

UNITED NEWSLINE

Information for the members of United Power, Inc.

- Candidate Forums.....2
- Brighton Office Hours2
- Safety Poster Contest5
- Cycled Air Program7



Board Considers Rate Restructuring

Staff Recommends Increase in Facility Charges, Decreases in Energy Charges

United Power’s Board of Directors heard four different proposals for rate restructuring from staff and consultants at their January board meeting. A Cost of Service study conducted last fall indicated that rate adjustments were necessary to make certain each rate class is paying their fair share of costs associated with the delivery of their electric service.

“Understanding the costs for providing service to each rate class is essential to fairly and equitably structuring rates that recover those costs,” stated Ron Asche, United Power CEO. “We provided four different options for our board to consider, each designed to move us closer to collecting the appropriate

amount of revenues for each rate class, while considering the impact on members’ bills. While the cooperative does not need an overall revenue increase, the Cost of Service study indicated we need to make some changes to our existing rate structures.”

The rate scenarios considered by the board at the last meeting included a mix of strategies, including making adjustments to the facility charge, or incrementally shifting energy charges over several years. Staff’s recommendation, based on the current Cost of Service study and board input, is to raise the facility charge for most rate classes and reduce the energy charge.

An increase in the facility charge would improve the cooperative’s recovery for fixed costs, and lowering the energy charge would more accurately reflect our costs for providing electric services. A Cost of Service study conducted in 2012 indicated the cooperative was not collecting enough in the facility charge. For example, that cost of service study indicated the residential rate class facility charge should be approximately \$16 per month. At that time it was decided to raise the facility charge only \$2 per month –from \$11 to \$13 – rather than the full \$5 at that time. The recent Cost of Service study again

IMPORTANT DATES

FEBRUARY 12	Deadline for Petitions to Run for the United Power Board of Directors
MARCH 13	Daylight Saving Time
APRIL 13	Annual Meeting & Director Election

indicated that the facility charge should be higher, approximately \$17 per month. Included in the facility charge are costs for billing, collections, member services, and metering.

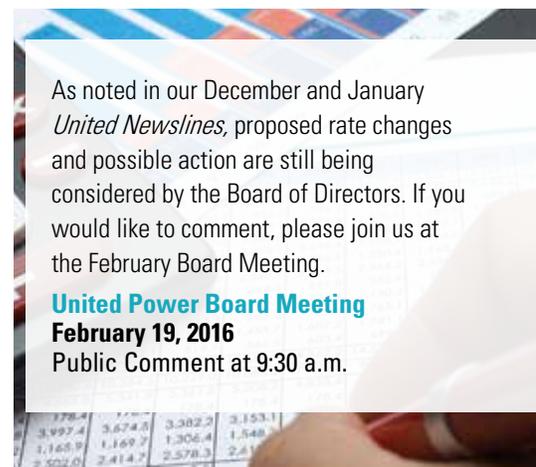
While the proposed rate changes would not increase total revenues for United Power, individual members in each class could see slight increases or decreases in their monthly bill, depending on their usage. While no decision was made at the January meeting, the board is expected to act on the proposal at their February meeting. The plan is to make any rate changes effective with April 1, 2016 usage.

continued on Page 3



www.unitedpower.com

Main Switchboard 303-659-0551
 Report an Outage 303-637-1350
 Customer Service 303-637-1300



As noted in our December and January *United Newslines*, proposed rate changes and possible action are still being considered by the Board of Directors. If you would like to comment, please join us at the February Board Meeting.

United Power Board Meeting
February 19, 2016
 Public Comment at 9:30 a.m.

Meet the Board Candidates

United Power provides several ways for members to learn more about the candidates vying to serve on the board of directors. In late March, members will receive a ballot packet in the mail that will include a profile of each candidate. The profiles will also be available online at www.unitedpower.com.

