

PURPOSE-DRIVEN RELIABILITY

BY TOM WALCH CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

For Grand Valley Power, great service begins with reliable service. That means keeping the lights on for our consumers. This sounds simple enough but limiting the number of power interruptions — and keeping them as brief as possible — requires the effective management of a multitude of risks.

Most of us are familiar with the challenges Mother Nature imposes on electric providers. Lightning strikes can damage transformers and insulators and cause power surges. Wind can make power lines gallop and trip breakers. In some instances, wind can even blow down power poles. Heavy snow and ice can also bring power lines down, a risk intensified when trees grow too close to our lines. Wildfires can cause big outages, as we experienced when the Pine Gulch Fire burned the Bookcliffs in 2020. Birds, snakes, and other various varmints cause outages when they get into transformers and substations.

Power outages can be man-made as well. Motor vehicles crashing into power poles was one of the biggest contributors to GVP's outage minutes last year. And it's not just cars and trucks. We have seen outages caused by airplanes and helicopters in our lines. A few weeks ago, a seemingly harmless mylar balloon from a nearby birthday party got tangled up in our lines and interrupted power. Criminal mischief and malicious acts contribute to the challenge as well, as when vandals use our transformers and lines for target practice.

Finally, power interruptions can result when distribution equipment is overloaded, faulty, or just worn out. With 10 substations where we take delivery from transmission lines, 1,700 miles of distribution lines, 27,500 poles, and 9,500 transformers, Grand Valley Power has tens of millions of

dollars of utility plant at risk. As you can see, there's a lot that can go wrong. What are we doing to manage the risk? Here are some examples:

- **Vegetation Management:** GVP manages more than 1,600 miles of right-of-way each year, on a three-year rotating schedule. Depending on the tree species, we may shorten that timeline to adequately meet our 15-foot clearance around power lines. Through 2021, outages due to trees in the line have decreased by 45% from the previous year.
- **Equipment Upgrades:** GVP has made significant investments to protect the grid against extreme weather and improve day-to-day reliability. We have invested in our distribution system to make it stronger, smarter and more resilient. Since 2018, major upgrade projects have included: expansion of the Orchard Mesa substation which increased capacity; replacement of aging circuits in Collbran, Whitewater, Fruita, North Grand Junction and Orchard Mesa; and installing 18,000 enhanced meters that enable us to identify weak points in our system and prevent power outages; these same meters help us detect and pinpoint outages faster, reducing restoration times.
- **Dedicated Line Patrol:** GVP conducts an annual visual inspection of our distribution system. The visual inspection each year looks for pole integrity and possible right-of-way encroachment. We also inspect for any tree growth which could possibly cause an outage. In 2021, our dedicated crew members traveled over 3,800 miles patrolling line. Over 2,000 poles were tested for integrity in 2020 and 2021.




TOM WALCH

How are we doing? Every year from 2016 through 2020, Grand Valley Power ranked in the top four of Colorado's 22 electric cooperatives for the fewest outage minutes. We don't have benchmarking data for 2021 yet, but we finished the year with the best reliability rating in our cooperative's history. One of the reliability ratings used in the industry is the System Average Interruption Duration Index, or SAIDI. The SAIDI average for all utilities across the country is around 120 minutes. This number, published by the U.S. Energy Information Administration, excludes outages related to major events. For Grand Valley Power, our 2021 SAIDI was 45 minutes — about 37% of the national average — and this number includes all outages. I anticipate that this will be one of the best numbers in the nation. Achievement of these results does not happen by accident or luck. We get these results because we are purpose driven to provide reliable electric service for Grand Valley Power consumers.

As the stockbrokers' fine print says, past performance does not guarantee future results. We cannot and will not rest on our reliability laurels. We will continue to make smart and necessary investments to minimize the inconvenience that power interruptions cause for our consumers. And while we can't eliminate all outages, when the lights go out, Grand Valley Power team members will do everything they can to get them back on safely and quickly.

