

New Rates In Effect for 2008

As announced at the annual meeting of members held earlier this month, the rate increase that CME has been preparing you for will go into effect with the January 1st, 2008 billing period. We'd like to take a moment to review some of these changes with you.

First, the monthly service charge will be raised from \$15 to \$25 for all farm/residential, single-phase small commercial, and seasonal consumers (wells, cabins, churches, etc.), with the exception of rural township halls. The monthly service charge is meant to cover the "fixed cost" of bringing power to you each month. Every service, whether it uses any electricity or not, incurs these costs, and so is required to pay the monthly "minimum" even if no power is used.

Secondly, the kWh rate for the above-mentioned classes of consumers will increase to 11.7 cents per kWh for the first 1,000 kWhs used, and 5.8 cents per kWh for all electricity used after that. The previous rate for farm and residential customers was set at 10.6 cents for the first block of electricity used, decreasing to 8 cents and 5.3 cents with increased usage. The second block has been eliminated completely. The difference in the remaining blocks amounts to 1.1 cents/kWh for the initial tier, and a half-cent/kWh for all additional usage.

Special rates for "dual fuel" and "all-electric" users have also changed. Previously, dual fuel customers paid 3.3 cents/kWh for electricity used for heating and cooling, and all-electric customers paid 4.3 cents. The two groups have been combined, and all will pay 4.5 cents/kWh under the new rate.

Further changes are summarized in the accompanying chart. Most members will receive a new rate chart in their billing packet sent in December. A summary of all rates is available for the asking at our office. Anyone with questions or concerns regarding the new rates or their implementation is encouraged to call our office at 1-800-208-8587. We'll do our best to answer your questions, and will continue to deliver the reliable service that you expect from us.

| <u>Charles Mix Electric Rates effective</u> <u>January 1st 2008</u> | |
|--|--------|
| Residential* | |
| Service Charge ----- | \$25 |
| First 1000 kWh ----- | 11.7¢ |
| All kWhs over 1000----- | 5.8¢ |
| All Electric Heat Rate ----- | \$4.5¢ |
| (Dual Fuel & Heat Storage rates will move to the All Electric Heat Rate.) | |
| Commercial/Industrial/Irrigation[^] | |
| <i>Energy</i> | |
| First 150 kWhs per kW demand----- | 6.9¢ |
| Excess kWh's ----- | 4.5¢ |
| <i>Demand</i> | |
| Controlled loads ----- | \$5 |
| Uncontrolled loads ----- | \$11 |
| When applicable, qualifying All Electric Heat shall have the demand reduced by either actual coincidental demand or a calculated demand. | |
| *All non-demand rate schedules are based on Residential rates. | |
| [^] All demand rate schedules are based on Commercial/Industrial rates | |

Announcements

Well Readings Due

- It's time to report the yearly meter reading for pasture wells, grain bins, vacant farms, and other services that are normally read and billed each fall. Readings need to be reported no later than October 25th to avoid a \$10.50 late reading fee. Annual bills will be mailed on or near November 1st.

All-Electric Heat Rate

- Beginning November 1st, members on the "all-electric-heat" rate may begin deducting their heating energy usage from their total usage, and using the cheaper rate for heating. If you think you may qualify for the electric heat rate, call Russell Gall at Charles Mix Electric.

Holiday Closings

- CME will be closed on Monday, November 12th to observe Veteran's Day. The office will also be closed on Thursday & Friday, November 22nd & 23rd, to celebrate Thanksgiving. You can still reach us by calling 1-800-208-8587 if you have a power outage or emergency.

Charles Mix Electric Cooperative Connections

(USPS 018-877)

Manager

Mark W. Mengenhauser
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CME Board of Directors

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Secretary/Treasurer Ron Samuelson
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Richard Dvorak Dale Link

Regular meetings of the board of directors of this cooperative are held on the third Thursday of each month.

Office Staff

Office Manager Wanda Weber
Staff Assistant Greg Farke
Member Services Advisor Russell Gall
Accounting/Work Orders Carol Dvorak
Secretary/Cashier Sally J. Florey
Line Superintendent Rodrick Payer

Line Crew

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Foreman (Platte) Bob Struck 337-9696
Jrnyymn Jon Finney 337-3728
Jrnyymn Jared Vanderwerff 337-3309
Jrnyymn Mike Dangel 487-7999
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Charles Mix Electric Cooperative Connections is published monthly by Charles Mix Electric Association, PO Box 10, 440 Lake St., Lake Andes, SD 57356 for its members. Families subscribe to Charles Mix Electric Cooperative Connections as part of their electric cooperative membership. Charles Mix Electric Cooperative Connections' purpose is to provide reliable, helpful information to electric cooperative members on matters pertaining to rural electrification and better rural living.

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Co-op News

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Taxes Paid to Local Schools



Instead of income taxes, rural electric co-ops like CME pay a "gross revenue" tax. This tax is distributed to the public school districts in which CME does business. Shown below is a summary of the taxes CME paid this year, and the benefit to local school districts.

| | | | |
|---------------|-------------|---------|-------------|
| Avon | \$ 2,802.80 | Wagner | \$39,977.38 |
| Andes Central | \$28,108.51 | Armour | \$ 1,428.55 |
| Geddes | \$12,770.20 | Delmont | \$ 1,270.38 |
| Platte | \$41,898.34 | Tripp | \$ 134.33 |

Office Hours
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Open over noon hour
Closed Saturday, Sunday & Holidays

Read meter 1st of each month. Bills due by 6th of month. Add \$2 to any bill paid after the 6th of the month.