



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

THE CANEY VALLEY ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.



TheVoice

Caney Valley Electric Co-op, Inc.

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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 August is \$0.00929/kilowatt-hour. This amounts to an additional \$9.29 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

Your Cost for Electric Service

Now that we are experiencing the hot summer months, many of you will receive your highest electric bills of the year.

Your board of trustees closely monitors the financial operations of your cooperative to assure you are paying electric rates that are as fair and reasonable as possible. Caney Valley's electric rates historically have been higher than we would like them to be. There are many reasons why this is the case, and I would be glad to discuss them personally with you in detail.

The average cost all of the members are paying is 24% more than the cost 10 years ago. This includes the effect of an 8% increase in rates which began in October 2014. Also, the customer charge per meter was increased \$12 over the last two years.

The average cost per kilowatt-hour in

2009 was 12.6¢. The average cost in 2019 was 15.6¢. A condition adversely affecting the cooperative's operations is that approximately 30% of the 5,211 meters served use less than 100 kilowatt-hours per month.

We are continually working to hold the line on rates. As you know from your experiences with your personal and business finances, prices and costs for goods and services rarely stay the same or decrease. Usually, costs overall continue to rise. It is the same with the cooperative's operations as we work to provide reliable electric service at a justifiable cost to the members.

Please contact me if you have any questions or comments about the cost or quality of your electric service.

ALLEN A. ZADOROZNY,
GENERAL MANAGER



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 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 by mail to 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.

Help Keep Our Crews Safe

Orange road signs are not just for highway construction zones; they also apply to utility work zones. Slowing down before entering work zones helps save lives, including the lives of our crew members, who must often work roadside to maintain or restore power.

Cars or trucks that go too fast not only endanger workers on the ground, they can also put a lineworker who is working high up in a bucket in serious danger. The force created by fast-moving vehicles can cause work truck buckets to move or sway into high-voltage lines. Please, take extra care in work zones. Our crews and their families thank you.



Control Your Peak Usage

For August and September, we are once again 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 eight 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 our office at 758-2261 or 800-310-8911 if you have any questions. Thank you for your participation in this program.

Frequently Asked Questions 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 that require larger amounts of electricity.

When Do Members Need to Participate in Peak Control?

Between 3 and 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. Be aware of days that have high temperatures forecast 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 charges added to your electric bill.

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



In Appreciation – Dave Kelly Retires

Caney Valley Electric would like to express sincere congratulations to **DAVE KELLY**, Cedar Vale, who retired on July 7. Kelly worked 32 years for the cooperative, starting in July 1988 as an apprentice lineman. He attained journeyman status a few years later and was promoted to line foreman in 2017.

The board and staff join together in wishing him a very happy retirement!



Dave Kelly, line foreman, retired after 32 years with the cooperative.

Caney Valley's Policy on Power Theft

Due to problems with some cooperative members found tampering with the meter or other electrical devices and the resulting theft of services, the Caney Valley Electric Board of Trustees implemented a policy on power theft as follows:

Members are advised that Caney Valley Electric will hold members responsible both civilly and criminally for any theft of electric energy and/or meter tampering, pursuant to Kansas Statutes, plus any fees that may arise as a result of same. **KANSAS STATUTE 21-3704** specifies that theft of services is:

a) Obtaining services from another by deception, threat, coercion, stealth, tampering or use of false token or device.

b) "Services" within the meaning of this section includes, but is not limited to ... public or municipal utility services ... and rural electric cooperatives shall be considered public utilities.

c) "Tampering" within the meaning of this section includes, but is not limited to:

1) Making a connection of any wire, conduit or device to any service or transmission line owned by a public or municipal utility ... ;

2) Defacing, puncturing, removing, reversing or altering any meter or any connections for the purpose of securing unauthorized or unmeasured electricity ... ;

3) Preventing any such meters from properly measuring or registering;

4) Knowingly taking, receiving, using

or converting to such person's own use, or the use of another, any electricity ... which has not been measured; or

5) Causing, procuring, permitting, aiding or abetting any person to do any of the preceding acts.

d) In any prosecution under this section, the existence of any of the connections of meters, alterations or use of unauthorized or unmeasured electricity ... shall be evidence of intent to violate the provisions of this section.

e) Theft of services of the value of:

1) Less than \$1,000 is a class A misdemeanor

2) At least \$1,000 but less than \$25,000 is a level 9 felony.