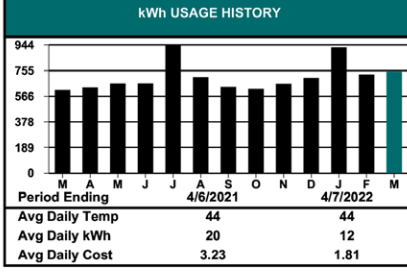
UNDERSTANDING YOUR BILL




845 22 Road
PO Box 190
Grand Junction CO 81502-0190
(970) 242-0040


1 Valued Member
123 Electric Lane
Grand Junction, CO 81505


2 kWh USAGE HISTORY



View or Pay on Website: www.gvp.org
Toll Free Pay By Phone 1-877-760-7435

3 

4 

5 

6 Regular

Account Number	Cycle	Service Location	Rate Description	Billing Date	Due By Date
0123456789	1	123 Electric Lane	GS-TOU	04/07/2022	04/18/2022

Meter	Reading Dates	Meter Readings	Multiplier	Energy kWh	Demand kW	Rate
	Begin	End				
555555555	03/01/2022	04/01/2022	1	585	10.768	OFF
	03/01/2022	04/01/2022		162	10.768	ON

Current Electric Charges	Calculations	Amount	Statement of Account	Amount
Grid Connectivity		30.00	Total Current Charges	111.93
Energy Usage Off Peak	585 kWh x 0.08950	52.36	Prior Balance	114.11
Energy Usage On Peak (4-9PM Daily)	162 kWh x 0.18250	29.57	Payment(s)	-114.11
Power Cost Adjustment	747 kWh x 0.00000	0.00	Total Balance Due	111.93
Total Electrical Charges		111.93		

BRIGHT IDEA

This is the hassle-free way to make sure your electric bill is paid. **Sign up for Auto Pay!** When you sign up for this service, your payment will be automatically deducted from your bank account, debit or credit card. Call 970-242-0040 to enroll.

Paid By Credit Card - Do Not Pay

Please detach and return bottom portion with payment.

Your tax-deductible donation to Energy Outreach Colorado helps income-limited Coloradans pay their home energy bills. To donate, please indicate the MONTHLY amount below. To discontinue your donations, please call 242-0040.

\$5.00 _____ \$10.00 _____ \$20.00 _____ Other _____

It's National Safe Digging Month!
Remember to Call 811 before you begin any digging projects, no matter how big or small.

Please do NOT fold or staple checks or stubs.


Account Number	Amount Due
	111.93
Due Date	04/18/2022
Credit Card Charged On	04/18/2022

Your Payment and any returned checks may be processed electronically.

Co-op Message

Read important messages about products, services, monthly happenings, notices and events.

GRAND VALLEY POWER 1
PO BOX 190
GRAND JUNCTION CO 81502-0190



Your monthly electric bill covers the various costs of supplying electricity safely and reliably to your home or business. It's important to understand the information on your bill, including charges, meter readings, dates and other account details. With all this information, it can be hard to decipher all the different items on your bill. With recent rate changes, Grand Valley Power wants to ensure its member bills are easy to understand.

The majority of Grand Valley Power's members recently moved to a Time-of-Use rate. Your bill has been updated to reflect the new rate structure. Let's dive into the most important items you'll see on your new bill.

To the left is a sample bill for the General-Service — Time-of-Use rate. Other rate classification example billing can be found online at gvp.org/understanding-your-bill.

1 Member contact(s) and billing address:

This section shows the owner listed on the account and the current billing address that we have on file.

2 Usage Graph :

This section shows members a 13-month energy usage history. It can help you review trends and evaluate the amount of energy you are using during specific months and time of year. More detailed graphics can be viewed online using your SmartHub account. Visit gvp.org/SmartHub to get started!

3 Account Number:

This is where your Grand Valley Power account number is located. You may need this for service requests, member programs and youth opportunities!

4 Service location:

This section indicates your current service address, which could be different than your billing address.

What's On Your Bill?

5 Rate Description:

Most members are classified as residential General Service — Time-of-Use (GS-TOU). Other rates listed could be Commercial Small Power —Demand (CSP-D) or Electric Vehicle — Time-of-Use (EV-TOU), for example.

6 Billing Date and Due By Date:

The date that you were billed and the due by date, which indicates the date your bill is due without incurring late fees or additional charges.

7 Meter Number:

The meter number assigned by GVP to each meter. You could have more than one meter on your account.

8 Reading Dates and Meter Readings :

The numbers on your meter that show how many kilowatt-hours (kWh) you used during this billing cycle. This determines how much you will be billed. Reading dates show beginning and ending dates when you meter was read. There are typically 30 days between readings.

