

UNITED NEWSLINE

Information for the members of United Power, Inc.

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IMPORTANT DATES

DECEMBER 25	Christmas Holiday Offices Closed
JANUARY 1	New Year's Day Holiday Offices Closed
JANUARY 31	Scholarship Deadline Application Deadline Learn more on Page 6

Small Monthly Increase to Fixed Charge in 2018

Residential Members to See a Flat \$2 Monthly Increase to Fixed Charge in 2018

The United Power Board of Directors has voted to raise rates for residential members by a flat \$2 per month. The \$2 would be added to the fixed charge, raising that monthly cost from \$17 to \$19 for all residential customers. The rate change will go into effect for January's usage, so members wouldn't see the change until their February billing statements.

The United Power Board of Directors spent several meetings learning the result of the latest Cost of Service study, and took an exhaustive look at the cooperative's cost of providing electric service to each of the rate classes.

Completed every two years, this was the first time the Cost of Service study included extensive usage data from United Power's advanced metering infrastructure. The data collected by the meters is the most accurate picture of how our members use power, and is helping United Power get a better picture of the best way to structure fair and equitable rates.

"The Cost of Service study clearly illustrated that members in the residential rate class – which is nearly every home and farm on our lines – have not been paying enough to cover what it costs to serve them," stated John Parker, CEO. "We are taking a hard look at the long-term impacts of anticipated changes in our industry and will be formulating a multi-year plan to

change the way we charge our members. In the meantime we are pleased that we will be able to keep the 2018 increase to this modest amount."

The Future of Electric Rates

Following the results of a year-long trial of a pilot demand rate, the board agreed to a five year phase-in plan of a residential demand rate to replace the current rate structure.

The dynamic pricing model will provide a more fair cost structure, and gives members an ability to control their cost by shifting their use of electricity to non-peak periods.

Learning about how a demand rate works will take a lot of communication, so the five year period is being used to help our members understand the rate.

Later in 2018 members will begin to see a line on their bill simply entitled "Demand." There will not be a dollar amount attached to the line item, but people will be able to see an actual number that corresponds to their use.



www.unitedpower.com

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

2018 Energy Efficiency Rebates

REBATE REQUIREMENTS

United Power members qualify for these Energy Efficiency Rebates. Members are encouraged to call United Power prior to purchasing and installing any new equipment to be assured of meeting all rebate requirements. United Power and Tri-State Generation & Transmission rebates are both issued by United Power.

Heat Pump, Electric Water Heater and Electric Heat rebates must be requested within **120 days** of installation, require an on-site inspection by United Power's Energy Management Team, and a rebate application completed by United Power.

ENERGY STAR® Appliance and LED Light Bulb rebates must be requested within **120 days** of purchase. Rebates are issued as a bill credit and may take up to two billing cycles to appear. Applications are completed by the member and must be submitted with proof of purchase. Submission of an application does not guarantee a rebate. United Power reserves the right to inspect installation. Applications can be found at www.unitedpower.com.

Refrigerator/Freezer Recycling Credits are limited to three (3) per member account, per year. Requests must be submitted with proof that the unit was properly recycled either by an appliance retailer or appliance recycler.



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

www.unitedpower.com

Rebates effective Jan. 1, 2018

Qualifying Products

Rebate from
Tri-State G&T

Rebate from
United Power

Heat Pump Air Conditioners

	Ground-Source Heat Pump: closed loop system <i>(Minimum 3/4 ton)</i>	\$500/ton	\$200/ton*
	Air-Source Heat Pump: 15-17 SEER	\$300/ton	\$100/ton
	Air-Source Heat Pump: greater than 17 SEER	\$450/ton	\$100/ton
	Air Source Heat Pump: integrated controlled ETS backup	\$100/unit	*ETS rebate may not be applicable
	Terminal Unit: 12,000 BTU per hr. min	\$85/unit	\$75/unit

Air Source Heat Pump minimum: 15 SEER, 1 ton. *For applications where more than 10 units are installed in one facility, the incentive is negotiable and budgetary constraints may apply.

