

HIGHLINE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

The Beacon

JULY 2020



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Our mission is to provide our members with reliable, high-quality electricity and other needed services, which will improve their economic and social well-being and provide significant long-range benefits for our communities, our state and our nation.



HIGHLINE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION
IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER



Touchstone Energy®

THE PROBLEM WITH COLORADO HB20-1225

BY DENNIS HERMAN GENERAL MANAGER



DENNIS HERMAN

The Colorado legislature chose to interject itself into and take sides in a contract dispute between Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc., and two of its member cooperatives this spring with the passage of House Bill 20-1225. Specifically, this bill codifies that the Colorado Public Utilities Commission has jurisdiction over the fee paid by a retail electric cooperative that wishes to break its contract with a wholesale electric cooperative. The bill also states that the PUC has jurisdiction over the terms and conditions imposed by one cooperative on another regarding the installation of batteries or other energy storage systems.

The interesting thing about the bill language is that it aligns perfectly with complaints raised by United Power, Inc., and La Plata Electric Association, Inc., at the PUC against Tri-State. La Plata is a distribution cooperative that is headquartered in Durango and serves over 44,000 meters. United is headquartered in Brighton and serves over 93,000 meters. Tri-State is a generation and transmission cooperative that generates and provides power to 43 electric distribution cooperatives and public power districts across Colorado, Nebraska, Wyoming and New Mexico; including Highline Electric Association.

United and La Plata filed complaints with the PUC requesting that the PUC set a buyout fee for them to break their wholesale power contracts with Tri-State. All of Tri-State's members have signed contracts committing them to buy at least 95% of its energy requirements from Tri-State through 2050, and Tri-State relies on expected sales through these contracts as collateral for their debt. Tri-State has asked the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to exert jurisdiction

in establishing a fee for members to exit the contracts and pre-empt the PUC on these fees. Tri-State believes that FERC will arrive at a more equitable fee as it would consider the interests of Tri-State's non-Colorado members and because it has adjudicated exit fees for other cooperatives across the country. In contrast, Tri-State is the only wholesale electric cooperative in Colorado and would be the only cooperative subject to the rate-making jurisdiction of the Colorado PUC. While I don't know United and La Plata's motivation for filing a complaint with the Colorado PUC, I speculate that they believe they will receive a favorable decision based on the makeup of the Colorado commission.

The problem with a favorable exit fee decision for United and La Plata is that it is a zero-sum situation. To the extent one of the parties is successful it comes at the expense of the other. The exit fees are meant to ensure that exiting members pay their share of Tri-State's risks that they agreed to when signing their contracts, and if these co-ops are given an unfairly low exit fee, then Highline and other Tri-State members must pick up the slack.

In summary, United and La Plata asked the Colorado PUC to set an exit fee for them to break their contracts with Tri-State. United and La Plata asked the PUC to make the decision because they believe it will be favorable for them. Favorable for them comes at the expense of Tri-State's 41 other member cooperatives, including Highline. The Colorado legislature passed, and the governor signed HB20-1225 supporting United and La Plata in their efforts.



Pesticide Safety

Please protect our employees

Our employees face serious health risks when they unknowingly enter a field that was sprayed or chemigated with any chemical. Just as you would not subject your family or employees to risk, we do not want to subject our employees to risk. Please consider the following:

- If you used any chemicals on a field, please notify Highline. You may call the office or you can place a flag at the entrance to the field. Please note the day when it is safe to enter the field and what chemical was used.
- Notification signs or flags are available free of charge at any Highline office.
- If calling during in an outage, please notify Highline if the field was sprayed.
- The initial and long-term effects of absorbing chemicals in the body are extremely hazardous to one's health. Please don't subject our employees to these dangers.

Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following employees who observe an employment anniversary in July:

- Nick Saylor*..... 30 years
- Dennis Herman*..... 28 years
- Jeff Blochowicz*..... 18 years
- Imer Rodriguez*..... 5 years
- Benjamin Kafka*..... 5 years



County Fair Dates

- Perkins:** July 20-25
- Phillips:** July 21-26
- Dundy:** July 22-25
- Washington:** July 27-August 1
- Sedgwick:** July 29 - August 1
- Logan:** July 30-August 9
- Yuma:** August 1-5
- Deuel:** Aug 6-8
- Chase:** August 9-16

JUNE STORMS CAUSE DAMAGE

Lighting was out for some Highline Electric consumer-members following the extreme weather that hit northeastern Colorado the first weekend in June. Torrents of rain and severe winds caused extensive damage to HEA's system, as well as damaging trees and buildings throughout the service territory.