Director Candidate Forums

Members interested in hearing from candidates in person will have the opportunity to attend various candidate forums hosted throughout United Power's territory. All members are welcome to learn more from the candidate, hear from your cooperative leadership and tell us how we're doing. The Meet the Candidate Forums are free and light refreshments will be served. RSVP's are not required. Video of the first forum on March 8 will be made available on our website after the event for any members who cannot attend.

Attend the Annual Meeting

United Power's Annual Meeting and Director Election is Wednesday April 13, 2016, at the Adams County Fairgrounds. The Annual Meeting allows members the opportunity to vote in the annual Director Election and to hear an update from their electric cooperative's Board President, Treasurer and Chief Executive Officer.

The meeting includes dinner, informational exhibit booths, entertainment, a cooperative update, election results and door prizes.

Learn more about the Annual Meeting and Director Election at www.unitedpower.com.

Meet the Candidate Forums

TUESDAY

March 8, 2016
6:30 p.m.

United Power Headquarters

500 Cooperative Way
Brighton, CO 80603

FRIDAY

March 11, 2016
7:30 a.m.

Fort Lupton Recreation Center

Multi-Purpose Room 3
203 S. Harrison Ave.
Ft. Lupton, CO 80621

TUESDAY

March 15, 2016
7:30 a.m.

Coal Creek Canyon Community Center

31528 Highway 72
Golden, CO 80403

THURSDAY

March 17, 2016
6:30 p.m.

Saddleback Golf Course

The Pavilion Building
8631 Frontier St.
Firestone, CO 80504

Annual Meeting and Director Election

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

Adams County Fairgrounds - 9755 Henderson Road, Brighton, CO
4:30 p.m. - Registration Opens 6:30 p.m. - Meeting Begins

Brighton Lobby Hours to Change Dispatch Center Continues 24-Hour Operation



ENERGY SAVERS

Rechargeable Batteries

Consider purchasing rechargeable batteries—and an EnergyStar charger for them—which are more cost effective than disposable batteries.

Beginning on Monday, March 7, United Power's Brighton headquarters lobby hours will change. The United Power office in Brighton will now be open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Our dispatch center will continue to respond to outages and electrical emergencies 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Member Services Representatives are available at all three of United Power's office locations—Brighton, Ft. Lupton, and Coal Creek Canyon—to assist members who wish to make payments, sign up for services and schedule special projects in person. However, members do not need to visit an office in person to access these services. Member calls to 303-637-1300 are answered by a live representative 24 hours a day, and member accounts can be accessed online any time of day at www.unitedpower.com through SmartHub, United Power's billing and payment portal. Between our offices, live representatives over the phone, and our SmartHub portal, United Power has a way for our members to have access to the services they need, when they need them.

United Power Office Locations & Hours

Brighton Headquarters Office

500 Cooperative Way, Brighton, CO 80603
Hours: M – F | 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Fort Lupton Office

323 Denver Avenue, Fort Lupton, CO 80621
Hours: M – W | 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Coal Creek Canyon Office

5 Gross Dam Road, Golden, CO 80403
Hours: M – F | 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

For more information, visit www.unitedpower.com or call 303-637-1300.



Member calls to 303-637-1300 will continue to be answered by a live representative 24 hours a day.

Rate Restructuring

“We encourage any members with concerns to feel free to contact their board member or even attend our February meeting,” stated Asche. “The board has been very thoughtful and deliberate in their work on this issue, and worked hard to be advocates for our members while continuing to look out for United Power’s bottom line.”

The February board meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 19, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at United Power’s headquarters located at 500 Cooperative Way in Brighton. Time is always made available for public comment at the beginning of each regular board meeting.

