



ALONG THESE LINES . . .



COVID-19 EMERGENCY ENERGY ASSISTANCE

MYEC has received notice from the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services that the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) has received an additional allocation of funds through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. The funds will be used to prevent, prepare for, or respond to the impacts of COVID-19.

As of May 1, 2020 applicants can apply for COVID-19 Emergency Energy Assistance. The assistance benefit amount will be either \$250 or \$500 depending on the household's poverty level.

- \$500 for Percent of Poverty 0 to 75%
- \$250 for Percent of Poverty 76% to 150%

For more information contact Action for Eastern Montana at 1-800-277-0703.

METER READING BOOKLETS

Meter reading booklets were mailed out in May. Please let us know if you didn't receive one, but would like to have one. Also, let us know if you are now entering your meter reading on-line and no longer need to have a booklet. We will then take you off of the list for next year. Thank you.



This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

The following essay, written by Daniel Hopf, a Hysham High School sophomore, was selected by a cooperative committee as the winner in this spring's "Youth to Washington" contest. Unfortunately because of the Covid-19 outbreak, the Youth to Washington tour has been cancelled for this year. He may participate in 2021. Daniel's essay is reprinted for your enjoyment.

An Electric Development

The 21st Century: The century of knowledge and gains in wisdom. From working on the farm by hand to working it with high tech machinery, from the Pony Express to emailing on phones, and from encyclopedias to the fast-as light internet search, our world is powered by electricity. This industry has become more advanced over the years and continues

to grow and grow.

Electricity has helped the economy and our personal lives in many ways. Social media and the internet are pretty much the base of everybody's lives. People use it for searching up questions, watching videos, calculating problems, accessing social accounts, and many applications. Electricity powers our homes and even makes it possible for us to get clean

water for us at our homes. It is also used for things like our vehicles or ATVs.

Electricity can improve our economy by simply making it easier to work and trade. It helps us keep a more accurate record of our taxes and paperwork; we can use it to save important files on our computers, and it can also help us know what's going on with the everyday lives. Sure, electricity isn't what we actually use to see these things, but it is the power source to it, so that means that it is what we use to accomplish all of these everyday lives.

If there weren't electricity, we wouldn't have as much knowledge, wouldn't have a very strong military and government, and we wouldn't even have waffles. Yes, waffles: The breakfast we all like to eat wouldn't be cooked with the little things that hold the butter and syrup because we need an appliance and plug-in to cook these. We'd be stuck with

pancakes, and that's boring.

As a student in high school, I use electricity quite a bit. It powers my phone, television, and pickup with batteries that supply the source. I use all of the things listed pretty much every day of the year pretty much six hours a day. Sure, it may sound like a lot, but if we look at it by an American viewpoint, I'm under average.

The average American teen usually spends nine hours on their phones according to Common Sense Media. That means over a third of their day they are using their phone. If they spend that much time with one electrical device, they likely spend a humongous

amount using other electrical devices or equipment.

The majority of our food is handled, packaged, processed, refrigerated, and even cooked with electrical powered devices. Our water is heated; our heat and AC provide comfort. We live off electricity. It helps us get things done efficiently and effectively. Roughly 7.5 billion people on this planet today, we have to get a lot of people fed and we also need to get a lot of people to use the electrical devices so that there is a guaranteed supply of food for people no matter what.

Electricity doesn't only provide comfort, but it has also saved many people's lives. The lights on our car have probably prevented us from multiple accidents, and the same is true for the electrical devices doctors use. Doctors use machines that would help people in many ways like breathing issues or heart disease. They also use electricity for last hope

shock which basically shocks the person to have the chance of reviving them.

The world needs electricity in order to survive. It keeps us balanced on our feet and keeps us going in life. From a simple light bulb to a whole electric transmitter, these are what makes up majority of life today. Developing nations would benefit from all these advances that we enjoy and depend on, and it would make the lives of their citizens so much better. Nations have come so far in their electrical advancements, and the future is bright if those advancements continue.

> "Neighbors helping neighbors. That's the electric cooperative tradition." ...Glenn English, CEO, NRECA