



"Lower Valley is My Energy Cooperative."

Dawn Loveland / Euro

ETNA, WYOMING



Your Cooperative Newsletter • Winter 2009

Natural Gas Is Flowing!

The 50-mile natural gas pipeline project from Big Piney to our Jackson office, which we began planning a handful of years ago, is officially finished! Construction began before the snow flew in the spring of 2008, and the final touches (such as the electrical and automation elements) on the system were set in January. Natural gas is officially flowing now through the 6-inch pipeline, and will increase the level of safety and reliability to the natural gas distribution system. In addition, the new pipeline will remove over 500+ delivery tanker trucks off the road each year — and at peak in the winter that equates to 5 trucks a day into the Jackson facility! The existing three storage tanks at the Jackson facility will

remain onsite for backup purposes for the immediate future.

Swift Creek Hydro Project — Almost There

The first phase of the 2-year Swift Creek Hydro Project to the east of the Town of Afton is nearly finished, with an expected completion date of the end of March. Construction of the new penstock hydropower system, along with refurbishing the reservoir and power station, are complete. The Italian generator is now stateside along with the Canadian turbine — we expect to receive that equipment and install it in February. Concerning the Lower Swift Creek project, planning and ordering has begun. The license for exemption for the Town of Afton Culinary Water System Hydroelectric Project has been sent to FERC and is awaiting letters

from the Fish and Wildlife and Game and Fish regarding processing fees for reviewing the application.

BIG Propane and Natural Gas Rate Decreases!

The Wyoming Public Service Commission approved in December our requests for rate decreases in both our natural gas and propane fuels! The rate decreases were filed in November and took effect after the middle of December. Both fuels are rate pass-throughs and directly reflect a decrease in wholesale prices that we are passing along to our members. The rate changes reflect almost a 22% decrease in natural gas prices and, with the 4 propane rates, an average of almost 40% in decreases.



Representatives from the US Forest Service, Jackson Town Council and Teton County Commissioners attended the ribbon cutting, along with Jackson Mayor Mark Barron and the LVE Board of Directors.

Visit LVEnergy.com for more information!



Dean Lewis, LVE Board Chairman (on behalf of Board of Directors), and LVE's Bonneville Power Administration Account Executive Larry King, signing 20 year power contract.

20-Year BPA Contract Signed

During the November Board of Directors meeting, Dean Lewis as Chairman of the Board, and on behalf of Lower Valley Energy, officially signed a 20-year power supply contract with Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). In essence, the contract guarantees us a base amount of power from the federal power supplier at a competitively low rate, and allows us to buy incremental power (but at an increased rate). As part of our long-term energy evaluation, however, we are still researching and evaluating other power options in regards to the needs of the growth of our system.

Heating Assistance

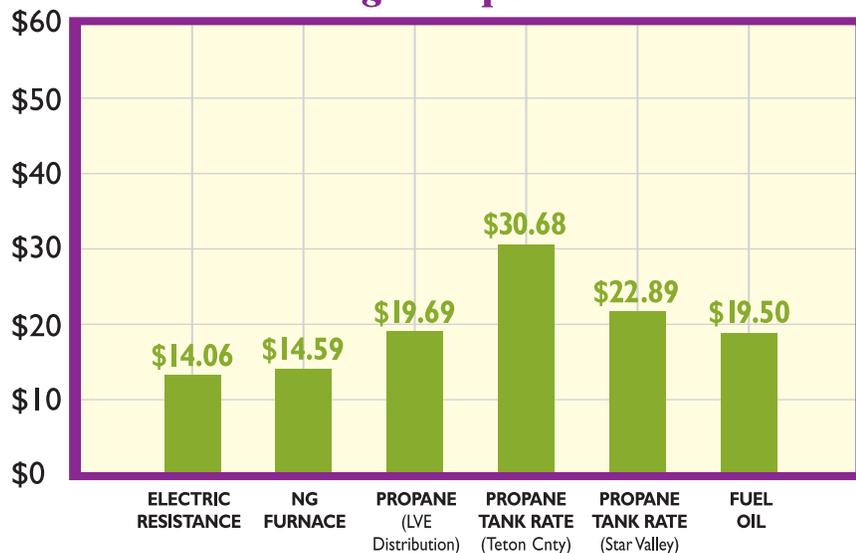
Having trouble paying a bill? There are several local and statewide bill assistance programs you should be aware of — these programs do overlap and in some cases cover expenses beyond energy bills.



LIEAP The Low Income Energy Assistance Program

Based on household size, household income and the type of fuel used as the primary heating source. For further questions please contact LIEAP at 1-800-246-4221.

Heating Cost per MMBTU



ORU Operation Round-Up

Although funded by Lower Valley Energy customers, ORU is administered by an independent board of directors to provide assistance with energy for local families and individuals needing assistance.

Energy Share

A private, statewide non-profit organization established to assist people in hardship circumstances with energy-related emergencies. For more information please contact the Community Resource Center at 307-739-4500.

If you have any questions about the above programs you can call our Customer Credit Coordinator at 733-2446 or 885-3175.

Visit
www.LVEnergy.com
for the full story!

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The Newsletter From
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