



New substation energized

In January, Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Cooperative (LYREC) energized one circuit of our newest substation, the Sanderson Substation. The Sanderson Substation is 1 mile south of Highway 2, across the North Dakota state line.

The Sanderson Substation, a 25-megawatt substation, was built to feed the northern part of LYREC's system, including the Sanderson Gas Plant. The new substation will help meet the growing electrical needs of our membership and ensure reliable electric service in the future. ■

How to read your bill

If you're like most people, you probably don't give a second thought to your bill's itemized charges, simply glancing at the total figure, paying it and getting on with your life. But even if you did take the time to study the invoice, would you understand what each section means?

There are plenty of benefits to taking a closer look at your energy bill from Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Cooperative (LYREC). You can learn how much electricity you used for the month and view the breakdown of charges. If you want to go a step further and compare prior month's usage, you can sign up for SmartHub. SmartHub also allows you to view past bills, set up automatic payments, and manage notifications such as getting notified as soon as your bill is available.

As seen in the residential bill here, there are multiple itemized charges that make up the total delivery charge.



Stay away from downed power lines

Mother Nature isn't always kind to power lines. Winter winds, snow and ice often prove to be too much for utility poles and power lines. If you see a downed power line or utility pole, contact LYREC immediately.

Do not go near the line or the pole. Just because it's on the ground, doesn't mean it's safe to approach.

Account number: Your account number can be found on the top right corner of your bill. This number is important when you have questions regarding your bill, paying online or paying by phone through the IVR system.

Statement date: The statement date is located directly under the account number. It is relevant to understanding your bill, because we bill in roughly 30-day increments for electricity already consumed.

Roundup amount: This is the contribution the member has agreed to donate to the Operation Round Up Fund Trust. The funds go to nonprofit and community organizations in Lower LYREC's service territory and average \$6 a year per member. The amount is determined by rounding up their electric bill to the nearest dollar.

Messages: The section directly under "Amount Due" contains important information.

Service information: This section contains the bulk of your account information.

Meter number: This is an important number that you will be asked to reference when calling in an outage. Write it down!

Description: The description is an alternate way for LYREC to identify the specific meter. As you can see in the example, the second meter's description is "TRAILER HOUSE." If you would like to add a description to a meter, please contact our office.

R/S: This is the rate class the meter is in. Different rate classes have different charges. For more information on rate classes, go to www.lyrec.coop.

Usage: The cost of the power you used measured in kilowatt-hours. To calculate energy charges, multiply your rate (unit cost) by your usage (quantity).

Demand charge: The demand charge is based on the highest capacity required during the given billing period, typically a 15-minute interval during the billing cycle. As an electric utility, we are responsible to ensure during peak loading periods that our electrical system is sized properly to deliver continuous service. The demand (kilowatt) usage is shown on residential accounts, but these accounts do not get charged demand. Both commercial and irrigation accounts include a demand charge.

Facility charge: It is the fixed monthly connection charge that helps recover the cooperative's fixed costs of serving a member.

Remittance slip: Paying by mail? Be sure to include the bottom portion of your bill with your payment to ensure it is applied to the correct account. You will also see a bar code on the remittance form. You may scan this barcode to download the SmartHub app. ■

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LYREC

LOWER YELLOWSTONE
RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

PO Box 1047 Sidney MT 59270

TO MAKE A PAYMENT CALL 1-844-209-7159

Phone: (406) 488-1602 • Toll Free: 1-844-441-5627
www.lyrec.com

MEMBER 1
MEMBER 2
ANY ROAD
SIDNEY MT 59270-0000

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Account Number 675300

Statement Date 01/04/2021 Page 1 of 2

BILLING SUMMARY

Previous Balance	242.00
Thank You For Payment	242.00 CR
Balance Forward	0.00
Roundup Amt	0.53
Current Charges	258.47

Amount Due By 01/20/21 259.00

HEATING ASSISTANCE IS NOW AVAILABLE. PLEASE APPLY EARLY TO SEE IF YOU QUALIFY. IN MONTANA CALL ENERGY SHARE AT 1-800-227-0703 AND IN NORTH DAKOTA CALL COMMUNITY ACTION AT 1-701-572-8191.

