are also information experts who can pinpoint an outage from miles away and restore power. In our community, Ninnescah lineworkers are responsible for keeping 2,128 miles of line across 10 counties working in order to bring power to your home and our local community 24/7, regardless of the weather, holidays or personal considerations.

While some of the tools that lineworkers use have changed over the years, namely the use of technology, the dedication to the job has not. Being a lineworker is not a glamorous profession. At its essence, the job is inherently dangerous, requiring them to work near high voltage lines in the worst of conditions, at any times of the day or night. During storms, crews often work around the clock to restore power. While April is known for spring showers, there is also a day set aside to “thank a lineworker.”

LINWORKER APPRECIATION DAY IS APRIL 9. During the month of April, if you see a lineworker, please pause to say thank you to the power behind your power. Let them know you appreciate the hard work they do to keep the lights on, regardless of the conditions.

Help Us Locate the Following Ninnescah Members

Below is a listing of members who have retired capital credits owed to them, but for whom we no longer have valid mailing addresses. If you recognize a name on this list, please alert the member (or the member's heirs) so they can begin working with the cooperative to claim the capital credits. Please have them contact us or call the office at 620-672-5538 or 800-828-5538.

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Barker David | Domar Oil/Gas Inc | Huckman John A | Lucas Richard E | Oil Equip Assoc | Smith Lawrence J |
| Barker Gary D | Dover Darrell | Hawley Harold C | Lubbers Daniel L | Ortiz Erasmo | Smith Elvin |
| Bales Charles C | Dietz Stuart | Horizon RV Inc | Lambert Thelma F | Preisser Karen L | Short Marjorie O |
| Beam Jim B | Dobesh Charles | Haworth Gary | Lively Mrs Dean | Piester Ronald R | Shriver Gary |
| Briggs David | DCF Exploration | Harrington Alice | Lutes Carol | Pilger Jerry | Simpson Roger L Jr |
| Bristol Resources Corp | Drach Marvin | Hart Mike | Lancaster Leonard L | Panek Dale | Schmidt Don |
| Boehme Jarold | Duncan Billy W | Hambrick Bill | Leary George | Preble Shirley | Thronesbery Lowell C |
| Bryan Erma | Daily Pete | Hondo Oil & Gas | Lear Mike Sr | Puckett Thomas R | Troyer Wilbur D |
| Bison Energy Inc | Estes David L | Hatchet Brnd Lnd/Ctl | Lamkin Harriet D | Pontius Robert Jr | Thayer Jeff |
| Britton David | Engro Dewey C | Hoover Shawn M | Leavell Resources Corp | Powell Randy L | Thompson R O Trust |
| Brehm Robert G | Ensign Operating Co | Hunnicut Adelle | Lisec Robert G | Quinoco Petroleum Inc | Tiry Bob |
| Bronson Mark R | Eisenhour Lawrence W | Helsel John | Moore Rickie D | Rameys Salvage | Tetrick Brice |
| Barber Barry N | Futrell John | Hager Donna | Miller Ralph F | Ray John S | Thatcher Arthur |
| Brogan Kenneth D | Fuller K Laverne | Hayes Gary | McGinness Oil Co | Ruark Cordie | Terwort James W |
| Bauer Linzy L | Fisher Dayle N | Hudson Nicholas B | Matthew E Wayne | Ricketts Terry | Tucker Mark L |
| Barker Casey | First National Bank, Gt. Bend | H-30 Drilling Inc | McDonald Richard L | Rusk Clay R | Updegrove Jody Ms |
| Brautigam Eric | Furr Thomas R | Income Production Fund | Moyer Scott | Rhone Denny | Vincent Ernest |
| Bowman Willie V | Gordon Mrs Helen | Ingvalson Jim | Mitchell Otto | Scheufler Edward E | Vondra Kevin W |
| Baker Floyd I | Greenleaf James A | Joslin Mark | Milner Victor A | Seyfert Alvin | Ward Wayne H |
| Bear Petroleum | Greene Joseph T | Julian Harry | Magnott Inc | Seward Bill | Webb James D |
| Cook Theron E | GKM Inc | Jaiser Joan | Mchenry Tom | Suiter Randy | Wietrick Mildred |
| Casper Jim | Graham Robert | Kinsley Bank The | Murphy D M | Sherrill Virgil W | Wegele Blaze L |
| Couch Donald H | Gardner George R | Kirkendoll James | Monarch Petro Prop | Spicer Chris B | Williamson Bill |
| Cleaver Donald D | G & M Properties | Kolbeck Lyle A | Moyer Allen D | Stubbs Galyn C | Wesley William L |
| Circle R | Greer Mrs Eunice M | Kettwich Mrs Carol | Money Loretta | Stevenson Mark P | Williams Larry |
| Comco Inc | Glenn Jeanne M | Kuhn Kenneth L Jr | Maudlin Martin L | Swingle E Kay | Wickham Robert J |
| Cockrell Ethel V | Hudson Betty L | King Grain Co | Northwest Central Pipeline | Shelton Roger | Wolfe Deanna |
| Carroll Mark A | Hutchins Karen R | Lawrence Marvin | N F Producers Inc | Schmidt Dianne | Woodman-Iannitti Oil Co |
| Casino Petroleum Co | Helsel Richard | Lenagar Gregg R | Northway Larry E | Service Fracturing Co | Zajic Ray |
| Crain Lloyd | Harley John G | Leatherman Steve R | Newell Lawrence A | Shelite Bob | |
| Christa Oil Co | | | | Smith George L | |



