# INTERMOUNTAIN RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

# CONSUMER INFORMATION HANDBOOK

IREA

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# THE HISTORY OF INTERMOUNTAIN RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

In the mid-1930's, nine out of ten rural homes in the United States were without electric service.

On May 11, 1935, in recognition of the need for power in the rural areas, President Franklin Roosevelt created the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) by Executive Order No. 7037. This agency was to be the primary source of low interest loans that would help bring power to rural America.

## IREA Beginnings

When a local group of progressive-minded pioneers first heard of the REA concept, they enthusiastically pursued it, organizing support in the community and doing the work necessary to submit an application to Washington for REA loan funds. It is interesting to note that the original application was denied when the Washington office contended that the proposed line did not have a minimum of three customers per mile and, further, that no REA project was feasible in the mountains because of the cost of construction. Undaunted, the group visited the Washington REA personally and were successful in convincing them that they could indeed bring power to the rural mountain areas.

On August 24, 1938, the Intermountain Rural Electric Association filed its Certificate of Incorporation with the Secretary of the State of Colorado.

By December 31, 1944, with 581 miles of line energized, 1,530 IREA customers purchased a total of 1,064,173 kilowatt hours. By December 31, 2002, the system had expanded from 581 miles of line to over 8,409 miles of line. During 2002, 112,000 customers were furnished with 1,659 million kilowatt-hours of electricity.

On September 16, 1985, IREA became exempt from PUC regulation as a result of a special election pursuant to Colorado state law, in which a majority of the member-consumers voting supported exempting the cooperative.

*IREA Headquarters in Sedalia*

# COMPANY STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION

Intermountain REA exists to provide the best possible service at the lowest possible cost to its member-consumers. All of our activities are ultimately directed to this end. In order to detail exactly what these activities are, the four company divisions will be reviewed to point out their roles in meeting the company objectives.

To begin with, it is important to remember that Intermountain is an electrical distribution cooperative, thus we do not generate any electric power. Rather, we buy wholesale power from Xcel Energy, Inc. and the Western Area Power Administration. Our function is to distribute that electrical energy via a series of transmission lines, substations and electrical distribution lines to all of the homes and businesses within our service area. In order to do so, we establish wholesale contracts with power suppliers and build and maintain the distribution system to bring you power. About 55-60% of your electric bill pays strictly for the wholesale power costs; the balance pays for IREA to bring you that electrical power.

Intermountain is an organization of about 174 employees who work in one of four major divisions: (1) Member Services and Public Affairs; (2) Operations and Engineering; (3) Financial Services; and (4) Information Services. The main headquarters is located in Sedalia where over 125 employees work.

## Member Services and Public Affairs Division

There are three district offices in our nearly 5,000 square miles of service area. Approximately 45 employees work in these three offices which are located in Woodland Park, Strasburg and near Shaffers Crossing between Conifer and Bailey. While the majority of IREA business is conducted at the headquarters, the district offices are staffed to handle payments, receive inquiries and process requests for assistance. In order to respond quickly and ensure continuous electrical service, linemen are located in all districts. They perform maintenance on transmission and distribution lines as well as respond to service calls and construct line extensions to new consumers.

The Association is substantially involved in supporting the community it serves. We are actively involved in local civic and service groups and support a wide range of community activities. Along with financial support for economic development, Intermountain also supports local emergency medical and fire districts, senior and youth groups, public schools, and a wide range of other charitable and civic activities.

The Member Services and Public Affairs Division also ensures that IREA consumers are kept up to date on

all of the issues that concern them as electric consumers. The consumer newsletter, "*Watts & Volts*," is the regular publication included with monthly electric billing statements that helps to keep consumers informed. Other information including this new customer information booklet is also made available.

## Operations and Engineering Division

This Division includes the Engineering Department which handles planning, engineering, design and construction of our system facilities and the Operations Department which is responsible for general operation and maintenance of the system.

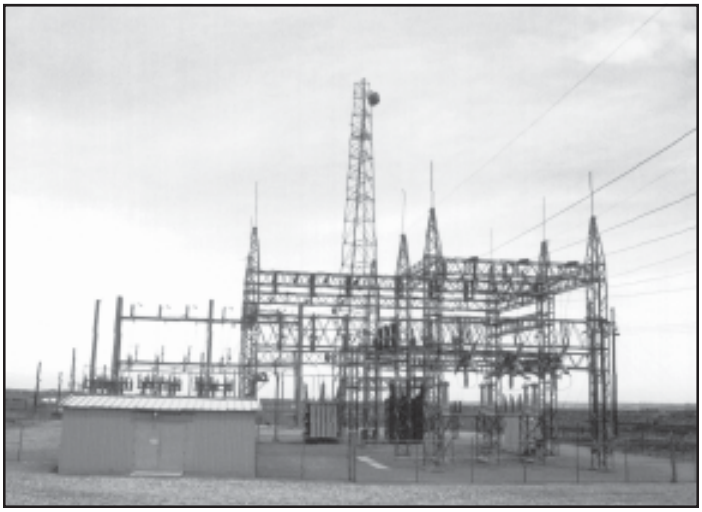
The IREA distribution system contains over 8,400 miles of line. With such a large system, both short- and long-term planning are conducted to ensure not only an adequate wholesale power supply but also to provide a reliable distribution system that will supply electrical power to anyone requiring it in our service area.

***115KV Transmission Line***

The major IREA transmission lines are 115KV (115,000 volts), 69KV and 44KV. We presently operate dozens of substations which reduce the transmission voltage down to a distribution level of 7,200 volts. The transformer serving your house further steps this down to a usable 120/240 volts.

