

THE CANEY VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.

TheVoice

Caney Valley Electric Cooperative Assn., Inc. Allen Zadorozny—General Manager

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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 October is \$0.03824/kilowatt-hour. This calculates to an additional \$38.24 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

Think “Safety First” Around Power Lines



Allen Zadorozny

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

“Safety first” is an old, common phrase which very well describes the daily operations for the cooperative. Our employees,

confidence and competence among the employees. It sets a good example for the cooperative members to follow 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 A. Zadorozny, Manager

Types of Public Contacts with Power Lines

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

Bellar & Howard Attend Co-op Youth Leadership Camp

Kansas electric cooperatives sent 32 high school students to join youth from Colorado, Oklahoma and Wyoming for the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp, July 13-19, 2013, near Steamboat Springs, CO.

SARAH BELLAR, Howard, and **JONATHAN HOWARD**, Peru, were selected from a group of high school applicants by Caney Valley to attend the camp.

While in Colorado, the students learned about cooperatives by creating a “candy cooperative.” When the students arrived at camp, they paid membership dues, established a board of trustees and selected a general manager who held daily membership meetings.

“We had some inspiring discussions and got to learn how to work better as a team,” Howard said. “I will always remember all the fun times I had with my new friends.”

At the end of the week, the group decided how to handle any profit margins. The students earned a \$194 margin from their co-op canteen. Rather than receive a capital credit refund, they made donations to the Tourette’s Syndrome Foundation and the Muscular Dystrophy Association Foundation. There are students who attended camp this year with these disabilities.

“Everyone at camp inspired me,” Bellar said. “I learned so much from everybody, like how people act and how they do things. It’s amazing! Everyone bonded so well, which made the trip a whole lot better.”



Sarah Bellar (left) and Jonathan Howard enjoy the view on top of Lookout Mountain outside of Denver.

The campers also took part in legislative presentations, a high voltage safety demonstration and a competition to build a model transmission line from craft supplies. They also toured the Craig Power Plant and Trapper Mine.

“Caney Valley is proud to support the camp program and send our youth to experience a great leadership camp,” said Allen Zadorozny, Manager. “Our hope is that local students will gain some awareness of cooperatives and how important it is for the youth to be involved in our community.”

The annual leadership camp is coordinated by KEC, the statewide service organization for the rural electric cooperatives in Kansas.

Caney Valley sponsors this trip for two students each year. For more information, contact us at 620-758-2262.

Everyone at camp inspired me. I learned so much from everybody!

SARAH BELLAR



The Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp included more than 100 students from four states.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIPS

What's Hot & What's Not BY DOUG RYE



Doug Rye

Well, if the attic is a big part of the problem, let's just do away with it.

Although the heat finally showed up in August, we were blessed that we didn't have numerous 100-degree days throughout the summer. That's fine with me because everyone got some relief from air conditioning costs and our usual oppressive summer temperatures.

However, even though the summer wasn't that hot, let's visit a topic that is—encapsulating attics. In fact, when it involves the energy efficiency of the building envelope, I don't remember any other single topic that has stirred as much interest as attic encapsulation for both new and existing houses.

There was great interest when we first discussed the ways to make a house envelope tighter by using caulking and cellulose insulation. And there was great interest when we introduced blower door testing as the way to find real energy problems. I believe attic encapsulation is gaining interest because we have learned through the years that many energy efficiency problems are related to the attic. Some examples are upstairs rooms with knee walls, ductwork located in the attic, attic access doors, wall penetrations such as wiring and plumbing chases, ceiling recessed lights and exhaust fans.

Normal attic construction creates an environment above conventional attic insulation that's always significantly hotter during the summer months. The temperature between the top

of conventional insulation and the surface of the roof shingles normally reaches triple-digits, especially when



Infrared thermography shows heat gain on a roof and in an attic.

PHOTO BY BRET CURRY

the sun is shining.

That may seem like an exaggeration, but many residential energy auditors with extensive infrared thermography and image interpretation training have encountered this form of residential heat gain. You've heard me say it time and time again, "Where is the last place you would locate your ductwork?" But folks still locate the ductwork in attics that will exceed 150 degrees during most summer days.