The multi-day weather event recorded wind speeds averaging 70 miles per hour in the area, resulting in more than 300 broken poles throughout HEA's service territory. There were also five spans of 115-kilovolt transmission line that needed repair near Haxtun. That line belonged to Western Area Power Administration, which provides electricity to HEA's power supplier, and other utilities.

HEA line crews went to work as soon as the first power outages were reported and crews worked swiftly and safely in difficult weather conditions to bring the power back on for consumer-members. The crews and staff appreciate the understanding, support and well-wishes of our members. We're in this together.



Extensive damage seen across HEA's service territory after a June storm.



HEA crews work to repair broken poles.

Message to 2020 Graduates

If you came through this school year as a graduate, you can survive anything. You can make the most of anything that comes your way. There is nothing you can't overcome because you were tested as much as any young person can be tested. All the rites of passage that you did not have the advantage of this time will mean so much more to you when they happen for you sometime down the road. They're going to mean that much more because you know what it's like to go without.

We know this is difficult but just remember: nothing lasts forever. We will get through this together.

Regardless of how your high school graduation is celebrated, it does not diminish your achievements throughout the years. Congratulations, graduates. Be proud of all you accomplished thus far, and we wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors!

HEA OFFICES CLOSED JULY 3

YARDWORK ELECTRIFIED

Outdoor Power Equipment Rebates Low Noise. No Gas. Go Electric.

Experience the benefits of making the switch from gas to electric powered outdoor power equipment: low noise, zero gas, zero emissions and low maintenance.

Electric Outdoor Power Equipment Rebates

Mower, Snow Blower, Leaf Blower, Chainsaw, Pruner, Trimmer

25% of cost up to \$100 for electric mower or snow blower.

25% of cost up to \$50 for electric blower, chainsaw, pruner and trimmer.

Maximum yearly outdoor equipment rebate of \$150 per member account.

- For new product purchases only. Eligible refunds must be submitted within 120 days of purchase.
- Rebate requests can take 30 days to receive. Rebate requests must include itemized payment receipts (including product model number).
- Effective through December 31, 2020. Rebate program and products subject to change without notice.
- Visit www.hea.coop for the most current list of rebate products.

Unclaimed Property

In 2019, Highline Electric retired the remainder of capital credits for 1996 and 1997, as well as 12.71% of 1998 for Tri-State Generation and Transmission. Highline also retired the remainder of 2004 and 41.25% of 2005 for HEA. The following did not claim their credit. If you see a name you recognize on the unclaimed property list, please have that individual (or a representative of that individual if they are deceased) call Elise at 970-854-2236 or email her at elisep@hea.coop.

Aagesen, Donna
Abbott, Melvin
Abbott, Pam
Abernathy, Brett
Abernathy, Terry
Abts, Dani
Abts, Mary J
Achen, Nora Jean
Adams Drug Co Inc,
Adams, Pearl Ann
Adams, Virginia
Admin, Farmers Home
Adye, Julie A
Agri-Feeders, South Platte
Aguilar, Hilario

Ahlgren, Harry & Joan
Ahnstedt, Geraldine Mae
Alber, Elnora L
Albers, James M
Albertson, Harry L
Albrandt, Thommi
Albrecht, Edward
Alcorn, Sam L
Allen, Ann Daxton
Allen, Danita
Allen, Dennis
Allen, Edgar D
Allen, Jeff
Allen, Phyllis E
Allendorf, Duane

Alley, Terry
Alvarez, Joe M
Amalgamated Sugar Co Llc,
Amen, David & Jacob
Amen, Jerry
Anastassia,
Ancona, Terry
Andavazo, Manuel
Andersen, Andrew
Andersen, Debbie
Andersen, Karyn L
Andersen, Tom
Anderson, Bill
Anderson, David L
Anderson, Jared

Anderson, Monty
Anderson, Paul
Andres, Mike
Andrews, Kay
Ankeney, Caroline
Archondous, Phillip
Armknrecht, Debra
Armstrong, Grace
Armstrong, Scott
Arnold, Charles & Kristi
Arviso, Armando
Arviso, Jeresal
Ashby, Thelma
Atkins, Kathy
Attko,

Atwood, Larry
Austill, Carol
Aws,
Bade, Steve R
Bailey, Deborah
Bailey, Steve
Bak, Doris Jean
Baker, Chase
Baker, Joe P & Barbara L
Baker, Mark
Baker, Tracy
Ball, Sara
Ball, Shana
Ballard, Stephanie
Bane, Daisy

