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 November is $0.01584 /kilowatt-hour. This amounts to an additional $15.84 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

Rates Increase Approved, Effective Jan. 1

Caney Valley held an open membership meeting on Sept. 9 where information about electric rate changes was presented to the board of trustees. Following the meeting, the board voted to approve the increase.

For the past 10 years, the cooperative's kilowatt-hour (kWh) sales have remained about the same, while electric meters billed has continued to decline — now more than 300 meters less than a decade ago.

With no increase in revenue, the cooperative has not been able to cover the operating expenses which continue to increase significantly, reaching 18% in just the last four years. The reduced operating margins for 2023, 2024 and 2025 do not meet the minimum financial ratios required by the cooperative's bankers.

The rate increase is primarily applied to the **MONTHLY CUSTOMER CHARGE, ADDING AN ADDITIONAL $10 EACH MONTH.**

TWO LARGE COMMERCIAL RATE SCHEDULES HAVE AN INCREASE OF $0.50 PER KILOWATT (kW) DEMAND rather than a customer charge in their rates. There is no increase on any of the kWh energy charges.

The 2020 cost-of-service study found that the cost to serve each residential meter is between $50-$60. Costs have significantly increased in the five years since that study.

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ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

With the holiday season approaching and more time spent in the kitchen, consider ways to save energy in the heart of your home. When possible, cook meals with smaller, energy efficient appliances, such as toaster ovens, slow cookers and air fryers. When using the range, match the size of the pan to the heating element. Keep range-top burners and reflectors clean so they reflect heat more efficiently. After your holiday meals are complete, load the dishwasher fully before starting the wash cycle. SOURCE: WWW.ENERGY.GOV

STAY TOASTY AND WARM WHILE TURNING DOWN THE THERMOSTAT

When the winter winds blow, it is tempting to adjust the thermostat up a few degrees. However turning to other ways to help keep you warm could help reduce your energy bills. Each degree you reduce your thermostat saves 1% on your heating bill.

No one home during the day? Lower your thermostat 7-10 degrees to save!

Ways to stay warm when it's cold outside:

BUNDLE up by wearing layers and heavy socks.

GET your body moving and stay active.

CAULK windows and doorframes that leak air.

REPLACE OR UPDATE old or ineffective door seals.

REDUCE how long you use ventilation fans (they transfer warm air outside.)

KEEP your furnace clean and change your filter monthly.

MAKE SURE your home's heating system is working properly.

HUMIDIFY your home to make air feel warmer.

LET THE SUN SHINE IN during the day and close window coverings at nights.

KEEP the fireplace damper closed when not in use.

Use portable space heaters safely and for short amounts of time — extended use can cause your energy bill to spike!

SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, WWW.SAFEELECTRICITY.ORG

Cold Weather Rule Begins November 1

The Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) adopted a statewide, 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 C**WR 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 2 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 2 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.

Rates Increase *Continued from page 12A ▸*

IDLE SERVICE RATE

The Idle Service Rate is **INCREASING FROM $25 TO $50** for a six-month period. This rate has not increased since 1995.

SOLAR

Net Metering and Parallel Generation rates were set by the State of Kansas in July 2025. Contact the cooperative's office for details.

CARD PAYMENTS — IMPORTANT

Currently, the cooperative has paid a fee to credit card companies when bill payments are paid by card. The fees paid by the cooperative have become exorbitant. **BEGINNING JAN. 1, 2026, CARD PAYMENT FEES WILL BE PAID DIRECTLY BY THE MEMBER.** The fee will be 2.45% of the amount paid. The fee does not come to the cooperative but to credit card companies directly.

E-CHECKS — IMPORTANT

Previously, e-check payment fees were paid by the cooperative. **BEGINNING JAN. 1, 2026, THE MEMBER WILL PAY A $1 FEE FOR E-CHECKS.**

The board of trustees understands that the higher customer charge will significantly affect members with several minimum usage services. Minimum usage meters are part of the challenge to properly setting electric rates due to the large number of these minimum usage services compared to all meters served (about 30%).

The board has spent time reviewing the methods to apply the rate increase by attending rate-making seminars and reviewing electric rates of other electric cooperatives with similar operating characteristics/environments.

You can be assured your cooperative has not entered into this matter lightly. It took due diligence on the part of your member-elected board of trustees to develop the rate change. The board recognizes the significance of this action and impact on our membership. However, for the cooperative to continue to operate financially strong and provide reliable service, action had to be taken.

