

# HIGH PLAINS POWER CURRENT

Happy New Year from High Plains Power

## Wyoming Public Service Commission Did Not Adopt Proposed Rule for Non-Public Utility Generators

On 4 December, 2024, the Wyoming Public Service Commission (PSC) decided not to adopt the rule after reviewing comments received from the public regarding the proposed rule which would have allowed Non-Public Utility Generators (NPUG) to apply for the ability to become a power generator for themselves and up to two additional customers. The PSC did not rule out future review, but did say that they would take additional time to consider all of the written comments.

The PSC received over 200 comments on this rule proposal, the majority of the comments

were not in favor of moving forward with the rule.

There were many questions about safety, liability and reliability that were not addressed adequately in the proposed rule.

HPP participated in a state-wide campaign via Voices for Cooperative Power to ensure that our membership knew about this issue and that it was supported by the PSC and other political entities. If you are interested in staying informed on local issues that affect energy and Cooperative issues, you can sign up at: [www.voicesforcooperativepower.com/wy/](http://www.voicesforcooperativepower.com/wy/)

## Cooperatives Consider Consolidation: An Update On The Issues And Timeline

The Board of Directors for Garland Light & Power, High Plains Power (HPP) and Carbon Power & Light met in November 2024 and decided to move forward with exploring the benefits of consolidation.

The November meeting was used to examine what the potential structure of the new organization would look like, focused on bylaws, operations, benefits and how the transition would work. The potential benefits of consolidation are significant cost savings across the new operation, shared services, a more diversified power load and stabilization and rate uniformity, all of which benefit all participating members.

In the fall of 2023, High Plains Power, Garland Light & Power, Carbon Power & Light and Big Horn REA combined for a feasibility study of consolidation. Big Horn REA withdrew, but the remaining co-ops, including HPP continue to research the potential of consolidation.

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## A Positive Look at National Energy Policy

Change is happening nationally in the energy policy arena. Congressman Brett Guthrie (R-KY) will be the next Chairman of the House Energy & Commerce Committee. He says, "we must work together to restore America's energy dominance and lower energy prices...". The focus of High Plains Power and co-ops at large, has always been to provide safe, affordable and reliable energy to our members.

Jim Matheson, CEO of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), has been an outspoken advocate for cooperatives across the nation. He has been very vocal about the need to prioritize

reliable, on demand power even as we explore renewable power sources, as demand for energy is on the rise. In a recent interview, Matheson said that Guthrie was one of the choices to head the Energy Committee and that NRECA has a good relationship with Guthrie.

As a member of NRECA, HPP stays active in what is happening with energy policy at the national, regional and local levels. Policy and the market can have significant impact on energy costs, and that makes it a priority for HPP to inform and act on behalf of our members.

## Winter Energy Saving Tips

Winter has arrived! And here are some things that might help keep costs down.

**Using your oven** - If you are planning on baking for the holidays, consider leaving the oven door cracked open, once you are done, to let that heat warm up the kitchen.

**Insulated Curtains** - These can help retain heat in the room that might otherwise escape through your windows.

**Weather Stripping** - Replace old weather stripping around external doors, to keep the draft out. You can do this on any door that lets in cold air.

**Space Heaters** - Just be aware that these are small but expensive to run. Warm clothing or an extra blanket could help.

**Stock Tank Heaters** - These heaters can run your bill up. Cut down on cost by unplugging them during the day if the temperature is above 32 degrees.

**Plugging in your vehicle heater** - Plug it in several hours before needing to use it rather than leaving it plugged in all the time.

**Capital Credit checks went out in Mid December, or were applied to your bill balance. If you did not receive a check, review your January bill to see if it was credited to your bill.**

### Are You Struggling To Pay Your Electric Bill?

You May Be Able To Receive Help This Winter!  
**Contact Wyoming LIEAP To See If They Can Help!**



Call: 1-800-246-4221

Check Out Their Facebook Page At:

<https://www.facebook.com/WYLIEAP/>



HIGH PLAINS POWER 307-856-9426