Bane, David
Bank, Century
Bank, Firstier Savings
Baptista, Steven
Barber, Pam
Barbmoore, Duane K
Barger, Chris
Barkley, Frances
Barnard, Robin E
Barnes, Melinda
Barnett, Dan
Barrett, Art
Barrette, Hope

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Unclaimed Property continued from page 9

Barritt, Stacy	Brauer, Douglas R	Clark, Beckey	Crupi, David	Enterprises, Skaer	Garrison, Jay D
Barrows, Daniel	Braz, Bill	Clark, Bradford J	Cullip, Julia M	Entertainment, Adams	Gasp.
Bartels, A E	Bredvick, Jeanie	Clark, Paul	Cullip, Ralph	Erickson, Gerald J	Geiselhart, Lorene
Bartels, Wayne	Brenda K Van Wye Sievers,	Clark, Raymond G	Cumming, Darris	Eskeu, Jeremy	Gelinas, Cathy
Barton, Darren R	Bretz, Robert & Diana	Clark, Robert E	Cummings, Rich	Estate, Dorvin E Scheppler	Gemaehlich, Daisy B
Baseggio, Lorraine	Bridgers, Elizabeth	Clark, Tim & Stephanie	Currie, Nora Jean	Euler, Donald	Genereux, Richard C
Baseggio, Vincent &	Briggs, Michelle L	Clason, Dennis	Cyr, Duane	Evans, Brian T	Gentry, Chris H
Lawrence	Briley, Rose	Clay, Andy	Dack, Randy	Evans, Joe	George, Donna L
Basham, Katherine	Briner, Milford C	Cleaver, Terri	Daily, Krista L	Evans, Vickie	George, Otto L
Bass, Dan	Brinkema Farms,	Clermont, Edward J	Daily, William L	Everhart, Larry A	Gerlach, Raymond G
Bass, Paul	Brisby, Tammie	Cleveland, Norman	Dalene K Van Dyke,	Evers, James D	Gerold, Corley
Bassett, Frances	Brock, William P	Clouse, Cassidy	Dallegue, Lonnie	Ewegan & Sandra L Olsen,	Gertner, Gabriel M
Batcher, Robert E	Brockbank, Brian	Clouse, Susan	Daly, Kerry & Lucy	Robert D	Giaucque, Heather
Baucke, Edwin L	Brook, Jim	Co, Amoco Pipeline	Darra, Robert H	Excell Services Inc,	Gibbs, Jimmy & Jeanette
Bauder, Brian	Broome, Elizabeth	Co, Ash & White Const	Daugherty, Robin M	Facilities, Railroad	Gibson, Keith D
Bauer, Kenneth L	Brothers, Hoppal	Co, Cave Ranch	Davis, Benny P	Falconburg, Darrin	Gibson, Kimberly
Bauer, M Scott	Brothers, Monteith	Co, Continental Operating	Davis, Rhonda	Fantasy Fiberglass, Inc,	Gift, Floyd
Beamer, Keith	Broughton, Rhonda S	Co, Farley Machine Works	Davis, Tim	Farland, William & Deborah	Gillmore, Brad
Beck, Mechelle L	Broughton, Roland E	Co, Hamilton Land & Cattle	Davison, Helen	Farm Credit Bank Of	Gitchele, Leonard U
Becker, Linda M	Brown, Bernard K	Co, Headington Oil	Day, Angus H	Wichita,	Gitchele, William Or Barbara
Beede, Craig	Brown, Ed D	Co, Hondo Oil & Gas	Day, Heather L	Farms, Boggs	Glanz, Jerry
Beeler, James R	Brown, Frank C	Co, Kiewit Western	Day, Rebecca	Farms, Css	Glassburn, Rebecca
Beemer, Jerry R	Brown, Joyce M	Co, Lewis & Clark Expl	De La Fuente, Frosty	Farms, D-T	Glassburn, Robert
Begin, Darlene M	Brown, Larry	Co, Luna Construction	Dean, Charles A	Farms, Mike Roth	Gleason, Bill
Begley, Mary Ann	Brown, Toby R	Co, Mountain Bell	Deaver, Janie	Farms, N & B	Glenn, Kristen
Behymer, Joy	Brown, Vicki	Co, Nolburn Energy	Deden, David A & Jodi L	Farms, Newton	Glenn, Tim
Beisner, Andrea	Browning, George O	Co, Scheel Investment	Dedo, David	Farms, Warren	Glines, Daniel