All major construction in our fast-growing system, which includes buildings, substations, transmission and major distribution lines, is performed through outside contractors selected by competitive bidding. With the rapid escalation in construction costs these days, we feel that substantial savings are realized by this procedure.

The Association has crews of linemen building line extensions for new services as well as handling storm and emergency outages. Various interruptions of service will be investigated and corrected by calling your local IREA office. Meter and substation technicians test, calibrate, maintain and repair, as required, all IREA metering and substation equipment. While no electrical



***Step-down Distribution Substation***

distribution system is invulnerable to storms or accidents, continual efforts are made at upgrading and maintaining the system to keep it as reliable as possible.

## Financial Services Division

The Office Services Division includes two basic functions: Consumer Accounting and General Accounting.

The Consumer Accounting personnel have the most direct contact with our customers, particularly when a question arises concerning their electric billing statements. With all the growth in our service area, we connect a substantial number of new services each month. In addition, as an even greater number of homes and businesses are sold and leased each month, we process each new consumer. With each comes a final meter reading and settling of the account with the former occupant and a new member signing up for service in their place.

The General Accounting department, in addition to the standard accounting functions, ensures compliance with all laws, rules and regulations of various administrative and banking agencies including the IRS, state and local taxing authorities and our mortgage holders.

## Information Services Division

The Information Services (IS) Division is responsible for maintaining the company's consumer and employee databases and writing programs which provide employees with quick and easy access to consumer information. They are also responsible for writing and maintaining programs to support engineering and general accounting functions such as billing files which provide for accurate and timely billing of customers.

The IS Manager is responsible for maintaining the various local area networks within the company, and coordinating the integration of PCs into the mainframe environment. The Data Processing Department of IS is responsible for entering an enormous amount of data into the mainframe, including meter reads, billing information, etc.

# CAPITAL CREDITS

The Intermountain Rural Electric Association is a consumer-member owned cooperative and, as such, its margins, or profits, are ultimately returned back to the member-owners in the form of capital credits. These capital credits are paid to members when the Association's Board of Directors deems that the financial condition of the cooperative will not be impaired thereby, and that the payment is not in conflict with any limitations imposed by the provisions by any mortgage or deed of trust given or assumed by the Association.

Patronage capital is accrued to individual member accounts at the end of every year that the Association operates with a margin. In the interim period between the accrual of such capital credits and their payment to the member, this member equity is retained by the Association for working capital, storm damage reserves and contingencies. The Association returns capital credits on a percentage basis to all eligible members. Such return of capital credits is normally made in the spring of each year.

The Association attempts to return capital credits to all members who have accrued such patronage capital in past years. It is important, therefore, that consumers keep the Association informed of their current address even after they are no longer a member. At the present time, patronage capital accrued from the year 1982 through the present year is still owed to member-consumers and will be refunded in future years on a percentage basis.

# EMERGENCY OUTAGE PROCEDURES

Intermountain Rural Electric Association has carefully planned its emergency response procedures and offers the following guidelines to prepare for, and cope with, an electrical outage:

### Pre-Planning

- Check your phone number printed on your monthly electric bill to confirm that it is current.
- Keep IREA's phone number close to your telephone.
- Keep batteries, flashlights and a battery-powered radio handy.
- Maintain an emergency supply of drinking water and canned or dry food (don't forget the manual can opener!).

### During An Outage

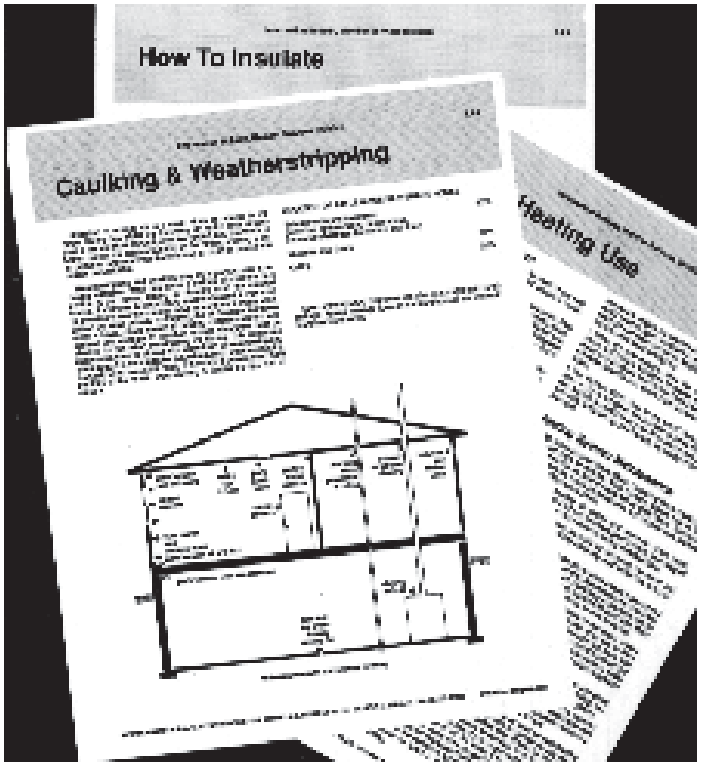
- After you've checked your circuit breakers, call the office which services your home (see list on last page) or our toll-free number: **1-800-332-9540.**
- Listen to the radio for information about the location and expected duration of an extended outage (KOA, KTLK, KCFR, KHOW, and KYGO).
- Never attempt to trim or remove trees from downed power lines and stay away from them even if you think they are not energized!
- Keep your refrigerator/freezer doors closed and keep them covered with a blanket during an extended outage.
- Unplug electronic equipment and turn off light switches to help prevent overloads once power is restored.

