

New Power Plants Needed



Steve Reed
CEO/Manager

January resulted in the largest peak demand we have ever experienced at 28,745 KW. This is 9.1 percent higher than 2007. This is a trend that we have seen across the region in the past few years.

We receive the bulk of our power from Basin Electric in the form of coal fired generation. For the past 20 years we have had a significant surplus of power. That has

all changed in the past few years with the significant growth in ethanol and other energy related industries. Basin is now faced with the need to build new power plants. With all of the discussion on environmental issues the building of coal fired power plants is coming under intense scrutiny, making it much more difficult to build new coal fired power plants.

For the past 40 years Basin has been operating some of the most environmentally friendly coal fired power plants in the world and has shown a strong commitment to utilizing new technologies in emissions control. We expect that will continue with any new plants that are built. One of the major problems is that the technology does not exist today to eliminate all emissions. The problem is that if we don't build new power plants in the next few years we face the possibility of shortages of electricity as early as the 2014-2015 time frame.

I don't have all of the answers, but this country has an abundance of coal and I believe we must find a way to utilize that resource as opposed to continually relying on foreign imports for our energy needs. We will be giving you more information over the next several months asking you to let your congressional delegation know the importance of utilizing coal and to keep electricity affordable for all of our members.

Hayes to Host 2008 Annual Meeting

The West Central Board of Directors has accepted the invitation from the Town of Hayes to host the 59th Annual Meeting of the Cooperative.

The 2008 West Central Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 1, in the Hayes Fire Hall. The event will begin with the business meeting followed by a free annual meeting meal prepared by the 4-Corners Lighted Field Association.

Statement of Nondiscrimination

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE
APPENDIX A
STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

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Steven J. Reed, CEO/Manager

Co-op Statistics

KWH Purchased:

	JANUARY	YTD
2008	14,131,600	14,131,600
2007	13,181,672	13,181,672

Hours worked without a loss-time accident:
2,775 through February

West Central Electric Cooperative Connections

(USPS No. 018-988)

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Co-op News

Sign Up For Direct Payment And A Chance To Win \$100

Sign up for West Central Electric's Direct Payment Plan by May 16, 2008 and you will be automatically entered for a chance to win \$100.

Direct Payment is the most convenient, reliable and least expensive way to pay your monthly electric bill. You save time by not writing checks for the monthly payment. It also saves you the cost of postage and you no longer have to worry about your payment being delinquent or being lost in the mail.

Members will continue to receive a monthly bill, which will contain all billing information and a reminder that your account is "Paid by Bank". Your payment will be automatically deducted from your checking account each month on the 2nd business day of the month.

Currently using the Direct Payment Plan? Then you've already been entered for a chance to win one of four \$50 drawings – no additional work required!

West Central currently has over 558 members paying their electric bill using the Direct Payment Plan, and that number is growing rapidly. These members are already familiar with the ease and convenience of paying automatically and you can join them!

For your chance to win \$100, sign up for the Direct Payment Plan today!

Just complete, sign and submit the form below to West Central Electric, PO Box 17, Murdo, SD 57559. Remember! The drawing deadline date is May 16, 2008.

AUTHORIZATION FOR DIRECT PAYMENT	
I authorize West Central Electric Co-op., Inc. and the financial institution named below to initiate entries to my checking/savings account. This authority will remain in effect until I notify you in writing to cancel it in such time as to afford the financial institution a reasonable opportunity to act on it. I can stop payment of any entry by notifying my financial institution 3 days before my account is charged.	
(NAME OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTION)	(BRANCH)
(CITY)	(STATE) (ZIP CODE)
(SIGNATURE)	(DATE)
(NAME – PLEASE PRINT)	
(ADDRESS – PLEASE PRINT)	
Account No. _____	Checking <input type="checkbox"/> or Savings <input type="checkbox"/>
Financial Institution Routing Number _____	
(between these symbols ■ : ■ : on the bottom left of your check)	

The shocking truth about **OVERHEAD Power Lines!** **LOOK UP LOOK OUT AND LIVE!** Energy Safety Association of South Dakota