

THE CANEY VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.

TheVoice

Caney Valley Electric Cooperative Assn., Inc.

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Office Hours

Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Power Cost Adjustment

The Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) for September is \$.03395/kilowatt-hour. This calculates to an additional \$33.95 per 1,000 kWh used.

The PCA was implemented in 2002 to cover **ONLY** the increase in power costs charged to us by our wholesale power supplier, Kansas Electric Power Cooperative (KEPCo) in Topeka. The PCA varies each month depending on the wholesale charges from KEPCo, and is a flow-through on your electric bills based on the factor for the month.

FROM THE MANAGER

What is the PCA?

That is a question we are asked almost daily in the office, and I'll try to explain it a little more fully here.

We all have watched the way costs for almost everything have continued to rise over the years. This includes your electric utility bills.

The board and staff at your cooperative have constantly worked at holding the line on what you pay for electricity. The current basic electric rates were established in 1993. They were reduced by 3.5 percent in 1999.

In 2002, the wholesale price of electricity began to be much higher than the 1993 rates were designed to cover. The wholesale power cost accommodated in the rates was about five cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh). In order to increase your electric bills to cover only the higher wholesale prices, the power cost adjustment (PCA) was started.

Your electric bills are increased by the amount per kWh that the monthly wholesale power cost is above five cents. All other operating expenses are still being covered by the 1993 rates.

The PCA for August and September bills is about three cents per kWh, or \$30 for 1,000 kWh's. The average PCA this year is 2.83 cents, compared to last year—2.13 cents.

One way to help hold down the wholesale power costs is to participate in the voluntary peak control program during the summer months. The program is explained on the next page.

As you watch the news about the energy debates and legislation proposals, keep in mind how those decisions will affect your PCA. Consider contacting your congressmen and senators to share your concerns.

Allen Zadorozny, Manager



Allen Zadorozny

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Outages for July 2011

Occasionally, a part or parts of the delivery system fail and an outage occurs. Listed below are the larger outages for July.

Date	Area	Members Affected	Duration	Cause
7/3	Havana area	60	1 hr	Line breaker off
7/12	Grenola - Woods Tap	40	1 hr	Lightning kicked breaker off
7/25	Chautauqua area	55	5 hr 15 min	Pole on fire

Check Out Our Revised Website!



Visit www.caneyvalley.com and check it out!

We have revised our website to make it easier to navigate and find what you are looking for. We welcome you to go to www.caneyvalley.com and check it out! You will find information on Caney Valley's history, board and staff, as well as driving directions to our facility. The programs and services we offer are listed, along with current energy issues, recent news, and a link to the monthly centerspreads included in the *Kansas Country Living* magazine. Our current rates and by-laws are listed, and you can access a link to our rate charts if you happen to misplace yours.

There is also a page devoted to outages. If an extended outage occurs—planned or unplanned—information will be posted on the site. If you have any suggestions, please let us know.

We have revised our website to make it easier to navigate and find what you are looking for. We welcome you to go to www.caneyvalley.com and check it out!

You Can Dim Efficient Lights—Dispelling Common CFL Myths

U.S. retailers will soon begin switching out traditional incandescent lightbulbs with more efficient options because of new regulations under the federal Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) are the most widely available technology that meets the law's provisions.

As consumers rely more heavily on CFLs, they will encounter misconceptions—myths that the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), a non-profit research consortium made up of electric utilities, including electric cooperatives, wants to dispel.

- ▶ **Myth 1—CFLs cannot be used in three-way fixtures.** Several manufacturers have developed three-way CFLs that provide performance equivalent to traditional three-way incandescent lamps and also operate in standard three-way sockets.
- ▶ **Myth 2—Dimmable CFLs do not work with standard line dimmers.** While dimmable CFLs are available today, not all dimmable CFLs are

compatible with every dimmer. Read the package before purchasing to determine if the CFL dims.

- ▶ **Myth 3—CFLs do not last as long as advertised.** Installing CFLs in recessed can fixtures not rated for its use will likely shorten the lamp's life. The life of a CFL also depends on how frequently the consumer turns it on and off.
- ▶ **Myth 4—CFLs do not fit in fans or candelabras.** Lamp manufacturers have developed CFL products of various wattages and designs that can be screwed directly into specialized fixtures such as fans, candelabras, chandeliers, and wall sconces.
- ▶ **Myth 5—CFLs are too expensive, and energy savings are outweighed by disposal costs.** The cost of CFLs has dropped significantly, and it's easy to recycle used or damaged bulbs. To learn more, visit www.epa.gov/cflcleanup.
To learn more about lighting changes in 2012 and beyond, visit www.energysavers.gov/lighting.

