

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.

FROM THE MANAGER

Reviewing 2013 Operating Reports, So Far

In the March *Voice* we reviewed information comparing 2012 data to 2002 and 2007. With the first half of 2013 completed, below is a chart that compares 2013 to the 2012 amounts.

The average kilowatt-hours used per month for residential-rate members is down 57 kWh, and the overall usage by the whole cooperative is 36 kWh less. In addition, the average number of meters billed each month is lower. Residential-rate meters are 18 fewer, and all meters billed are averaging 19 less.

The average cost members are paying per kWh purchased is slightly less. Residential-rate members are 3 percent below last year, and overall, members are paying 2.7 percent less.

The largest negative comparison

is the operating costs less power costs. It has increased from 4.9¢ per kWh sold to 5.4¢. A large part of this is due to more storm outages this year.

A brighter side on the list is the cost of wholesale power per kWh. It has been slightly lower than last year.

This statistical comparison is an example of the many factors that are monitored and evaluated on an ongoing basis in order to help the Board of Trustees and staff to properly manage the cooperative's operations.

Please contact me to discuss any questions, observations, or concerns you may have.



Allen Zadorozny

Allen A. Zadorozny, Manager

Power Cost Adjustment

The Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) for September is \$0.03953/kilowatt-hour. This calculates to an additional \$39.53 per 1,000 kWh used.

The PCA was implemented in 2002 to cover only the increase in power costs (over and above 5¢/kWh) 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 bill.

| Cooperative Statistical Comparison | 2002 | 2007 | 2012 | 2013 |
|---|-------|--------|--------|---------|
| Average Monthly Usage – Residential Rate Accounts (kWh) | 661 | 703 | 718 | 661 |
| Average Monthly Usage – All Accounts (kWh) | 771 | 826 | 953 | 917 |
| Average Meters Billed Monthly – Residential Rate Accounts | 3,650 | 3,699 | 3,693 | 3,675 |
| Average Meters Billed Monthly – All Accounts | 5,173 | 5,379 | 5,586 | 5,567 |
| Average Cost Per kWh – Residential Rate Accounts (¢/kWh) | 11.94 | 12.54 | 14.78 | 14.34 |
| Average Cost Per kWh – All Accounts (¢/kWh) | 11.87 | 12.35 | 14.30 | 13.92 |
| Residential Accounts Cost Increase (%) | -- | 5.03% | 17.90% | (3.00%) |
| All Accounts Cost Increase (%) | -- | 4.04% | 15.80% | (2.70%) |
| All Expenses Less Power Costs Per kWh Sold (¢/kWh) | 4.87¢ | 5.44¢ | 4.90¢ | 5.40¢ |
| All Expenses Less Power Costs Per kWh Sold Increase (%) | -- | 11.70% | (10%) | 10.20% |
| Wholesale Power Increase | | | | |
| Average kWh Cost for Wholesale Power (¢/kWh) | 5.50¢ | 6.09¢ | 8.43¢ | 8.30¢ |
| Percent Increase | -- | 10.73% | 38.40% | (1.50%) |

Vegetation Control Crews may be in Your Area



Craig Lampson

As part of the cooperative's ongoing program to control harmful vegetation near our power lines, we have contracted

with Northeast Rural Services (NRS) of Vinita, OK, to apply herbicide along our rights-of-way this coming summer. The lines serving members around the Grenola, Moline and Howard areas are scheduled to be covered over the next few months.

NRS's two-man crew will be applying high-volume foliar spray herbicide directly to small trees, saplings, and harmful re-growth that has occurred since the lines were cleared by tree cutting. They will use the minimum amount of herbicide judged to be effective and will target specific plants that pose a hazard to the electric system.

You should expect to see their pickup and/or ATV with spray equipment working along the rights-of-way under Caney Valley's electric lines.

Trees continue to pose the greatest physical obstacle to providing economical and reliable electric power to the consumers on Caney Valley's system. The problems caused by trees and the costs of controlling them are born by all of our members collectively.

We appreciate your support of the cooperative's efforts to reduce tree-related problems in a fair and cost-effective manner. If you have any questions about our spraying or line clearing activities, please call us at 800-310-8911 or 620-758-2262.

**Craig Lampson,
Line Superintendent**

Online Bill Pay is Now Available!