2016 Proposed Rate Changes

Rate Class	Components of the Bill	Current	Proposed
Residential	Facility Charge	\$13.00	\$17.00
	Energy Charge per kWh	\$0.10909	\$0.10432
Residential Time of Use*	Facility Charge	\$15.00	\$19.00
	On-Peak Energy Charge per kWh	\$0.15910	\$0.15075
	Off-Peak Energy Charge per kWh	\$0.05601	\$0.05601
Small Commercial	Facility Charge	\$16.00	\$20.00
	Energy Charge per kWh	\$0.11180	\$0.10900
Commercial Time of Use*	Facility Charge	\$20.00	\$24.00
	On-Peak Energy Charge per kWh	\$0.15910	\$0.15613
	Off-Peak Energy Charge per kWh	\$0.05858	\$0.05858
Large Commercial Secondary Service	Facility Charge	\$65.00	\$175.00
	Demand Charge per kW	\$16.00	\$17.50
	Energy Charge per kWh	\$0.05750	\$0.05094*
Commercial Coincidental Peak Secondary Service	Facility Charge	\$75.00	\$175.00
	Wholesale Power & Transmission Demand per kW	\$0.00	\$19.76
	United Power Grid Access per kW	\$11.50	\$6.33
	Energy Charge per kWh	\$0.05357	\$0.05185
Large Industrial Primary Service	Facility Charge	\$90.00	\$400.00
	Demand Charge per kW	\$15.00	\$16.25
	Energy Charge per kWh	\$0.05765	\$0.0505
Industrial Coincidental Peak Primary Service	Facility Charge	\$75.00	\$400.00
	Wholesale Power & Transmission Demand per kW	\$0.00	\$19.32
	United Power Grid Access per kW	\$11.50	\$5.77
	Energy Charge per kWh	\$0.05357	\$0.05050
Shared Lighting	Facility Charge	\$2.10	\$3.10
Small Industrial Primary Service	No Changes		
Irrigation	No Changes		
Street Lighting	No Changes		

*Time-of-Use On-Peak Periods would be extended by one hour with the on-peak period running from 2 p.m. until 10 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays. All Sundays and six major federal holidays would now be considered “off-peak” periods. The changes reduce the total number of on-peak hours annually by up to 99 hours, depending on when holidays fall during the month.

**In the printed version of this issue, there was an error in this proposed rate. This is the corrected version.*

2016 DIRECTOR ELECTION BALLOTING DEADLINES

FEBRUARY 12, 2016

Director Petitions
Deadline 4 p.m.

APRIL 11, 2016

Mail-in Ballots must arrive
at P.O. Box by 6 a.m.

APRIL 13, 2016

Ballot Drop Boxes at
offices close at 3 p.m.

Ballot Drop Box at
Annual Meeting location open
from Noon - 4 p.m.

APRIL 13, 2016

ANNUAL MEETING

ADAMS COUNTY
FAIRGROUNDS

Vote in person after 4:30 p.m.
Meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.



A Shift from Blue Shirts to Yellow Shirts

Safety and Visibility a Major Key to Change

As United Power linemen head out for a day on the job delivering safe and reliable electricity, they'll now be hard to miss—which is just what we're hoping for.

