



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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OFFICE HOURS

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

POWER COST ADJUSTMENT

The Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) for September is \$0.01130/kilowatt-hour. This amounts to an additional \$11.30 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

Co-ops Power Communities With Purpose

Communities come in all shapes and sizes. Some are based on geographical proximity, some are based on shared interests or hobbies, and some communities can even be found in virtual spaces like social media groups. Regardless of where or how they are formed, communities can bring people together and create a sense of belonging.

Caney Valley Electric is deeply committed to our consumer-members, and we're glad you are part of the electric cooperative community.

This month, more than 30,000 cooperatives across the U.S. are celebrating National Co-op Month. It's a time to reflect on all the aspects that set cooperatives apart from other types of businesses, but more importantly, it's a time to celebrate the power of co-op membership.

Electric cooperatives are not-for-profit utilities that are built by the communities they serve. For Caney Valley Electric, our mission has always been to provide you with safe, reliable power. We care about your quality of life, and because we are locally operated, we're uniquely suited to meet our members' evolving energy needs.

Beyond the business of electricity, our employees and directors are equally invested in our local community. Why? Because we live here, too. That's why we work hard to support local economic development projects, youth programs and scholarships, charitable giving initiatives and additional programs that make our community a better place to call home.

Continued on page 12C ▶

October is National

C O - O P M O N T H

Electric cooperatives are not-for-profit, community-led utilities. Because we are a co-op, we can adapt to our local members' needs, providing the programs and services you care about most.

That's the power of co-op membership.

LOOK UP

Around Power Lines

Caney Valley Electric's insurance company serves 90% of all the nation's electric cooperatives. Each month they provide a report of claims involving electric line contacts causing death and serious injury. The following are excerpts from the latest report. The claims involve the same or similar events every month. We can all relate on how they happen. We always need to be alert and aware!

947 new claims were reported in July.

14 new public contact claims were reported in July, with three fatalities:

- ▶ a crop sprayer striking overhead lines;
- ▶ a member making contact with lines while working on her camper trailer; and
- ▶ a roofing contractor contacting lines while re-roofing a member's home.

NON-FATAL PUBLIC CONTACT CLAIMS CONSISTED OF:

- ▶ A member receiving a shock after touching a meter box.
- ▶ Three separate fiber contractors contacting lines while installing fiber.
- ▶ Two separate line construction contractors contacting lines while changing out a pole.
- ▶ A roofer making contact with a 120-volt line.
- ▶ A vacuum truck operator raising his boom into overhead lines.
- ▶ A construction contractor trenching into underground lines.
- ▶ An employee of a local business making contact with overhead lines while rehangng a metal sign using a scissor lift.
- ▶ And a drilling truck operator raising his boom into overhead lines.

LOOK UP BEFORE YOU CLIMB.

USING A LADDER NEAR OVERHEAD POWER LINES COULD CAUSE ELECTROCUTION.

1. KEEP YOURSELF AND EQUIPMENT 10 FEET FROM OVERHEAD POWER LINES.

- ▶ Electricity can arc or jump if a ladder gets too close.
- ▶ A ladder could make direct contact with the line.

2. USE A LADDER DURING IDEAL WEATHER CONDITIONS.

- ▶ Rain can make the ground slippery.
- ▶ Wind could blow a ladder into a power line.

3. DO NOT TRIM TREES/BRANCHES THAT ARE NEAR POWER LINES.

- ▶ It is dangerous to trim near overhead power lines.
- ▶ By law, only certified line clearance tree trimmers can do so.

4. DO NOT USE WATER OR BLOWER EXTENSIONS TO CLEAN GUTTERS NEAR OVERHEAD LINES.

- ▶ All power lines can cause electrocution, including those feeding your home.
- ▶ Always follow the 10-foot distance rule when working or playing outside.

FOLLOW MANUFACTURER'S SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS WHEN USING A LADDER.

SOURCE: WWW.SAFELECTRICITY.ORG



Cold Weather Rule Begins Nov. 1

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

Caney Valley Electric has adopted this CWR with certain modifications to accommodate our consumers.

Cooperative 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, as summarized below:

- ▶ Members must notify the cooperative 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. Your cooperative can inform you of agencies or organizations which may provide financial assistance.
- ▶ Members must make an initial minimum payment equal to 1/3 of the total amount due the cooperative which includes any arrearage. (Example: If a customer owed an arrearage of \$200 and a current bill of \$40, they would owe the cooperative a total of \$240. The initial payment under the CWR would be equal to \$240 divided by 3, 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 cooperative 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 cooperative to determine an appropriate payment agreement.

Please note that consumers may be ineligible for the benefits under the CWR 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.

