

**City Council Regular Meeting Agenda
City Council Chambers
April 4, 2016**

- Page
1. 5:30 p.m. Call the Meeting to Order at City Hall (Mayor)
 2. Pledge of Allegiance
 3. Additions to the Agenda? None 1. _____ 2. _____
 - Any Consent Agenda items to be moved to a regular agenda item?
 - Approval of either ____ Agenda as presented or ____ Revised Agenda **Action Requested**
 4. Consent Agenda: **Action Requested**
 - a. Minutes:
 - 2-7 ▪ 3.21.2016 City Council Minutes
 - 8-9 ▪ 2.8.2016 Park Board Minutes
 - b. Correspondence:
 - 10-13 ▪ Missouri River Energy Services Laramie River Station Tour
 5. Persons with Unscheduled Business to Come Before the City Council (Mayor)
 6. Council Tour of Projects Information Only
 7. Adjourn: Mayor **Action Requested**

DRAFT

**MINUTES - BENSON CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 21, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Landmark. Members present: Gary Landmark, Terri Collins, Jack Evenson, Jonathon Pogge-Weaver & Stephanie Heinzig. Members Absent: None. Also present: City Manager Rob Wolfington, Director of Finance Glen Pederson, Public Works Director Dan Gens, Police Chief Ian Hodge, Assistant City Attorney Ben Wilcox, Jerry Peterson, Sally Jones, Tom Traen, Beth Deitchman and Justin Stelzer.

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Landmark asked for any additions or changes to the agenda. Councilmember Evenson asked to have the City Hall Feasibility Study added to the agenda. The Mayor noted the addition, and it was the consensus of the Council to approve the agenda.

It was moved by Collins, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to approve the following minutes:

- March 7, 2016 City Council Minutes
- February 1, 2016 Planning Commission Minutes

It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Collins and carried unanimously to approve the following liquor licenses effective April 13, 2016 contingent upon receiving the necessary paperwork:

Club On-Sale Liquor License:
Benson VFW

Sunday Liquor License:
Benson VFW
Benson Bowler
Benson Golf Club
Patrick's Pub & Grill
McKinney's on Southside

On-Sale Liquor License:
Benson Bowler
Benson Golf Club
Patrick's Pub & Grill
Mi Mexico
McKinney's on Southside

Sidewalk Café Permit
Patrick's Pub & Grill, LLC
Mi Mexico

Off-Sale 3.2 Malt Beverage License:
Holiday Stationstore, Inc.

It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Collins and carried unanimously to approve the following licenses effective April 1, 2016:

Rollerskating License:
Svor's Family Roller Rink

Garbage Collection License:
Mattheisen Disposal

Sewer Tap License:
Grossman Plumbing and Heating
Hawley's Inc.
Craig's Refrigeration
Rapid Response Plumbing & Heating
T & K Kennedy Inc.

The Council reviewed the Public Works Report.

Wolfington presented a letter from Countryside Public Health reporting a new restriction put in place by the Swift County Board of Commissioners regulating the use of electronic cigarettes in food and liquor establishments.

Next Golf Club representatives Sally Jones and Jerry Peterson approached the Council with a lease for lawful gambling from the Benson Hockey Association to have pull tabs in the Golf Course. After discussion, it was moved by Collins, seconded by Heinzig and carried unanimously to approve a lease with the Benson Hockey Association to run pull tabs at the Benson Golf Club.

Next was discussion of a new Management Services Agreement between the City of Benson and the Benson Golf Club. After discussion, it was moved by Pogge-Weaver, seconded by Heinzig and carried unanimously to approve the Management Services Agreement between the City of Benson and the Benson Golf Club as presented.

Jones presented Capital Authorization Requests from the Golf Club for equipment purchases. Jones explained she is looking to purchase the following used equipment: a 2008 Toro Greensmaster green/tee mower, a 2008 Toro Reelmaster fairway mower, a 2011 Toro sidewinder rotary mower, and a 2000 Toro workman utility fleet vehicle. The total for the Capital requests is \$52,340.97. She stated the Council had committed \$40,000 to the Golf Club, and that they have the \$12,340.97 they can contribute to the purchases. After review, it was moved by Collins, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to approve the Capital Authorization Requests in the amount of \$40,000.