Electric Water Heaters

	Limited warranty electric to electric replacement.	\$30*	\$20
	Limited warranty fossil fuel to electric conversion, or new construction.	\$30*	\$200
	Lifetime warranty Marathon water heater.	\$50*	\$400
	Lifetime warranty Marathon water heater on <i>United Power utility control</i> .	\$50*	\$500
	Lifetime warranty Marathon water heater and GSHP Desuperheater: any size gallon	\$125	\$500
	GSHP Desuperheater with steel glass-lined tank.	\$100	\$200
	Heat Pump Water Heater: 30 gallon minimum	\$350	\$20

Minimum size of all units is 2.5 kW. Must have R-16 manufacturer insulation or equivalent. Applies to both new or replacement units. Must meet minimum DOE energy factors. Plastic or stone lined lifetime product. *30-55 gallon only

Electric Heat

	New Electric Thermal Storage Units on automated Time-of-Day control panel	\$16/kW	\$4/kW
	New Electric Thermal Slab on automated Time-of-Day control panel	\$12/kW	\$4/kW

Must be hard-wired, permanently installed and controlled. Minimum size is 1kW.

ENERGY STAR® Appliances

	New Energy Star® Refrigerator/Freezer	\$30	---
	Refrigerator/Freezer Recycling Credit*	\$60	\$15
	New Energy Star® Clothes Washer	\$40	---
	New Energy Star® Dishwasher	\$20	---

A list of qualifying Energy Star® equipment and rebate details can be found at www.unitedpower.com. *To receive recycling credit, you must supply proof that your old unit was recycled. Visit our website for rebate requirements and recycling options.

LED Light Bulbs

	LED Light bulbs 500 lumens or greater. Limit 50 bulbs per member, per year. Member must submit portion of packaging with application.	Half of bulb cost up to \$8/bulb	---
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FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit www.unitedpower.com or call United Power's Energy Management Team at 303-659-0551.

Small Increase to Fixed Charge in 2018

In 2019 United Power will institute a demand charge and that will slowly increase, with a corresponding reduction in the energy charge.

United Power will begin actively communicating how a demand charge works via the newsletter and bill stuffers, so our members have the opportunity to gain an understanding of this new way of charging for electric consumption. Many members will see very little change in their bills, but some members who are heavy users during the peak periods will be more heavily affected, and without the demand rate they have been driving up costs for other users. We will continue to communicate about these changes via the newsletter and our website unitedpower.com.

Same Thing, Different Name: Facility Charge to be Renamed the Fixed Charge

This component of the bill is one way that United Power recovers a portion of the cost for the cooperative's fixed costs. Included in this charge are some of the cooperative's costs for billing, collections, member services and metering. These are costs that are incurred by all members – residential members, commercial accounts; even net metered accounts with solar panels incur these costs. A fixed charge helps us have a reliable way to recover some of these costs every month.

How Much of Your Bill is Wholesale Power?

Over the years United Power has seen the cost of wholesale power climb. As United Power continues to manage our operational costs, the percentage of your bill that goes directly to offset the cost of wholesale power has grown.



Today about 75 cents of every dollar United Power receives goes directly to pay for wholesale power. That leaves 25 cents of every dollar to finance the design, materials and labor to build new lines, to provide the labor and materials to maintain the existing system, and to provide service to all our members.

2018 Rebate Changes on Heat Pumps

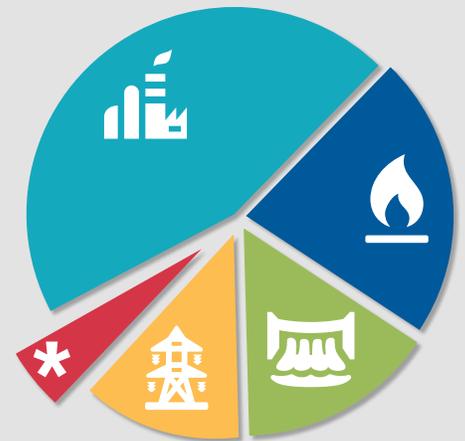
Beginning next year, members will see some changes to the rebate requirements on heat pump air conditioners as well as an increase in rebate amounts. Beginning on January 1, 2018, air source heat pumps must have a SEER rating of at least 15 in order to receive a rebate. Air source heat pumps with a 15-17 SEER rating, will receive a \$300 per ton rebate from Tri-State Generation and Transmission, and air source heat pumps with a SEER rating above 17 will receive a \$450 per ton rebate from Tri-State. Members will continue to receive an additional \$100 per unit rebate on air source heat pumps from United Power, if attached to an existing ETS forced air furnace. Ground-source heat pump rebates from Tri-State are increasing from \$250 to \$500 per ton starting on January 1, 2018.



An inspection by United Power is required to qualify for rebates and members are encouraged to call United Power's Energy Management Team prior to making any purchases to discuss rebate requirements. Learn more on the 'Energy Programs' tab at www.unitedpower.com.

