



LYREC's mobile substation will provide temporary power while the construction of the new line is being completed.

Mobile substation put into place

When it comes to providing reliable service to more than 6,000 meters across five counties, substations are critical components.

Disruption can be caused by a range of events outside the control of the cooperative, including equipment breakdown, natural events such as lightning strikes and floods, and operational requirements such as maintenance and refurbishment.

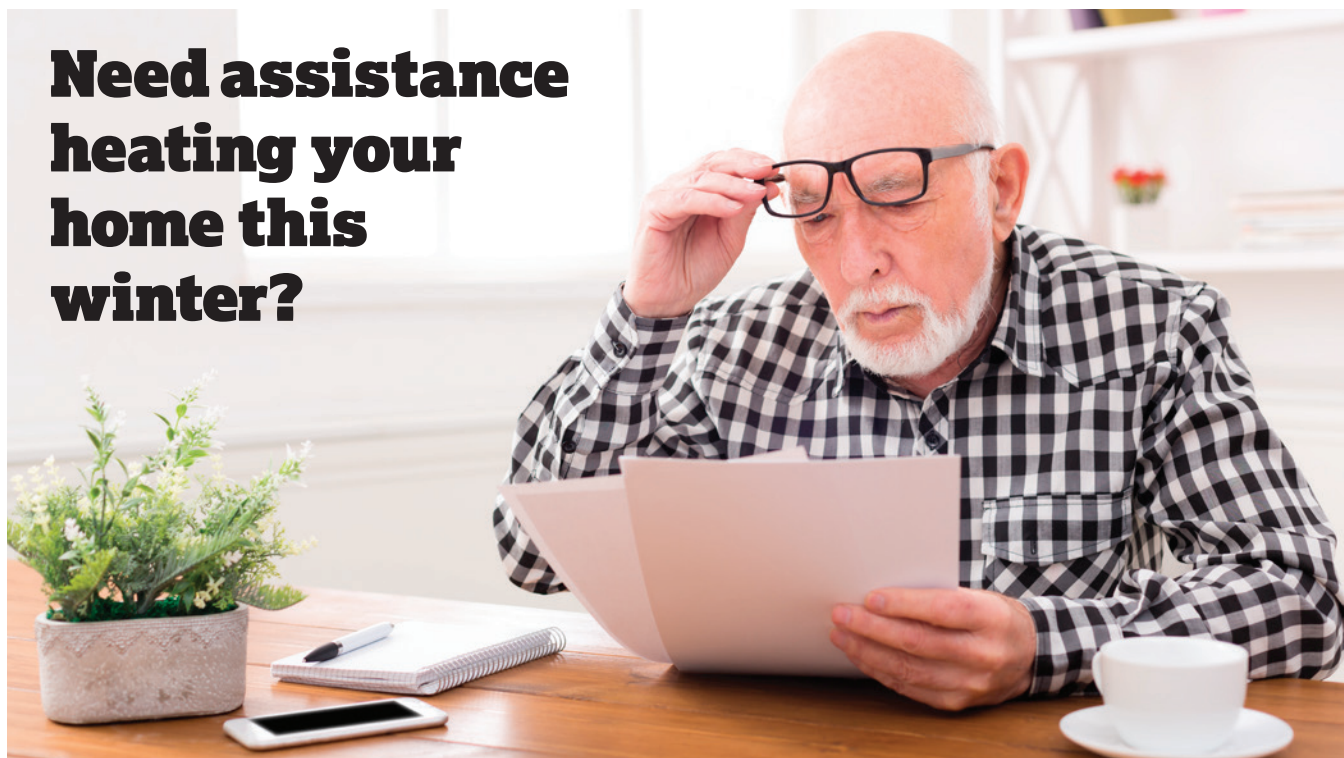
So, what happens if a substation

goes “off line” and hundreds of homes and businesses lose power? Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Cooperative (LYREC) has invested in a mobile substation that can bridge the gap until the substation can be repaired. A mobile substation is a self-contained trailer equipped with the necessary components of a full substation. It can be transported easily and be operational in a short period of time, making mobile substations the ideal solution for

addressing a range of contingencies.

LYREC has been working on rebuilding a stretch of single- and three-phase line along Highway 16. The mobile substation is providing temporary service until the line is completed and energized. While the mobile substation is not something LYREC uses frequently, it is a vital piece of equipment that helps LYREC provide reliable service to its members. ■

Need assistance heating your home this winter?



The Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) of Montana and the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) of North Dakota are accepting applications. This program assists Montana and North Dakota residents and families with their heating bills through the winter months.

