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For emergency outages please call 800-310-8911

THE CANEY VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.

The Voice

CANEY VALLEY ELECTRIC CO-OP, INC.

CONTACT US

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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 June is $0.01273/kilowatt-hour. This amounts to an additional $12.73 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 suppliers. The PCA varies each month depending on the wholesale costs, and is a flow-through on your electric bill.

FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Keeping a Close Eye on Rates

Your cooperative's board and management are continually reviewing the cost of electricity the members have to pay. It is concerning to us that your electric bills are as high as they are. The basic electric rates were the same between 1993 and 2014. The rates were able to generate adequate revenues during those years due to a continual modest increase in the kilowatt-hours sold through the year. The revenue was enough to cover the ongoing increases in the cooperative's general operating expenditures.

Since 2014, the electric sales have decreased drastically. The 2014 kWhs sold were 70,529,506. The 2016 number was 61,049,268. From 2017, the kWhs sold each year has averaged 60 million. Any significant increase is unlikely. Also, the average number of meters served each month in 2014 was 5,574 compared to 5,184 in 2025. Of course, the rapid decline in revenue has adversely affected the cooperative's acceptable cushion between revenues and expenditures.

To have the resources and ability to continue to operate the cooperative in a proper manner (e.g., electric system maintenance and improvements, continuity of service, certified linemen, long-term debt service, advanced technology utilization, proper business administration and member satisfaction) the cooperative's rates will have to be increased at some point.

As reported in the cooperative's annual meeting report and at the annual meeting, the board of trustees is considering a rate increase to take effect in January 2026. Tentative plans include having an open meeting in September for cooperative members to attend as the board considers details for the rate increase.

The next three issues of "The Voice" will contain additional rate increase information.

We are glad to discuss any questions or concerns you may have. Call or visit in person any time.

ALLEN A. ZADOROZNY,
GENERAL MANAGER

5 WAYS to Reduce Use During Extreme Heat

During periods of extreme heat, the demand for electricity can skyrocket, placing additional strain on the grid. By working together to lower our electricity use, we can reduce pressure on the grid.

Here are five effective ways to lower usage at home.

1. Raise your thermostat setting a few degrees higher than usual. Every degree can reduce cooling energy consumption.
2. Cook with smaller appliances to save energy and reduce heat gain in the kitchen.
3. Keep blinds, curtains and shades closed during the hottest part of the day to block direct sunlight.
4. Use fans to circulate air, which can make you feel cooler without needing to lower the thermostat.
5. Shift activities that require a lot of energy consumption to off-peak hours when demand is lower.

How Extreme Summer Temperatures Impact Reliability

When outdoor temperatures soar, our electricity use increases. That's because our air conditioners are running longer and more often to counteract sweltering outdoor temperatures. Factor in that we all tend to use electricity at the same times — in the morning and early evenings — and that equals a lot of strain on our electric grid.

At Caney Valley Electric, we work closely with KEPCo, our local generation and transmission (G&T) cooperative in resource and infrastructure planning to ensure you have the power you need whenever you flip a switch, but the electric grid is much larger than your local co-op and G&T.

In summer months, when even more electricity is being used simultaneously across the country, it is possible for electricity demand to exceed supply, especially if a prolonged heat wave occurs. If this happens, which is rare, the grid operator for our region of the country, the Southwest Power Pool (SPP), may call on consumers to actively reduce their energy use or initiate rolling power outages to relieve pressure on the grid. Caney Valley Electric will always keep you informed about situations like this.

We work proactively with our G&T to create a resilient portion of the grid and ensure electric reliability in extreme weather, including regular system maintenance, grid modernization efforts and disaster response planning; but it takes everyone to keep the grid reliable.

To help keep the air conditioner running for you, your family and neighbors, here are a few things you can do to relieve pressure on the grid during times of extreme summer heat:

- Select the highest comfortable thermostat setting and turn it up several degrees whenever possible. Your cooling system must run longer to make up the difference between the thermostat temp and the outdoor temp.
  - **PRO TIP:** Seal air leaks around windows and exterior doors with caulk and weatherstripping. Air leaks and drafts force your cooling system to work harder than necessary.
- Run major appliances such as dishwashers, ovens and dryers during off-peak hours when the demand for electricity is lower.
  - **PRO TIP:** Start the dishwasher before you go to bed.
- Use ceiling fans to make yourself feel a few degrees cooler. Remember, ceiling fans cool people (not rooms), so turn them off in unoccupied rooms.
  - **PRO TIP:** During summer months, set ceiling fan blades to rotate counterclockwise, which pushes cool air down for a windchill effect.
- Close blinds, curtains and shades during the hottest part of the day to block unwanted heat gain from sunlight.
  - **PRO TIP:** Consider blackout curtains with thermal backing or reflective lining to block heat and light.
- Use smaller appliances, such as slow cookers, air fryers and toaster ovens to cook meals.
  - **PRO TIP:** Studies have shown that air fryers use about half the amount of electricity than a full-size oven. Air fryers are smaller and use focused heat, which results in faster cooking times, less heat output and lower energy use.

As we face the challenges posed by soaring summer temperatures, understanding the impact on energy demand is crucial for maintaining a reliable power supply. By adopting energy conservation practices during periods of extreme heat, not only can you save money on your electric bills, but you can also contribute to the resilience of the grid, keeping our local community cool and connected.

Smart Ways to Save Energy This Summer

Summer heat can strain both your comfort and your budget. As temperatures soar and energy demand peaks in the late afternoon and evening, it's time to take steps to lower your energy consumption and stay cool without breaking the bank.