Well, if the attic is a big part of the problem, let's just do away with it. I believe that solving the problem is usually better than a Band-Aid approach. Encapsulating an attic changes the unconditioned attic space to a conditioned space. It still looks like the old attic, but it is now a big overhead odd-shaped room inside the

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Caney Valley's Operating Statistics

For Month Ending	July 2013	July 2012
Meters Billed	5,570	5,605
kWh's Purchased	6,643,217	8,071,452
Cost per kWh	\$ 0.08666	\$ 0.08198
kWh Sold	5,418,233	5,878,051
Total Revenue	\$ 825,442	\$ 881,828
Purchased Power	\$ 575,703	\$ 661,686
Operating Expenses	\$ 194,001	\$ 197,627
Depreciation Expenses	\$ 51,806	\$ 49,825
Interest Expenses	\$ 30,138	\$ 32,685
Other Expenses	\$ 620	\$ 80
Operating Margins	\$ (26,826)	\$ (60,076)
Non-operating Margins	\$ 1,770	\$ 1,847
Total Working Margins	\$ (25,056)	\$ (58,229)
Margins Year-to-Date	\$ (129,644)	\$ (271,578)

Outages for August 2013

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

Date	Area	Members Affected	Duration	Cause
8/2	South of Sedan	60	2 hr 30 min	Broken jumper
8/2	Burden area	40	1 hr 30 min	Lightning
8/5	North & east of Chautauqua	300	45 min	Accident
8/6	Grenola substation	456	7 hr 30 min	Westar off - poles down
8/6	Longton substation	370	4 hr 45 min	Westar off - poles down
8/6	Sedan substation	1600	1 hr	Westar off - poles down
8/8	Southwest of Dexter	60	1 hr 25 min	OCR off
8/8	Cedar Vale B-phase in sub	277	1 hr 10 min	Snake in substation
8/14	One-phase south of Niotaze	30	1 hr 10 min	Buzzard on transformer

What's Hot & What's Not Continued from page 16-C

house and is not connected to the exterior at all. The building envelope has been moved from the attic floor up to the sloped roof sheathing. How do you encapsulate an attic?

First, you spray foam on the entire roof sheathing and on the gable ends with the foam going all the way down until it touches the top plates of the wall. Once that is accomplished, the ductwork is inside the conditioned space and upstairs knee walls are not exposed to hot or cold

attic temperatures, etc. By encapsulating the attic you have eliminated all of the problems listed above. Now there are no ridge vents, no gable or soffit vents, and no spinning turbine vents.

In my opinion, attic encapsulation is the optimum solution for older homes with ductwork located in the attic and little to no existing attic insulation. But this process is not for all homes. For instance, if your existing house is comfortable and the utility

bills are reasonable, it probably isn't feasible to encapsulate.

If your house has natural gas or propane appliances, I suggest that you ask for the expert advice from a credentialed residential energy expert before you encapsulate.

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.

Cold Weather Rule Begins November 1

The Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) adopted a statewide, uniform Cold Weather Disconnection Rule on March 20, 1989, which governs termination or restoration of utility service when consumers are financially unable to pay utility bills from November 1 to March 31 annually.

Caney Valley Electric has adopted this Cold Weather Disconnection Rule with certain modifications to accommodate our consumers.

Co-op members who are unable to pay their electric service bills during the cold weather period may qualify for this program, **provided they fulfill certain good faith requirements when attempting to pay.**

The requirements members must meet to qualify for the program are summarized below:

- ▶ **Members must notify** the co-op and state their inability to pay their service bill in full.
- ▶ **Members must apply** to federal, state, local or other financial assistance programs for which they may be eligible to receive aid in paying utility bills.
- ▶ **Members must make an initial minimum payment** equal to 1/3

of the total amount due the co-op which includes any arrearage. (Example: If a customer owed an arrearage of \$200 and a current bill of \$40, they would owe the co-op a total of \$240. The initial payment under the Cold Weather Rule would be equal to \$240 divided by three, or \$80). All previous arrearage average payment plans must be paid off before entering into another plan.

- ▶ **Members will be required to enter a level payment plan agreement** for past, current and future charges for electric service, with arrears paid in equal installments over the next two months. A consumer and the co-op may negotiate other payment arrangements mutually agreeable, individualized to the consumer's situation, providing the most appropriate terms, after the consumer has been informed that he or she has at least two months in which to pay under the Cold Weather Plan.
- ▶ **Members will be required to provide** sufficient financial information to enable the co-op to determine an appropriate

payment agreement.

Please note that consumers may be ineligible for the benefits under the Cold Weather Disconnection Rule if they fail to follow the above requirements, illegally divert utility service, receive service by tampering as defined by KCC rules or default on a payment agreement.

During the cold weather period, your co-op will do the following:

- ▶ **Inform you** of agencies or organizations which may provide financial assistance in paying utility bills;
- ▶ **Not disconnect service** until the consumer is personally contacted or a notice is posted on the consumer's premises the day before disconnection is to take place.

In no event will the co-op disconnect service if the temperature is forecast to fall below 30 degrees F. within 24 hours following the time of disconnection.

The Cold Weather Rule is to ensure that human health and safety are not unreasonably endangered during the cold weather months.