

## **Power Lines**

MARCH/APRIL 2014

# PRECorp wants your feedback through member surveys

By Kristin Kelly, PRECorp Marketing Communications Specialist

From visiting restaurants to buying cars, we often make decisions based on what other people think. Major or minor, our decisions are impacted by others opinions, and that's why we need your help.

When you sign up for a new service or report an outage, we want to know if you are satisfied with Powder River Energy Corporation. Because your opinion of us matters, you might be asked to participate in a telephone survey.

Touchstone Energy Services, in coordination with FGI Research, Inc. is conducting the telephone surveys for Powder River Energy. Professional telephone interviewers will identify themselves as calling on behalf of Powder River Energy Corporation. All telephone interviews will originate on caller IDs with a "919" area code.

These surveys will occur throughout the year. Telephone interviews will be made primarily on weeknights between 5:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. local time. Additional calling on Saturday may be instituted if necessary, but no surveys will be conducted on Sundays or holidays.

If they miss you, you will be given an opportunity to schedule an appointment to complete the interview at a time convenient to you. We'll keep the interviews short, but any feedback you provide is appreciated.

"Having real-time and instant feedback – both good and bad – helps us improve our member service," says Dolly Schloredt, PRECorp Sr. Vice President of Member Services. "The data will identify issues we need to address to better serve our membership."

# Cold often tied to high electricity use

By Tim Velder, PRECorp Marketing Communications

Using more electricity this winter? Increased usage of kilowatt hours presents itself in the form of a higher bill from Powder River Energy.

It may seem that you haven't done anything differently than last month or even last year. Maybe you haven't. So, what could be the reason for the increased usage? As you examine your bill and see higher usage, you are going back in time about 30 days to see what factors contributed to that higher usage.

The most obvious factor is the weather. This winter's cold spells

lasted several days at a time, when below-zero temperatures settled across the territory.

When this cold weather occurs, home heating works harder to keep up. Even when your thermostat is set at 62 degrees, a cold snap will cause it to work overtime.

When it's 30 degrees outside, your heating system uses a set amount of kilowatt hours to keep the inside temperature wherever you have it set.

When the temperature dips to zero degrees, it is trying to make up for

the 30-degree drop in outside temperature. That is a much larger gap to make up.

Factor in 20-below zero, and you have an even larger gap for the heating system to work against.

Another area to consider is your water heater. Whether it is gas or electric, the water heater's job is to heat incoming water to a set temperature. When the temperature of the incoming water gets colder, because of wintertime temperatures, the water heater has to work

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# PRECorp selling surplus vehicles through online eBay auctions

By Tim Velder, PRECorp Marketing Communications

Six retired PRECorp trucks and one trailer are on the auction block at special surplus equipment auctions on eBay.

These 10-day auctions will start at 8 p.m. MST on Friday, April 4, and close at 8 p.m. MST on Monday, April 14.

The auctions are being held on eBay to give all members a chance to bid, regardless of where they are located and because eBay auctions give more exposure for each unit to maximize the number of bidders.

#### The items on the auction block are:

- 3 2008 Ford F350 extended Cab and chassis
- 1 1986 Trailer, 8' x 20' with 4' dove tail, 5' ramps, tandem axle with dual wheels, and wood deck
- 1 2004 F550 extended cab and chassis
- 1 1997 Chevy one ton, straight cab with flat bed
- 1 1998 Chevy one ton, straight cab with flat bed

Details of each unit along with pictures will be on eBay at the start of the sale.

#### Notice to bidders:

Please obtain more information from eBay or e-mail fleet@precorp.coop. These are the only sources of information on these items. Please do not inquire with our offices or outposts because they do not have information on these vehicles.

#### To place a bid:

You do not need an eBay account if you are not bidding, but you must have an account and sign in if you want to bid.

How to access the PRECorp units on eBay:

- 1. Go to www.ebay.com/motors
- 2. Under "Find a car or truck," check "Used" then type in the zip code 82718. Hit enter.
- 3. You will see "Distance" on left hand sidebar under Cars & Trucks Finder. Put in 10 miles of 82718. Click on the "Go" button.
- 4. There are other sorting options available on this page.
- 5. Click on the unit if you are interested in placing a bid. Keep checking back to make sure you still have the high bid.
- 6. If you are looking for trailers, change pages by looking up "Other Vehicles & Trailers," follow same steps as did for refining search on vehicles.

Once the auction ends, eBay will send out a notification to the winning buyer and PRECorp. At that point, PRECorp will e-mail the buyer with information on how to make contact, payment, and where to pick up the unit

# High use...

from front page.

harder to heat up the colder water.

Also, if the water heater is positioned in a colder location, and isn't insulated well, it has to continually kick in to keep the water hot

There are a number of other areas we should think about when we have a high use concern. Did you install a new flat screen television? Hot tub? Additional space heaters? Host family and friends for a special event? Run the automatic garage door more often? Plug in your car? Use a stock tank heater?

If you know the cause of your high-use, but would like to even out the bills across the year, be sure to ask about PRECorp's Budget Billing program.

Under this program, eligible members can level out the peaks and valleys of seasonally affected electricity bills by converting them to a monthly payment based on the 12-month average of their service location.

To learn more about Budget Billing or to discuss a high-use concern, contact PRECorp Member Service at 1-800-442-3630.

### Scam alert:

In February, some local businesses received telephone calls from someone stating, "This is Powder River Energy and we are coming to shut off your power unless you pay us within 45 minutes". Thankfully, these members were knowledgeable and came down to our office in Sundance to inform us of what had happened. This is a very blatant scam to get your payment information.

If you receive a call of this nature, please notify PRECorp immediately at 1-800-442-3630.