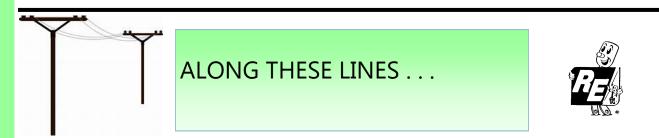


P.O. BOX 386, HYSHAM, MT 59038



MYEC UPDATING TO AMR METERS

It has been in the works for a while, and now it is finally starting to happen! In late February the linemen began replacing irrigation meters in the Hysham area from regular electric meters to AMR (Automated Meter Reading) meters—also called smart meters.

A smart meter works exactly like a traditional meter in that it measures, monitors, and records your energy consumption. However, there is one big difference. Rather than requiring a meter reader to check the usage, this electric meter relays your consumption information directly to the utility operator, as it is a digital device with a communication module.

Smart metering offers potential benefits to our members. These include:

- \Rightarrow An end to estimated bills
- \Rightarrow A tool to help members better manage their electrical usages
- ⇒ MYEC can use the real-time data from smart meters' measurements related to current, voltage, and power factor to detect system disruptions more quickly

It is MYEC's goal to change out the meters on one to two substations each year starting with the Hysham and Sanders substations this year.



National Lineman Appreciation Day - April 18, 2023

MID-YELLOWSTONE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

NUMBERS ARE

IMPORTANT!!

bers are very important to MYEC. When we need to contact you

planned outages, or 10

to have a current phone number we can reach

If you changed from having a home phone to having just a cell

changed your number,

please call the MYEC office to let us know.

minutes ahead of an unexpected planned outage, it is necessary

ahead of time for

phone, or if you

vou at.

Home phone numbers, and/or cell phone num-

Your Cooperative will read meters this month.

Take a break!



The meter reading booklets will be mailed out next month. If we miss you, let us know!

WHAT IS REALLY GOING ON BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

It's a common misconception that closing off some rooms in your home will reduce the amount of space you need to heat or cool, thus lowering your energy costs. In reality, closing doors and vents in unused rooms can actually increase your energy use.

Heating and cooling systems are designed for balance, so that the amount of air returned to the air handling unit is roughly equal to the volume delivered through the supply vents in each room. When doors are closed, room air pressure increases. The extra pressure pushes air out through any openings in walls or windows. Rooms with closed doors can leak air in increased amounts.

The air that escapes from the room must be replaced, increasing the amount of air being drawn and the load on your heating and cooling system. Also, the increased duct pressure results in lower air flow with fixed-speed blowers and increased energy use with variable-speed blowers. So, although shutting doors may sometimes be necessary for privacy or a little quiet time, it's not a good way to reduce your energy bills.

You still have a number of good options when it comes to improving home energy efficiency and comfort:

- Hire a qualified professional to inspect and clean your heating and cooling system at least once a year.
- Make sure that all supply and return air vents are open and free of obstructions, such as rugs or furniture.
- Check exterior doors and windows for gaps or air leaks and seal with weatherstripping or caulk.
- Ensure that your walls and attic are properly insulated for your local climate. A qualified insulation contractor or energy auditor can inspect your home and tell you whether you need to add insulation.

If your heating or cooling system is older or in need of repair, consider replacing it with a new ENERGY STAR® system.

APRIL 2023