



Missoula Electric Cooperative Inc.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Putting the *You* in Utility

MISSOULA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Trustees:

Ray Cebulski,
President

677-2280, District #5,
Seeley Lake

Tom Alsaker,
Vice President

543-8801, District #2,
Big Flat

Douglas Bardwell,
Secretary – Treasurer
626-5252, District #7,
Huson

Chuck Drinville, 825-4101
District #4, Clinton

Terry Hoke, 728-6221
District #1, El-Mar

Sharon Jacobsen,
793-5686
District #6, Ovando

Harry LaFriniere,
777-3307
District #3, Florence

Bill Payment:

Online:

www.missoulaelectric.com

Mail:

1700 W. Broadway
Missoula, MT 59808

Offices:

Office Locations:

Missoula — 1700 W.
Broadway

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Report Outages:

406-541-4433 or
1-800-352-5200

General Manager
Anthony H. Sinclair

Interim Manager's Report — *By Larry Nelson*

Line crews restore power

In the January Manager's report Anthony Sinclair "Tony" announced his resignation from Missoula Electric Cooperative, effective on Dec. 19, in order to accept the position of General Manager of a large cooperative in Georgia.

Tony became MEC General Manager in Sept. 2006 and during his tenure here accomplished many important milestones for the Cooperative.

The MEC Board of Trustees is now in the process of selecting a new General Manager and that process should be completed by the end of February or early March.

In the interim, your Board of Trustees has asked that I fill in as your interim general manager. I have spent the last 35 years in the rural electric program and retired as General Manager for Marias River Electric Cooperative in Shelby.

During my time as GM of Marias River Electric, I also was involved with state, and national associations and worked with BPA, WAPA and Basin Electric, which are all power producers supplying power to Montana RECs. My time here has been and will be short, but it has become very obvious to

me, that Missoula Electric Cooperative is a very well run cooperative. The Board of Trustees is a dedicated group of Members that are charged with governing the Cooperative in a manner that is of the most benefit to the Members. I have dealt with many boards over the years and the MEC Board is without a doubt dedicated to serving the membership in the best possible manner.

The MEC employees are also a team of dedicated men and women that any General Manager would be proud to be a part of.

During the first few days that I have been here, I witnessed line crews working night and day trying to restore power in the Seeley Lake area. Due to the heavy ice and snow load, tree branches fell through power lines taking down poles and wires.

The coordination between line crews and office staff is critical during power outages and, at MEC, it is one of the best that I have seen.

Trees falling through power lines are one of the major causes of outages in Missoula Electric's service area. There is a heavy maintenance program for tree trimming, but in some instances crews are not



allowed right-of-way by land owners to trim back trees along power lines. Downed power lines in bad weather means long power outages and can be a potential hazard not only to our linemen but also to the land owner and the public in general.

I would encourage land owners to work with their cooperative to allow crews access to right-of-ways so that these hazards can be removed and reduce the major cause of unplanned outages to consumers.

It's my pleasure to work for Missoula Electric Cooperative, if only for a short time, and I am confident that your Board of Trustees will select a General Manager who will continue to provide the reliable service that you deserve. We hope you have a great 2009 and a power-outage-free year.

In case of an outage

Please call the Cooperative office to notify us if you experience a power outage. Some Members have been under the impression that the Automated Meter reading devices will detect outages immediately so that we can dispatch our crews to the location. However, the speed at which the data is transferred over the power lines is not sufficient to let us know as soon as an outage occurs. You will need to report power outages to our office at (406) 541-4433 or 1-800-352-5200. As always, be sure to check your breakers before calling the Co-op.

New Year wishes and thanks

The Board of Trustees and staff of Missoula Electric Cooperative wish our Members a healthy and prosperous New Year in 2009. We wish to extend our thanks to our Members for their cooperation and support during this past year.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our Annual Meeting on March 21, 2009. It is our chance to greet you and keep you informed about issues that affect your Cooperative. Please set aside a few hours of your time for attending the meeting. If you have not attended before, you will meet some great people and learn how a cooperative works. Those of you who make the Annual Meeting a regular event will enjoy meeting and greeting friends, the Trustees, and employees of Missoula Electric Cooperative.