# ENERGY CONSERVATION

To help our consumers manage the use of energy for their homes and businesses, IREA has an energy conservation program which makes available information and assistance on energy utilization and renewable energy use.

### Customer Information Programs

The Association has an up-to-date file of information concerning conservation and renewable energy. We welcome any questions you might have in this area and invite you to contact our Sedalia office for assistance. In addition to providing specific answers to your questions, we have on hand a comprehensive set of energy utilization bulletins covering general energy conservation and solar energy practices and measures. Appropriate individual bulletins can be mailed to you at your request. Free energy audits are provided for homes and businesses. To arrange for an energy audit, call IREA at 303-688-3100 ext. 143.



The Energy Conservation Specialist is also available to arrange for group presentations. Suggested topics include: the wise use of energy (conservation), demonstration and presentation of electrical safety, and various other presentations. The presentation can be tailored to your group's time frame and interests.

# ELECTRIC BILL PAYMENT

## Charges Related to Disconnection

Following written notice of intent to disconnect service for nonpayment of bills, the Association will send an employee to the consumer's premises to disconnect service. If payment is made at that time, there will be a collection charge to cover the cost of the call.

There will also be a charge for reconnecting service that has been disconnected. If, however, the reconnection is required by the consumer at a time other than regular working hours, a charge for reconnecting service will be made which recovers the cost of a call outside of normal working hours.

## Third Party Notice

Some residential customers, due to individual circumstances, may find it worthwhile to designate a third party to receive copies of the final notice of discontinuance of service that may be sent to them by Intermountain REA.

As an example, when a customer's unexpected absence or unavailability causes a bill to remain unpaid for a prolonged period, a third party can take steps in time to prevent a possible shutoff of electrical service. The designated third party may be a relative, personal friend or even an agency.

Intermountain REA makes every effort to reach customers with past due accounts far in advance of the time electrical service is disconnected. A shut-off notice is sent only as a last resort.

Forms are available at all IREA offices. Completion of the form will authorize Intermountain REA to send a copy of such a notice so that the third party will simply be informed of the situation.

# RATES, RULES & REGULATIONS

The Association maintains a complete copy of its *Rates, Rules and Regulations* at the front desk of each of its offices in Sedalia, Woodland Park, Strasburg and Conifer. IREA member-consumers who wish to review the complete book can do so by simply stopping by any of the offices during normal working hours. Following are the Rules and Regulations which you agreed to abide by when you signed up for electric service:

## 1. APPLICATION OF RULES

a. All electric service shall be subject to the general rules and regulations contained herein, together with those rules and regulations applicable to the individual class of service taken by the consumer, with such supplements and revisions thereto as are from time to time in effect and on file with the Association.

b. The adoption of these rules shall in no way preclude the Association from altering or amending the same, in whole or in part, by act of the Board of Directors. In special cases, not contrary to statute, the Association may deviate from these rules if the Association finds compliance therewith to be impossible, impracticable or unnecessary. These rules shall not in any way relieve the Association from any of its duties under the laws of the United States, State of Colorado and the Bylaws of the Association.

## 2. DEFINITIONS

a. **Association**, as used in these rules, shall be construed to mean the Intermountain Rural Electric Association, Sedalia, Colorado.

b. **Commission**, as used in the rules, shall be construed to mean the Public Utilities Commission of the State of Colorado.

c. **Consumer**, as used in these rules, shall be construed to mean any person, group of persons, co-partnership, firm, corporation, institution, any agency of the Federal, State or local governments, their lessees, trustees or receivers appointed by any court contracting for electric service from the Association for consumptive domestic, commercial, or industrial use, or at wholesale.

d. **Board of Directors** shall mean a majority thereof acting at a regular or special meeting.

e. **Construction Allowance** is a construction credit in the amount of the cost of the overhead embedded distribution plant investment. Permanent service will receive the construction allowance as a credit and said applicant will pay all costs in excess of the utilized construction allowance. The monthly minimum charge will be as stated in the current rate schedule.

f. **Construction Costs of Distribution Facilities** are the combined costs including tap fee charges, if applicable, for all facilities necessary to the distribution extension or necessary reinforcement, including satisfactory rights-of-way.

g. **Distribution Extension** is the distribution facilities including primary and secondary distribution lines, transformers, service laterals and all appurtenant facilities necessary to supply service.

h. **Distribution Reinforcement** is the increase in size of existing facilities necessitated by applicant's estimated electric requirements.

i. **Contract Costs** shall be the estimated costs of the extension. Any additional capacity shall not include or be determined with reference to provision for additional capacity, size or strength in excess of that necessary to meet the requirements of the Association's construction standards required to serve the load. Estimated costs shall be determined by the Association.

j. **Meter Location** is the physical location of the electric meter measuring the amount of power and energy supplied to the applicant. Meter locations in all instances will be determined by the Association and will be located so as to be accessible to the Association's service personnel at all times.

k. **Open Extension Period** is the period of time, ten years, during which the Association shall pay refunds of consumer's utilized construction allowance according to the provisions of this extension policy. The ten-year period begins on the date of the execution of the Indeterminate contract for service. This provision does not include Temporary or Permanent service consumers.

l. **Advance for Construction** is the classification of money received for payment of construction costs, including tap fees and the refundable construction allowance. This provision does not include Temporary or Permanent service consumers.

m. **Point of Delivery** is the location where the Association's electric facilities are first connected to the electric facilities of the applicant. The location of the point of delivery will be determined by the Association in accordance with standard practices or as individual circumstances may dictate.

n. **Service Lateral** is the secondary overhead or underground electric circuit and associated facilities located between Association distribution line and the point of delivery to applicant. Service lateral provides service for applicant's exclusive use.

o. **Contribution-in-aid to construction** is the non-refundable classification of money received for payment of construction costs exclusive of the utilized construction allowance.

p. **Tap fee reimbursement** is the portion of the applicant's construction cost to be reimbursed to existing consumer(s) on an original primary line extension. The existing consumer's reimbursement(s) shall not be greater than the consumer's contribution-in-aid of construction payment.

q. **Tap fee reimbursement period** for the Permanent consumer is five years and shall commence with the date of execution of the construction agreement or Indeterminate contract of the new electric facility. During this period, the Association shall calculate the portion of the tap fee payable by subsequent consumers connecting to the original primary line extension.