Bejarano, Emmanuel	Browning, Lawana	Co, Sun Oil	Dee, Lisa	Farner, Kevin & Carrie	Goble, Sandra K
Bell, David V	Brunkhardt, Mark D	Co, Unocal Pipeline	Dee, Melinda	Farran, Eric L	Goddard & Monte Hilliker,
Bell, Dwane Or Mary	Bruns, Marvin	Co, Valley Implement	Denbo, Spencer & Kelly	Fecht, Jean	Tammy
Bell, Lois M	Bryant, Tressie	Co, West-Kircher	Denman, Troy	Fender, Dennis	Goddard, Tammy
Bell, Susan	Buchanan, Donna	Investment	Denney, Douglas A	Ferebee, Alene	Gomez, Venancio
Bellendir, Annie E	Buchanan, Ed & Sheila	Coats, Charlie Or Jyl E	Dept Of Veterans Affair,	Ferebee, Muriel	Gonzales, Daisy
Bellendir, Anthony	Buchanan, Joseph R	Cochran, Virginia	Deterding, Wilma	Ferguson, Mary Ann	Gonzales, Manuel
Bemus, Melissanne	Buchleiter, Roger D	Cogburn, Charles	Dickson, Rosemary	Ferguson, Richard N	Gonzales, Pablo
Ben A M Van Dyke,	Buckner, Rene	Cole, Judi	Dietz, Mel	Fernandez, Juan M	Gonzalez, Irma
Bennett, Travis	Budd, James S	Collier, Sharon	Dittler, Kurt	Fertilizer, Wendell's	Goodwin, Randy
Benson, Pauline L	Buehler, Dennis	Collins, Lavern	Div, Nebraska Network	Fielder, Karla	Gorman, Brian E
Berg, Richard J	Buffalo Hills Sign Inc,	Colorado State Division,	Dixon, Lester A	Finley, Paul D	Gorman, Lorette
Bergeron, Glen	Buffalo Hills Sign,	Colorado Constructors Inc,	Doman, James A	Fischer, George	Gorman, Patricia V
Berges, Tony Lee	Buford, Vivian	Colvin, Jeff	Doman, Michael A	Flint, Paul J	Grabowski, Pauline J
Bernhardt, Kurt	Builders, Copperstone	Comfort Homes,	Dominguez, Jorge	Floen, Michael	Graham, Bill L
Berry Petroleum,	Bullock, Jason	Communications, Champion	Donnelly Casing Pulling Co,	Floyd, Russell	Granados, Rigoberto
Berry, Wayne L	Burgess, Duwayne G	Communications, Twin	Donnelly, Iola	Foiles, Clyde E	Graves, Terry J
Beutler, T Scott	Burke, Jim & Bailey	Valley	Dooley, Debbie	Foley, Gerald & Tammy	Gray, Melvin A
Bierman, James F	Burmester, Tamie R	Company, Equity Oil	Dorland, Dave	Foos, Velma	Greeno, Barbara
Bigham, Shawn	Burns, Delmar L	Condon, W E	Dowell, John F	Ford, Mason	Greenwood, Barbara
Bilger, Kevin	Burtard, Rob	Cone, Barry	Downing, Eric R	Ford, Robin	Gregg, Delbert
Billinger, Tonya	Burton, David	Conner, Robert	Doyle, Anna M	Forsythe, John W	Gretch, Claudia
Bingham, John Brum & Betty	Burton, Karen	Const, Blackhawk	Dragway, Lylesburg	Forsythe, Peggy	Griffene, Kevin
Birch Expl Ltd Liability Co,	Busheff, Lila Mae	Construction, Gallipo	Dreier, Judy	Forsythe, Peggy L	Grinstead, Ronnie
Bird, Donald L	Busig, Inez	Constructors, P C L Civil	Driscoll, Gary	Foster, Joel	Gross, Donald
Bird, Lester	Buss, Raymond J	Cook, Fred I	Duckels Construction Inc,	Foxhoven Bandag Shop Llc,	Gross, Wind
Birge, Steve	Butler, H M	Cooke, Judy	Dudden Implement	Foxhoven, Matt	Gruenewald, John R
Birkbeck, Jered & Laura	Byam, Kenis D	Cooper, Earl Or Dianne	Company,	Fraker, Dean	Guadarrama, Nemesio M
Bischoff, Viola	Byerly, Thomas K	Cooper, Robert N	Dughman, Gordon	Frank, Lenny Or Lisa	Guernsey, Jeff