Meter	Description	R/S	Bill Type	Start Date	End Date	Days	Previous	Present	Mult	Usage	Amount
T23155	RES SECT 6	01	REGULAR	12/01/2020	01/01/2021	31	84201	87278	1	3077	218.47
										13.312	0.00
											20.00
											238.47
T23153	TRAILER HOUSE	01	REGULAR	12/01/2020	01/01/2021	31	0	0	1	0	20.00
											20.00

BILLING MESSAGES

Past due balance is subject to \$1 or 1 1/2% penalty.

SAMPLE

MEMBER 1
MEMBER 2
ANY ROAD
SIDNEY MT 59270-0000

Return Bottom Portion With Payment



Manage your account and make payments from your phone or tablet with the SmartHub app.

Account Number: 675300

Statement Date: 01/04/2021

Due Date: 01/20/2021

Amount Due: 259.00

Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric
PO Box 1047
Sidney MT 59270-1047

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or pad-mounted transformer. In the event of a power outage, our line crews need to locate and be able to get to our transformer as quickly as possible. Having the transformer readily available allows our crews to speed the process of safely restoring your power.

We operate and manage nearly 2,200 pad-mount transformers, which step down high voltage to lower voltage that is safe to use. A single transformer can be vital to providing electricity to several homes or businesses, so be mindful when moving snow, planting trees or parking farm equipment.

If you notice damaged equipment, please contact us at 406-488-1602. ■

Help keep transformers clear

With winter in full swing, and spring right around the corner, we encourage you to be aware of the location of your “big green box”



Follow us on Facebook, Instagram & Twitter

Update your contact info

Should an emergency arise, Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Cooperative (LYREC) may need to reach you regarding the situation. LYREC is contacting each member to get updated information. With over 2,400 members, this will be an ongoing process over the next several months. Please take a few minutes to update your information, so LYREC can serve you better.

Operating report

Year to date:	December 2019	December 2020
Total miles energized	2,114	2,127
Total number of meters	6,183	6,221
Kilowatt-hours sold	278,973,227	256,449,897
Revenue	\$29,136,817	\$27,205,484
Total expenses	\$27,953,608	\$26,089,205
Operating margins	\$3,750,472	\$1,778,036



3200 W. Holly - Sidney, MT 59270

Phone: 406-488-1602

Fax: 406-488-6524

Website: www.lyrec.com

TRUSTEES

Allen Thiessen President
 Greg Rauschendorfer Vice President
 John Redman Secretary/Treasurer
 Colin Gartner Trustee
 Dennis Schmierer Trustee
 Dennis Nelson Trustee
 Jim Vitt Trustee

EMPLOYEES

Jason Brothen General Manager
 Brenda Bond Chief Financial Officer
 Jami Propp Member Service Manager
 Kyle Kavanagh IT Coordinator
 Margo Zadow Billing Coordinator
 Pam Wilcoxon Plant Accountant
 Tiffani Hentges Customer Service Representative
 Melissa Buckley CSR/Staff Assistant
 Chris Hillesland Chief Operations Officer
 Rich Gorde Journeyman Lineman
 Eric McPherson System Controller
 Kevin Goff Operations Assistant
 Kelly Keyser Operations Manager
 Lee Alvstad Journeyman Lineman
 Aaron Eide Journeyman Lineman
 Bryan Franck Journeyman Lineman
 Jesse Obergfell Journeyman Lineman
 Blade Jankovsky Journeyman Lineman
 Tanner Roth Journeyman Lineman
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 Lee Delp Apprentice Lineman
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 Brandon Mueller Master Electrician
 Dan Gieser Energy Management Supervisor
 Mike Eberling Mechanic
 Richard Tremblay Service Technician
 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

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