

Bayfield Electric Cooperative

Idle Electric Service Policy

An idle service is any electric account that has been disconnected for a period of time and is not presently paying an electric bill. Unfortunately, with no electric usage, no revenues are generated to help offset maintenance expenses for service. These costs must be shared by other members through their monthly facility charge.

Bayfield Electric has been working to identify the idle services in our service territory as part of our regular line inspections. If our records indicate that an electric service has been idle for 1 or more years a letter is sent to the property owner. The letter explains their options: They can agree to have the electric service removed at no cost; they can also keep the idle electric service in place by agreeing to pay Bayfield Electric ½ of the current facility charge. If an idle service is removed and electric service is requested at some time in future, the work will be done according to line-extension policies for new services.

In the face of ever-rising maintenance costs, it is apparent why Bayfield Electric wants to remove idle electric services that are not generating revenue. Other than cost, there's another good reason for removing electric lines and equipment on idle services: safety. The customer's meter socket and electrical equipment often fall into disrepair once electric service is discontinued. It can easily become a safety concern.