POWER MIX

Wholesale power is purchased from Tri-State Generation & Transmission. Tri-State's portfolio of electric energy is derived from base load-serving coal generating units, intermediate load-serving natural gas, combined-cycle generating units and peak load-serving natural gas and oil combustion turbines, and renewable resources, including hydropower, wind and solar.



LOCALLY GENERATED RENEWABLES

Locally generated renewable sources include utility-scale solar projects, individually owned rooftop solar, a methane landfill capture system and small wind generation.



Looking Out For You

It's the holiday season, and it's always a good time to reflect on the many ways the cooperative is helping to make your holiday brighter, and how we work for you all year long. As a cooperative, you're much more than "just a customer" – you're a **member** and that means you have a bigger role in your electric company. Let's talk about how United Power is looking out for you:

Economical Electric Rates

As a not-for-profit operation, our goal is to provide reliable energy at economical rates. United Power continues to work hard to keep rates down – and we're proud that the cost of electricity remains one of the most economical items in the average household. When you compare electricity to many common household purchases, you'll find that electricity is a bargain. We realize that electricity powers your life, and keeping our costs in check so you can afford that power is one of our goals.

You Have a Voice

United Power is owned by our members and that means every member has a voice. Not happy about something? You don't have to write a complaint letter to a governmental entity in Denver – you can call your board member to voice your concern, or even call our office and speak to any manager over any area of the cooperative. Want to be a decision maker at the cooperative? You can run for a board seat. Want to make sure your concerns are represented? You can vote for the board candidate that best represents your interests.



United Power participates in Festival of Lights parades throughout the territory. Watch for our truck in your local parade.

Supporting Your Community

As a cooperative, United Power is invested in the communities we serve. We provide sponsorships for local events, provide free safety and energy education in the schools, and support charitable organizations in our territory. Our charitable foundation – the United Power Operation Round-Up Foundation – is a program funded by generous members who choose to "round-up" their bill to the next full dollar amount. Administered by a volunteer board of directors, the member directed group makes sure your donations are used to help those groups and organizations in our territory providing services to those in need in our territory.

Always Here for You

The best part of your cooperative is that it provides these services year round. We're staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to make sure we can respond quickly and efficiently during outages, help you process payments and answer your questions. Learn more about all the things we do for our members at www.unitedpower.com, or call us if you have a specific question. We're here to support our members.

READER REWARDS

December
2017



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 'Co-op & Community' to enter Reader Rewards online. Answer the question below with your online entry:

What is the application deadline for United Power's 2018 scholarships?

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

UNITED POWER PRIDE



While on a river cruise from Budapest to Amsterdam, Tommie and Stephanie Smith of Longmont visited Wertheim, Germany with their *United Newslines* in hand.

United Power Pride Photos

Snap a photo with the *United Newslines* 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: unitednewslines@unitedpower.com

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



United Power welcomes Laurie Rydwell to fill the position of Chief Financial Officer for the electric cooperative. The position has been vacant since the promotion of John Parker to CEO in July.

Rydwell most recently worked as Controller at Summit Utilities in Littleton, Colorado. Summit Utilities is a privately-held holding company that owns and operates several natural gas distribution and transmission subsidiaries. Prior to her work with Summit, Rydwell held several positions at Xcel Energy in Denver, managing the accounting operations for revenue, transmission, commercial, and settlements during her tenure. A native of Anchorage, Alaska, her history there included work as a controller for both energy and investment firms, and work as a Chief Financial Officer for an asset management firm in Anchorage. Rydwell is a graduate of the University of Alaska, with a degree in Business Administration, and is a certified public accountant in both Alaska and Colorado.

"We are excited to bring such a qualified candidate to our cooperative in this key leadership position," stated John Parker, United Power CEO. "Laurie brings both experience and expertise to our cooperative. Her background in utilities, coupled with her strong technical background in finances will be a valuable addition to United Power."

Annual Director Election Four Board Seats Up for Election

Four positions on United Power's eleven member board are up for election at **the 2018 Annual Meeting which is scheduled for Wednesday, April 18, 2018** at the Adams County Fairgrounds in Brighton. One seat in the Mountain, West, East and South districts will be up for a three-year term.

To be eligible to become or remain a director, a person must be a United Power member and receive electric service from United Power at the member's primary residence in the district he or she represents. United Power's bylaws (available at www.unitedpower.com, at any of our offices, or through the mail) provide in-depth information on director districts, qualifications, terms, elections, meetings and officers.

Members can determine which district they live in by finding the information in the upper right hand corner of their monthly United Power statement. Nominations by written petition must state the name and district of the nominee, must be signed by 15 or more United Power members, and be filed with the Board no less than 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

The deadline for nominations by petition is 4 p.m. on Friday, February 16, 2018.

