

The Circuit!

APRIL 2021

A publication for our Members
in the counties of
Atoka • Bryan • Choctaw
Coal • Johnston



The Value of a Cooperative

You are a *member*, not a customer. Cooperatives are unique businesses because they are owned by you, the member. This means you have a voice in the way we run the co-op. Members elect the co-op's board of directors and have the ability to run for a seat on the board if they wish to do so. Your vote and participation help shape the direction of the cooperative.

We are not-for-profit. Unlike investor-owned utilities, which are operated to make the most profits for stakeholders, electric co-ops do not earn profits. Instead, any margins or revenue remaining (after all expenses have been paid) are returned to members in the form of capital credits. Capital Credit returns are based on each member's years of participation in the co-op. *Watch upcoming editions of The Circuit for when our Member's can expect to see their Capital Credit returns!*

We are local, community-focused businesses. Because we are owned by the members we serve, electric cooperatives have a strong commitment to our local communities. In addition to providing safe, reliable and affordable power, electric co-ops are involved in local community development programs and projects, such as Special Olympics, Youth Tour, Junior Livestock Shows and other youth engagement programs.

We are guided by a set of principles. All co-ops operate according to the same set of Seven Cooperative Principles: 1. Voluntary and open membership; 2. Democratic member control; 3. Members' economic participation; 4. Autonomy and independence; 5. Education, training and information; 6. Cooperation among cooperatives; and 7. Concern for community. These principles guide every decision made by the co-op.

We are committed to innovation. Because we answer to local members rather than far-away shareholders, electric cooperatives are more nimble and able to respond quickly to changing member needs. We are committed to moving forward to innovations in ways that benefit the local communities and members we serve.

***WE ARE
HERE FOR
YOU!***



Has Your Heat Pump Been Overworked?

We have a rebate for that!

One of the most anticipated rebate programs is back again for 2021. The PMRP begins April 1st and will run through June 30th.

The program is open to Members of the Co-operative who did not participate in the 2019 or 2020 calendar year. This rebate of up to \$70 can assist in absorbing part of or in some cases, all of the cost associated with having a yearly tune-up performed on your heating and cooling system (HVAC).



While our area was being hit this year with a historic winter storm, our heating and cooling units were working overtime. A routine maintenance call would be a good consideration to help maintain the life of the unit.

Please call our office at 580-745-9463 before you schedule your service with a licensed technician so that we can ensure you will qualify for the rebate. Upon approval you will be given an application that will need to be IN HAND at the time of the service. Submit the application along with a copy of the contractor invoice dated between the dates of April 1st-June 30th to qualify.

A large graphic advertisement for Lineworker Appreciation Day. The background is a sunset scene with silhouettes of utility vehicles and a power line tower. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange glow. The text "LINEWORKERS BRING THE LIGHT." is overlaid in white. Below the image, there is a yellow banner with the text "Lineworker Appreciation Day" and "On April 12, remember to #ThankALineworker." The entire graphic has a diagonal striped pattern in shades of orange and yellow.

**LINEWORKERS
BRING THE LIGHT.**

Lineworker Appreciation Day
On April 12, remember to
#ThankALineworker.

Reminder: Our Active 2021 Rebates

We want our Members to remember that we have several rebates available to them through their Co-op. Replacing a window unit? Need a new HVAC system? Time to update that attic insulation? Any of those could possibly qualify for one of our rebates!

Heat Pump Rebates: Members who install a new *qualifying* Heat Pump can receive \$400 for a replacement unit and \$200 for a unit on a new home.

Energy Star Window Unit Rebate: Members who install an Energy Star certified window unit can receive a rebate for 30% of the net cost. This rebate is limited to one unit per member every three years. New homes do not qualify for this rebate.

Central Heat & Air Unit Rebate: Member's who install a new qualifying Central Heat and Air unit can receive \$300 for a replacement unit and \$200 for a unit on a new home.

Ductless Mini-Split Rebate: Members can receive \$250 on a qualifying mini-split system. The rebate is limited to one unit per residence every three years.