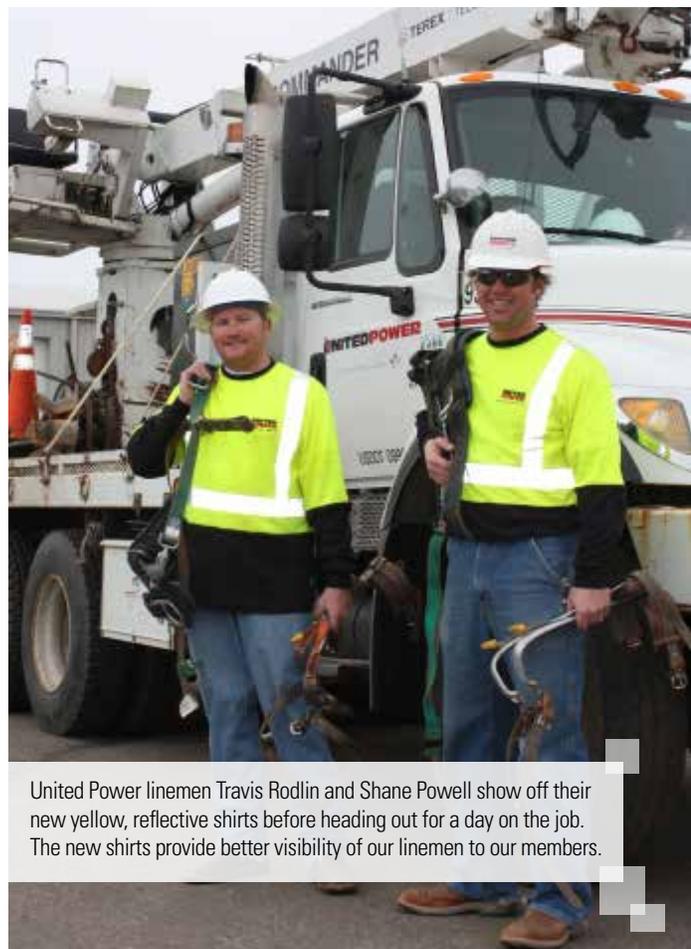
The fire resistant uniform for our linemen has changed from a blue, collared shirt, to a bright yellow, reflective shirt. The goal of the new uniform is to provide even more safety for United Power linemen as well as provide higher visibility for our members.

"Safety is our number one priority at United Power. We focus on safety for our members and safety for our employees," said Myke Weis, Manager of Operations. "As portions of our territory become more populated, it's important that our linemen are visible to our members. Plus, when our linemen are 40 feet in the air performing dangerous and detailed work, it's important they can be seen."

A yellow, reflective shirt is just one component of our lineman's uniform. They are required to wear personal protective equipment (PPE) at all times when on the job to keep them safe. That includes fire resistant clothing, insulated gloves, a hard hat, steel-toe boots and safety goggles. These items make up a lineman's basic PPE.

While working on electrical lines, in addition to the basic PPE, linemen also may be required to wear equipment belts, tool pouches, safety straps and other types of equipment. A lineman's gear usually weighs about 50 pounds; that's a lot of extra weight when working in hazardous conditions.

So the next time you see a United Power lineman wearing a bright yellow shirt, don't be surprised—it's the same employees who continue to work safely and efficiently to provide safe, reliable electric service to you, our members.



United Power linemen Travis Rodlin and Shane Powell show off their new yellow, reflective shirts before heading out for a day on the job. The new shirts provide better visibility of our linemen to our members.

READER REWARDS

February
2016



Three Winners Every Month!

1st place: \$150 Lowe's Gift Card
2nd place: \$50 Lowe's Gift Card (two winners)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Mail entry form to: United Power • Reader Rewards
PO Box 929 • Brighton, CO 80601

Reader Rewards Online

www.unitedpower.com



Save a stamp! Visit www.unitedpower.com and click on 'Member Benefits' to enter Reader Rewards online. Answer the question below with your online entry:

What will be the new hours for United Power's Brighton Headquarters?

By submitting this entry I agree to allow United Power to publish my name in subsequent issues of United Newsline if I am selected as a winner.

UNITED POWER PRIDE



Lori and Mark Chullino of Commerce City traveled to Eagle Beach in Aruba with their United Newsline. The saying for the island is "One Happy Island," which, according to the couple, was "so appropriate!"

