cve@caneyvalley.com
www.caneyvalley.com
For emergency outages please call 800-310-8911

THE CANEY VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.

The Voice

Caney Valley Electric Co-op, Inc.

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Contact Us

401 Lawrence, P.O. Box 308
Cedar Vale, KS 67024
620-758-2262, Fax: 620-758-2926
cve@caneyvalley.com

Office Hours

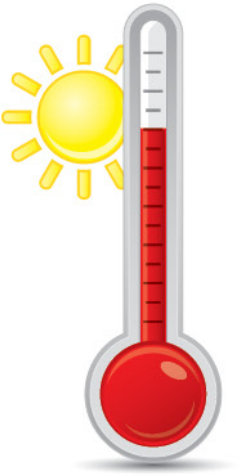
Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Power Cost Adjustment

The Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) for June is $.01112/kilowatt hour. This amounts to an additional $11.12 per 1,000 kilowatt hours. The PCA was implemented in 2002 to cover only the increase (or decrease) in power costs (over and above 7¢/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 GENERAL MANAGER

Control Your Peak Usage



For the next four months, 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.

The peak demand for electricity recorded in July and August drives a major part of the wholesale power billing process for the off-peak months that follow, October through May. The lower the peak demand registered, the lower demand charges will be. Keeping the peak demand low in June and September is also important.

Please take time to review the key parts of peak control below. Contact me at 620-758-2261 or 800-310-8911 if you have any questions. Thank you for your participation in this program.

ALLEN A. ZADOROZNY, GENERAL MANAGER

FAQs about Peak Control

What is Peak Control?

Peak control is a voluntary program in which our cooperative members can participate to hold down electricity costs.

What Can Members Do to Participate in Peak Control?

You can participate by voluntarily reducing your use of electric equipment and appliances which require larger amounts of electricity.

When Do Members Need to Participate in Peak Control?

During the hours of 3 p.m. to 6 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 from our wholesale supplier for the following 8 months, October through May. Be aware of days that have high temperatures forecasted above 90 degrees; these are the type of days when peak demands usually occur. Be especially careful when using large amounts of electricity on 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's wholesale electric bill, you will also limit the amount of the resulting power cost adjustment (PCA) charges added to your electric bill.

Please contact our office for any questions you may have about the Peak Control program.

Power Restoration: Lessons Learned from Line Crews

BY PAUL WESSLUND

Whether the lights go out because of weather or squirrels, safety comes first for lineworkers

You can learn a lot about power outages and restoration by watching, from a safe distance of course, a utility crew at work.

The first thing you'll notice is the deliberate, careful pace. They deploy signs to alert motorists. They mark the work area with orange cones. Always in hardhats and fire-protective clothing, anyone working on a power line pulls on heavy rubber gloves and spreads insulating blankets over the wires. Those gloves they pulled on have been tested by a machine that blows air into them to make sure there's not even a pinhole that could allow a deadly electric current to pass through.

And there's more you won't see. That morning, they likely huddled at the back of a truck to discuss what each of them would be doing that day, with an emphasis on safety. It's a best practice in the industry — so common it's often called a "tailgate meeting" or "toolbox talk."

Making Safety a Habit

There are a lot of reasons your electricity might go off, with weather by far the leading cause. But to a lineworker, all power outage repairs have one thing in common — safety.

Safety is common sense — people want to get home alive, after all. But it's also drilled into the utility workers. In their pole-climbing contests, the fastest time will get disqualified with the slightest safety misstep.

Co-op leadership makes it clear that skipping any safety measure or procedure is a firing offense. Line crews attend lectures aimed at driving home the importance of safety protocols.

So, if you ever wonder why restoring electricity after an outage can take a while, there's a good answer: line crews never compromise on safety.

The next thing you can learn from watching a line crew at work comes from seeing what task they're doing. There's a good chance they're replacing old equipment. Poles and transformers wear out, and failing equipment is one significant cause of power outages. The crew you watch might be restoring an equipment outage, or they might be switching out an old device to prevent a future outage.

You might see them replacing a downed utility pole, a painstaking process of removing the old and hauling in and raising the new, using trucks specifically designed for the job.

Trees vs. Power Lines

The pole might be down because a motorist ran into it — another cause of outages. Or it could be weather related. Wind, ice, fires — these natural disasters cause about 80% of power outages. One characteristic of those natural disasters is that the damage can be widespread. If one pole is down, lots of others could be as well. That means crews will be repeating the pole-replacement process, one job at a time.

Outages can be caused by a variety of factors. Restoring power is an intricate process in a complex utility system. And safety — for crews and the community — will always be the top priority.

That's why bringing the lights back on after a major storm with widespread outages can take days, or even weeks.

It's also likely the crew you're watching will be trimming trees. Trees are beautiful but a common cause of outages as wind and nearby branches can lead to wires getting knocked to the ground. Electric cooperatives devote a lot of time and resources to urging and enforcing limits on planting anything too close to power lines. And crews regularly set up to trim limbs that get too close to the wires.

One fairly common cause of outages you probably won't learn about by watching a crew make repairs is wildlife. Squirrels and other critters routinely crawl around utility equipment, occasionally making a connection between high-voltage wires. Snakes that slither into an electric substation bring consequences — for them and the utility. Sometimes crews need to investigate and correct the cause. Often the system will reset itself after only a brief power interruption.

Lessons from the lineworkers? Outages can be caused by a variety of factors. Restoring power is an intricate process in a complex utility system. And safety — for crews and the community — will always be the top priority.

PAUL WESSLUND writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the national trade association representing more than 900 local electric cooperatives. From growing suburbs to remote farming communities, electric co-ops serve as engines of economic development for 42 million Americans across 56% of the nation's landscape.