Next Gens presented several bids and quotes for Council Review. They are as follows:

Bituminous/Concrete Crushing

Company Name	Amount
Kraemer Trucking	\$3.30 ton
Commerford Gravel	\$4.48 ton
Brown Excavating	\$5.10 ton
Central Specialties	\$8.95 ton

It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Heinzig and carried unanimously to approve the Kraemer Trucking as presented.

Next Gens received one quote for concrete work as follows:

Concrete

Company Name	Amount
B.G. Amundson	\$13,366.50

It was moved by Collins, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to approve the quote by B.G. Amundson in the amount of \$13,366.50.

The Tree Removal contract was reviewed next.

Tree Removal

Company Name	Amount
ALT Tree Service	\$23.00 inch
CMF Tree Service	\$24.75 inch

Dudes Tiling LLC	\$47.90 inch
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It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Heinzig and carried unanimously to approve ALT Tree service as presented.

Bituminous bids were next as follows:

Bituminous, Paver Laid

Company Name	Amount
Central Specialties	\$50.45 ton
Riley Brothers	\$57.00 ton
Mark Lee Asphalt	\$59.00 ton
Duinick Inc.	\$66.15 ton

After review, it was moved by Collins, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to approve the bituminous bid by Central Specialties at \$50.45 per ton.

Next the chip seal quotes were reviewed:

Chip Sealing

Company Name	Amount
Caldwell Asphalt	\$35,568.50
Morris Sealcoat	\$36,600.00

It was moved by Collins, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to approve the quote from Caldwell Asphalt as presented.

Tire quotes were presented as follows:

Tires

Company Name	Amount
Glacial Plains	\$8,921.77
Amundson Peterson	\$9,759.83

It was moved by Heinzig, seconded by Collins and carried unanimously to approve the quote by Glacial Plains in the amount of \$8,921.77.

Gens explained he did not have enough information on the chemical quotes. It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Heinzig and carried unanimously to postpone chemical quotes until a later date.

Police Chief Hodge reviewed his annual Police Report for 2015.

Wolfington discussed a City bus accident where a citizen ran into the back of the bus when it was stopped at the railroad crossing. He stated no one was injured, but two parties were transported to the Hospital as a precautionary measure.

The Heartland Express merging with Prairie 5 Rides was discussed. Councilmember Evenson offered the following Resolution:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BENSON AUTHORIZING THE CONSOLIDATION AND
MERGER OF TRANSIT SERVICES WITH PRAIRIE 5
(RESOLUTION 2016-10)**

WHEREAS, the City of Benson (hereinafter "The City") is a statutory Minnesota city with the authority, among other matters, to provide for transit services for its citizens by creating and maintaining its own transportation services for that purpose; and

WHEREAS, AFSCME Local 2538 (hereinafter "The Union") is a labor organization representing certain employees of the City, including transit drivers, and the lead transit driver, who are subject to a negotiated collective bargaining agreement; and

WHEREAS, the City has since 1982 maintained its own transit system, and in recent months, the City has become acutely aware of economic and safety issues inherent in continuing to operate an independent transit service; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager has researched transit systems in the State and learned the majority of cities have now regionalized services and found the level of service to be satisfactory; and

WHEREAS, as the result of the aforesaid matters, the City has taken a close look at alternatives to continuation with an autonomous transit system, including merging those public transit services with Prairie 5; and

WHEREAS, the City has met with the Union and impacted employees to discuss the consolidation and merger of transit services; and

WHEREAS, the City has determined that by consolidating and merging transit services with Prairie 5, it would result in safe economic transportation services for the citizens of the City of Benson; and that the economies of scale provided by Prairie 5 could result in better services in some areas; and

WHEREAS, the City acting by and through the City Council finds that the interest of providing for the public transportation of its citizens would be best served by merging with Prairie 5 for transportation services; and

WHEREAS, the City has negotiated agreeable terms with the Union that provides adequate severance to its affected members, as well as discussed the potential employment of current qualified City transit drivers by Prairie 5; and

WHEREAS, the terms negotiated between the City and Union support the decision of the City to merge transportation services with Prairie 5, and are attached to this Resolution and incorporated herein by reference.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Mayor is authorized to execute on behalf of the City of Benson, the agreement with the Union providing severance to affected transit drivers and the lead transit driver which is attached and incorporated into this Resolution above; and
2. That the City, through the City Manager and staff, shall take all steps necessary to effect the winding down of the City of Benson's transportation services as a separate department within the City, including any and all necessary discussions and communications with Prairie 5 and the Union presently representing transit drivers.

