



MIDSTATE CONNECTION

Office Hours: 7:00 am-5:30 pm, Monday-Thursday
Closed Fridays & Holidays

Business Hours: 541-536-2126
After Hours Outages: 800-752-5935

RATE INCREASE

Coming February 2024

On February 2024 billing statements, members will see the following changes to our rate schedule:

- Energy Charge rate increase of \$0.0095 per kilowatt-hour for all rate classes
(The Energy Charge is the price per kilowatt-hour of electricity you use)
- \$1.50 per month increase in Street Lighting
- \$1.00 per month increase in Yard/Security Lighting

Midstate's board of directors has approved these increases in response to the rising cost of wholesale power rates and to ensure the cooperative can continue to provide safe, reliable energy to our members.

The decision to raise member rates is not easy. This adjustment is necessary to ensure we can maintain the services our members have come to expect and support ongoing enhancements to our infrastructure.

In October, the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), our power supplier, increased their power service rates by 18%. We have also seen substantial price increases for essential equipment ranging from 50% to 100% for transformers, poles, wires, and more. The cost of shipping has gone up 100%. All of these factors have forced us to make difficult decisions regarding our rates.

Midstate Electric will continue to supply

electricity at cost. As a not-for-profit utility, our rates are based directly on what it costs to buy and deliver energy, and nothing more. This means that our rates will still rank among the lowest in the state.

Maintaining dependable service at an affordable price remains the cornerstone of a cooperative's business. We have a strong internal focus on containing costs and operating efficiently to control costs for our members.

We offer a variety of energy-saving programs to help you reduce your energy consumption and save you money. Contact our office to schedule a complimentary energy assessment of your home to see which program may work for you.

Energy assistance is also available for qualifying members through Deschutes County NeighborImpact (541-504-2155) and Klamath & Lake Community Action Services (541-882-3500).

Monthly kWh Usage Comparison Chart for Residential Members

Monthly kWh Usage	CURRENT RATE \$35 Facilities Charge \$0.0675/kWh	NEW RATE \$35 Facilities Charge \$0.0770/kWh	COST DIFFERENCE
800	\$89.00	\$96.60	\$7.60
1200	\$116.00	\$127.40	\$11.40
1600	\$143.00	\$158.20	\$15.20
2000	\$170.00	\$189.00	\$19.00

*This represents ONLY Single Phase Residential Members. The Energy Charge rates have increased for all rate classes.

We offer a variety of payment options to help with budgeting:

SmartHub

If you have a SmartHub account, you can monitor your energy usage through the member portal online or through our SmartHub app.

Prepaid Program

Choose your payment frequency and pay as you go. You can monitor your energy use and credit balance daily, weekly, or monthly to match your budget.

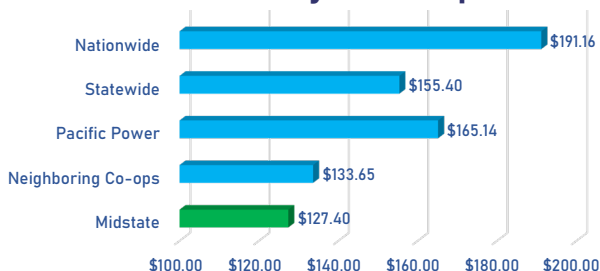
Budget Billing

Make even monthly payments to reduce the impact of seasonal factors that can affect your bill.

Auto-Pay

Have payments automatically posted to your credit or debit card or paid from your bank account.

Monthly Bill Comparison with Other Utilities



Despite this rate increase, Midstate is still competitive with our neighboring utilities, both cooperatives and investor-owned, and we are well below the national and statewide average.

For example, the chart to the left shows how a Midstate member using 1,200 kWh each month compares to neighbors who are served by other utilities.

WANT MORE INFORMATION?

Visit our website:

www.midstateelectric.coop

OR call the Midstate office:

541-536-2126

Let's get connected on social media so you'll never miss an update on MEC activities, programs, and contests.





Last Call for Washington, D.C.

Youth TOUR

Applications

We want to send two student delegates to represent Midstate Electric at the National Rural Electric Cooperative (NRECA) Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. on June 16-22, 2024.



America's electric cooperatives have been bringing young leaders from rural America to Washington, D.C. on the "Trip of a Lifetime" since the 1950's.

Tens of thousands of lives have been impacted and changed through this incredible program!

This all expenses-paid trip is a unique opportunity for high school sophomores or juniors in our service territory.

During the trip, students will tour museums, visit historic monuments, meet with elected officials, explore Capitol Hill, and learn about the impact electric cooperatives have on the communities they serve.