Caney Valley Electric members now have the option of paying your bill online at www.caneyvalley.com.

Just visit our website and look for "Payment Options" under "Rates and Bylaws." The link is located at the bottom of the page, and will take you to a secure site through our credit card company.

You will need to enter your Caney Valley Electric account number and the amount you are paying on the account. If you are a rural customer, you can also enter your reading. If you have more than one account, you are able to enter several accounts at one time.

After entering your account(s), you will also have to enter the total amount you are paying through your



You can now pay your bill online with a debit or credit card at www.caneyvalley.com.

credit or debit card, and your card information. It would also be helpful if you will enter your phone number in case we need to contact you regarding the payment.

There is no charge for using this service. If you have any questions, feel free to give us a call.

Please Participate in Peak Control

This month, we are asking you to participate in the "Peak Control" program. This voluntary program can help hold down the wholesale power costs incurred by the cooperative.

Please take time to review the key parts of Peak Control on this page. Contact us at 758-2262 or 800-310-8911 if you have any questions. Thank you for your participation in this program.

What is Peak Control & How Can You Help?

What are the Benefits of Taking Part in Peak Control?

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

What is Peak Control?

Peak control is a voluntary program in which our members can participate to hold down electricity costs to both Caney Valley and themselves.

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 during those two months drives the electricity billings for the following "off-peak" eight months. Be aware of days that have high temperatures forecasted above 90 degrees Fahrenheit. These are the type of days when peak demand can occur.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIPS

Love that Air Conditioning BY DOUG RYE



Doug Rye

Do you ever wonder how we lived without air conditioning? Some of us remember when the only air conditioning in our house was an open window or some sort of fan. Many folks still use standard box or ceiling fans due to economic reasons. They manage to get through our Arkansas summers without air conditioning the best they can, but it's sure uncomfortable.

I think that most would agree that air conditioning is desirable and ranks among the best inventions ever. However, air conditioning as we know it is fairly new. History tells us that people who lived in hot climates were continuously exploring and implementing ideas to find relief from the heat.

Historians have theorized that ancient Egyptians may have put water on their reed curtains to provide some evaporative cooling. Wind blowing through the gaps in the reeds caused the water to evaporate, then pass over a person's skin, creating a cooling effect, much like sitting next to a box fan.

Others have said that there is evidence that the ancient Romans may have run cold water from the aqueducts through the walls of some buildings to provide cooling. This method of cooling is similar to today's cooling towers.

In the 1800s, inventors learned that one could create ice by compressing and evaporating certain liquids such as alcohol and ammonia. Then people discovered that you could create cooling by moving air across ice.

In 1906, Willis Carrier created the major breakthrough when he patented a system that could control room temperature and remove



To reduce annual costs of air conditioning, be sure to change the filter regularly and make the duct system as tight as possible—no system is efficient if it is leaking.

humidity by blowing air across a cold coil. And, bingo, air conditioning as we know it became a modern marvel.

In 1953, a million window-type air conditioning units were sold. The demand for residential units greatly exceeded the supply. About 10 percent of all U.S. homes had some type of air conditioning by 1960. By 2007, about 86 percent of Americans had air conditioning in their homes.

As Americans developed a solution to beat the heat, an unintended consequence occurred. Electric utilities had to add generation resources to meet the growing demand for the electricity required to run the growing numbers of air conditioners across the U.S.

Having a modern marvel like air conditioning and a solution to improve the comfort in our homes is a wonderful thing! However,

Continued on page 20-D ▶

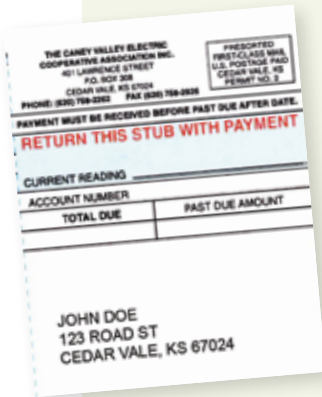
“25 to 30 percent of the average utility bill consists of the energy required for cooling.”

Efficiency Tip of the Month

Like homes and other businesses, farms of all types can lower their electricity bills by turning off or reducing use of lights and small equipment in outbuildings. Timers and sensors can help, too. Regular cleaning, maintenance, and seasonal tune-ups help keep larger equipment running at top efficiency.