United Power Pride Photos

Snap a photo with the *United Newsline* and we'll send you a gift if we print it. Send your name, address, phone number, and a description of the photo to:

E-MAIL: unitednewsline@unitedpower.com

MAIL: United Power—Attn: United Newsline
PO Box 929, Brighton CO 80601



ELECTRICAL SAFETY POSTER CONTEST

HEY KIDS! WE NEED YOUR HELP REMINDING OUR COMMUNITY TO BE SAFE AROUND ELECTRICITY. DESIGN A POSTER THAT TEACHES YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS WAYS THAT THEY CAN STAY SAFE AROUND ELECTRICITY, SEND IT TO US, AND YOU MIGHT WIN! SIX WINNERS WILL EACH RECEIVE A \$50 CASH PRIZE, AND THEIR POSTERS WILL BE DISPLAYED ONLINE AND IN PRINT - THEY WILL EVEN APPEAR ON BUS BENCHES AT STOPS AROUND THE SERVICE TERRITORY! **SO PUT ON YOUR {SAFETY} THINKING CAP, AND SEND IN YOUR UNIQUE SAFETY POSTERS TODAY!**

Electricity helps us power the things we do every day like watch TV, play video games, turn on the lights, use our computers and charge our phones. But the same power that we use to learn, cook, and have fun can be dangerous if not used carefully. That's why United Power is asking kids to help us keep electrical safety a top priority for their friends, families and community.

United Power's Electrical Safety Poster Contest invites kids in grades K-5 to design an electrical safety poster that will be displayed around the community in May for National Electrical Safety Month. The winning posters will be eye-catching and will creatively help us spread the word about the importance of electrical safety.



CONTEST DETAILS:

- Child must be a dependent of a United Power member.
- Winners will receive \$50 cash awards.
- Six winners will be chosen. One from each grade K-5.
- Winning posters will appear online, in print and on bus benches for the month of May.
- Entries must be submitted on the official contest entry form (on reverse).
- DEADLINE: MARCH 18, 2016



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

303-659-0551 • 800-468-8809

www.unitedpower.com



ELECTRICAL SAFETY TIPS

- STAY AWAY FROM POWERLINES & ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT.
- USE CARE WHEN PLUGGING & UNPLUGGING.
- NEVER MIX ELECTRICITY & WATER.
- NEVER STICK TOYS OR OTHER OBJECTS INTO ELECTRICAL OUTLETS.
- DON'T OVERLOAD OUTLETS.
- ASK AN ADULT FOR HELP - YOU CAN NEVER BE TOO SAFE!

DEADLINE MARCH 18, 2016

Deliver posters to any office, or mail to:

UNITED POWER SAFETY POSTER CONTEST
PO BOX 929, BRIGHTON, CO 80601

ELECTRICAL SAFETY POSTER CONTEST

DEADLINE
MARCH 18, 2016



OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Child's Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ ZIP: _____ Phone: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____ Age: _____

I understand that by submitting my child's drawing, I give permission for United Power to publish, print, exhibit and otherwise use image without notification, permission or compensation. I authorize United Power to publish my child's name, age, school and grade with published artwork.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

CONTEST DEADLINE: MARCH 18, 2016



THIS END UP!

MUST BE DESIGNED HORIZONTALLY TO BE ELIGIBLE. VERTICAL DRAWINGS CANNOT BE USED.

PLEASE KEEP POSTERS INSIDE THIS BOX. DUE TO PLACEMENT LOCATIONS OF FINISHED POSTERS, ALL POSTERS



Earn an Easy \$30 on Cycled Air

If you have central air conditioning, you can receive a \$30 bill credit when you sign up for our Cycled Air program. Cycled Air is designed to help your cooperative reduce peak consumption and control expensive peak costs, which should result in cost savings for all of our members.

As a participant in the Cycled Air program, we will share those savings with you as a \$30 credit on your electric bill at the end of the summer each year you participate. Be a part of the energy solution and get paid for your efforts!

What is peak demand?

During the course of everyday, there are times when our members demand more energy. For our cooperative, those times are during hot summer days, when people come home from work and flip on multiple appliances like their stove, television and air conditioner. Since we have to build additional power plants to meet this energy demand, this adds to

the cost of power for every customer. By managing peak demand, we can delay the need to build additional power plants.

How does the Cycled Air program work?