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

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT ONCE AN AGREEMENT HAS BEEN MADE AND THOSE TERMS ARE DEFAULTED ON, THE AGREEMENT BECOMES NULL AND VOID AND THE MEMBER'S ELECTRIC SERVICE WILL BE SUBJECT TO IMMEDIATE DISCONNECTION.

It is the belief of some that once the CWR is in effect, electric bills can be ignored and the cooperative will not disconnect service; this is not true. The cooperative can and will disconnect for non-payment if the above criteria are not met.

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

CO-OPS POWER COMMUNITIES WITH PURPOSE *Continued from page 12A*

All co-ops, including Caney Valley Electric, are guided by seven cooperative principles that embody the values and spirit of the cooperative movement. These seven principles are a framework to help all co-ops navigate challenges and opportunities while remaining true to our purpose:

1 OPEN AND VOLUNTARY

MEMBERSHIP: Co-op membership is open to anyone who can use the co-op's services.

2 DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL:

Members make decisions that shape the cooperative. Why? Because co-ops are created by the members, for the members.

3 MEMBERS' ECONOMIC

PARTICIPATION: Members contribute money to the co-op to make sure it runs smoothly now and in the

future. At Caney Valley Electric, this happens through paying your energy bills.

4 AUTONOMY AND INDEPENDENCE:

Co-ops are independent and can operate on their own, which ultimately benefits the members.

5 EDUCATION, TRAINING AND INFORMATION:

Co-ops continuously focus on education to ensure employees and the board of trustees have the training and information they need to make the co-op successful. At Caney Valley Electric, we also provide electric safety demonstrations for our members and their families via several community groups, as well as at our annual meeting in March. This helps spread the safety message and ensure safety around the co-op's electric infrastructure.

6 COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES:

Co-ops share with and learn from other cooperatives. We help each other out in times of need because we want other co-ops to thrive.

7 CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY:

All cooperatives work for the greater good of the local communities they serve. Co-ops give back to their communities to help them thrive and grow.

This October, as we celebrate National Co-op Month and the power of membership, we hope you will recognize the many aspects that set electric cooperatives apart. Our mission is reliable power. Our purpose is people — the local communities we're proud to serve.

ALLEN A. ZADOROZNY, GENERAL MANAGER

Employee Spotlight

We are going to “spotlight” our employees as space allows, to help our members put a face to a name and learn a little bit about our employees.

GARRETT BANE of Sedan was hired July 1, 2019, as an apprentice lineman, and completed his journeyman certification on July 1, 2023.

His favorite things about his job are learning something new every day and working with his colleagues — there’s never a dull moment.

Bane and his wife, Chelsie, have been married for nine years and have a 7-year-old son and a 2-year-old daughter. He enjoys spending time with his family, taking his son hunting, fishing, golfing and playing ball in the yard, and playing “whatever my daughter comes up with!” He also enjoys evening rides in the county and going out to dinner with his wife.



Garret Bane

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.

SAFETY TIP

In the U.S., nine people are killed each day in crashes involving a distracted driver. When you drive, just drive. Distracted driving not only puts you and other drivers at risk, but it also endangers roadside crews, bikers and pedestrians.



SOURCE: WWW.SAFEELECTRICITY.COM

OUTAGES FOR AUGUST 2024

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
8/6	North of Howard	45	90 min	Accident-trees pushed into line
8/7	North of Longton	118	13 hr 45 min	Tree fell through line across river
8/7	North of Longton	41	1 hr 40 min	Tree fell through line across river-backed a portion of line
8/13	Grenola substation B-phase	45	40 min	Lightning-reset bad OCR
8/13	South of Moline	27	2 hrs	Tree on line
8/16	Chautauqua	24	2 hr 30 min	Scheduled pole changeout
8/23	Chautauqua substation	854	40 min	Reset breaker at switching station

JULY OPERATING STATISTICS

For Month Ending	July 2023	July 2024	For Month Ending	July 2023	July 2024	For Month Ending	July 2023	July 2024
Meters Billed	5,185	5,198	Total Revenue	\$ 834,007	\$ 914,096	Other Expenses	\$ 3,088	\$ 3,250
kWh Purchased	6,543,908	6,662,525	Purchased Power	\$ 527,021	\$ 548,462	Operating Margins	\$ (102,037)	\$ (54,213)
Cost Per kWh Purchased	0.08025	0.08210	Operating Expenses	\$ 288,614	\$ 296,688	Non-operating Margins	\$ 4,708	\$ 2,960
kWh Sold	5,212,837	5,712,538	Depreciation Expenses	\$ 73,527	\$ 76,424	Total Working Margins	\$ (97,329)	\$ (51,253)
			Interest Expenses	\$ 43,794	\$ 43,485	Margins Year-to-Date	\$ (230,736)	\$ (327,030)