## 3. SERVICE CLASSIFICATION DEFINITIONS

In considering extension of facilities, the Association will classify the service to be furnished as Permanent, Indeterminate or Temporary.

a. **Permanent** includes service to overhead or underground electric line extensions for secondary or primary service to applicant(s) where the use of service is to be **Permanent** and where a continuous return to the utility of sufficient revenue to support the necessary investment is assured.

b. **Indeterminate** includes service to overhead or underground electric line extensions for secondary or primary service to applicant(s) not covered by a, above, or c, below, when the use of service cannot be reasonably assured as to its amount and permanency, or if the investment to serve the applicant is greater than the monthly minimum (annual) will warrant.

c. **Temporary** includes service to applicant(s) where the expected period of usage is eighteen (18) months or less, except in special cases where the period of usage may be longer than eighteen (18) months, such as at large construction projects.

## 4. EXTENSION TO PERMANENT SERVICE

The Association will extend overhead or underground facilities to provide service to an applicant classified as Permanent according to the following terms and conditions.

a. The developer or applicant shall initiate a contract authorization prior to the Association's engineer providing a cost estimate and electrical design to the applicant.

b. The applicant must enter into a (1) membership application and electric service agreement and (2) construction agreement with the Association for electric service at the applicable rate schedule. The applicant must furnish the Association with documents to prove that he/she will build when service is made available and that he/she is the owner of the property.

c. The applicant shall guarantee to the Association a monthly minimum as specified in the applicable rate schedule.

d. In the event that the construction costs for an applicant classified as Permanent service exceeds the construction allowance, the applicant shall advance to the Association as a nonrefundable contribution-in-aid of construction in the amount that the construction costs including tap fees exceeds the construction allowance.

e. In the case where new construction is involved and the applicant is not the owner of the premises to be served, the owner/agent shall be required to sign the (1)

membership application and electric service agreement and (2) construction agreement for electric service.

f. If the applicant cannot provide proof that he/she will build when service is made available, then service shall be classified as Indeterminate.

g. When a prospective applicant requests service from an existing primary line extension eligible for tap fee reimbursements, the following tap fee provisions apply to the new applicant requesting service and to the members of the original line extension.

(1) To be responsible for tap fee charges and eligible for tap fee reimbursements, the total existing primary line extension line cost must be equal to or greater than $5000.00 and remain within the tap fee reimbursement period.

(2) Only direct taps on the original primary line extension will be considered in calculating the tap fee charges and reimbursements. Subsequent taps originating from line extensions which previously connected to the original primary line extension will be considered as new, original line extensions, and subsequent tap fees and reimbursements will apply only to the respective immediate primary line extension being tapped.

(3) The tap fee charge will consist of an equitable share of a portion of the cost of the existing primary line extension excluding the utilized construction allowance and the consumer's other distribution costs. Subsequent applicants making direct taps to the existing primary line extension will be required to pay the calculated tap fee in addition to the costs directly associated with their individual service.

(4) The tap fee reimbursement is based on charges to the applicant(s) and will be equitably distributed to the consumer(s) of the primary line extension. The portion of the original primary line extension cost to be reimbursed is based on the total cost of primary facilities excluding the consumer's other distribution costs to the proposed tap point divided by the total number of direct taps to the proposed tap point, or the total primary costs can be equally distributed to all consumers with direct taps if mutually agreed to by all affected parties. However, any consumer may assume more than his proportionate share of cost.

(5) When any consumer's remaining tap fee balance is reduced to $350.00 or less within the tap fee reimbursement period, the remaining balance shall be refunded and the construction agreement shall be closed.

(6) No tap fee reimbursements will be granted after the five-year tap fee reimbursement period.

(7) Reimbursements of consumer's tap fees will only be paid during the tap fee reimbursement period and at a time determined by the Association.

(8) Extensions from system improvements constructed at the Association's expense will not result in refunds to prior or subsequent taps.

h. Depending upon the circumstances involved, the Association may, at its sole option, classify electric service supplied as either Permanent service or Indeterminate service.