Mailing Your Payment?

Be sure to Send Your Payment Stub!



Mailing in your payment stub with your payment insures that it is credited to the correct account.

When you mail in your payment, please be sure and send along your billing stub.

If you have misplaced your stub, especially if the account is not under your name, please include a note so that we can apply the payment to the correct account.

Also, if you are sending payment for more than one account, we need to know how much you are paying on each account in order to get your payment applied correctly. Thank you!

Caney Valley's Operating Statistics

| For Month Ending | June 2013 | June 2012 |
|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Meters Billed | 5,582 | 5,606 |
| kWh's Purchased | 5,996,244 | 6,395,894 |
| Cost per kWh | \$ 0.08931 | \$ 0.08754 |
| kWh Sold | 4,637,872 | 5,251,349 |
| Total Revenue | \$ 681,747 | \$ 797,539 |
| Purchased Power | \$ 535,539 | \$ 559,905 |
| Operating Expenses | \$ 202,226 | \$ 201,064 |
| Depreciation Expenses | \$ 51,538 | \$ 49,353 |
| Interest Expenses | \$ 30,136 | \$ 24,613 |
| Other Expenses | \$ 205 | \$ 797 |
| Operating Margins | \$ (137,897) | \$ (38,193) |
| Non-operating Margins | \$ 1,707 | \$ 1,937 |
| Total Working Margins | \$ (136,190) | \$ (36,256) |
| Margins Year-to-Date | \$ (104,588) | \$ (213,349) |

Love that Air Conditioning Continued from page 20-C

modern conveniences like air conditioners are not free. Properly sized units are a major consumer investment. Also, air conditioners require energy for operation. Twenty-five to 30 percent of the average utility bill consists of the energy required for cooling.

Below is a list of considerations and solutions for air conditioning and its associated costs that may help you manage or lower equipment and operating costs:

- ▶ **The initial cost to purchase and install the system.** A residential air conditioning system is usually priced on the amount of cooling that it can produce. The larger the unit, the higher the cost. **Solution:** Make your house as energy efficient as feasible, then purchase the smallest-sized unit needed to cool your house. A qualified individual must calculate the required British thermal units (BTU) of cooling. If a Manual-J load calculation is not performed, the contractor is merely guessing at the equipment design. Also, more BTUs or a bigger air conditioner is not always better. A properly sized unit will cost less to operate and will control humidity better than an oversized unit.
- ▶ **The actual cost to operate the system.** The operating cost will depend on several factors includ-

ing the efficiency of the air conditioner, the design and tightness of the duct system, the airflow of the system and the thermostat setting. The efficiency rating that was assigned to a particular model of air conditioner was based on the unit having proper airflow when tested. Any reduction in airflow will reduce the efficiency and increase the cost of operation. **Solution:** Change air conditioner filters as needed. Make the duct system as tight as possible. No system is efficient if the cooling is leaking into the attic or crawl space. Also provide adequate return-air. A good rule of thumb is that you need about two square feet of return-air filter grill per ton/12,000 BTUs of cooling. Keep interior and exterior coils clean. Don't set the thermostat at a lower temperature than necessary to be comfortable.

- ▶ **The cost to replace the existing system.** This is a cost that no one wants to face. **Solution:** Follow the advice given above and your air conditioning system should last longer.

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.

Outages for July 2013

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

| Date | Area | Members Affected | Duration | Cause |
|------|------------------------------------|------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| 7/11 | Wayside | 20 | 1 hr | Dump truck broke wire |
| 7/20 | East of Sedan | 35 | 1 hr | Lightning |
| 7/20 | Sedan Loop feed | 50 | 1 hr 30 min | Animal |
| 7/22 | SE of Sedan | 25 | 1 hr | Reset OCR |
| 7/23 | North of Dexter, Burden, Cambridge | 236 | 11 hr 30 min | Westar off |
| 7/23 | North of Cedar Vale | 60 | 4 hr 30 min | Poles broken in storm |
| 7/26 | Chautauqua north | 300 | 35 min | Fault on line - heavy rain |
| 7/26 | Burden area | 50 | 1 hr | Westar off |
| 7/26 | Burden area | 99 | 15 min | Westar off |
| 7/28 | South half of Elgin | 50 | 1 hr | Reset breaker |