

**(Wyo.)-National Guard Plans Furloughs Due To Looming Federal Budget Cuts**

By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 03/21/2013 08:57 AM

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (ASSOCIATED PRESS) - The Wyoming Military Department is planning to furlough more than 430 employees because of federal budget cuts.

The furloughs are scheduled to start April 26 and total up to 176 hours through the end of September.

The majority of the employees affected work in Cheyenne at the Joint Forces Readiness Center and the Wyoming Air National Guard.

Under the plan, Wyoming Army National Guard field maintenance facilities in Cheyenne, Evanston, Laramie and Lovell will be closed on Fridays to save on maintenance and utility costs.

Armory use and other community support functions may also need to be stopped or reduced.

Maj. Gen. Luke Reiner, Wyoming's adjutant general, says despite the cuts the Guard will remain ready to support any missions that arise.