## 5. EXTENSION OF INDETERMINATE SERVICE

The Association will extend overhead or underground service to the applicant. The applicant must pay in advance the estimated cost for the installation of electrical facilities prior to scheduling the job for construction.

a. When a developer wishes to initiate the extension of electric service into a residential or commercial development, he/she will provide the Association with an accurate plat to the subdivision tract as approved by the city or county authority, and as recorded with the clerk and recorder of the Colorado county in which the development is situated. In addition, it will be necessary that the developer or applicant initiate a Contract Authorization prior to the Association's engineer providing a cost estimate and electrical design to the applicant.

b. At the time construction is completed and the applicant applies for Permanent service and qualifies under the Permanent Service Plan, the applicant will receive a refund of the utilized construction allowance.

c. Prior to the start of construction or payment of the estimated cost by the applicant, the Association may, at its sole option, classify a portion or all of the electric service to be supplied as Permanent service. The applicant shall advance to the Association the total amount of the construction cost. An evaluation may be made of the Indeterminate service applicant within the ten-year period, during which the applicant may be reclassified as Permanent or Temporary service.

d. Indeterminate services, including, but not limited to, irrigation, wells and sewage treatment plants, shall pay all construction costs up-front and may be classified as Permanent service after thirty-six (36) months provided revenue supports the investment.

e. A contribution-in-aid of construction, not subject to refund, may also be collected when unusual facilities such as for special underground facilities or for ornamental overhead facilities are supplied at the applicant's request.

f. The open extension period will commence upon execution of the Indeterminate contract and shall continue for a period of ten (10) years or until the applicant's utilized construction allowance is fully refunded, whichever occurs first.

# YOUR ELECTRIC BILL

**No stamps need to be added as postage on the return envelope for your bill is already paid.**

| STATEMENT DATE | PREVIOUS BALANCE | PAYMENT | CREDIT ADJ | UNPAID BALANCE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

| RATE | READINGS PREVIOUS | READINGS PRESENT | MULTIPLIER | KW OR KWH USED |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 6 | | 7 | 8 |

22 23

15

27

CHARGE OR CREDIT FOR:

9

10

11

12

13

14

19

20

21

| YTD KWH | YTD REVENUE | METER NUMBER | ACCOUNT NUMBER | CYCLE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 22 | 23 |

**Intermountain Rural Electric Association**
5496 N. Highway 85
P.O. Drawer A
Sedalia, CO 80135-0220 Telephone: (303) 688-3100

**PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION WITH YOUR REMITTANCE TO ENSURE PROPER CREDIT TO YOUR ACCOUNT.**

STATEMENT DATE

TELEPHONE NUMBER CHANGE

( ) 25 ( )
8 AM TO 5 PM EVENING

PLEASE INDICATE ADDRESS CHANGE

26

ADDRESS 1

ADDRESS 2

CITY STATE ZIP + 4

| |
|---|
| 20 |
| 19 |
| 21 |
| ACCOUNT NUMBER |

22 23

AMOUNT PAID 24

# HOW TO READ YOUR ELECTRIC BILL

**1. PREVIOUS BALANCE.** The balance indicated on your previous monthly statement.

**2. PAYMENT.** Any amount received and applied to your electric account from the time of your last billing until the time when this most current statement was prepared.

**3. ADJUSTMENT.** Credit adjustments appear at the top of your statement and indicate any credits to your account at the time this statement was prepared. Debit adjustments are likewise indicated on your current bill. As a debit adjustment occurs, it will be itemized in the middle section of your statement.

**4. UNPAID BALANCE.** The outstanding amount due from your prior monthly statement at the time of preparation of the current bill.

**5. RATE.** This code indicates your class of service. Rate schedules for your particular class are available by contacting the IREA office.

**6. READINGS: PREVIOUS — PRESENT.** Intermountain REA measures your electric power usage with a meter that is similar in operation to your car odometer. In order to calculate how many miles were traveled on a trip, you would simply subtract the mileage reading at the beginning from the reading at the end of the trip. In a like manner, the "previous" reading is taken at the beginning of the period for which your bill was calculated and the "present" reading at the end of the period.

**7. MULTIPLIER.** In some cases, particularly with large commercial and large residential all-electric services, the kilowatt hour meter will incorporate a multiplier. This fixed number, when multiplied by the difference between the previous and the present readings (#6), will equal the total kilowatt hours (KWH) used (#8) for that billing period (i.e.: The difference between a previous reading of 200 and a present reading of 300 is 100. This figure, multiplied by the meter multiplier of say, 10, equals a total of 1000 KWH used in that period.). In a like manner, large power users may have a peak demand (KW) multiplier incorporated into the meter. In such instances, this fixed number will appear directly below the KWH multiplier on the billing statement.

**8. KW OR KWH USED.** All consumers are billed on the basis of kilowatt hours (KWH) used. This number is therefore appropriately indicated on the bill. In addition, some customers are also assessed a demand (KW) charge should they fall into that rate class. The peak KW demand, if applicable, will be noted directly below the KWH usage.

**9. ENERGY CHARGE.** In accordance with the applicable rate schedule, all rate classes are assessed a fixed cost per KWH of energy used. Dividing the energy charge by the KWH USED (#8) will net the cost per KWH.

**10. DEMAND CHARGE.** Residential consumers on the demand and energy rate, as well as most commercial and industrial consumers, are assessed a demand charge. This covers the cost which their peak usage imposes on the system and is calculated on a per KW basis.

**11. SECURITY LIGHT.** This separate charge covers the cost of outside incandescent, mercury vapor or high pressure sodium security lights.

**12. SERVICE CHARGE.** The service charge covers fixed costs associated with your particular service which are incurred each month regardless of the amount of energy you use. These fixed costs are associated with customer accounts, uncollectible expenses and meter reading.

**13. FRANCHISE FEE.** Under a state court ruling, this fee, covering the costs of the operating franchises granted in various towns within the service area, is assessed among IREA customers within the franchise area on a percentage basis.

**14. SALES TAX.** Includes state, county, city and RTD sales taxes as appropriate.

Note: Miscellaneous charges may appear directly below 14 on your electric bill and may include debits or credits for returned checks, membership fee, transfers, meter deposits, etc.

**15. BILLING PERIOD "FROM" "TO".** The "FROM" date indicates the day of the previous meter reading and thus the commencement of the current billing period. The "TO" date indicates the day of the present meter reading and thus the last day of the current billing period. The total number of days for which current charges were assessed is also included on your billing statement, as well as an average daily cost for energy consumed and last year's energy usage for this billing period.

