

Be aware of safety while hunting

Be aware of what's behind that big buck or it might cost big bucks.

Thousands of PRECorp members' dollars are spent every year repairing equipment and power lines that have been struck by a stray bullet. As a not-for-profit cooperative owned by the members, we all share in this expense.

This doesn't even include the damages and hazards to members down the line that require power for medical equipment or other needs while a lineman does some hunting of his or her own looking at spans of line trying to locate the problem.

Hunters and other gun-owners should not shoot near or toward power lines, power poles, and substations. A stray bullet can cause damage to equipment, could create a safety issue, and potentially interrupt electric service to members.

Sometimes the damage isn't noticed for several weeks or months, and is only discovered when an unexplained outage occurs. Linemen even discovered an arrow stuck in an overhead wire on one occasion.

Landowners are also encouraged to take note of non-members who are hunting on their property, and remind them to be aware of power lines.

- Do not shoot at or near power lines or insulators.
- Familiarize yourself with the location of power lines and equipment on land where you shoot.
- Damage to the conductor can happen, possibly dropping a phase on the ground. If it's dry and the electricity goes to ground, there is the possibility of electrocution and wildfire.
- Be especially careful in wooded areas where power lines may not be as visible.
- Do not use utility poles or towers to support equipment used in your shooting activity, such as tree stands or targets.
- Take notice of warning signs and keep clear of electrical equipment.
- Do not climb or place deer stands on utility poles. Energized lines and equipment on the poles can conduct electricity to anyone who comes in contact with them, causing shock or electrocution.
- Do not shoot at, or near, birds perching on utility lines. That goes for any type of firearm, including pistols, rifles or shotguns.
- Do not place decoys on power lines or other utility equipment. Anything attached to a pole besides utility equipment can pose an obstruction - and a serious hazard - to electric cooperative employees as they perform utility operations.

Miss the Annual Meeting?

You can still pick up a 2019 PRECorp Calendar while supplies last at any of our offices in Sundance, Gillette, or Sheridan. The calendars feature the photographic talent of PRECorp employees and the natural beauty of northeast Wyoming.



Budget Billing can shave seasonal peaks

Do you remember the high power bills during last winter's extended cold spell? You likely aren't looking forward to going through that again. Consider Budget Billing to smooth out the peaks and valleys of seasonal high bills.

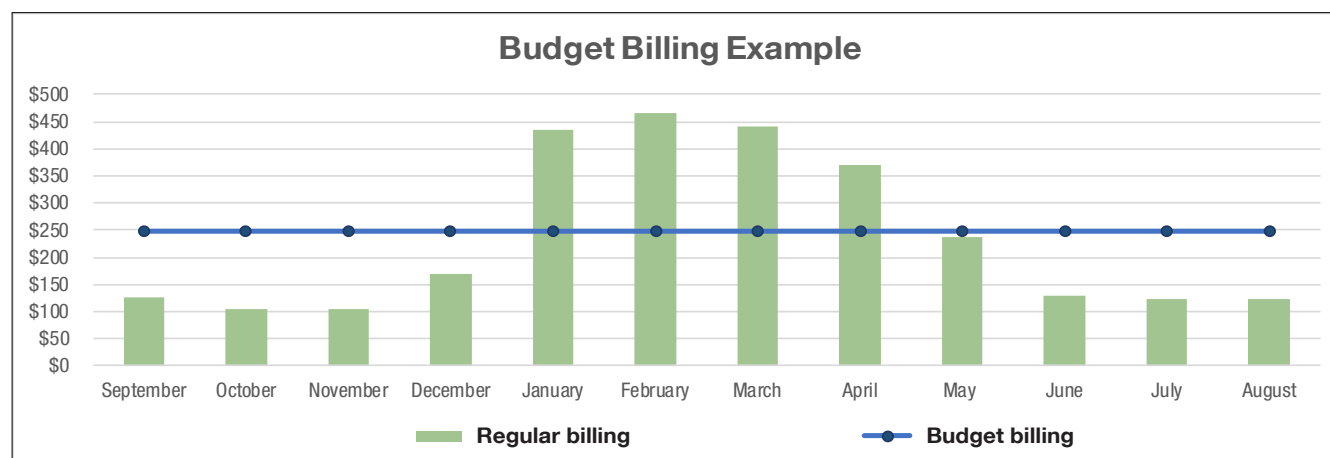
PRECorp offers a Budget Billing program for residential members to help even out seasonal spikes in power usage over an 11-month period. Your account must be current and have at least 12 months of service history to enroll.

Annual billing is averaged - with a 5% buffer built in - to enable members to budget and pay a fixed amount for their power bill each month. The monthly budget amount needs to be paid for 11 successive months with the final, or 12th month's, payment being a settlement (or

clearing) amount equal to the difference between the total payments made during the prior 11 months and the actual amount due for the 12-month period. The clearing month will always be the October-dated billing for September usage, regardless of what month the plan was made effective. The October statement will reflect the new monthly budget amount, which is recalculated based on the average usage over the past 12 months.

October is a great time to sign up, before the next winter sets in. Below is an example of a real PRECorp residential account, showing the **regular billing with winter peaks in green** and the **monthly budget payment in blue**.

If you are interested in signing up for Budget Billing, please contact a Member Service Representative at 1-800-442-3630 to help get you set up.



1 OF 900

We are one of more than
900 ELECTRIC CO-OPS

in the United States.

Together, we collaborate to solve complex challenges to meet the energy needs of our local communities.



OCTOBER IS NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH

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1-800-442-3630 • Report an Outage: 1-888-391-6220

www.precorp.coop

As an official publication of Powder River Energy Corporation, the purpose of Power Lines is to communicate to member/customers information concerning their electric cooperative, and to offer suggestions and ideas regarding the safe, efficient, and economical use of electric energy. **Powder River Energy Corporation is an equal opportunity provider and employer.** Back issues of the Power Lines can be found on PRECorp's website at: www.precorp.coop/company-and-news.