Lineworker Appreciation Day

April 9, 2018



Recipes

from Our
Members' Kitchens

Chicken Monterey

- ▶ Boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- ▶ Salt
- ▶ Pepper
- ▶ Parsley
- ▶ Poultry seasoning
- ▶ Monterey Jack cheese (sliced)
- ▶ Flour
- ▶ 2 eggs
- ▶ Seasoned or plain bread crumbs
- ▶ Butter and oil

Cut chicken breasts in half and pound chicken breasts to 1/4-inch thick. Season top side with salt, pepper, parsley and poultry seasoning. Place cheese onto spices. Fold chicken around cheese. Roll in flour, dip in egg, and roll in bread crumbs. Sauté chicken in butter and oil rolling to brown all sides. Place in baking dish. Bake uncovered at 375 degrees for 15 minutes.

Diana Barnard, Pratt

Mississippi Mud Cake

Cake

- ▶ 2 sticks butter or margarine
- ▶ Dash of salt
- ▶ 2 cup sugar
- ▶ 1/2 cup cocoa
- ▶ 4 eggs
- ▶ 1-1/2 cup pecans
- ▶ 1-1/2 cup flour
- ▶ Miniature marshmallows

Mix all ingredients except miniature marshmallows. Bake in a 9 X 9 pan at 350 degrees for 35 minutes. Spread 1 small package (about 2 cups) miniature marshmallows over hot cake.

Frosting

- ▶ 1 lb. powdered sugar
- ▶ 1/2 stick butter or margarine
- ▶ 1/2 cup milk
- ▶ 1 tsp. vanilla
- ▶ 1/3 cup cocoa

Mix all ingredients and beat well. Spread over the marshmallows. If you want this on a sheet cake pan make 1 1/2 above recipe.

*Charlotte Ringer,
Bunkhouse Bed and Breakfast, Medicine Lodge*

Poppy Seed Bread

Bread

- ▶ 3 cup flour
- ▶ 1-1/2 tsp. teaspoon salt
- ▶ 1-1/2 tsp. baking powder
- ▶ 2-1/4 cup sugar
- ▶ 2 eggs
- ▶ 1-1/2 cup milk
- ▶ 1 cup and 2 Tbs. oil
- ▶ 3 Tbs. poppy seeds
- ▶ 1-1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
- ▶ 1-1/2 tsp. butter flavoring
- ▶ 1-1/2 tsp. almond extract

Glaze

- ▶ 2 cup powdered sugar
- ▶ 1/4 cup orange juice
- ▶ 1/2 tsp. butter flavoring
- ▶ 1/2 tsp. almond extract
- ▶ 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract

Combine all bread ingredients in large bowl and beat 2 minutes with electric mixer. Pour into two greased and floured bread pans. Bake at 350 degrees for 60-65 minutes. Pour glaze while bread is still hot and in pan. Leave the bread in the pan for 10 minutes and then turnout on cooling rack to cool completely. Enjoy!

Diana Barnard, Pratt

Want to share your recipe?

We hope you enjoy the recipes from your neighbors.

Please consider submitting your favorite recipes for all to enjoy. In your submission, include the following:

- ▶ Your name and contact information;
- ▶ Ninnescah account number; and
- ▶ The recipe (clearly printed or typed).

Mail your entry to:

Ninnescah Rural Electric Attn: Recipes
P.O. Box 967, Pratt, KS 67124

Or email your entry to:

naschenbrenner@ninnescah.com