Students can apply on our website at <https://www.midstateelectric.coop/youth-tour>. Call 541-536-2126 option 5 for additional information.



SCAN TO APPLY NOW

The deadline to apply is Wednesday, January 31, 2024.

Board Districts 1, 2, and 8 Up for Election in 2024

Director positions on the Board of Midstate Electric Cooperative for Districts 1, 2, and 8 are up for election at the Annual Meeting on May 18, 2024. Candidates to represent those districts may be nominated for director by filing a petition signed by at least 15 members of the cooperative who reside in that district.

Cooperatives operate according to a core set of principles which make electric cooperatives different from other electric utilities. As stewards of the utility, board members base their decision-making on the seven cooperative principles:

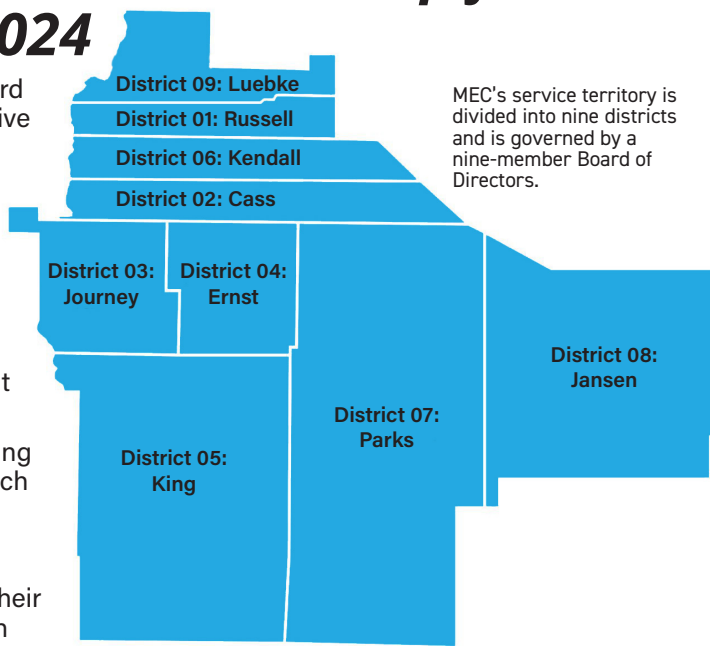
1. Voluntary and open membership
2. Democratic member control
3. Members' economic participation
4. Autonomy and independence
5. Education, training, and information
6. Cooperation among cooperatives
7. Concern for community

Being a member of a co-op with democratic member control simply means that our co-op is controlled by our member-owners and our member-elected board of directors.

Directors elected by our members represent those members and their interests as they are also residents and members themselves. Directors serve a three-year term with elections taking place during the annual meeting on a rotating basis. By accepting a seat on the board of directors, incumbents are expected to be able and available to perform all functions of the position. This includes regular attendance at board meetings, committee meetings, and other activities of MEC in which board members are expected to participate.

It is the responsibility and sole intent of the cooperative to serve the best interest of its members in the most efficient and effective manner. Our nine-member board of directors ensures that we are meeting our members' needs and complying with ethical and legal standards. Directors meet monthly and set policies, and review operations and financial reports of the cooperative.

Learn more about the three districts up for election this year:



MEC's service territory is divided into nine districts and is governed by a nine-member Board of Directors.

DISTRICT 1 (Fall River):

Current Director – Vic Russell

District 1 is described as: North boundary is Spring River Road and its extension east and west. West boundary is the Lane County and the Deschutes County line. South boundary is the south line of Township 20 South, which is about 1.5 miles north of the intersection of State Rec Road and Highway 97. East boundary is approximately eight miles east of Highway 97.

DISTRICT 2 (South La Pine):

Current Director – Ron Cass

District 2 is described as: North boundary is Burgess Road and its extension east and west. West boundary is the Lane County and the Deschutes County line. South boundary is the Deschutes County and Klamath County line. East boundary is eighteen miles east of Finley Butte.

DISTRICT 8 (Christmas Valley):

Current Director – Daniel Jansen

District 8 is described as: North boundary is approximately 24 miles north of the Christmas Valley Highway. West boundary extends due North from the centerline of the intersection of Oil Dry Road and the Christmas Valley Highway and due South down the centerline of the intersection of Oil Dry Road to Picture Rock Pass. Southern boundary is located approximately 10 miles south of the Christmas Valley Highway. East boundary extends to the eastern edge of Range 21.

Petitions may be obtained at MEC's office and must be filed on or before Thursday, March 7, 2024. For more information about the qualifications and duties of directors, call 541-536-2126, option 5.