Energy efficiency opportunities for you

Missoula Electric Cooperative has energy efficiency incentives for CFL light bulbs, most Energy Star appliances and qualifying energy efficiency hot water heaters. On page 5 is the form for the Energy Star appliance incentive. All of the forms can be viewed and downloaded on our user friendly website www.missoulaelectric.com.

You can also call one of our friendly and helpful customer service representatives

to learn more about the energy efficiency incentives that you qualify for.

You will see just how easy it is to get an energy efficiency cash incentive and then start saving money for a long time into the future. So remind your neighbors to make sure they check out the opportunities available to them also.



Payment Options

MEC provides you with several easy options for you to pay your bill

Office

You may pay your electric bill at the cooperative office during our normal business hours. If you can not make it to the office during business hours there is a convenient night drop box for you to deposit your payment in our drive-thru. All payments dropped in our night box are posted the next business day. Please do not put a cash payment in the night drop box.

Direct Pay Autopay

Now you can pay your electric bill automatically. Choose from two easy options:

- Automatic payment from your credit card or debit card; Debit Authorization form – Credit Card.

- Automatic bank draft payment from your checking account; Debit Authorization form – Checking.

E-mail or call us for more information. We will still mail you a monthly statement with these options. You'll never have to write or mail another check or worry about a late payment again.

E-Bill

You can now pay through our E-bill site with your credit or debit card in the convenience of your own home over the internet 24/7. You can also review your previous statements and payment activity through our E-bill site. Our Customer Service personnel will continue to assist you

with your credit card payments over the phone for those without internet.

Mail

You can send us your payment in the pre-addressed envelope included with your billing statement. Please include your bill stub and put your account number on your check. Please don't send cash in the mail, MEC cannot be responsible for cash lost in the mail.

Seeley Lake Bank

Payments can be made at First Valley Bank in Seeley Lake during their normal business hours. Please be sure to have your account number when making your payment at First Valley Bank.

Energy help

LIEAP - Low-Income Energy Assistance Program and Energy Shares
Human Resource Council

728-3710

First Call For Help
549-5555

Salvation Army
728-0710



Putting the You in Utility



Energy Star Appliance Program Incentive Form

1700 W. Broadway • Missoula, MT 59808 • 406-541-4433 • www.missoulaelectric.com

Missoula Electric Cooperative will pay you a cash incentive when you purchase a qualifying ENERGY STAR clothes washer, dishwasher, refrigerator or freezer and it is installed in our service area. If you have questions about which models qualify, ask your retailer, call Missoula Electric or visit www.energystar.gov for a complete list of qualifying models. Qualifying models are subject to change. To receive your incentive payment, please follow these steps:

- Step 1:** Purchase a qualifying appliance and apply for the incentive within 6 months of purchase.
- Step 2:** Complete this incentive form and sign at the bottom to have the incentive mailed to you.
Don't forget to check what type of water heater you have.
- Step 3:** Provide us with a copy of your store receipt listing the manufacturer and **model number** of your appliance. **Incentives cannot be processed without this information.**

Please complete the following information for each appliance purchased.

Appliance	Manufacturer	Model #	Credit
Clothes Washer			\$70 w/electric water heater \$25 w/gas water heater
Refrigerator			\$25
Dishwasher			\$25
Freezer			\$25

You **MUST** check one of the boxes below:

I use an electric water heater where this appliance is installed	<input type="checkbox"/>
I use a gas water heater where this appliance is installed	<input type="checkbox"/>

Member Name: _____	Address: _____
Account Number: _____	City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I certify that the appliance(s) listed above were purchased for installation at the above address. I will allow a representative of MEC to verify the installation of the appliance(s) and type of water heater in the home. I acknowledge that this incentive program is a limited offer and is subject to change and availability of funds.

_____ Purchaser's Signature	_____ Date
_____ Missoula Electric Representative	_____ Date