Councilmember Pogge-Weaver seconded the foregoing Resolution and the following vote was recorded AYES: Collins, Landmark, Heinzig, Evenson, Pogge-Weaver. NAYES: None. Thereupon the

Mayor declared Resolution 2016-10 duly passed and adopted.

Next the Personnel Committee discussed the desire to keep transit staff with experience driving during the transition. Wolfington mentioned the State of Minnesota will pay 80% of any severance offered to the drivers, and presented the following Memorandum of Understanding with current Transit drivers as follows:

Memorandum of Understanding

This Memorandum of Understanding is entered into between the City of Benson (hereinafter "City") and AFSCME Local 2538 (hereinafter, "Union").

WHEREAS, the City and the Union are parties to a collective bargaining agreement in effect from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2018 (hereinafter "CBA");

WHEREAS, the City has, since 1982 maintained its own transit system; and in recent months, the City has become acutely aware of economic and safety issues inherent in continuing to operate an independent transit service; and

WHEREAS, as the result of the aforesaid issues, the City has taken a close look at alternatives to continuation with an autonomous transit system, including merging those public transit services with Prairie 5; and

WHEREAS, the City has met with the Union regarding the impacted transit drivers and the lead transit driver, to discuss the consolidation and merger of transit services with Prairie 5; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has voted to consolidate and merge transit services with Prairie 5 and dissolve the City transit service, in accordance with the subcontracting provisions of Article XVIII of the labor agreement; and

WHEREAS, the City has entered into an Agreement with Prairie 5 to provide transit services for the City of Benson;

WHEREAS, effective August 1, 2016 all transit drivers and the lead transit driver shall be laid off from employment with the City of Benson in accordance with Article 14.9;

WHEREAS, the parties wish to resolve and clarify transitional issues, including severance to be paid to the impacted transit drivers and lead transit driver.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties agree as follows:

1. The City of Benson agrees to pay severance to the lead transit driver and transit drivers who are employed with the City of Benson on July 31, 2016. The severance listed below shall be paid out to the impacted employees in a lump sum on the first scheduled payroll after August 1, 2016. Severance payment to each transit driver and the lead transit driver shall be:
 - a) Compensation in an amount equal to six (6) months wages.
 - b) Monetized value of six (6) months of Blue Cross benefits, at either single or family coverage based on the employee's election as of January 1, 2016.
 - c) Pay-out of the employee's accrued vacation leave.
 - d) Monetized value of six (6) months of Health Care Savings (HSA) at either the single or family rate based on the employee's election as of January 1, 2016.

2. Effective August 1, 2016, the transit drivers and the lead transit driver positions are eliminated in accordance with Article 14.10, and are no longer considered employees of the City of Benson. By accepting a severance package the employees waive any bumping rights they may have under the CBA. They are encouraged to make application for employment with Prairie 5.

It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Pogge-Weaver and carried unanimously to approve the Memorandum of Understanding.

Next Gens presented a quote for repairs to the boiler at the pool. After discussion, it was moved by Evenson, seconded by Pogge-Weaver and carried unanimously to approve the cost estimate from Hawley's Inc. in the amount of \$6,200.

Gens said the filter media has not been changed in the pool since it was installed, and felt it would bring efficiency in operation to the pool to replace it before the 2016 season. It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Collins and carried unanimously to approve having Aqua Logic Inc. replace the media in the amount of \$4,860.00.

Gens discussed changing the City Wide Clean-up. He presented 3 options. 1. Would be to do nothing, 2. Would be to continue as we have in previous years. 3. Is to conduct a clean-up day allowing City residents to haul junk that may have accumulated around the house out to the recycling center to get rid of at a reduced cost. He explained his proposal to the Council. After discussion, it was moved by Pogge-Weaver, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to conduct the City Wide Clean-up option 3 as presented.

