

HIGH PLAINS POWER CURRENT



The Future is Bright!

MARCH IS NATIONAL AGRICULTURE MONTH

National Agriculture Month is celebrated each March, recognizing the vital role that agriculture plays across the country and in our local communities. Some of the biggest crops in Wyoming are hay, sugar beets, barley and wheat. Agriculture contributes more than a billion dollars to the state economy, according to the Wyoming Department of Agriculture, all while preserving the open spaces, and culture that make Wyoming great.



HPP Power Provider Working to Restructure Rate at FERC

High Plains Power's Generation and Transmission cooperative is regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). They go through FERC for approval to change rate structure or set new rates. Currently they have submitted changes to their rate, and FERC has sent their request back, asking for more detailed information. HPP is actively engaged in the process and we have contested components of the rate filing which, if successful, will benefit our members. Currently, we are waiting to see if the rate is approved and then we will examine how this will effect us in the future.

SPICY PRETZELS

Recipe

- 20 oz bag pretzels
- 1 tsp. garlic salt
- 1c Olive Oil
- 1 tsp cayenne pepper
- 1 pkg ranch dressing mix

Mix all ingredients, except pretzels. Pour pretzels in a large bowl; pour seasoning mixture over pretzels, toss gently. Spread pretzels on cookie sheet. Bake at 250 degrees for 75 minutes, stirring a couple of times during baking.



PHOTO CREDIT: LORI KOLKMAN - RAMSHORN PEAK

Got a picture scenic picture of a place on our Grid? Email us at customerservice@highplainspower.org to have your photo added to our monthly newsletter!



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PHOTO CREDIT: ZAREESHA NORMANLEIER

Not Just For Outages

Line crews are always available on rotation, in case of an outage. But outages are not the only work that they do. High Plains Power has work plans in place for every year, focusing on new service, service upgrades and system maintenance.

If you see our trucks in Kinnear, our project changing out poles has begun.

STAKERS TALK ABOUT RIGHT OF WAY PROCESS

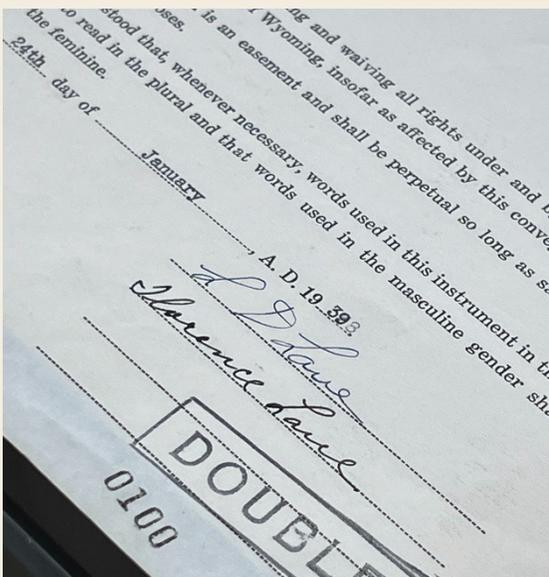
When purchasing a new property that may not have existing electrical infrastructure, High Plains Power (HPP) may need to get a Right Of Way (ROW) in order to bring power to the property.

The HPP staking department is responsible for getting this process started. Most of the time the ROW will consist of a private easement with one or more landowners. Stakers research existing ROWs, and they apply for county and irrigation district permits to cross roads or canals, and WYDOT permits for anything in the highway corridor.

“We are notaries, so we can collect signatures on the Right of Ways, as needed,” says Josh McFarland. “When a member requests a new service, we do the research and create the right of way along with the service contract and staking.”

The ROW stays with the land and is recorded at the county clerk’s office. If multiple landowners are involved in the ROW process, the stakers will create the paperwork, and the member is responsible for completing the paperwork and submitting it to HPP.

The timeline for completion of a ROW depends on the parties involved. The single private easement is the easiest to accomplish. If a ROW is required across state, federal or tribal lands, the process takes longer to complete depending on mandates, environmental study requirements and organizational approval of the ROW. Members will rarely have to deal with multiple agencies for approval, however, the more individuals or entities involved could increase the time to process the right of way.



HPP has ROWs dating back to the 1930s.



Pictured above is Corey Vogelsang researching ROW history at HPP Headquarters in Riverton.



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