**16. YTD KWH.** This is the total KWH used for the current calendar year to date, excluding the current month.

**17. YTD REVENUE.** This is the total electric revenue charged on your account for the current calendar year to date, excluding the current month.

**18. METER NUMBER.** This is the identification number of the kilowatt hour meter on your premises for your particular account.

**19. CURRENT DUE.** This is the amount due for the current month's electrical service provided to you.

**20. PAST DUE.** Includes outstanding amounts that have become delinquent from prior billing.

**21. TOTAL DUE.** This is the total outstanding balance on your electric account. IREA billing statements are processed and mailed on the fourth working day after the meter is read and are due 14 days after the statement date. Your payments are then expected on or before the date noted on the statement. After this point the bill becomes delinquent.

**22. ACCOUNT NUMBER.** This is the account number for the particular service for which you are being billed. Should you ever have to contact IREA with billing questions, be sure to have this number handy.

**23. CYCLE BILLING CODE.** Codes A-T correspond to one of 20 meter reading cycle days each month.

**24. AMOUNT PAID.** The amount of payment being submitted should be indicated on this line in order to ensure proper credit to your account.

**25. TELEPHONE NUMBER.** Please insert your daytime and nighttime phone numbers (for our records only) in the space provided.

**26. PLEASE INDICATE ADDRESS CHANGE HERE.** Three lines are made available for you to indicate a new billing address as needed.

**27. SERVICE ADDRESS.** This address shows the actual location of electric service (rather than the billing address).

# Rights-of-Way, Easements and Access

## Types of Easements

The Association generally uses three types of easements:

1. A platted/dedicated easement is provided to the Association by virtue of a dedication statement for every platted subdivision. A 5-foot side lot and 7-foot rear lot easement are typical platted easements. However, if the subdivision is served by overhead lines, a 20-foot easement is necessary at angled or dead-ended lot lines for guying and anchoring only.

2. The Association requires the customer to grant, at no cost to the Association, easements for power lines and any associated equipment before any part of an electrical installation is energized. In the event the Association has to cross property other than that of the customer requesting service, the requesting customer may be asked to obtain all easements needed.

3. Restrictive easements/utility right-of-way generally contain high voltage transmission lines and substation equipment. Very strict requirements for the use of restrictive easements apply. Any use of this type of easement must be approved by the Association's Engineering Department.

## General Restriction on Easements/ Right-of-Way

To comply with N.E.S.C. requirements, easements and right-of-way grades cannot be changed more than 6 inches by excavation or filling without prior written approval of all utility companies involved. Full cost of any necessary alteration or relocation of utility lines will be borne by the customer requesting the change.

Fences and landscaping may be installed on utility easements, except where such fences would prevent access to utility lines or conflict with utility equipment. Other permanent structures or buildings are not allowed within the utility easement.

# Landscaping

Although permanent structures cannot be constructed on utility easements, landscaping within an easement is quite permissible. A minimum clearance is required around all vaults and padmounted equipment. A distance of 8 feet must be kept clear in front of all service doors and at least 2 feet from the equipment pad left clear on all sides. **Call the Utility Notification Center, toll-free, 1-800-922-1987, prior to digging.**

Trees should be planted far enough away from padmounted equipment so that, at maturity, overhanging branches won't obstruct a crane setting or removing equipment. It is best to select trees with supple branches that can be tied back without danger of breaking.

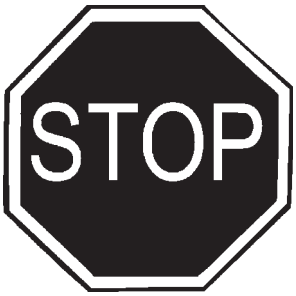
Responsibility for upkeep and any landscaping maintenance in a utility easement is borne by the property owner/customer.

*Homeowner's fence blocks access to pad-mounted facilities*

Consumers should carefully plan their landscaping so that, as it grows, it does not obscure electrical facilities. Problems are created for repair crews when homeowners plant small shrubbery which grows to completely cover transformer boxes, etc. Line crews have actually seen fences built so close to the doors of a transformer box (see photo) that the doors could not be opened without taking down the fence. In the event a fence must be removed by the Association to repair or maintain electrical facilities, reasonable effort will be made to replace fencing when repairs are completed.

# Locates For Underground Utilities

Grading or excavation work should not be started until an underground facilities' location has been completed. Contact the Utility Notification Center at 1-800-922-1987, **before** you dig. Trained personnel will locate underground electric facilities at no cost.




**CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!**
**1-800-922-1987**

*To have you electric bill payment automatically deducted from your bank account, just fill in this form, cut along the dotted line, and return to the address below.*

Intermountain Rural Electric Association
5496 North U.S. Highway 85, Sedalia, CO 80135

## Automatic Payment Authorization

I hereby authorize Intermountain Rural Electric Association to initiate debit entries by electronic means to my account at _____ Bank. This authorization shall remain in effect until both Intermountain Rural Electric Association and the Bank have received written notification from the undersigned to terminate this agreement.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

IREA Account # | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | | |

Please list other IREA account # (if applicable)

| 0 | 0 | | | | | | | | |

| 0 | 0 | | | | | | | | |

Please include a voided check with this form.

