

## THE CANEY VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.

# TheVoice

### Caney Valley Electric Cooperative Assn., Inc.

Allen Zadorozny—General Manager

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#### Contact Us

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Cedar Vale, KS 67024  
620-758-2262, Fax: 620-758-2926  
cve@caneyvalley.com.

#### Office Hours

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

#### Power Cost Adjustment

The Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) for September is \$0.04037/kilowatt-hour. This calculates to an additional \$40.37 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.

#### FROM THE MANAGER

### Remember “Safety First” Around Power Lines

“Safety first” is an old, saying, which very well describes the daily operations for the cooperative. Our employees, both line workers and administrative, perform their work following appropriate safety standards.

Periodic safety meetings are held with professional safety instructors and programs emphasizing the correct work procedures and the importance of working in a safety-minded environment.

“Safety first” on the job benefits the cooperative’s operations even beyond avoiding tragic accidents. It helps to keep employees on the job and not absent due to injury. It builds a common thread of confidence and competence among the employees. It sets a good example for the cooperative members to fol-

low in their work, play and daily activities. It helps to control the cooperative’s costs on workers compensation and general liability insurance.

We encourage the public to do its part in keeping “safety first.”

Below is a list of types of public contacts with electric utility power lines that have occurred involving electric cooperatives in recent years.

We all need to be aware of electric power lines and to avoid circumstances which could cause contact with them. Please help us to prevent Caney Valley ECA’s power lines being involved with a public contact accident.



Allen Zadorozny

### Please Help us Prevent Contacts with Power Lines

*Below are types of public contacts with power lines*

- ▶ After lightning strike to transformer
- ▶ Aircraft wire strikes
- ▶ Antennas or flagpoles
- ▶ Child in haystack under line
- ▶ Child in tree
- ▶ Children’s toys in line
- ▶ Consumers or contractors trimming trees
- ▶ Delivery truck booms
- ▶ Downed line after car accidents
- ▶ Downed line from farm equipment
- ▶ Electrical work by consumer or electricians
- ▶ Fighting fire from downed line after storm
- ▶ Grain auger
- ▶ Illegal service reconnections
- ▶ Irrigation pipe
- ▶ Ladders and scaffolding
- ▶ Underground service dig-ins
- ▶ Utility construction contractors
- ▶ Well-digging apparatus

## Perkins & Howard Attend Co-op Youth Leadership Camp

It was so cool watching people step out of their comfort zone. Everyone was accepted quickly, as if we had known each other forever.

JUSTINE VOGELE

Caney Valley Electric sponsored **EMILY PERKINS**, Howard, and **JUSTINE VOGELE**, Dexter, to attend the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, CO, July 12-18. They were selected through an application and testing process.

Perkins and Vogele took a bus to camp with 31 Kansas youth and nine Oklahoma youth. Once the students arrived at camp they joined other youth from Colorado and Wyoming.

"Caney Valley Electric is proud to participate in the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp and send our youth to develop essential leadership and teamwork skills," said Allen Zadorozny, Manager. "Through this trip, we hope that local students will gain some awareness of how our electric cooperatives work and how important it is for the youth to be involved in our community."

The main objectives of the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp were to help the youth gain a better understanding of how their electric cooperatives operate while also building the youths' leadership skills by running a "candy cooperative."

When the youth arrived at camp they paid membership dues, established a board of trustees, elected a general manager, and formed committees.



Justine Vogele (left) and Emily Perkins enjoy the view of Elk River during Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp.

"All of the outgoing people made a big impact on me. It was so cool watching people step out of their comfort zone," Vogele said. "Everyone was accepted quickly, as if we had known each other forever. I realized not everywhere you go people will try to push you away."

The campers learned about electric cooperatives through many of the presentations and activities: Yampa Valley Electric's linemen gave the campers a high voltage safety demonstration, the campers participated in competition to build a model transmission line out of craft supplies, and they toured Trapper Mine and Craig Power Plant.

The campers also hiked Fish Creek Falls; visited Steamboat Springs; went river rafting; and enjoyed camp activities such as volleyball, swimming, a dance, and a talent show.

Overall, the campers left with a new sense of what leadership means to them.