Gens explained an opportunity for the City to bury electric pipe with Charter Communications along an area of 9th Street North. Wolfington explained that area of town is scheduled to be buried in 2022 but it would be easier for us to go into the trench with Charter now rather than try to bury our electric where there are existing utilities later. It was moved by Heinzig, seconded by Pogge-Weaver and carried unanimously to approve pipe purchase and trenching costs in the amount of \$14,107.50.

Next Gens explained the current paint striper is getting old and presented a capital request to purchase a new one. This item is in the budget. It was moved by Collins, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to approve the purchase of a new paint striper in the amount of \$11,536.00.

Next Wolfington presented a proposal for a City Hall/Police Station feasibility study. The facilities committee met and asked staff to engage a firm to look at remodeling City Hall as opposed to building new. City Hall isn't able to accommodate the public as needed and the Facilities Committee would like guidance. It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Heinzig and carried unanimously to approve Widseth, Smith and Nolting to conduct a feasibility study of City Hall in the amount of \$9,800.

Wolfington presented the 2005 Traffic Control Study. The plan was discussed. Wolfington presented the plan for consideration of the Council.

It was moved by Evenson, seconded by Collins and carried unanimously to approve the bills and warrants in the amount of \$389,894.13.

There being no other business, a motion was made by Collins, seconded by Evenson and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk

February 08, 2106

City of Benson Park Board Minutes

Meeting was called to order by Sally, members present were Sally Jones, Tara Ulmaniec, Jack Evenson, and Wendy Munsterman. Also present were Rob Wolfington, Dan Gens, and Duane Hopp.

There was discussion about the city cemetery, Rob stated that the columbaria has been order for the cemetery. He explained some of the things happening with the expansion of the cemetery, 1. Moving the trail at Northside Recreational Area, 2. Moving the soft ball fence, 3. Looking at getting a grant for part of the work.

Discussion on the relocation of Parks to the old Street Department building and the Wood Shop moving to the old Jet Garage.

Rob stated that the hospital is looking at possibly looking at new construction and would be interested in possibly developing a parking lot by Tatge Park.

Welcome to Benson Sign. Rob stated that Benson has four Welcome to Benson up on Highway 9, Highway 29 North, and Highway 12 East. Two more signs have been order for Highway 12 west and Highway 29 South.

Rob brought the board up to date on the Hockey Arena.

1. The city committed money to cement for outside hockey arena
2. Custom Rotary Mold has developed a fence for the arena.
3. Hockey Assoc. is redoing lights
4. Sally said people are using the outdoor rings.

Rob discussed the Wedding policy for Ambush Park. He wanted to establish a policy to not allow weddings at Ambush Park.

Rob discussed the Golf course;

1. City paid off the line of credit for the course
2. City established a line of credit for \$60,000.00
3. Change the lease agreement with Golf Course
4. Sally could be employed by the city

A motion to adjourn by Jack, seconded by Wendy, passed.

Recorded by Duane Hopp



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To: Missouri River Energy Services Members

From: Joni Livingston *Joni Livingston*
Director, Member Services and Communications

Date: March 22, 2016

Re: 2016 Laramie River Station tour

Every three years, Missouri River Energy Services (MRES) offers its members the opportunity to tour the Laramie River Station (LRS), a coal-fired power plant located near Wheatland, Wyoming. LRS is the primary source of power for MRES. The trip also includes a tour of the Dry Fork Coal Mine located in Gillette, Wyoming. The Dry Fork Coal Mine provides much of the coal used at the LRS plant.

Participants will tour the LRS plant on the first day, spend the night in Gillette, tour the coal mine the morning of the second day and then return home.

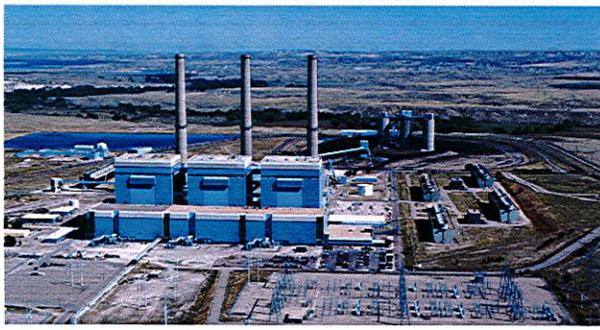
There are many important issues affecting LRS, MRES, and our members, including the Clean Power Plan, which will be discussed in detail during the tour.

