

July 2023 - Issue 269



# Battle River POWER COOP

MEMBER OWNED • COMMUNITY POWERED

# WIN A MEAL TO THE FIELD



Battle River Power Coop is pleased to announce our Meal to the Field Contest for 2023. Let us help make a harvesting day a little easier by delivering a meal right to your field.

## Meal to the Field Contest Entry Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Account #: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

**How to enter:** Mail the form to: Box 1420, Camrose, AB T4V 1X3 (Attention: Nansee)  
**Complete fillable form on website:** [www.brpower.coop/our-community/meal-to-the-field/](http://www.brpower.coop/our-community/meal-to-the-field/)  
**Fax to:** 780.672.7969  
**Scan and email to:** [nansee.hughes@brpower.coop](mailto:nansee.hughes@brpower.coop)  
**Drop off** at the office – we'd love to see you!

By submitting this entry you agree to the contest rules as follows:

- I. Contest is open to members in good standing of Battle River Power Coop
- II. Limited to one entry per member
- III. By entering, the winner agrees to the use of their name, address and photo by Battle River Power Coop in various communication channels without compensation

Entering the contest is easy – complete and submit the entry form above or from our website: [www.brpower.coop/our-community/meal-to-the-field/](http://www.brpower.coop/our-community/meal-to-the-field/). Contest includes 10 Meals to the Field for six people each. Delivery times are Monday-Friday: late morning to mid-afternoon.

**Deadline is Friday, September 1, 2023 – so don't delay – enter NOW!**

Box 1420 Camrose, AB T4V 1X3 North of Junction, Highways 13 & 21

[www.brpower.coop](http://www.brpower.coop) | [brpc@brpower.coop](mailto:brpc@brpower.coop)

24 Hour Toll-free: 1.877.428.3972 | Local: 780.672.7738 | Fax: 780.672.7969

# Breaking Down your Monthly Bill

When you receive your energy bill in Alberta, you may come across several charges that contribute to the total amount. To help you better understand your Battle River Power Coop bill, let's break down the common charges you may encounter.

## 1. Energy Charges

Energy charges, also known as consumption charges, reflect the cost of the electricity you have used during the billing period. These charges are calculated based on the amount of energy measured in kilowatt-hours (kWh) for electricity.

Usage is calculated at the applicable energy rate; either an Energy Contract or the Regulated Rate Option (RRO). While a contract rate is stable each month the RRO varies from month to month. The RRO is purchased on the open market and is subject to supply, demand, weather, and other influences.

## 2. Administration Charges

Administration charges cover the costs associated with the administrative tasks and customer services provided by your energy provider. These charges include activities such as maintaining customer accounts, processing payments, and handling customer inquiries. This charge makes it so that we can have a real, local person answering all our members questions and concerns. Administration charges are typically fixed amounts added to your bill.

## 3. Distribution Tariff

The Distribution Tariff is related to the delivery of electricity from the distribution station to your home or business. These charges cover the costs of operating and maintaining the local distribution infrastructure, including power lines, poles, and meters. Distribution Tariffs are established annually by the Board of Directors. For breakers sized under 25 kVA, there is a fixed monthly fee. Breakers over 25 kVA include a consumption based variable and are reset monthly.

## 4. Transmission Charges

Transmission charges apply to the bulk transportation of electricity from generation facilities to the distribution system. These charges cover the costs associated with operating and maintaining the high-voltage transmission infrastructure, including power lines, transformers, and substations. Transmission charges are determined by the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) and are included in your energy bill. This amount is a "flow through," all funds collected are remitted to FortisAlberta, the Load Settlement Agent, for processing.

## 5. Load Settlement Charges


This is the fee charged by FortisAlberta, the Load Settlement Agent. The load settlement accounts for the hourly energy consumed by end-users of each retailer, including Battle River Power Coop. No portion of this fee accrues to the Coop.

## 6. Goods and Services Tax (GST)

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) is a federal tax levied on most goods and services in Canada, including energy. The GST is applied to your energy bill, and it is calculated at 5% of the total bill amount.