"Learning that all the people you meet can feel so connected to you even after one short week was amazing," Perkins said. "People aren't that much different from each other after all."

Caney Valley Electric would like to thank these two young ladies for participating in the 2014 Youth Leadership Camp and representing their cooperative so well.



Students from four states met at this year's Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp.

## The Value of Co-op Membership

By and large, we don't get to choose who provides our electric service. Folks on opposite sides of the road may be served by different electric providers, some by a stockholder-driven investor-owned utility, others by a city-owned municipal electric system. Electric cooperatives are not-for-profit, owned by you and your fellow members, and serve more than 42 million people across the nation.

### Why Membership Matters:

- ▶ Every home or business that receives power from an electric cooperative owns a portion of the utility.
- ▶ Anyone who receives service becomes more than a customer or consumer, they are a member-owner.
- ▶ Members have a voice and a vote in how the co-op is governed by democratically selecting fellow members to represent them on the board of directors.
- ▶ The co-op is controlled by local hands, not shareholders in far off states or countries.
- ▶ Co-ops are not-for-profit, which means they have no need to increase revenues above what it takes to run the co-op in a financially sound manner.
- ▶ When co-ops make excess revenues, or margins, they are returned to members as capital credits based on their patronage.
- ▶ Co-ops want to help members find ways to lower electricity use and cut costs.
- ▶ Co-ops care about improving the quality of life in the areas they serve, with programs including:
  - Economic Development
  - Donations to Schools
  - Youth Leadership & Outreach
  - College Scholarships & Internship Programs

## The Value of Electricity

Popular demand and short supply drives up the cost of everyday necessities. Some price tag changes—like the cost to fill your car's gas

tank—are obvious to anyone at the pump. Other increases at the grocery store are more subtle, but still impact your family's bottom line. Compare the average price increase of a few household expenses to see how the value of electricity stacks up.

Caney Valley Electric Cooperative works hard to keep your electricity safe, reliable, and affordable. But you play a role in the price you pay for your power. Just as you might cut back on expenses if your budget is tight, we can work with you to cut your monthly electric bill. See how little changes add up at [www.TogetherWeSave.com](http://www.TogetherWeSave.com).

### Home Price

1936: \$3,925  
2013: \$313,700

### Electricity

1936: 5¢  
2013: 11¢



There's something to be said about staying in the same **neighborhood.**

Though the price of a new home has **increased 80x** we've helped to ensure that the price of **electricity** has barely moved.

Source: NRECA

## Reminder—Rate Increase Effective in October

We want to remind members that the rate increase approved in July will be effective with the October billings.

The rates for the residential and farm accounts members will increase only by the customer charge. All of the kilowatt hours' charges will effectively be the same. The customer charge will increase \$10, from \$7 to \$17.

	Existing	Approved
PCA Base	\$0.05	\$0.07
<b>Rural &amp; Town Residential Service</b>		
Customer Charge	\$7.00	\$17.00
Energy Charge: Summer	10.66¢	12.66¢
Energy Charge: Winter	10.06¢	12.06¢
<b>General Service Small</b>		
Customer Charge:		
Single Phase	\$8.00	\$20.00
Three Phase	\$11.00	\$23.00
Energy Charge: Summer	10.12¢	12.66¢
Energy Charge: Winter	9.52¢	12.06¢
<b>Large Commercial and Industrial Service</b>		
Demand Charge	\$7.75	\$8.25
Energy Charge	8.41¢	10.41¢
<b>Large Power Load Control Rate</b>		
<i>Usage for the months of June, July, August &amp; September:</i>		
Coincident Peak Demand	\$16.25	\$16.25
Non-Coincident Peak Demand	\$1.00	\$1.50
<i>Usage for the months of October through May:</i>		
Non-Coincident Peak Demand	\$1.00	\$1.50
Energy Charge	7.65¢	9.65¢
<b>Municipal Rates</b>		
Energy Charge	9.41¢	11.41¢

### Security Light Rate Change Considered

As a result of the new base cost for the power cost adjustment (PCA) adopted in the new electric rates, the security light rental will be changed from \$8.20 to \$9.80 per month.