Eligibility is based on your household income (all money brought into the household) and resources (any assets you have in the bank, property or real estate, CDs,

stocks and bonds).

If you currently reside in Montana and need help paying your heating bill, you can contact Energy Share at 800-227-0703. If you live in North Dakota, you can contact Community Action at 701-572-8191. You may also download an application at <https://www.lyrec.com/low-income-assistance> or call Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Cooperative.

Below are the income eligibility criteria for Montana residents:

Number in household	Annual income
1	\$25,248
2	\$33,017
3	\$40,785
4	\$48,554
5	\$56,323

Once you submit your application, it can take up to two months before receiving assistance. If you need assistance, please pick up an application today. Failure to provide all requested information and verification will delay the eligibility determination and may result in

Below are the income eligibility criteria for North Dakota residents:

Number in household	Annual income
1	\$28,831
2	\$37,702
3	\$46,573
4	\$55,444
5	\$64,315

application denial.

If you do not fall within these guidelines, but have an emergency and need assistance, please call LYREC at 406-488-1602 or 844-441-5627 for referrals. ■

Life hacks for the holidays

Thanksgiving is a favorite holiday, as family and friends reunite to feast and give thanks. The one drawback, however, is that the holiday contributes to an annual increase in energy use, due to a usual drop in temperatures, lights staying on longer, and appliances operating more frequently. Here are some energy-saving tips which can help lower the unwelcome tradition of higher energy bills following a Thanksgiving celebration:

TURKEY TIPS

- How much turkey can you and your guests really eat? Be sure to get the right size bird. A smaller turkey takes less time to cook and saves energy.
- It takes longer to cook the turkey when it is stuffed with dressing, so cooking the dressing separately can actually reduce oven usage.
- Adding side dishes that can be cooked at the same temperature while the turkey is cooking can also reduce oven use. Just make sure to adjust the cooking time to accommodate different temperatures.
- Resist the urge to check on your food as it cooks. Each time you open the oven door, you'll reduce the temperature inside by 25 degrees.

HOSTING

- Turn down the thermostat, whether it's manual or programmable. With all the heat from your kitchen and a house full of people, your home will stay plenty warm.
- If you are hosting a large gathering, use a cooler stocked with ice to hold drinks. You'll free space in your refrigerator and prevent cold air from escaping from frequent door openings.

AFTER THE FEAST

- Don't wash dishes by hand because an Energy Star-certified dishwasher uses less than half as much energy as washing dishes by hand and uses less water.
- Let the leftovers cool before placing them in the fridge, because your refrigerator has to work harder to cool them.

LIGHTING OPTIONS

- Get in the habit of turning off every light except in occupied rooms. In most cases, lighting can be turned off in outdoor areas or the garage. Make the switch to more energy-efficient lighting options, such as LEDs, which use at least 75 percent less energy, and last 25 times longer on average, compared to incandescent lighting.



Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association Memorial Scholarship available

The Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association (MECA) is accepting applications for a \$500 MECA Memorial Scholarship. The applicant's parent/guardian must be a Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Cooperative (LYREC) member and must be attending college in the fall of 2020. Applications are judged on academic strength, school and community activities, employment, volunteerism, community service and personal statement.

An LYREC committee will choose one applicant to send to the MECA committee. A committee

comprised of co-op staff members from across the state of Montana will judge the applicants. If the MECA committee chooses an applicant of LYREC, LYREC will match the \$500 scholarship.

To apply, complete the application form, along with all required materials. You may get the application from your school counselor or at www.lyrec.com. MECA Memorial Scholarship applications are due by Jan. 24, 2020.

The applicants must send their completed application forms to: LYREC, Attn.: Jami Propp, P.O. Box 1047, Sidney, MT 59270. ■

3200 W. Holly - Sidney, MT 59270

Phone: 406-488-1602

Fax: 406-488-6524

Website: www.lyrec.com


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Bo Kindopp	GIS/Easement Technician
Corey Candee	Chief Information Officer
Jeremy Reese	Information Technology Technician
Edwin Gatzke	Line Locator/Meter Reader
Justin King	Warehouse Supervisor

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



Operating report

Year to date:	August 2018	August 2019
Total miles energized	2,101	2,103
Total number of meters	6,169	6,154
Kilowatt-hours sold	174,124,782	180,606,277
Revenue	\$17,905,297	\$18,884,571
Total expenses	\$17,091,895	\$18,139,853
Operating margins	\$1,847,229	\$3,253,073