### YOUR CHARGES

Understanding these charges on your energy bill can help you make sense of your energy costs and identify areas where you can potentially save money. If you have any specific questions or concerns about your energy bill, please contact Battle River Power Coop at 1.877.428.3972.



P.O. Box 1420  
CAMROSE, AB T4V 1X3  
GST# 127642569RT

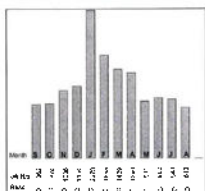
**BILLING & CUSTOMER CARE HOURS**  
PLEASE CALL BATTLE RIVER POWER COOP  
Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM  
Toll Free: 1.877.428.3972  
Weekends: 1.780.672.7733 Fax: 1.403.672.8892  
STAFF: 2010-01-01  
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**BILLING & CUSTOMER CARE HOURS**  
PLEASE CALL 1.877.428.3972  
**POWER OUTAGE & DIAL IN HRS**  
PLEASE CALL AT 03 1 800 628 2349  
**THE PRO-RATE FOR THIS**  
INVOICE IS 000.000000

SPINNER ID	METER CODE	BILL TYPE	METER READING	PREVIOUS	KWH	RETTN	MULTIPLE	ENERGY USED	SPIN	CAPACITY
Aug 08/17			654818	622710	32108			873.00		

**PREVIOUS BALANCE:**  
Payment Thank You Jun 31/17  
Adjustments  
Penalty Amount  
Balance Forward

**CURRENT CHARGES:**  
ENERGY  
ADMINISTRATION  
DISTRIBUTION  
TRANSMISSION 0.0447/kWh  
LOAD SETTLEMENT  
GST # 127642569RT



**TOTAL CURRENT CHARGES:**

PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED IN OUR OFFICE BY THE DUE DATE TO AVOID LATE PENALTIES & FEES.

ACCOUNT #	SPINNOFF TO	METER READING
		CURRENT PREVIOUS

**REMITTANCE PORTION:**

AFTER DUE DATE	5% DUE DATE	NOV DUE DATE
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Battle River Power Coop  
P.O. Box 1420  
CAMROSE, AB T4V 1X3

AMOUNT PAID	AFTER DUE DATE	5% DUE DATE	NOV DUE DATE
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# New MVP Business



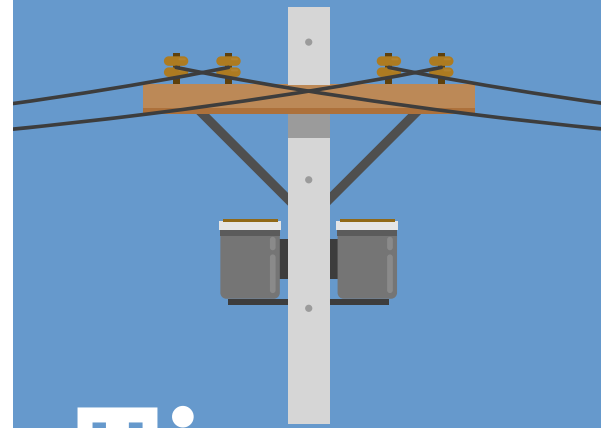
Battle River Power Coop is proud to support local businesses through our Member Value Program (MVP)!

This month's MVP business spotlight is Lori's Little Luxuries in Alix.

Lori's Little Luxuries offers 15% off spa service, 50% off 5th laser treatment to members who show their MVP Card.

Visit them today and make sure to mention you are a member of Battle River Power Coop!

Thank you to all the businesses who have offered savings to our members! Keep an eye on our website under Community as we continue to add businesses as they join.



## Tips from the Line

Do you have Call Control setup on your phone? You might be missing important information from Battle River Power Coop!

Add our number to your safe calls list by contacting your service provider. Unsure how? Check with your phone provider or check our social media pages to find links to instructions.

### For the 2023/24 year the Board of Directors for Battle River Power Coop are as follows:

Chairman, Dan Astner

Vice Chairman, Malcolm Barr

#### Directors (alphabetical by last name):

Leonard Blumenthal

Kevin Mathieu

Kaitlyn Brown

James Matthews

Bruce Carlson

Terry Pederson

Tim Coates

Darrin Rasmuson

Darcy Doblanko

David Thomas

Neil Fenske

John Winnick

Arnold Hanson



Additional information on Directors can be found at [www.brpower.coop](http://www.brpower.coop)  
> About Us > Board of Directors.