BOOST YOUR HOME'S ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Start with an energy audit. We can't fix what we don't know about. Request a home energy audit from your electric cooperative or a home energy auditor to identify where energy is being lost. Then, take action to reduce usage this summer.

KEEP COOL AIR IN AND HOT AIR OUT WITH THESE TIPS:

- Seal air leaks around pipes, doors, windows, cracks and openings with caulk or weather stripping.
- Schedule an HVAC system inspection with a professional to maintain performance. Check with your utility for rebates on energy-efficient replacements.
- Change your air filter regularly. A clogged air filter makes your HVAC system work harder.
- Switch to LED bulbs for increased efficiency.
- Install a smart or programmable thermostat for automatic temperature control. Check with your electric cooperative for incentives and deals.

REDUCE ENERGY COSTS WITH SMART APPLIANCE USE:

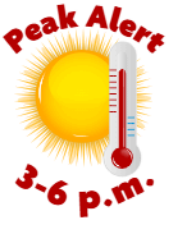
- Run dryers, washers and dishwashers early in the morning or late in the evening.
- Wash full loads of laundry in cold water. It's the detergent, not hot water, that cleans the clothes.
- Clean the dryer's lint trap after every laundry load, and air-dry clothes when possible.
- Reduce heat-generating activities at home, like cooking during the hottest parts of the day or using heat-producing appliances.
- Use a microwave oven or countertop appliance instead of a conventional range or oven. Better yet, grill outside!

TAKE EASY ACTIONS FOR BIG ENERGY SAVINGS:

- Change ceiling fans to rotate counterclockwise to cool rooms and turn them off when you leave the room. Ceiling fans don't actually cool the air; they create a wind chill effect on your skin by circulating air around you.
- Stay on the lowest floor of your home for naturally cooler air.
- Close blinds and shades on sunny days to block excess heat.
- Increase your thermostat by 2 degrees or more and set it to higher temperatures when you're away.
- Turn off and disconnect electronics that are not in use.
- Prepare no-heat meals like salads, wraps and dips.

Making small changes to reduce energy use can make a big impact. You'll keep cool, save money on your utility bill and help reduce energy demand.

CONTROL YOUR PEAK USAGE



It's summertime and we are asking members to participate in the **PEAK CONTROL** program again this year. This voluntary program helps 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 eight off-peak months, 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. Call us at 620-758-2261 or 800-310-8911 if you have any questions. Thank you for your participation in this program!

PEAK CONTROL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS PEAK CONTROL?

PEAK CONTROL is a voluntary program for cooperative members to take an active role in holding down electricity costs.

HOW CAN MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN PEAK CONTROL?

Members can voluntarily reduce use of electric equipment and appliances that require larger amounts of electricity.

WHEN DO MEMBERS NEED TO PARTICIPATE IN PEAK CONTROL?

From 3 to 6 p.m. every weekday from June 1 through Sept. 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 eight months, October through May.

Members are asked to reduce energy use on days when temperatures are forecast to be above 90 degrees, as those are the days when peak demands usually occur.

WHY SHOULD MEMBERS TAKE PART IN PEAK CONTROL?

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

Call our office with any questions about the Peak Control program.

Employee Spotlight

We are going to "spotlight" our employees as space allows, to help our members learn a little bit about our employees.

Brad Brown

BRAD BROWN, Sedan, was hired June 14, 1999, as an apprentice lineman and attained journeyman status in 2004. In February 2021, he was promoted to line foreman, a position he still holds.

Before working for the cooperative, Brad was a code pipe welder for Koch Pipeline for about 10 years, and rig welded for various other companies for three years or so. He followed in his dad's footsteps when he came to work for the cooperative, as his dad was a lineman and ended his career as manager of Caney Valley.

Brad enjoys working outside, learning new skills, and working with and meeting other line workers and helping other cooperatives. He especially enjoys his grandchildren and spending time with his family. Welding fabrication, woodcutting and working on chainsaws keeps him busy in his spare time.

OUTAGES FOR APRIL 2025

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

Date	Area	Members Affected	Duration	Cause
4/2	Hwy 99, Sedan	180	1 hr 30 min	Recloser tripped
4/4	North of Cedar Vale	64	35 min	Scheduled to backfeed load
4/20	All Chautauqua substation	848	2 hr 5 min	Switch failed
4/26	West of Sedan	40	1 hr 30 min	Line breaker tripped
4/26	West of Sedan	40	2 hr	Bad arrestor on transformer

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 Secretary 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.

MARCH OPERATING STATISTICS

For Month Ending	March 2024	March 2025	For Month Ending	March 2024	March 2025	For Month Ending	March 2024	March 2025
Meters Billed	5,173	5,184	Total Revenue	$ 719,126	$ 842,339	Other Expenses	$ 400	$ 1,472
kWh Purchased	4,671,332	4,714,642	Purchased Power	$ 366,851	$ 357,008	Operating Margins	$ (34,051)	$ 64,768
Cost Per kWh Purchased	0.07821	0.07553	Operating Expenses	$ 266,819	$ 291,320	Non-operating Margins	$ 31,624	$ 33,203
kWh Sold	4,545,357	5,497,933	Depreciation Expenses	$ 75,664	$ 77,738	Total Working Margins	$ (2,427)	$ 97,971
			Interest Expenses	$ 43,443	$ 50,033	Margins Year-to-Date	$ 19,468	$ 45,739