Bank Routing number: | | | | | | | | | |

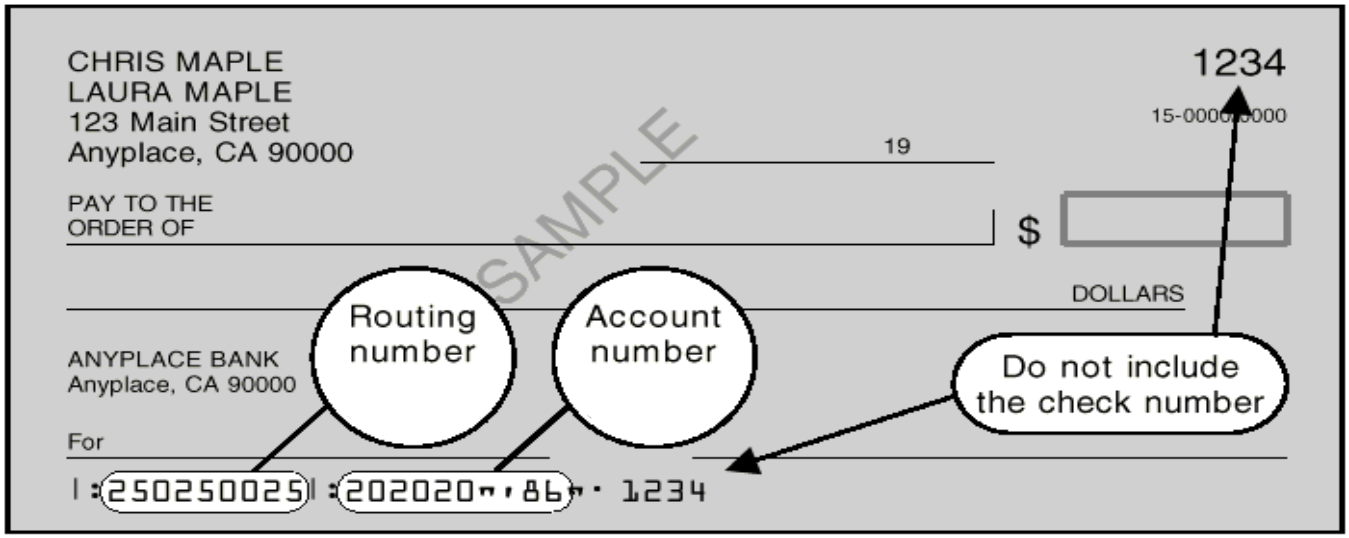
Bank Account number: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

☐ Checking ☐ Savings

Signature _____

Date _____

Sample Check




Note: The routing and account numbers may be in different places on your check.

# APPLIANCE ENERGY USE

This table lists common household appliances, their average wattage, the national average usage and the average cost to operate that appliance for one month. The purpose of this table is to point out to you, the Intermountain member-consumer, how your home uses electricity.

It should be emphasized that these are only national averages. Individual households can and do vary widely depending on the efforts made in each home to save money by conserving electricity.

| | | Average Wattage | Average Hours Used per Month | Approx. KWH Used per Month | Average Cost per Month at 8.0¢ per KWH |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **FOOD PREPARATION** | Blender | 386 | 3 | 1.3 | $.10 |
| | Counter Top Oven/Broiler | 1,436 | 6 | 8.5 | .68 |
| | Coffee Maker | 894 | 10 | 9 | .72 |
| | Dishwasher | 1,201 | 25 | 30 | 2.40 |
| | Frying Pan | 1,196 | 13 | 15.5 | 1.24 |
| | Hot Plate | 1,257 | 6 | 7.5 | .60 |
| | Mixer | 127 | 8.5 | 1 | .08 |
| | Microwave Oven | 1,450 | 11 | 16 | 1.28 |
| | Range with Oven | 12,200 | 8 | 98 | 7.84 |
| | with self-cleaning oven | 13,200 | 8.25 | 100 | 8.00 |
| | Toaster | 1,246 | 3 | 3 | .24 |
| | Trash Compactor | 400 | 1 | 4 | .32 |
| | Waffle Maker | 1,116 | 1.5 | 2 | .16 |
| | Waste Disposal | 445 | 6 | 2.5 | .20 |
| **FOOD PRESERVATION** | Freezer (15 cu.ft.) | 341 | 292 | 100 | 8.00 |
| | Freezer (frost free 15 cu. ft.) | 440 | 333 | 147 | 11.76 |
| | Refrigerator/Freezer (14 cu. ft.) | 326 | 291 | 95 | 7.60 |
| | Refrigerator/Freezer (frost free 14 cu. ft.) | 615 | 248 | 152 | 12.16 |
| **COMFORT CONDITIONING** | Air Conditioner (room) | 860 | 360 | 309 | 24.72 |
| | Electric Blanket | 177 | 69 | 12 | .96 |
| | Dehumidifier | 207 | 244 | 63 | 5.04 |
| | Fan (window) | 200 | 141 | 28 | 2.24 |
| | Heater (portable) | 1,322 | 45 | 59 | 4.72 |
| | Heating Pad | 65 | 13 | 1 | .08 |
| | Humidifier | 177 - 1500 | Varies | Varies | 3.28 - 85.00 |
| | Lights (small home) | 1,000 | Varies | 100 | 8.00 |
| | Lights (large home) | 4,000 | Varies | 200 | 16.00 |
| | Water Bed | 375 | Varies | 125 | 10.00 |
| **HEALTH AND BEAUTY** | Hair Dryer | 1,000 | 3 | 3.0 | .24 |
| | Electric Razor | 14 | 10 | .2 | .02 |
| **LAUNDRY** | Clothes Dryer | 4,856 | 17 | 83 | 6.64 |
| | Iron (hand) | 1,008 | 12 | 12 | .96 |
| | Washing Machine (non-automatic) | 286 | 22 | 6 | .48 |
| | Washing Machine (automatic) | 512 | 17 | 9 | .72 |
| | Water Heater (quick recovery) | 4,474 | 90 | 401 | 32.08 |
| **HOME ENTERTAINMENT** | Radio | 71 | 100 | 7 | .56 |
| | Radio/Record Player | 109 | 83 | 9 | .72 |
| | Television, bl. & wh./tube type | 160 | 182 | 29 | 2.32 |
| | solid state | 55 | 181 | 10 | .80 |
| | color tube type | 300 | 183 | 55 | 4.40 |
| | solid state | 200 | 183 | 37 | 2.96 |
| **HOUSEWARES** | Clock | 2 | 720 | 1.5 | .12 |
| | Sewing Machine | 75 | 12 | 1 | .08 |
| | Vacuum Cleaner | 630 | 6 | 4 | .32 |