Petitions are available at United Power's headquarters office in Brighton at 500 Cooperative Way. Additional information can be obtained by calling United Power's executive department at 303-659-0551 or by visiting our website at www.unitedpower.com.

2018 Director Election Balloting Deadlines

February 16, 2018

Director Nominations by Petition
Deadline 4 p.m.

April 16, 2018

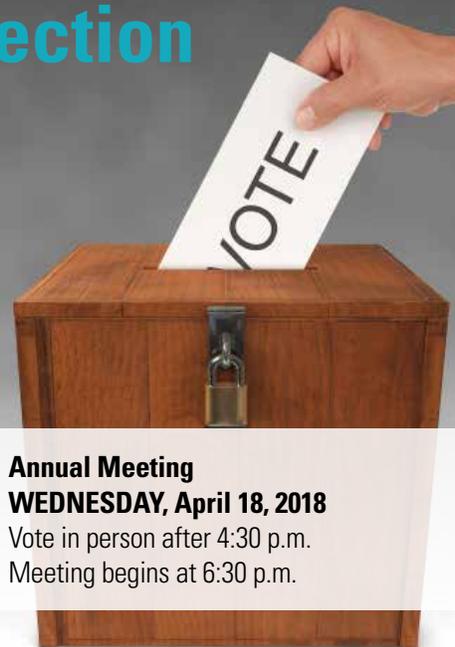
Mail-in Ballots must arrive
at the P.O. Box by 6 a.m.

April 18, 2018

Ballot Drop-Boxes at offices
close at 2 p.m.

April 18, 2018

Ballot Drop Box Open 12 -4 p.m.
Adams County Fairgrounds



Annual Meeting
WEDNESDAY, April 18, 2018
Vote in person after 4:30 p.m.
Meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.

RECIPES



Christmas Breakfast Casserole

- 1 lb ground pork sausage
- 1 tsp. mustard powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 4 eggs, beaten
- 6 slices white bread, toasted and cut into cubes
- 2 cups milk
- 6 slices mild Cheddar cheese, shredded

Crumble sausage into a medium skillet. Cook over medium heat until evenly brown; drain. In a medium bowl mix together mustard powder, salt, eggs and milk. Add the sausage, bread cubes and cheese. Stir to coat evenly. Pour into greased 9x13 inch baking dish. Cover and chill in the refrigerator for eight hours, or overnight. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Cover and bake 45-60 minutes. Uncover and reduce temperature to 325 degrees and bake for an additional 30 minutes or until set.

Share Your Recipes

Earn a free gift if we publish your recipe.

- ONLINE: www.unitedpower.com
- MAIL: United Power Recipes
PO BOX 929
Brighton, CO 80601

Cooperative Youth Camp Teaches Leadership Skills

Every July, United Power sends three students to Steamboat Springs, CO to join other students from Colorado, Kansas, Wyoming and Oklahoma for the annual Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp. The students spend a week learning the value of cooperatives, developing leadership skills



Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp

July 14-19, 2018

Steamboat Springs, CO

Applications must be postmarked by January 12, 2018.

and creating new friendships that last a lifetime.

The Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp strives to develop leadership skills that will assist students with the challenges they will have in the future. To achieve this goal, the week is packed with various activities ranging from cooperative-focused projects, to a motivation and leadership seminar to creating and operating a camp co-op.

Students interested in applying for the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp must be at least 16 years of age and have their primary residence be in United Power's service territory. Applications must be postmarked by **January 12, 2018**.

For More Information

Learn more and download any of the youth program applications at www.unitedpower.com. For additional inquiries, contact Julie Stewart, Community Outreach Specialist, at 303-637-1334.

More 2018 Youth Opportunities

Scholarships

This year United Power will award 16 scholarships for a total of \$18,500 to students who are either served by the cooperative, or are dependents of members. The scholarships range in value from \$1,000 to \$2,000.

Applications must be postmarked by **January 31, 2018**.

Washington D.C. Youth Tour

United Power is accepting applications for the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour to be held June 7 – 14, 2018 in Washington, D.C. United Power will send three students to represent the cooperative on this all-expense paid trip to our nation's capital. United Power's Youth Tour is open to high school students 16 years of age or older whose primary residence is in United Power's service territory.

Applications must be postmarked by **January 12, 2018**.

NOTICE

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN THE TARIFFS OF UNITED POWER, INC.