Caney Valley Electric Encourages Peak Control

In September, the cooperative is asking you to participate in the "Peak Control" program. This voluntary program can help hold down the monthly wholesale power costs charged to the cooperative and therefore keeping your electric bill lower.

The peak demand for electricity recorded for these months drives a major part of the wholesale power bill. More importantly, the peak demand for July and August affects the wholesale power billing process for the eight off-peak months that follow, October through May. The lower the peak demand, the lower demand charges will be.

What is Peak Control?

Peak Control is a voluntary program in which you can participate to hold down electricity

costs to both Caney Valley ECA and yourself.

What Can You do to Participate in Peak Control?

You can participate by voluntarily monitoring when you use electric appliances and equipment which require larger amounts of electricity.

When Do You Need to Participate in Peak Control?

During the hours of 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. every weekday from June 1 through September 30.

The actual peak demand for June, July, August and September is the billing demand for each respective month. **Special emphasis is placed during July and August**, as the peak electricity demand registered by Caney Valley ECA during those two months drives the electricity billings for the following "off-peak" eight

months, October through May.

Be aware of days that have high temperatures forecasted above 90 degrees. These are the type of days when peak demand can occur. We should be especially careful when we use large amounts of electricity during warm days.

What Are the Benefits of Taking Part in Peak Control?

By helping hold the line for the KW demand charges on Caney Valley ECA's electric bill, you will also limit the amount of the resulting power cost adjustment (PCA) charges added to your electric bills.

Please contact our office for any questions you may have about the Peak Control program, or any other matters. Thank you for your participation.

Three Students Attend Cooperative Leadership Camp

LUKE BELLAR, Howard; **VICTORIA WITTMEIER**, Howard; and **MATTHEW WOMACKS**, Atlanta; joined youth from across Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma and Wyoming for the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp, July 9-16, in Steamboat Springs, CO.

They were selected from a group of high school applicants by Caney Valley Electric Cooperative. To win this trip, students were asked to review information about electric cooperatives, take a short quiz over the materials, and also complete a student questionnaire.

“Caney Valley Electric is proud to support the Leadership Camp program and send our youth to develop essential leadership and teamwork skills,” said Allen Zadorozny, Manager. “Our hope is that local students gained awareness of how our electric cooperatives work and how important it is for the youth to be involved in our communities.”

During their week-long stay in Colorado, the students created a candy cooperative. Campers established a board of trustees and selected Bellar as general manager. In this position, he led the daily membership meetings. In the evenings, they marketed their product at the canteen. At the end of the week the group decided how to handle any profit margins.

Both Bellar and Wittmeier agree that rafting was their “favorite part of



From left: Luke Bellar, Victoria Wittmeier and Matt Womacks enjoy the view at Lookout Mountain just outside of Denver.

the trip.”

The campers also took part in legislative presentations, a light and high voltage display and a competition to build a transmission line. They explored Steamboat Village, Old Town Steamboat Springs, went white water rafting and toured the Craig Power Plant and Trapper Mine.

“The leadership seminar had a big impact on me,” Womacks said. “It helped me to realize that I had a lot of work to do. It made me want to make a difference in my school.”

“The students this year exhibited amazing leadership potential,” Shana Read, Kansas Electric Cooperatives Director of Communications said. “Throughout the week, campers devel-

oped their leadership skills and learned about electric cooperatives through camp activities. It is amazing to see how much the students' skills grow in just one week.”

Bellar was selected by his peers to represent Kansas at the 2012 Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp as an Ambassador.

Caney Valley Electric sponsors this trip for one or two students each year. For more information, contact our office at 758-2262 or 800-310-8911.



The Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp brought students together from four states.

Caney Valley's Operating Statistics

For Month Ending	June 2011	June 2010
Meters Billed	5,571	5,521
kWh Sold	4,502,274	4,486,075
Total Revenue	\$ 643,457	\$ 592,002
Purchased Power	\$ 543,878	\$ 449,761
Operating Expenses	\$ 203,197	\$ 198,578
Depreciation Expenses	\$ 48,902	\$ 45,836
Interest Expenses	\$ 29,830	\$ 34,020
Other Expenses	\$ 650	\$ 125
Operating Margins	\$ (183,001)	\$ (136,318)
Non-operating Margins	\$ 1,736	\$ 1,786
Total Margins	\$ (181,264)	\$ (134,532)
Margins Year-to-Date	\$ (125,052)	\$ (19,041)

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIPS

The More Things Change the More They... BY DOUG RYE

Yes, you know the last three words to the old saying, don't you? And they are, "remain the same." About 21 years ago, I asked and received an opportunity to host a live radio program about energy efficiency. I knew that our local talk station in town needed additional programming and I knew that my topic could help a lot of their listeners. It was definitely on my mind, but I didn't really know how to proceed.