Insulation Rebate: This rebate is available to Members who complete the E.P.I.C Program and have a home that is at least five years old. When attic insulation is brought up to an R-38 value, a Member could qualify for a \$300 rebate. New homes are not eligible for this rebate.

More information along with the applications can be found online at www.se-coop.com under the *Rebates* tab. There are qualifications for each rebate, so please call us at 580-745-9463 to be sure you are meeting those requirements!



**Our offices
will be closed
Friday, April 2nd
in observance of
Good Friday.
We will re-open
Monday, April 5th
at 8:00 a.m.**



**Southeastern Electric
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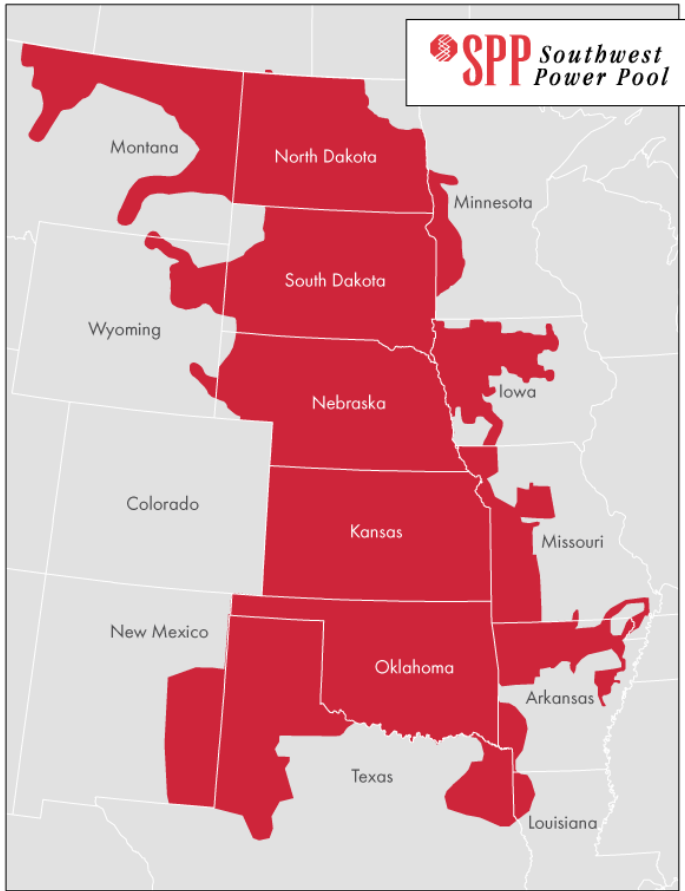
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Who is the Southwest Power Pool (SPP)?



Utility consumers across the state have been hearing mention of an entity called the Southwest Power Pool ever since the Polar Vortex that occurred in February.

The Southwest Power Pool (SPP) is a regional transmission organization (RTO): a nonprofit corporation mandated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to ensure reliable supplies of power, adequate transmission infrastructure and competitive wholesale electricity prices on behalf of its members.

The SPP oversees the bulk electric grid and wholesale power market in the central United States on behalf of a diverse group of utilities and transmission companies in 17 states.

The SPP dates to 1941, when 11 regional power companies joined to keep an Arkansas aluminum factory powered around the clock to meet critical defense needs. After the war, SPP's Executive Committee

decided the organization should be retained to maintain electric reliability and coordination.

In 1968, SPP joined 12 other entities to form what became the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC). SPP incorporated as an Arkansas nonprofit organization in 1994. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) approved SPP as a Regional Transmission Organization in 2004.

SPP expanded its RTO operations in 2015 to serve all or parts of 14 states. In 2019, it launched the first of its Western Energy Services, Western Reliability Coordination, expanding its service territory to encompass parts of 17 states. The company is based in Little Rock, Arkansas.

SPP is one of nine independent system operators (ISO) and RTOs in North America. SPP is mandated by FERC to ensure reliable supplies of power, adequate transmission infrastructure and competitive wholesale prices of electricity. They supply our wholesale provider (who we purchase our electricity from), Western Farmers Electric Cooperative.

Still want to know more? Visit them on the web at www.spp.org!