Blankenship, Roberta	C F Green Packing Plant,	Corban Communications Inc,	Dulohery, Mary	Frank, Leroy	Guetter, Amber
Blecha, Harry	Cahow, Robert E	Cornett, Paula	Duncan, Raymond T	Franson, Jeff & Anita	Guhl, John
Bledsoe, Henry A	Cain, Ray D	Corp, Barclays American	Dunkle, Dale	Freeman, Joseph	Gulick, Carol
Boden, Lavern F	Calvert, Max A	Mort	Dunn, Jon A	Freeman, Sterling Cole	Gusman, Pete M
Boehm, Paul	Campany, Mark	Corp, Benedek Broadcasting	Dunn, Nichole & Jeremy	Freightways, Platte Valley	Hagan, Dale
Boekhout, Ted	Campbell, Court & Sandra	Corp, Devon Energy	Durfee, Paula	Friend, Scott	Hage, Terri
Bohlender, Danetta	Carpenter, William S	Corp, Eott Energy	Dusenbury, Linda	Fries, Douglas	Haidle, Daryl
Bolin, Rodney & Tiffany	Carr, Mike J	Corporation, Winding Brook	Duvall, Randy	Fristrom, Viola	Haines, Bill C
Boltz, Torey	Carrasco, Trinidad	Cottonwood Creek Land	Dye, John R	Fritzler, Harold	Hairsmith, The
Bonne, Shirley	Carver, Daniel & Stacie	Co Ll,	Dyke, Jacquelyn Van	Fritzler, Randy	Haith, Jim
Bopppe, Susan	Caskey, Helen F	Coty, Douglas	E, Motorola C &	Fugate, Cindy	Halfacre, Harry W
Bornhoff, Joe	Castillo, Jeronimo	County, Mark A	Ebeid, Mohamed	Fuller, James R & Kathy S	Hall, Bruce
Borrmann, Johnny	Castillo, Mary M	Court, Merrill Trailer	Eberle, Marjorie Ann	Furnish, Audrey D	Hall, Mindy T
Boschen, Mary L	Castro, Roberto	Craddock, Curtis	Ebert, Conley	G & H Sprinkler Service,	Hall, Tony
Bosco, Anna	Cavalli, Paul	Craddock, Janet E	Ebert, Tonya	Gable, Bridget	Halverson, Lanita K
Bostron, John	Cazares, Fabian	Crandall, Donna	Eckert, Claudia Vatalaro	Gafford, Christy	Hamill, Randy
Bostron, Phil A	Centex Home Equity Corp,	Crandall, Julie L	Edmiston, Larry	Gale, David C	Hammer, Phil
Bower, David	Chada, Betty L	Crandall, Kenneth G	Edwards, Lana	Gallegos, Nick	Hammerly, Mike
Boyer, David	Chadwick, Rod Or Carol	Crane, Jim	Egan, Alaina	Galles, Shane	Hamrick, Sheila
Brachtenbach, Zane	Chambers, Ken & Sonia	Cranwell, Angela	Ehlers, Joni	Galvan, Guadalupe	Hansen, Bobby L
Bracken, Hope	Chandler, William Or Aubrey	Crawford, Jane	Einspahr, Keith	Galvan, Lupe	Hansen, Erik W
Bradley, Tina	Gossett	Crawford, Linda	Einspahr, Lisa	Galvin, Karen	Hansen, John
Brakhage, Krista M	Chapel, Steven G	Crinklaw, Kenneth	Eiring, June	Garcia, David	Hanson, Matt
Brandt, Agatha	Chapman, Carol L.	Crisp, Douglas A	Elk Echo Ranch Llc,	Garcia, Ismael M	Haragan, Matthew D
Brandt, John F	Chard, Paul	Critchfield, Mary	Elkouri, Randy	Gardner, Jim	Harding, Elizabeth
Brandt, Lloyd	Charles, Timi	Crook Community,	Elliott, George	Gareis, Jason	Harms, Alva F
Brandt, Stan	Chartier, Brian & Patti	Crook Historical Society,	Ellis, Damon	Garliech, Brandi	Harms, Cameron
Brant, Michael	Christian, Marjory	Crook Senior Center,	Emery, Steven R	Garlow, Duva	Harms, Caroline
	Christner, James	Cross, Misty L	Energy Oil & Gas Inc,	Garrett, Jeri L	Harms, Gary W
	Christopher, Kurt	Crowder, Robert E	Ensr,	Garrison, Don & Irene	Harms, Steven
	Church, Lamar Christian		Enterprises, Kulbe	Garrison, Irene E	Harms, Walter W