This change will not be an increase in the rate. Rather, it reflects the effect of the pass-through from the new PCA base cost. The base cost is going from 5¢/kWh to 7¢/kWh.

The security light rental will be considered at the September 16 board meeting. Cooperative members may attend this open meeting.

### USPS Changes Effect Payment Proccsing

Due to Cedar Vale postal hour changes, effective October 1, any mail sent to Caney Valley Electric may not be processed until late morning.

If you have a payment that must be in our office by a certain date and time, you may need to make other payment arrangements. You may pay your bill online at [www.caneyvalley.com](http://www.caneyvalley.com). We do provide a drop box outside the front door.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE Tax Exemptions

Schools, government, hospitals and other non-profit organizations current exemptions will expire on November 1. In order for us to continue to honor your qualified exemption, you must renew your exemption **by November 1. The state will send you a new certificate.** If we do not receive the new certificate we are required to charge tax.

The new certificate has an expiration date of October 1, 2020. This does not apply to agriculture, resale, manufacturing and processing, consumed in production, or the federal government.

### Statement of Nondiscrimination

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html) or at any USDA office, or call 866-632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax 202-690-7442 or email at [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

### Caney Valley's Operating Statistics

For Month Ending	June 2014	June 2013
Meters Billed	5,567	5,582
kWh's Purchased	6,359,385	5,996,244
Cost per kWh	\$ 0.08288	\$ 0.08931
kWh Sold	5,382,513	4,637,872
Total Revenue	\$ 736,236	\$ 681,747
Purchased Power	\$ 527,133	\$ 535,539
Operating Expenses	\$ 193,335	\$ 202,226
Depreciation Expenses	\$ 54,364	\$ 51,538
Interest Expenses	\$ 31,209	\$ 30,136
Other Expenses	\$ 80	\$ 205
Operating Margins	\$ (69,885)	\$ (137,897)
Non-operating Margins	\$ 1,737	\$ 1,707
Total Margins	\$ (68,148)	\$ (136,190)
Margins Year-to-Date	\$ (100,411)	\$ (104,588)

## What is Peak Control & How Can You Help?

This month, we ask members to participate in the Peak Control program. This voluntary program can help hold down the wholesale power costs incurred by the cooperative.

The peak demand for electricity recorded in the summer drives a major part of the wholesale power billing process for the eight off-peak months that follow, October through May. This means that the lower the peak demand registered, the lower demand charges will be.

Members who voluntarily participated in "Peak Control" helped save on the wholesale power costs in the last eight-months during our off-peak period.

### 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?

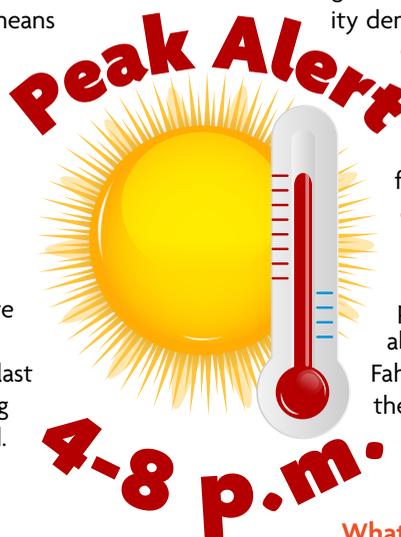
You can participate by voluntarily monitoring when you use electric appliances and equipment that require larger amounts of electricity.

### 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.



### What are the Benefits of Taking Part in Peak Control?

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

If you have any questions call 758-2261 or 800-310-8911. Thank you for your participation in this program.

### Outages for July 2014

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

Date	Area	Members Affected	Duration	Cause
7/4	NE of Howard	30	1 hr 30 min	OCR out
7/11	CV South circuit	40	1 hr 30 min	Hawk on line
7/14	North of Longton	70	40 min	Broken pole - storm
7/14	West of Cedar Vale/Maple City	162	2 hr 45 min	Transmission poles down - storm
7/14	Cedar Vale substation	764	2 hr 50 min	Transmission poles down - storm
7/14	South of Cedar Vale	60	4 hr	Transmission poles down - storm