9 Charges and Calculations:

Grid Connectivity: This is a flat rate charged to members that is used to maintain locally owned equipment and to deliver electricity safely on our distribution grid. The charge is included on each bill, regardless of how many kilowatt-hours are used during a billing period. The fee recoups a portion of the fixed costs associated with delivering power to your home, such as depreciation expense, interest, poles, wire and maintenance. Other costs include billing, maintaining records and additional administrative costs.

Energy Usage Off-Peak and Energy Usage On-Peak: Kilowatt-hour (kWh) is the unit in which electricity consumption is measured. One kWh is 1,000 watts used for one hour. The number listed here reflects how much is used and when it is used. On-peak hours are from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. daily, year-round. All other hours are considered off-peak. The total number of kilowatt-hours is multiplied by the on-peak or off-peak rate per kilowatt-hour to determine your final amount owed. Depending on your rate classification, you may have additional time-of-use periods or demand charges. Please refer to gvp.org/rates for detailed tariff sheets.

Power Cost Adjustment: The Power Cost Adjustment reflects monthly fluctuations in the cost of wholesale power purchased from Xcel Energy. Depending on wholesale power prices, it is either set as a surcharge or a credit. The fluctuation is largely caused by changes in the cost of fuel for generation.

Other charges or fees may be applied depending on your rate pricing. This could include net state tax or franchise fees.

WAYS TO PREPARE YOUR HOME FOR WILDFIRE SEASON

BY: DANA POGAR GVP COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST

We've all heard it before: It's better to have it and not need it, than need it and not have it.

This same rule applies to wildfire preparation — it's better to take precaution and not need it. Here are a few simple ways you can harden your home for wildfire season this summer:

START CLOSEST TO YOUR HOME

It's important to first address the risks closest to your home, otherwise known as the immediate zone (0 – 5 feet from home):

- Clean roofs and gutters of dead leaves, debris and pine needles that could catch embers.
- Clean debris from exterior attic vents and install 1/8-inch metal mesh screening to obstruct embers from entering your home.
- Move any flammable materials away from wall exteriors — mulch, flammable plants, leaves, pine needles, firewood piles — anything that can burn. Remove anything stored underneath decks or porches.

MOVE TO INTERMEDIATE ZONE

The intermediate zone is the area 5 – 30 feet from your home. Precautions taken in this zone can help reduce fire behavior and potentially save your home.

- Clear vegetation from under large stationary propane tanks.
- Keep lawns and native grasses mowed to a height of four inches.
- Remove all dead vegetation.
- Prune trees up to 6 to 10 feet from the ground; for shorter trees do not exceed 1/3 of the overall tree height.

BECOME A NEIGHBORHOOD AMBASSADOR



Grand Valley Power is a proud supporter of the Two Rivers Wildfire Coalition, an organization dedicated to raising awareness about wildfire safety in Mesa County. If you reside in an area of high-risk for wildfires, consider becoming a neighborhood ambassador, today!

The goal of the neighborhood ambassador program is to identify an advocate, and single point of contact, through which we can support risk reduction in Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) neighborhoods. Two Rivers Wildfire Coalition will provide assessments, mentorship, organizing support, access to experts, and funding opportunities to neighborhoods with an approved Neighborhood Ambassador.

SIGN UP, TODAY!



tworiverswildfirecoalition.org/learning-network

- Tree placement should be planned to ensure the mature canopy is no closer than 10 feet to the edge of the structure.
- Trees and shrubs in this zone should be limited to small clusters of a few each to prevent the spread of a wildfire across the landscape.

EXTENDED ZONE

This zone is 30 – 100 feet out from your home. The goal of this zone is to not eliminate fire, but to interrupt the fire's path and prevent it from spreading to your home.

- Dispose of heavy accumulations of ground litter and debris.
- Remove dead trees, plants or other vegetation material.
- Remove vegetation adjacent to storage sheds or other buildings within this area.

For additional information and checklists to help prepare your home for wildfire hazards, visit gvp.org/outagesafety or call us at 970-242-0040. All tips have been adapted from the National Fire Protection Agency.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

If you're looking to add smart technology to your home, consider smart plugs. Smart plugs are inexpensive and can be used to control lighting and other electronic devices through a smartphone app.

With smart plugs, you can conveniently manage lighting, home office equipment, video game consoles and more. By powering off unused devices when you're away, you can save energy (and money!).

Source: energystar.gov