Indications of meter tampering or obvious theft witnessed by an employee or member of the public will be immediately investigated. The reporting party's name and other information shall be held confidential. Members will be charged a \$100.00 fee if an account is found, for a second time, to have missing or tampered-with sealing devices. For any subsequent occurrence, the members will also be responsible for all time and materials needed to repair and install any additional locking devices.

If a member is found to have willfully diverted power to any account for any reason, that account will be immediately disconnected. Power will not be restored until the account holder has paid a diversion charge of

\$250 plus any estimated lost revenue charges. Any damage to cooperative property will be billed on a time and material basis. Willfully diverting power a second time will result in a fee of \$500 plus any other charges. Management may seek prosecution under Kansas Statute #21-3704 of any person found diverting power or tampering with the meter.

DO NOT TAMPER WITH YOUR ELECTRIC METER

Meter tampering can result in electric shock, is illegal and increases electricity rates for other co-op members.



⊘ Never break a meter seal.

⊘ Never open a meter base.

⊘ Never remove a meter or alter an entrance cable in any manner.

If you know or suspect that someone has tampered with their meter, please contact us immediately.

ENERGY STAR Appliances: Do They Really Save You Money?

If you are in the market for a new appliance, you might wonder if buying an ENERGY STAR®-certified version will make a difference in your energy bills.

THE SHORT ANSWER IS YES, when you compare its estimated energy costs to its less efficient counterpart.

In fact, there are really two costs to consider before buying an appliance: the purchase price and the projected monthly energy costs.

The energy-conscious appliances displaying the ENERGY STAR logo use 10-15% less energy and water than standard models, according to Energy.gov. For example, ENERGY STAR clothes washers use about 40% less energy than conventional clothes washers while also reducing water bills.

AND THE LONGER ANSWER IS YES, if you consider the appliance's lifespan.

ENERGY STAR appliances and other products used throughout your home can save you a collective \$750 over their lifespan, according to Energy.gov. Besides appliances, there are other ENERGY STAR-certified products, such as lighting and

electronics. While selecting energy-saving designated appliances could have a slightly higher price

WHAT IF ALL APPLIANCES WERE ENERGY STAR?

According to EnergyStar.gov, if every appliance purchased in the United States this year earned the ENERGY STAR designation, Americans would:

- ▶ Prevent greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to the emissions from 225,000 cars.
- ▶ Save more than 1.3 billion kWh/year of electricity.
- ▶ Save \$425 million in annual energy costs.
- ▶ Save more than 28 billion gallons of water per year.*

*INCLUDES ENERGY STAR-CERTIFIED CLOTHES WASHER, DISHWASHER, AND REFRIGERATOR. DOLLARS SAVINGS REFLECT SAVINGS GENERATED FROM THE REDUCTION OF ENERGY AND WATER USAGE.

tag, they don't always. Compare prices and don't assume they cost substantially more than less efficient models.

The biggest bang for your energy-savings buck might be your refrigerator, especially if it is 15 years old or older. By replacing your old fridge with a new ENERGY STAR-certified model, you can save more than \$200 over a 12-year lifespan.

TIP: EnergyStar.gov offers a "Flip Your Fridge" calculator to estimate savings depending on the size and age of your largest kitchen appliance.

BOTTOM LINE? The typical U.S. family spends around \$2,200 a year on home utility bills. Switching to ENERGY STAR products can help lower these costs over time.

Caney Valley's Operating Statistics

For Month Ending	May 2020	May 2019
Meters Billed	5,244	5,295
kWh Purchased	4,086,932	4,409,658
Cost Per kWh	0.07470	0.07780
kWh Sold	3,912,176	3,921,583
Total Revenue	\$ 617,910	\$ 642,348
Purchased Power	\$ 306,652	\$ 344,049
Operating Expenses	\$ 246,476	\$ 239,410
Depreciation Expenses	\$ 68,643	\$ 67,882
Interest Expenses	\$ 43,032	\$ 48,787
Other Expenses	\$ 63	\$ 325
Operating Margins	\$ (46,956)	\$ (58,105)
Non-Operating Margins	\$ 2,548	\$ 1,961
Total Margins	\$ (44,408)	\$ (56,144)
Margins Year-to-Date	\$ 24,773	\$ 45,468

Outages for June 2020

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

Date	Area	Members Affected	Duration	Cause
6/10	South of Havana	25	3 hrs	High winds - reset OCR
6/19	Phase north of Sedan	44	1 hr 20 min	Tree in line
6/20	Cedar Vale south circuit	150	1 hr 50 min	Broken jumper - trees in line
6/30	Phase at Cedar Vale	260	45 min	Snake on breaker