When you sign up, we'll install a device near your air conditioner or heat pump that will allow us to cycle the compressor on and off at short intervals—generally for just 15 to 20 minutes at a time. We will only cycle your air conditioner on high demand days during the summer months. Cycling will not harm your air conditioner, heat pump or thermostat.

Will I still be comfortable?

While your compressor is cycling, the fan inside your home will continue to operate, which will keep already cooled air moving through your home. Typically indoor temperatures may only change one to two degrees. Most people don't even notice when their compressor is cycling.



Sign up for Cycled Air by returning the form below, or visit www.unitedpower.com.

Already a participant? No need to sign up again. You are automatically enrolled each year.

How Cycled Air Helps Understanding Peak Demand

One way to describe peak demand is to think of it like the dinner rush at a restaurant. For most of the day, you can walk into a restaurant and be seated right away without waiting. In the evening hours, as the demand for dinner increases, restaurants can quickly reach their seating capacity. Rather than building bigger restaurants to accommodate the dinner rush, the restaurant will make you wait for the next available table.

Compare this scenario to energy supply. Utilities see increased electric demand on hot summer days when multiple customers turn on large energy users like air conditioners all at once. Since your utility can't force you to wait for that energy like a restaurant makes you wait for a table, new power plants must be built to meet this demand, or energy is purchased on the open market during peak times at a premium price.

Participating in the Cycled Air program allows your utility to shave energy use during peak times, which means construction of power plants can be delayed and expensive peak power purchases can be reduced. Curbing these costs helps every United Power member save.

Yes, I want \$30! Sign Me Up for Cycled Air



Sign up online at www.unitedpower.com, by calling 303-637-1300 or fill out the form below and fax to 303-637-1250 or mail to United Power, PO BOX 929, Brighton, CO 80601.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Account #: _____

Signature: _____

You do not have to be home when we install your Cycled Air device. Please keep the safety of our crews in mind and clear a pathway to your air conditioner.



ENERGY SAVERS

Insulate to Save Money

Looking for an easy efficiency upgrade? Additional insulation can make a difference. The US Department of Energy estimates you can reduce heating and cooling needs up to 30 percent by properly insulating and weatherizing your home.

Inside This Issue

February 2016



Discussion Continues on Possible Rate Change



Board of Directors to discuss a possible rate change during the February board meeting.

Page 1

Meet the Board Candidates



United Power is hosting four candidate forums throughout the territory to give members a chance to hear from all board candidates.

Page 2

STAY CONNECTED WITH YOUR CO-OP

email.....UnitedNewsline@UnitedPower.com

online.....www.unitedpower.com

f.....facebook.com/UnitedPower

t.....twitter.com/UnitedPowerCoop

Main Switchboard.....303-659-0551

Member Services.....303-637-1300

Outage Line.....303-637-1350



2016 ANNUAL MEETING & DIRECTOR ELECTION

Join us for the Annual Meeting on April 13th. Ballots for the director election will arrive in mailboxes by the end of March. Learn more about the Annual Meeting inside.

Page 2

CONGRATS READER REWARDS WINNERS

1st Place: Robert Postovit

2nd Place: Brad Klitzke

Jim Verseman

See your name listed as a winner? Call 303-637-1325 to claim your Reader Rewards.



Chief Executive Officer
Ronald D. Asche
Director of External Affairs
Troy Whitmore
Editors
Heidi Storz
Laurel Eller
Ashley Reimers

Board of Directors
Brian McCormick
President
James Vigasaa
Vice-President
Beth Martin
Secretary/Treasurer
Bob Grant
Asst. Sec./Treasurer
Ginny Buzek
Tim Erickson
Ursula J. Morgan
Richard Newman
Susan Petrocio
Douglas Fryce
Dave Rose

Information for the members of United Power, Inc.
© 2015 United Power, Inc.

UNITED NEWSLINE

P.O. Box 929, Brighton, CO 80601

500 Cooperative Way, Brighton CO 80603

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



PRSR1 STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Ft. Collins, CO
Permit No. 266