One evening, perhaps by coincidence, I attended a minor league baseball game that happened to be sponsored by the radio station. It was Bingo night and between innings Bill Powell was calling Bingo numbers and giving gifts to the winners.

I thought that Powell owned the station since he had a four-hour program every weekday morning. I convinced myself that I should get out of my seat and go down and try to talk to him about a program. I stood beside him and waited until he finished calling the next Bingo numbers and gave away another prize. He then looked up at me and reached to shake my hand. I introduced myself and told him that I would like to do a live call-in show about energy efficiency. He thought that I meant health energy. I told him that I was talking about utility bills.

I hurriedly asked him if he had a water heater at his house and he immediately said that he did. I asked him where it was located and he said that it was located in a small hallway closet. I asked him if he had noticed that it was always warm around that closet and he said, "As a matter of fact, I have." I asked him if the air conditioning thermostat was located close to that area and he said it was on the wall right next to that closet. I explained that the heat from the water heater was probably making his air conditioner run more than necessary.

The baseball inning was coming to an end and it was time for more Bingo.

As he asked what he should do. I told him to install a water heater blanket. He asked if I had a card. I handed him a card as he announced that this game would be straight-line Bingo; the first number is B-11, he said. He nodded his head at me and I figured that I might never have another chance. Well, at least I tried.

About a week later, I received a call from an employee at the station. I was so surprised that I can't remember, even to this day, if it was a man or woman that called. The person said that Powell had asked them to call me and get more information about our discussion at the game. The caller asked several questions and I gave several examples of things that a person could do to lower their utility bills. The call might have lasted five minutes. The caller didn't seem very impressed and I didn't feel that I had done a very good job in presenting my idea, but again I had tried.

On the next Friday, I got a call from a fellow at the station asking if I could come to the station at 8:30 a.m. I told him that I would be happy to do so. No details were given, but I was excited.

I actually got to the station about a half hour early, entered through an unlocked door and sat down in the small lobby. I felt certain that Powell would soon be there to talk. At about 8:30 a.m., a young man walked by in the hall, but didn't acknowledge my presence, so I just waited. He walked by again at 8:45 a.m. and I asked him if he knew what time Powell might come in. He told me that his name was Russell and that Powell didn't come to the station on Saturday. I said that I must be mixed up because I thought that I was supposed to meet him or someone at 8:45 a.m.

He asked, "Are you the energy guy?" I told him that I was and he said, "Follow me and I will show you how to

do the show."

I still remember how my heart skipped a beat or two as I headed into the studio 15 minutes before show time. I was informed that the program would be an hour long and that we could receive calls if we wanted.

It was now about 9 a.m. and I was sweating and trying to get a plan together. At 9:05 a.m., Russell introduced me. There was no music or any big build up. Just, "here is Mr. Doug Rye."

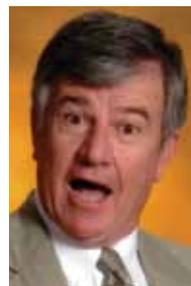
It went something like this: "Good morning, my name is Doug Rye. How many of you have a water heater in your house?" And, as the old saying goes, the rest is history.

I received five calls, which I learned was very good for a first show. By the way, that advice is still good—many of you would still benefit by installing a blanket on your water heater.

Another of the callers to the first show wanted to know why his upstairs was much hotter than the downstairs. I answered his question. Well, just two nights ago my wife and I were dining in a nice restaurant when we overheard one fellow say to another across the table that his thermostat was set on 74 degrees, but the upstairs was 82 degrees. Well, a lot has changed but many energy problems remain the same.

In these next several issues, I plan to list the typical energy problems found in houses and tell you how to solve them. In some cases, I will give you new changes for solving those same old problems.

DOUG RYE is a licensed architect and the popular host of the "Home Remedies" radio show. You can contact Doug at 501-653-7931. Source: Arkansas Electric Cooperatives Corporation.



Doug Rye