# Chief Executive Officer's Report to the Membership



Battle River Power Coop, an electric cooperative in Alberta, has been addressing the pressing concern of high energy costs over the past two years, particularly impacting rural communities. Leveraging its member ownership structure, the cooperative ensures low prices and invests in essential infrastructure to provide safe and reliable service to its members. With a focus on affordability, safety, and

reliability, Battle River Power Coop distinguishes itself and remains committed to investing in infrastructure and technology to offer the best and most cost-effective service.

In the past fiscal year, the cooperative witnessed a significant shift in its energy billing mix as many members opted for the Battle River Rural Energy Division fixed energy contract, moving away from the volatility of the Regulated Rate Option (RRO). Presently, over 55% of members have enrolled in this fixed energy contract. Although the future energy price trend remains uncertain, high energy costs are expected to remain an ongoing issue in 2023.

Notably, Regulated Rate Option members paid 18% less on average than the actual energy cost invoiced by AESO in 2022. The volatility of energy pricing from the previous year led to price spikes and unpredictability. However, in 2020, the Board of Directors' strategic approval of hedging enabled Battle River Power Coop to maintain liquidity and cost savings for the benefit of its members during uncertain times. The cooperative looks forward to the newly elected Provincial government's efforts to stabilize energy pricing and promote sustainability for all Rural Electrification Associations.

Battle River Power Coop faces challenges as it acknowledges the ongoing rise in materials, labor, and equipment costs. The pandemic's impact on long lead times and material scarcity has now transitioned into a competitive environment as utilities harden and modernize their electrical grids. Despite avoiding escalating distribution tariff increases for the last two years, the cooperative is compelled to implement a 6.5% tariff increase, effective from July 1, 2023, due to increasing cost pressures beyond its control.

Perspective-wise, even with this increase, the IOUs Farm distribution tariff rate remains about 115% higher on average than that of a Battle River Power Coop member, highlighting the advantages of membership with the cooperative.

In 2021, Battle River Power Coop expanded its services, providing distribution system operations to fellow Rural Electrification Associations (REAs) with shared cooperative principles. Today, the cooperative serves an additional 2,600 REA members, achieving economies of scale that ensure affordability and reliability.

The cooperative acknowledges the challenges of new ventures and applauds its team's efforts in overcoming hurdles and learning from experiences. The dedicated staff who keep the lights on and the doors open are highly appreciated for their hard work.

As the Board of Directors continues to unlock Battle River Power Coop's true value, members can expect their return on investment to grow. Gratitude is expressed to the Chairman and the Board of Directors for their unwavering commitment and support in making the cooperative the best it can be for the staff and membership.

Despite facing tumultuous times, Battle River Power Coop remains dedicated to doing its best within the prevailing circumstances. With an unwavering focus on member ownership, accountability, and affordability, the cooperative stands as the smart choice for navigating the waves of affordability in the Alberta energy market.

## REGULATED RATE OPTION



*The RRO may increase or decrease from month to month as it is priced on the open market and subject to many factors relating to supply and demand. It is not a 'regulated' rate, rather it is a default rate. If you do not have an energy contract, then you are on the RRO.*

*For July 2023, the RRO is priced at \$0.28826 per kWh, reflected on your enclosed blue bill. For August 2023, the REA monthly rate as calculated under the RRO regulation is \$0.29476. Detailed information on the monthly RRO is available on: [www.brpower.coop](http://www.brpower.coop).*

**Members are free to purchase natural gas services or electricity services from a retailer of their choice. For a list of retailers, visit [ucahelps.alberta.ca](http://ucahelps.alberta.ca) or call 310-4822 (toll free in Alberta). Code of Conduct Regulation: Advertising Section 7(1).**

**BATTLE RIVER POWER COOP IS AVAILABLE FOR POWER TROUBLE CALLS 24/7/365 CALL TOLL-FREE: 1.877.428.3972**