Safety Tips for Before, During and After the Storm

Storm season is in full swing. Summer storms have the potential to produce tornadoes — they can happen anytime, anywhere, and bring winds over 200 miles per hour.

In April, a video of NBC Washington chief meteorologist Doug Kammerer went viral. During a live broadcast, Kammerer called his teenage son to warn him of a tornado that was headed straight for their home. Knowing the kids were likely playing video games and not paying attention to the weather, he told them to head straight to the basement. Kammerer debated if he should call his family on-air, but he knew it was the right thing to do. Luckily, the kids made it safely through the storm.

As adults, we understand the importance of storm safety, but younger children and teens may not realize the dangers storms pose. That's why it's so important to talk to your family and have a storm plan in place. Here are a several tips you can share with your loved ones.

Before the Storm

- Talk to your family about what to do in the event of a severe storm or tornado. Point out the safest location to shelter, like a small, interior, windowless room on the lowest level of your home. Discuss the dangers of severe thunderstorms; lightning can strike 10 miles outside of a storm. Remember: when you hear thunder roar, head indoors.
- Make a storm kit. It doesn't have to be elaborate — having a few items on hand is better than nothing at all. Try to include items like water, non-perishable foods, a manual can opener, a first-aid kit, flashlights and extra batteries, prescriptions, baby supplies and pet supplies. Keep all the items in one place for easy access if the power goes out.

During the Storm

- Pay attention to local weather alerts — either on the TV, your smartphone or weather radio — and understand the types of alerts. A thunderstorm or tornado watch means these events are possible and you should be prepared; a warning means a thunderstorm or tornado has been spotted in your area and it's time to act.
- If you find yourself in the path of a tornado, head to your safe place to shelter, and protect yourself by covering your head with your arms or materials like blankets and pillows.
- If you're driving during a severe storm or tornado, do not try to outrun it. Pull over and cover your body with a coat or blanket if possible.

After the Storm

- If the power is out, conserve your phone battery as much as possible, limiting calls and texts to let others know you are safe or for emergencies only.
- Stay off the roads if trees, power lines or utility poles are down. Lines and equipment could still be energized, posing life-threatening risks to anyone who gets too close.
- Wear appropriate gear if you're cleaning up storm debris on your property. Thick-soled shoes, long pants and work gloves will help protect you from sharp or dangerous debris left behind.

Summer is a time for many fun-filled activities, but the season can also bring severe, dangerous weather. Talk to your loved ones about storm safety so that everyone is prepared and knows exactly what to do when a storm strikes.

Talk to your loved ones about storm safety so that everyone is prepared and knows exactly what to do when a storm strikes.

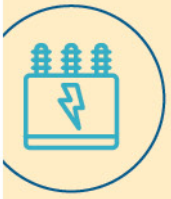
The Steps to RESTORING POWER

When a major outage occurs, our crews restore service to the greatest number of people in the shortest time possible — until everyone has power.

1 | High-Voltage Transmission Lines

These lines carry large amounts of electricity. They rarely fail but must be repaired first.

2 | Distribution Substations



Crews inspect substations, which can serve hundreds or thousands of people.

3 | Main Distribution Lines

Main lines serve essential facilities like hospitals and larger communities.

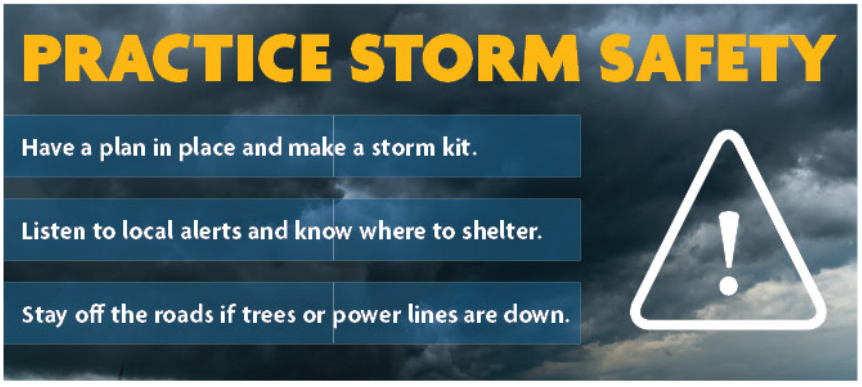
4 | Individual Homes and Businesses

After main line repairs are complete, we repair lines that serve individual homes and businesses.

Outages for April 2022

Occasionally, a part or parts of the delivery system fail and an outage occurs. We fortunately only had one outage in April that affected several members.

Date	Area	Members Affected	Duration	Cause
4/6	NE of Sedan	17	2 hr 15 min	Tree fell through line



Operating Statistics

For Month Ending	March 2022	March 2021
Meters Billed	5,263	5,232
kWh Purchased	5,147,941	4,737,446
Cost Per kWh	0.07643	0.06736
kWh Sold	5,106,097	5,487,894
Total Revenue	$ 815,570	$ 818,439
Purchased Power	$ 393,958	$ 319,981
Operating Expenses	$ 283,012	$ 235,173
Depreciation Expenses	$ 70,929	$ 69,892
Interest Expenses	$ 42,161	$ 39,486
Other Expenses	$ (2,287)	$ 613
Operating Margins	$ 27,798	$ 153,295
Non-operating Margins	$ 48,205	$ 43,650
Total Working Margins	$ 76,003	$ 196,944
Margins Year-to-Date	$ 61,302	$ 248,412

Nondiscrimination Statement

The Caney Valley Electric Cooperative Association, Inc., is a recipient of Federal financial assistance from Rural Development, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. In accordance with Federal civil rights law and USDA civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call 866-632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Dept of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Sec'y for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: 202-690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.