

MEMBER OWNED • COMMUNITY POWERED



### Harvest Season Safety Around Power Lines and Poles

As harvest season kicks into high gear, we urge all members to stay vigilant when working near power lines and poles. Safety should be your top priority—always be aware of your surroundings and keep a safe distance from overhead lines. Ensure that equipment like augers and grain trucks are positioned away from power lines to avoid accidental contact. Staying cautious and mindful during this busy season can prevent accidents and ensure a safe and successful harvest for everyone.











Refore

After

We want to extend our sincere appreciation to the members of Battle River Power Coop who are actively keeping vegetation under control around their power lines. Your efforts play a crucial role in ensuring the safety and reliability of our electrical grid. Proper vegetation management helps prevent outages, reduces the risk of fire, and ensures that our power lines remain clear and operational. Thank you for your commitment to maintaining a safe and efficient power supply for everyone in our community.

# **Changes to Subdivision Rate**

# Starting August 26, 2024

Effective August 26, 2024, Battle River Power Coop is implementing changes to our rate structure to better serve our members.

We understand that these changes may raise questions, and we are committed to providing more detailed information in the coming months. Stay tuned for further updates and additional details regarding the new Residential rate criteria and enrollment process. Thank you for

enrollment process. Thank you for your continued support and understanding as we strive to enhance our services and offer competitive rates to our members.

The Residential Rate Class is available to members on sites that consume under 9,000kWh per year with:

- a single and separate household using electricity predominantly for domestic purposes, and
- a single meter at a standard service capacity,
- regardless of whether the lands containing the site are owned by an individual or a corporate entity.

### **Distribution Tariff Increase**

Our goal, as your Board of Directors, is to safeguard the future success of Battle River Power Coop and to ensure our member-owners receive prudent, reliable electricity delivery. In establishing the 2024 Distribution Tariff we had to consider increased cost of service, in the development of a Residential Rate for members. The result is a fair increase to ensure system sustainability and viability. That increase is 4% to services of 7.5kVA or higher and reflected in the table below. This increase is effective August 26, 2024.

As noted in the previous newsletter and on page 3, the Subdivision rate will be eliminated and replaced with the Residential Rate to ensure equitable, competitive rates between rate classes.

BRPC Revised Rates (August 26, 2024)							
Rural Farm/Acreage BR240							
Breaker size	3 kVA	5 kVA	7.5 kVA	10 kVA	15 kVA	25 kVA	>25 kVA
Monthly operating	\$67.94	\$67.94	\$85.24	\$99.83	\$127.68	\$183.07	\$4.73/kVA
Oil and Gas rate				Residential rate			
Service charge per kVA per day			\$0.6450	Service charge per unit per day			\$0.9350
Daily charge			\$0.5200	All kWh delivered (cents/kWh)			3.0250
Idle service BR110C				Demand industrial			
Monthly operating			\$38.55	Monthly service charge for the first 50 kVA (per kVA)		\$4.88	
Additional pole			\$1.76	For the next 450 kVA (per kVA)		\$3.05	
				For all kV (per kVA)	'A greater tha	n 500 kVA	\$2.08





## **MVP** Businesses



### **Member Value Program Spotlight**

#### **Shirgor Enterprises**

As part of Battle River Power Coop's Member Value Program, we're excited to spotlight Shirgor Enterprises. BRPC members can enjoy a 10% discount on equipment rentals simply by showing their MVP Card. It's a great way to save on the tools you need while supporting a local business.

#### **Benchmark Hearing Centre Ltd**

We are also pleased to feature Benchmark Hearing Centre Ltd in our Member Value Program. BRPC members can receive a 10% discount on hearing aid purchases by presenting their MVP Card. Take advantage of this offer to invest in your hearing health while enjoying exclusive member savings.



Stay Safe During Harvest Season

Ensure that equipment like augers and grain trucks are positioned away from power lines to avoid accidental contact. Staying cautious and mindful during this busy season can prevent accidents and ensure a safe and successful harvest for everyone.



Effective September 26, 2024, Frontier Energy will become the new name of the Battle River Power Coop, Energy Division.



## **Message from the Board of Directors**

Battle River Power Coop is concerned with FortisAlberta's current push for legislative changes to recover their interpretation of operational and construction costs (wheeling charges) for the interconnected system within Battle River Power Coop's service area.

Battle River Power Coop, celebrating its 75th Anniversary this year, has interconnected infrastructure with FortisAlberta and its predecessors without charging/incurring wheeling fees for over seven decades. The claim that REAs use FortisAlberta's system for free, overlooks that FortisAlberta benefits from our infrastructure without quid pro quo payment. With Battle River Power Coop owning 53% of the shared interconnected system, in our defined service area, it is rich for Fortis to assume Battle River Power Coop may owe them anything for their system usage.

Since 2005, the Wire Owner Agreement (WOA) between Battle River Power Coop and FortisAlberta has governed our interconnected operations. This contractual agreement, outlines the roles and responsibilities between Battle River Power Coop and FortisAlberta. A key Section with in the WOA provides

either party the opportunity through the Contract Policy Committee, made up of FortisAlberta and elected representative REA Directors, to negotiate or arbitrate the agreement. FortisAlberta has not attempted to renegotiate the WOA, but is instead seeking legislative changes solely for their shareholder's benefit. Why is Fortis avoiding using the contractual tool available to them?

The Alberta Utilities Commission has ruled that revenue recovery by Fortis, from REAs, should follow existing contractual agreements. The current system, managed by the Contract Policy Committee through the WOA, has proven in the past to effectively address these concerns.

FortisAlberta's lobbying for new legislation is an inefficient use of government resources, especially when established mechanisms to deal with wire owner contracts are in place. It remains in the Alberta Government's interest to reduce red tape and uphold current agreements, while focusing on attaining affordable and reliable power for Rural Albertans.

# Battle River Power Coop has a new look – same great information at <a href="https://www.brpower.coop">www.brpower.coop</a> and an updated Outage app!

The website offers a user-friendly experience with comprehensive information on our services, while the updated Outage App provides real-time updates and easy reporting for power outages.





### REGULATED RATE OPTION



The RRO may increase or decrease from month to month as it is priced on the open market and subject to many factors relating to supply and demand. It is not a 'regulated' rate, rather it is a default rate. If you do not have an energy contract, then you are on the RRO.

For August 2024, the RRO is priced at \$0.13544 per kWh, reflected on your enclosed blue bill. For September 2024, the REA monthly rate as calculated under the RRO regulation is \$0.11893. Detailed information on the monthly RRO is available on: <a href="www.brpower.coop">www.brpower.coop</a>.

Members are free to purchase natural gas services or electricity services from a retailer of their choice. For a list of retailers, visit ucahelps.alberta.ca or call 310-4822 (toll free in Alberta). *Code of Conduct Regulation: Advertising Section 7(1).*