



JANUARY

**2026**

**PLUGGED IN WITH ...**

Panhandle Rural Electric  
Membership Association

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# Giving Back

**United  
Way**



PREMA's employees donated \$2,422 in 2025 to United Way of Western Nebraska. These donations are given on a volunteer basis, and each employee chooses the amount they donate.



308-762-1311 or 800-585-4837  
FAX 308-762-5750



[www.prema.coop](http://www.prema.coop)





## PRESS RELEASE

### PREMA announces intent to terminate wholesale power contract.

**Alliance, Nebraska** Panhandle Rural Electric Membership Association (PREMA) announces intent to terminate wholesale power contract with Tri-State due to projected rate increases. PREMA will have a rate increase starting **Jan. 1, 2026, 4%** which is attributed to Tri-State, but more alarming is the forecast of over **30%** rate increases over the next several years.

Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association based out of Westminster Colorado currently serves the district with a contract scheduled to end in December 2050. Projected rate increases have encouraged PREMA to search into alternative options for wholesale power providers.

PREMA notice terminating the wholesale power contract will allow us to find alternative options while maintaining reliable service. Early termination of the existing contract will begin a formal process of transition. Notice to terminate contract will start a 2-year process to complete.

“The driving factor for PREMA to look at alternative wholesale power supply is the projected rate increases. Tri-State is driven by policies and politics of Colorado that have tremendous cost increases that are unsustainable. These policies affect Nebraskans without benefit.” added **Zac Bryant**, General Manager of PREMA. “Nebraska is the only Public Power state designed to supply reliable power at a lower cost, and members of Nebraska pay over 30% less than we do. Colorado policies affect more than their own state as Nebraska, Wyoming, and New Mexico will also be impacted. The costs impacts have become too great, and we have good alternative options.”

PREMA will provide updates and transparency as the transition continues. PREMA is working diligently with all appropriate agencies to ensure a smooth transition.

#### **About Panhandle Rural Electric Membership Association**

PREMA celebrated 80 years this year of proudly serving the Nebraska Panhandle in portions of eleven counties covering over 7500 sq. miles. PREMA serves over 1600 members, providing service to more than 3800 meters.

#### **PREMA Members**

The next Board meeting is scheduled for January 27, 2026. If you have any questions about the press release or the course PREMA is taking, please feel free to contact me.

**Zac Bryant**

**General Manager**

308-762-1311

[zbryant@prema.coop](mailto:zbryant@prema.coop)

# ANNUAL TREE TRIMMING

8N TREE SERVICE OF HYANNIS WILL BE STARTING OUR ANNUAL TREE TRIMMING PROGRAM THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR. THIS YEAR'S FOCUS WILL BE SOUTH OF HIGHWAY 2, EAST OF ELLSWORTH, AND WEST OF HIGHWAY 61, INCLUDING HYANNIS AND ARTHUR. ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS IDENTIFIED BY OUR CREWS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR WILL ALSO BE ADDRESSED.

THIS MAINTENANCE IS PART OF A FOUR-YEAR ROTATION DESIGNED TO REDUCE SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS, PROTECT ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE, AND MITIGATE POTENTIAL FIRE HAZARDS. WE APPRECIATE YOUR COOPERATION AS WE WORK TO MAINTAIN A SAFE AND RELIABLE ELECTRICAL SYSTEM.



These are the vehicles and equipment used by 8N Tree Service.



### Notes from Load Management

The Load Management program is in place for the 2026 irrigation season. By participating in Load Management, irrigators receive a discount on the monthly kW charge.

PREMA consumers with irrigation accounts will be receiving a letter explaining guidelines and rates for Load Management. Those not receiving the letter can call the office for information at 308-762-1311 or email Nick Paradeis at [nickp@prema.coop](mailto:nickp@prema.coop).



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**PREMA**  
251 BRAYTON ROAD  
P.O. BOX 677  
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Zac Bryant—General Manager  
Boone Manion—Operations Manager  
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