The tour is scheduled for Wednesday, August 24 and Thursday, August 25. Space will be limited and will be on a first come, first served basis.

This tour is always a popular attraction with members and a great source of information. This is a great opportunity for your council and commission members, as well as utility employees, and local media to obtain a greater understanding about your community's power supply.

Attached is information regarding the tour, along with a registration form. Please complete the registration form and return it to Jody Peck at MRES by June 17, 2016, so that the all the necessary accommodations can be finalized.

Please feel free to contact Jody Peck at jpeck@mrenergy.com or by phone at 605-338-4042 with any questions you may have.



About the Laramie River Station (LRS)

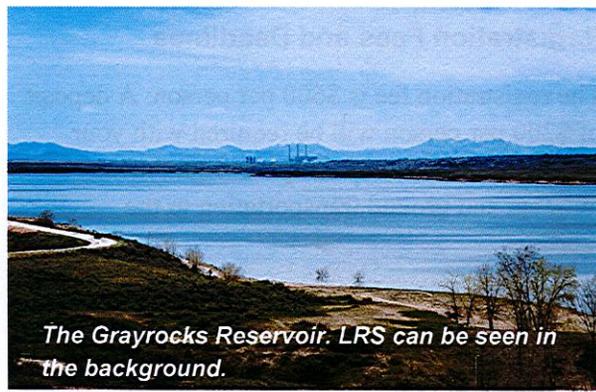
LRS is a coal-fired electric generating station located six miles east of Wheatland, Wyo. State-of-the-art environmental control equipment was installed when LRS was built and owners have since invested millions of dollars in equipment enabling the turbines to more efficiently produce electricity, effectively lowering overall emission rates.

LRS was built for a cost of \$1.6 billion and has a total generating capacity of 1,710 megawatts. The plant has three units, each rated at 570 megawatts. Units 1, 2, and 3 began operation in 1980, 1981, and 1982, respectively. Sub-bituminous coal is shipped by train to the plant from strip mines near Gillette, Wyo.

Overall, the project provides electric power to more than 100 rural electric cooperatives and nearly 80 municipal electric systems serving more than 2 million people in Colorado, the Dakotas, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, and Wyoming.

LRS is owned by the Missouri Basin Power Project (MBPP). MBPP is one of the largest consumer-owned, power supply projects in the U.S. The project participant-owners group is comprised of six electric utilities:

- ◆ Basin Electric Power Cooperative
- ◆ Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association
- ◆ Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (represented in the project by MRES)
- ◆ Lincoln Electric System
- ◆ Heartland Consumers Power District
- ◆ Wyoming Municipal Power Agency



The Grayrocks Reservoir. LRS can be seen in the background.

About Grayrocks Dam and Reservoir

Water from Grayrocks, which is located about 11 miles from the Laramie River Station, is used at the plant for cooling and steam production.

The reservoir, which was built by the Missouri Basin Power Project, holds about 104,000 acre-feet of water when full.

Fast Facts about MBPP Facilities

- ◆ **Laramie River Station**
 - Plant construction: 1976-1982
 - Plant Site: 650 acres
 - Coal Source: Dry Fork Mine and others in the Powder River Basin near Gillette, Wyo.
 - Annual coal deliveries: 7 million tons
- ◆ **Project transmission**
 - 536 miles of 345-kilovolt line
 - 133 miles of 230-kilovolt line
- ◆ **Grayrocks Dam and Reservoir**
 - Provides 19,000 acre-feet of water for steam and evaporative cooling at LRS
 - Height of dam: 100 feet
 - Width of dam: 600 feet at base
 - Length of dam: 2,400 feet
 - Length of reservoir: 8 miles
 - Storage capacity: 104,000 acre-feet

About the Dry Fork Mine

The Dry Fork Mine is located near Gillette, Wyo., in the coal-rich Powder River Basin. Western Fuels-Wyoming owns the mine, which is managed by its parent organization, the Western Fuels Association. MBPP is a member of Western Fuels.

