



STAY FOCUSED ON SAFETY DURING HARVEST



Farm workers should take these steps to ensure a safer harvest season:

- Use care when raising augers or the bed of grain trucks around power lines.
- Use a spotter when operating large machinery near power lines. Do not let the spotter touch the machinery while it is being moved anywhere near power lines.
- As with any outdoor work, be careful not to raise any equipment such as ladders, poles or rods into power lines. Remember, non-metallic materials such as lumber, tree limbs, ropes and hay will conduct electricity depending on dampness, dust and dirt contamination.
- Never attempt to raise or move a power line to clear a path!
- Don't use metal poles to break up bridged grain inside bins. Know where and how to shut off the power in an emergency.
- Use qualified electricians for work on drying equipment and other farm electrical systems.

It can be an exciting and exhausting time, the culmination of a season of hard work. However, the rush to harvest can also yield tragic outcomes. Each year, dozens of farm workers are killed and hundreds are injured in accidents involving power lines and electrical equipment.

"Things people see every day can fade from view and in the busy-ness of harvest time, it's easy for farm workers to forget about the power lines overhead," Line Superintendent Kendal Wambeke said. "But failure to notice them can be a deadly oversight." Review with all workers the farm activi-

ties that take place around power lines. Inspect the height of farm equipment to determine clearance. Keep equipment at least 10 feet away from power lines – above, below and to the side – a 360-degree rule.

"Always lower grain augers before moving them, even if it's only a few feet," says Wambeke. "Variables like wind, uneven ground, shifting weight or other conditions can combine to create an unexpected result. Also use extreme caution when raising the bed of a grain truck."

Continued on Page 3

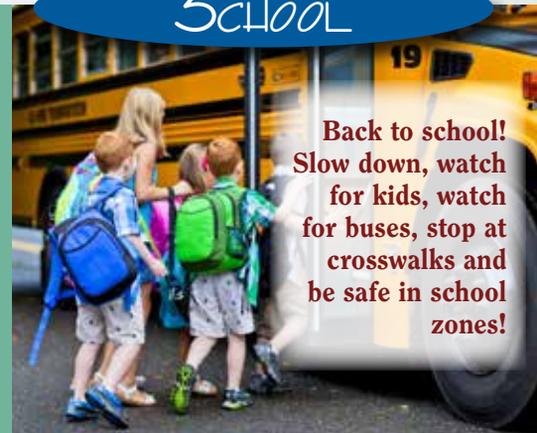
INSIDE

Antelope Butte Meeting .. 2
2018 State Fair 2
Safety Tips 4
Fire Department Thank You 4

DID YOU KNOW

Did you know you can reduce heating and cooling needs up to 30 percent by properly insulating and weatherizing your home?

SCHOOL



Back to school! Slow down, watch for kids, watch for buses, stop at crosswalks and be safe in school zones!

District Meeting at Antelope Butte a Success!

In July, the Big Horn REA Board of Directors scheduled their District Meeting to be held at Antelope Butte Mountain Recreation Area on the mountain above Shell. Normally, for District Meetings, only the members in the area where the meeting is held are invited. Since this was a unique location, the Board decided to invite all Big Horn members to attend. It was a beautiful day and the turnout was great! Thanks to all who took time out of their day to make the journey and attend the meeting!



A future lineman shows us how climbing a pole is done!

STATE FAIR 2018

Big Horn REA recently sent employees to the Wyoming State Fair in Douglas to help at a booth and demonstration area, along with employees from other electric co-ops throughout the state. On Friday, August 17th, lineman Clint Getzfreid and Member Services Rep. Sheila Kampbell were there to represent Big Horn REA. Along with safety

demonstrations, people could try their hand at climbing a power pole, had their questions answered by co-op employees, gathered up some handouts and were able to visit with staff from our power supplier Tri-State G & T. Congratulations to all our members who were there taking part in the State Fair!

Clint explains how rubber gloves protect linemen when they are working on lines.

Big Horn REA lineman Clint Getzfreid and a lineman from High West Energy in Cheyenne having a little fun!



Harvest Safety

Continued from Page 1

Operators of farm equipment or vehicles must also know what to do if the vehicle comes in contact with a power line: Stay on the equipment, warn others to stay away and call 911. Do not get off the equipment until the utility crew says it is safe to do so.

"If the power line is energized and you step outside, touching the vehicle and ground, your body becomes the path and electrocution is the result," Wambeke said. "Even if a power line has landed on the ground, the potential for the area nearby to be energized still exists. Stay inside the vehicle unless there's fire or imminent risk of fire."

If this is the case, jump off the equipment with your feet together, without touching the ground and vehicle at the same time. Then, still keeping your feet together, hop to safety as you leave the area.

Once you get away from the equipment, never attempt to get back on or even touch the equipment. Some electrocutions have occurred after the operator dismounts and, realizing nothing has happened, tries to get back on the equipment.

It is very important that all farm workers and seasonal employees are informed of electrical hazards and trained in proper procedures to avoid injury.



September 2018 HIGHLIGHTS

Tips for a Safe Harvest



Harvest season brings hard work and can be an exhausting, but rushing the job to save time can be extremely dangerous (even deadly!) when working near overhead power lines. We urge farm operators and workers to keep the following safety tips in mind:

-  Use care when operating large machinery near power lines.
-  Inspect the height of equipment to determine clearance.
-  Always keep equipment at least 10 feet away (in all directions) from power lines.
-  Remember to lower extensions when moving loads.
-  If a power line is sagging or looks to be dangerously low, please call us immediately.

Source: SafeElectricity.org





Thanks From the Fire Department

Recently Basin Volunteer Fire Department Chief Brent Godfrey presented Big Horn REA with a gift of appreciation for many years of loyal support. Pictured at right, Manager Jeff Umphlett accepts the clock from Chief Godfrey. This is just one way Big Horn REA follows Cooperative Principle #7 –

Concern for Community – by supporting our local volunteer organizations!



**Energy Efficiency
Tip of the Month**

Turn off kitchen, bath and other exhaust fans within 20 minutes after you're done cooking or bathing. When replacing exhaust fans, consider installing high-efficiency, low-noise models.

Source: energy.gov



HIGHLIGHTS

is an official publication of
**BIG HORN RURAL
ELECTRIC COMPANY**

Box 270 VOLUME 39 NO. 8
Basin, WY 82410 (307) 568-2419
FAX 307-568-2402 1-800-564-2419
bhrec@bighornrea.com
www.bighornrea.com

MANAGER: Jeff Umphlett
(307) 899-8153
jeff@bighornrea.com

Staff and Crew

Dotti Brown	Carrie Hunt
Rusty Burden	Sheila Kampbell
Bill Dahlke	Anthony Nelson
Clint Getzfreid	Bill Phillips
Todd Herman	Tristen Snyder
Reece Hill	Kendal Wambeke

For Outages or Trouble

Call the office number: **ANYTIME**
(307) 568-2419 or 1-800-564-2419
After 5 p.m., weekends and holidays all calls will be answered by our professional answering service, who will contact the appropriate person(s).

Big Horn Rural Electric Company is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Board of Directors

Tom Delaney President
Greybull	• 765-4732
tomdelaney@bighornrea.com	
Kathy Gilbreath Vice President
Meeteetse	• 868-2261
kathygilbreath@bighornrea.com	
John Joyce Secretary
Manderson	• 568-2514
jnjoyce56@gmail.com	
Don Russell Treasurer
Basin	• 272-8940
donrussell@russell.tax	
Willie Bridges Ass't. Secretary
Cowley	• 548-2545
willieb@pryormtneng.com	