ALLEN A. ZADOROZNY, GENERAL MANAGER

NEW RATES EFFECTIVE JAN. 1, 2026	EXISTING RATE	PROPOSED RATE
PCA Base, ¢/kWh	7.0¢	7.0¢
RURAL & TOWN RESIDENTIAL SERVICE		
Customer Charge, $/month	$29.00	$39.00
Energy Charge: Summer, ¢/kWh	12.66¢	12.66¢
Energy Charge: Winter, ¢/kWh	12.06¢	12.06¢
GENERAL SERVICE SMALL		
Customer Charge		
Single Phase, $/month	$32.00	$42.00
Three Phase, $/month	$35.00	$45.00
Energy Charge: Summer, ¢/kWh	12.66¢	12.66¢
Energy Charge: Winter, ¢/kWh	12.06¢	12.06¢
LARGE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL SERVICE		
Demand Charge, $/kW	$8.50	$9.00
Energy Charge, ¢/kWh	10.41¢	10.41¢
LARGE POWER LOAD CONTROL RATE		
Usage for the months of June, July, August and September:		
Coincident Peak Demand, $/CPkW	$16.25	$16.25
Non-Coincident Peak Demand, $/NCPkW	$1.75	$2.25
Usage for the months of October through May:		
Non-Coincident Peak Demand, $/NCPkW	$1.75	$2.25
Energy Charge, ¢/kWh	9.65¢	9.65¢
MUNICIPAL RATES		
Energy Charge, ¢/kWh	11.41¢	11.41¢
IDLE SERVICE RATE		
Charge for a 6-month period	$25.00	$50.00
SOLAR		
Net Metering and Parallel Generation Riders		
CONVENIENCE FEE		
Debit/Credit Cards		2.45% on payments
E-Checks		$1.00 on payments

SUMMER RATES EXAMPLE

The following is an example of how the rate increase affects Rural and Town Residential Service Rates, when the wholesale power cost is 7.5¢/kWh.

	EXISTING RATE	PROPOSED RATE	PERCENT INCREASE
Customer Charge	$29.00	$39.00	
PCA	$0.005	$0.005	
Energy Rate kWh	$0.1266	$0.1266	
1,000 kWh	$160.60	$170.60	6.20%
2,000 kWh	$292.20	$302.20	3.40%
3,000 kWh	$423.80	$433.80	2.40%

OUTAGES FOR SEPTEMBER 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
9/2	West of Longton	38	3 hrs 15 mins	Lightning Arrester
9/3	Chautauqua Substation	110	1 hr 20 mins	Substation Equipment
9/3	North of Longton	10	1 hr 30 mins	OCR (Line Breaker Reset)
9/3	South of Cambridge	1	9 days 21 hrs 45 mins	Sectionalizing Line Fuse
9/4	Sedan	6	2 hrs 30 mins	Scheduled
9/7	West of Peru	2	23 hrs 20 mins	Transformer (Fuse)
9/8	Whole Chautauqua Substation	817	35 mins	Transmission
9/10	Phillips Substation	66	55 mins	Broken Jumper/Hotline Clamp
9/10	West of Hale	2	20 hrs 45 mins	Sectionalizing Line Fuse
9/11	South of Oak Valley	10	3 hrs 20 mins	Transfomer (Failure-burn out)
9/11	Sedan	20	45 mins	OCR (Line Breaker Reset)
9/15	South of Wayside	29	2 hrs 15 mins	Broken Jumper/Hotline Clamp
9/16	North of Hale	1	23 hrs 15 mins	Fuse Failures
9/19	South of Grenola	1	2 days 15 hrs 50 mins	Sectionalizing Line Fuse
9/23	North and West of Howard	4	2 hrs	Storm
9/23	Grenola Substation	447	1 hr	Storm
9/23	North of Peru	8	1 hr 5 mins	Sectionalizing Line Fuse
9/29	West of Sedan City Lakes	22	1 hrs 40 mins	OCR (Line Breaker Reset)

SAFETY TIP — Prepare for the Hunt

- Maintain a distance of at least 10 feet from overhead lines and electrical infrastructure.
- Never climb a utility pole.
- Don't use utility poles to support tree stands or blinds.
- Avoid aiming toward power lines and equipment.

SOURCE: WWW.SAFEELECTRICITY.ORG

TIPS TO AVOID UTILITY SCAMS

Scammers will try anything to pressure customers into providing their personal information. If you are ever asked to pay your utility bill through a third-party transaction app, such as Cash App or Venmo, it's a scam. Remember, utilities will never request a payment through a third-party app. Always use authorized payment methods when paying your utility bills.

SOURCE: UTILITIES UNITED AGAINST SCAMS

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.

AUGUST OPERATING STATISTICS

For Month Ending	Aug. 2024	Aug. 2025	For Month Ending	Aug. 2024	Aug. 2025	For Month Ending	Aug. 2024	Aug. 2025
Meters Billed	5,197	5,156	Total Revenue	$ 1,039,255	$ 1,080,818	Other Expenses	$ 840	$ 1,980
kWh Purchased	6,581,088	5,989,680	Purchased Power	$ 532,356	$ 504,231	Operating Margins	$ 76,640	$ 122,571
Cost Per kWh Purchased	0.08070	0.08414	Operating Expenses	$ 309,896	$ 326,771	Non-Operating Margins	$ 3,162	$ 2,661
kWh Sold	6,314,379	6,400,028	Depreciation Expenses	$ 76,474	$ 78,723	Total Working Margins	$ 79,802	$ 125,232
			Interest Expenses	$ 43,048	$ 46,542	Margins Year-to-Date	$ (247,228)	$ (257,556)