Date of Notice: **November 14th, 2017**

You are hereby notified that UNITED POWER, INC. (United) proposes to make changes to several of its rate tariff schedules to become effective for energy usage on or after January 1, 2018 (billings issued after February 1, 2018). A cost of service study was completed and indicated a fixed charge cost increase to the Residential R1 rate class of \$2.00/month. The Industrial Service Substation or Transmission ITD1, ITD2, ITD3 and ITD4 rate classes will have a fixed charge increase of \$500.00/month. The Grid Access Demand charge will increase for ITD3 to \$3.50/kW and ITD4 will increase to \$4.00/kW. The Power Cost Adjustment charge will be added into the energy charge for all effected rate classes and then zeroed out. There will be billing language clean up consistent with rate tariffs on all rate classes and Non-Standard Meter Fees will be made available to members with either behind the meter distributed generation or AMI opt-out. Also, the re-connection fee will be decreased for AMI metered accounts only.

The present and proposed tariff provisions are available for examination at the Coal Creek Branch Office, located at 5 Gross

Dam Road, Golden, Colorado; the Ft. Lupton Branch office located at 1200 Dexter Street, Ft. Lupton, Colorado; and the headquarters office located at 500 Cooperative Way, Brighton Colorado.

Anyone who desires to comment about the proposed changes shall file either an informal complaint or a formal complaint with United at 500 Cooperative Way, Brighton, Colorado 80603 at least 10 days before the proposed effective date.

An informal complaint shall be in writing and shall contain such facts and other information to adequately state the reason(s) for the complaint. An informal complaint shall be considered by United, in regard to the proposed tariff changes, but will not require that a hearing be held.

Anyone who desires a hearing must file a specific and formal complaint to the proposed changes and a request for hearing at least 10 days before the proposed effective date. A formal complaint shall be in writing in the form prescribed by United's Regulations Governing Consumer

Complaints and Related Matters. Upon request, a copy of said regulations is available from United.

United may hold a hearing to determine what changes will be authorized, regardless of complaints. If proper formal complaints and request for hearings are timely filed, the Board shall schedule a hearing. The changes ultimately authorized may or may not be the same as those proposed and may include changes different than those tariffs proposed or currently in effect. Anyone who desires to receive notice of hearings, if any, shall make a written request therefor to United, at the above address at least 10 days before the proposed effective date.

UNITED POWER, INC
By: John Parker, Chief Executive Officer

Watt's Social: Fall Photos

December 2017

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In October we asked our members to share their best fall foliage photos on Facebook. We enjoyed so many beautiful entries of the changing leaves. If you don't follow us on Facebook, here's a little taste of what you're missing. Enjoy!



Crested Butte, Colorado - Photo by Michael Ryno



Buena Vista, Colorado - Photo by Debbie Montgomery



Gilpin County - Photo by Sharon Pippin Hall



Lake George, Colorado - Photo by Danielle Lebsack



Brighton, Colorado - Photo by Jeannine Johnson



Snowmass, Colorado - Photo Jennifer Clark



Follow us on Facebook for more contests, news and information about your community and cooperative. facebook.com/UnitedPower

Inside This Issue

December 2017



Small Increase to Fixed Charge in 2018



Residential members will see only a modest increase to the fixed charge, while overall energy rates remain unchanged in 2018.

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2018 Rebate Menu



Check out the 2018 rebates offered by United Power and Tri-State Generation and Transmission.

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Member Share Fall Photos



Members share their best photos of fall with United Power on Facebook.

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Four Board Seats Up for Election



Four positions on United Power's eleven member board are up for election at the 2018 Annual Meeting and Election.

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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

CONGRATS READER REWARDS WINNERS

- 1st Place:** Foy Woltman, Brighton
- 2nd Place:** Allen Nuss, Firestone
Pietrina Wampach, Broomfield

See your name listed as a winner? Call 303-637-1248 to claim your Reader Rewards.

HOLIDAY Giving Guide 2017

SPECIAL INSERT



- Chief Executive Officer** James Vigasaa
- Officer** Susan Petrocco
- Public Affairs Officer** John Parker
- Editors** Ursula J. Morgan
- Heidi Storz
- Laurel Eller

- Board of Directors** Beth Martin
- Ginny Buzek
- Richard Newmann
- Asst. Sec./Treasurer
- Secretary/Treasurer
- Vice-President
- President
- James Vigasaa
- Susan Petrocco
- Ursula J. Morgan
- Asst. Sec./Treasurer
- Ginny Buzek
- Tim Erickson
- Brian McCormick
- Richard Newmann
- Dave Rose
- Tamra Waitemath
- Keith Alquist

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UNITED NEWSLINE



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