# FURTHER INFORMATION

**IREA MAIN OFFICE**
5496 North U.S. Highway 85
P.O. Drawer A
Sedalia, Colorado 80135
Phone: 303-688-3100
or toll-free
**1-800-332-9540**

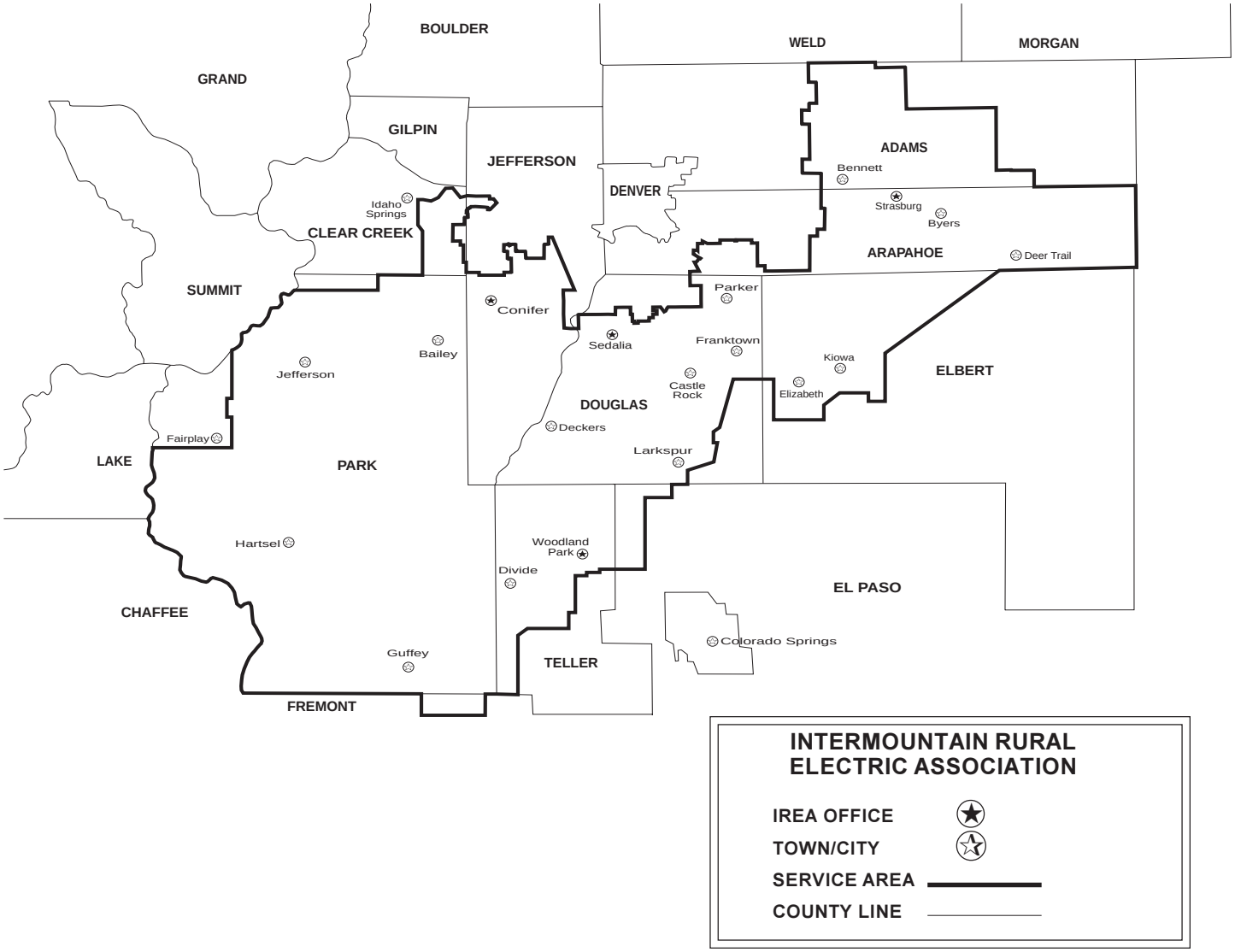
**IREA DISTRICT OFFICES**
(Conifer Office)
13404 Old U.S. Highway 285
P.O. Box 117
Conifer, Colorado 80433
Phone: 303-674-6879

(Strasburg Office)
Colfax and Main
P.O. Box 495
Strasburg, Colorado 80136
Phone: 303-622-9231

(Woodland Park Office)
800 North Highway 67
P.O. Box 178
Woodland Park, Colorado 80863
Phone: 719-687-9277

All offices of Intermountain REA are open from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday, for all regular Association business.

# IREA SERVICE AREA




**IREA service is available in a ten county area as indicated in the map above.**

Revised 2003