Dry Fork began operations in 1990 and produces about 6 million tons of coal per year. It ships coal to LRS and to other power plants located in Wyoming, North Dakota, and Texas. The mine has a total reserve base in excess of 250 million tons of coal.

Topics for Discussion during the Tour

Clean Power Plan (CPP) – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) issued final rules on existing coal-fired plants, known as the CPP, in 2015. The rules threaten the continued operation of the LRS. MRES load is in the states of IA, MN, ND, and SD with its only coal plant in WY.

Regional Haze – the EPA contends that LRS violated haze emissions at Wind Cave National Park in SD. The WY Dept. of Environmental Quality (DEQ) entered into an agreement with LRS owners requiring the installation of three Selective Non-Catalytic Reduction. The EPA accepted, then later rejected the state plan and imposed a Federal Implementation Plan requiring LRS to install Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) at a cost of over \$700 million, with MRES and its members share at \$125 million. LRS partners appealed EPA's action and received a stay from the Circuit Court of Appeals, delaying enforcement until the challenge is settled.

New Source Performance Standards Review (NSR) – the NSR requires the industry to undergo an EPA review for environmental controls if they propose building new facilities or any modifications to existing facilities creating a "significant increase" of a regulated pollutant. EPA requested data on improvements completed at LRS. If they determine that NSR was triggered, LRS may need to install SCRs, bag houses, etc. NSR could be triggered if EPA thinks the upgrades were "beyond normal replacement and repairs."

Laramie River Station Grayrocks Dam and Reservoir Tour August 24 and 25, 2016

Missouri River Energy Services (MRES) is pleased to announce the opportunity to tour the Laramie River Station (LRS) power plant in Wheatland, Wyo. LRS is the primary source of power MRES provides to its 60 members.

MRES members hold the rights to 16.47 percent of the capacity in LRS, which entitles our members to 281 megawatts of power.

The tour will include a trip to the Grayrocks Dam and Reservoir, as well as an extensive tour of the plant. In addition, it will include a tour of the Dry Fork Coal Mine, located at Gillette, Wyo.

About The Tour

The LRS/Grayrocks/Dry Fork tour is a great opportunity for MRES member council and commission members, employees, and local media. Commission and board members have found this tour valuable in understanding how their community's power supply program works.

Planes are chartered from Sioux Falls and various other locations for your convenience. Plans will be finalized as the registration deadline nears.

Planes will depart on Wednesday and fly to Wheatland, Wyo., where participants will tour the LRS and Grayrocks facilities. Then, they will fly to Gillette, Wyo., for the evening. There will be dinner, a reception and discussions about issues related to LRS, Grayrocks, and other topics of concern. Following breakfast on Thursday, participants will tour the Dry Fork Coal Mine before returning home.

Registration Fees and Deadlines

The registration fee is \$600 per person. A deposit of \$200 per person will be required with your registration. This includes your flight, meals, lodging, and ground transportation to the facilities.

Please note that group size will be limited, so early registration is encouraged.

This deposit can be refunded for cancellations prior to July 31, 2016.

Registration Form Enclosed

Please complete the enclosed registration form and return by Friday, June 17, 2016.

Online registration is available at www.mrenergy.com under the Events tab.



PO Box 88920
Sioux Falls, SD 57109-8920

www.mrenergy.com



Laramie River Station Grayrocks Dam and Reservoir Tour



August 24 and 25, 2016



www.mrenergy.com



Laramie River Station Grayrocks Dam and Reservoir Tour August 24 and 25, 2016 Registration Form

The following person(s) from _____ will be attending the tour:
(community)

First and Last Name	Title	E-mail address

Please Note: As hotel space is limited, a double room may be reserved for two people of the same gender.

Address: _____

City/State: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

- To confirm your registration and to help make firm arrangements, a \$200 deposit per person is required. This deposit can be refunded for cancellations prior to July 31, 2016. The total charge per person is \$600.
- A check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed for _____ people.

You may register :

On-line: www.mrenergy.com under the EVENTS tab
 E-Mail: jody.peck@mrenergy.com
 Mail: Missouri River Energy Services, Attn: Jody Peck
 PO Box 88920, Sioux Falls, SD 57109-8920
 Fax: 605.978-9384

Registration deadline is June 17, 2016