

# POWERLines

May 2009

Official Publication of Powder River Energy Corporation



## The Right Tree for the Right Place

Whether planting trees to provide a wind break, reduce carbon in the environment or to beautify your landscape, PRECorp reminds everyone of the importance of planting tall-growing trees safely away from power lines. If you have trees that appear to be growing into power lines, contact PRECorp. Never try to prune them yourself. We have or can recommend skilled professionals trained to safely prune and trim trees for electric line clearance.



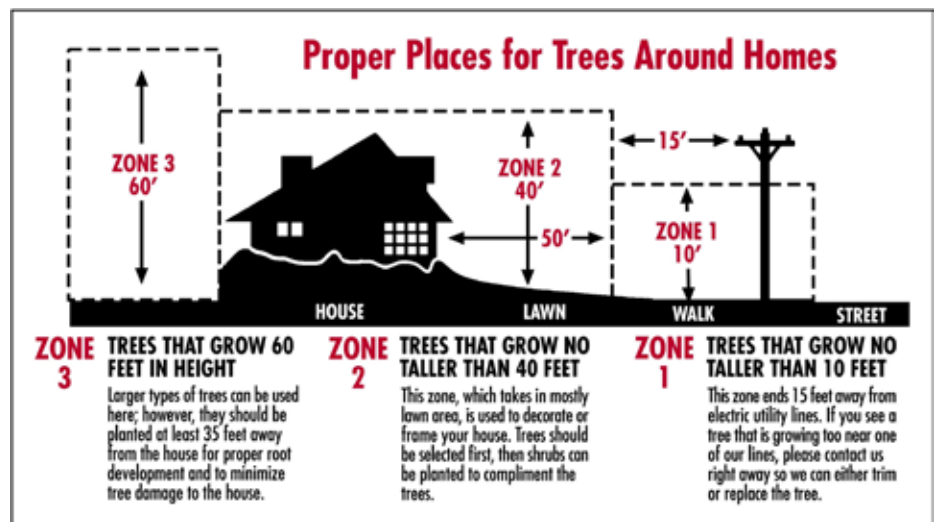
Be aware of mature tree height. Read the label before you purchase bushes or trees. Do not plant trees or bushes near underground utility services.



Tree roots can grow to interfere with underground pipes, cables and wires. Keep areas around electric meters, transformers or other electrical equipment free of any vegetation that could limit utility service access.

Before digging, call your local underground utility locator service to mark location of underground utilities so that accidental contact, damage and injuries can be avoided.

Remember, trees and wood in general, conduct electricity and can create a safety hazard if grown close to electric lines. Power outages or momentary interruptions can occur when branches come into contact with overhead lines. If you have existing trees and landscaping that interferes with power lines, contact PRECorp at 1-800-442-3630.



## It's 2009 Election Time!

Pursuant to the bylaws of Powder River Energy Corp. this is a call to the members of the cooperative for Board of Director candidates. The members listed below have been appointed by the Directors of PRECorp to serve on a nominating committee. This committee is responsible for nominating qualified candidates to run for election to the Board of Directors. If you are a member of PRECorp and would like to be a candidate for the board or would like to nominate a member, contact one of the committee members in the county you reside by **May 31, 2009**.



## Board of Director Nominations Being Accepted

### Weston County

Delbert Strickling - PO Box 257, Osage, WY 82723 (307-465-2409)  
Gerry Carr - 2 Dewey Rd, Newcastle, WY 82701 (307-746-4159)

### Johnson County

Fred Carr - 1439 Sussex Rd, Kaycee, WY 82639 (307-738-2604)  
Ed Foust - 1211 Fort St, Buffalo, WY 82834 (307-684-5549)

### Campbell County

Donald Brown - PO Box 10, Recluse, WY 82725 (307-682-4373)  
Jerry Geer - 2277 Hwy 50, Gillette, WY 82718 (307-686-6296)



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The power of human connections



# Power Outage? Get Information on **Twitter.com**

Powder River Energy Corporation (PRECorp) is pioneering the use of Twitter to keep co-op members, news media, and employees up-to-date on power outages and outage resolution status.



Twitter is a cross between a social networking site (like Facebook or Myspace), text messaging, and blogging. PRECorp launched their Twitter link internally as a pilot project. It solved the challenge of finding a way to keep employees up-to-date on power outage statuses at once, especially in an electric cooperative with 160 employees, 3 business offices, 4 line crew shops, and power lines spread across 5 counties.

On March 23, 2009, the internal pilot project was unexpectedly tested. Northeast Wyoming was hit with a winter storm that resulted in blizzard conditions. With Twitter, even if employees were unable to reach the PRECorp office due to weather conditions, if they had access to their cell phones or a computer, they could get updates on the status of line crews, where outages were occurring, and how many members were effected.

PRECorp now plans to extend the pilot project and open Twitter externally to benefit their members and provide information regarding outages to anyone interested. PRECorp members are still encouraged to report any outages via the PRECorp outage number at **1-888-391-6220** and to keep their account information current with Customer Service. The Twitter link will merely provide real time information if they chose to access the site.

Information on how to sign up for updates will be available on [www.precorp.coop](http://www.precorp.coop), the co-op's main website. The information will also contain easy to follow "cheat sheet" that will make understanding Twitter and its capabilities incredibly easy.

PRECorp highly encourages field personnel and business members, such as Coal Bed Methane operators, and the railroad and mining industries, to sign up in order to find out instantly about planned power outages.



## Energy Efficiency *Tip of the Month*

When washing clothes, use less water by running full loads. In addition, approximately 80 percent of the energy used by washing machines heats water, so by using cold water and cold-water detergents you can cut a load's energy use in half.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

## *Mark Your Calendars for Family Summer Fun*



There are a lot of upcoming fun summer activities in northeast Wyoming and PRECorp plans to be a part of them! Go ahead and mark your calendars for these events, we'll be providing more information in upcoming publications on each event. All events are FREE!

### **June 26-28, 2009 - Wright Days Roundup**

This three day community event will include barbecues, parades, contests, dances, and all sorts of entertainment. The event will culminate with PRECorp's sponsorship of a Kid's Fishing Derby and Kid's BBQ on Sunday, June 28.

### **June 19-20, 2009 Arvada Clearmont Days**

The town celebration will include a PRECorp sponsored "Fun on The Go" for kids on Saturday, June 20. Other activities include bull riding and family entertainment.

### **July 19, 2009 Hulett Wings & Wheels**

This car and airshow was a huge success last year. Bring a chair and the whole family to see the Touchstone Balloon and fantastic air acrobatics.

### **August 22, 2009 PRECorp Annual Meeting**

Join your fellow members for a co-op business meeting followed by a PRECorp sponsored Speedway Family fun night. Find out what's happening in your cooperative at the business meeting, then enjoy a night of racing at the Gillette Thunder Speedway. Each member and their family that attends will receive a free pass to the speedway, a food voucher, and kids will have a chance to win a bike!

## **TAKE TIME, SAVE MONEY**

### **Energy Efficiency and Conservation Loan Seminars**

**May Date: Wednesday, May 20, 2009**

**Time: 5:30-6:30 pm**

**Registration Required: Contact Betty**

**Finn at 1-800-442-3630**

**[bettyf@precorp.coop](mailto:bettyf@precorp.coop)**

**Gillette, Sundance, Sheridan**

**[www.precorp.coop](http://www.precorp.coop)**