

The Circuit!

October 2021

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



Neighbors Helping Neighbors A Strong Principle of Oklahoman's and Cooperatives

At the end of August, Louisiana's electric cooperatives were hit hard in the direct path of Hurricane Ida. The storm landed on Sunday, August 29 near Port Fourchon, Louisiana as a Category 4 storm with maximum sustained winds of 150 miles per hour, only a few miles shy from 157 m.p.h., common in a Category 5 storm. The storm left more than 1 million people in Louisiana without power and about 130,000 in Mississippi.



SEC Linemen L-R: Michael Green, Jackson Rabon, Weston Ward and Leith Burkhalter.

DEMCO is the largest electric cooperative in Louisiana serving more than 112,000 members; it's service area is comprised of 8,887 miles of line.

As of the Tuesday morning following the hurricane, DEMCO reported 78,058 outages, nearly 69% of its membership were without power. Oklahoma's electric cooperatives joined the mutual aid effort alongside other crews from 32 states and the District of Columbia.

"Safety is our number one priority. We ask for prayers over all crews and essential workers as they perform their duties so everyone can return home to their loved ones safe and sound,"

Randy Pierce, CEO and general manager of DEMCO,

Following the principle of Cooperation among Cooperatives, seven distribution electric cooperatives in Oklahoma were quickly en route to Louisiana where they are assisting with restoration efforts throughout the upcoming weeks.

Oklahoma co-ops worked under the coordination of the Association of Louisiana Electric Cooperatives and were assigned to assist sister cooperative DEMCO, which is based in the East Baton Rouge parish, a hard-hit area.



See "Ida" on Page 4

Trustees Approve Rate Revision

OFFICIAL NOTICE SECOND PRINTING

By Jim Coleman

The Southeastern Electric Cooperative (SEC) Board of Trustees is responsible for adopting rate policies that allows the Co-op to collect the revenue necessary to ensure safe, dependable electric service and to maintain all financial ratios as required by the Rural Utility Services (RUS). Based on the August approval of the Cost of Service study, SEC will implement a rate increase for September billing for all classes of consumers.

SEC's last Cost of Service Study and Rate Revision was conducted in 2013. The Board of Trustees working closely with Management has managed the revenues and expenses of the Co-op these past eight (8) years in a very responsible and efficient manner. Because of sound financial decisions continuing to be made on behalf of the membership, the Board is pleased to put forth a very modest rate increase that will almost be un-noticeable to the average residential rate class consumer.

SEC Board of Trustees called upon C. H. Guernsey & Company of Oklahoma City to conduct this "Cost of Service Study." This study provides an in-depth analysis of the Cooperative's power costs, revenues and expenses associated with each rate class. A full report was presented to the Trustees at the February 2021 Board meeting and again at the August 2021 meeting, detailing Guernsey's analysis and recommendation of fair and equitable rate treatment of each rate class.

The rate revision will be a system-wide average rate increase of approximately 2.8% over three years; affecting Residential, Small Commercial, Lighting, Large Power and Industrial rate classes. The effective percent increase will differ depending on each consumer's kilowatt hour (Kwh) usage. The average usage for Residential consumers per month is 1,248 kilowatt hours. For Residential members using above average kwhs a month, the increase may appear slightly lower; and for those using less than average kwhs a month, the increase may appear slightly higher.

SEC's Residential members will notice only a moderate adjustment to the kilowatt hour billing rate. The most noticeable increase is that of the Customer Charge (currently \$20.00), moving up a \$1.50. This new increase will repeat each year until the 3rd year when it will be set at \$24.50.

Your Cooperative leaders made a thorough evaluation into all the financial and human factors involved before making their recommendation. SEC will continue to do everything possible to hold down costs while delivering you safe and reliable electric service.

A side by side comparison of the rate revision for each Rate Class is listed on "page 3" of this OFFICIAL NOTICE. If you have any questions concerning the rate revision, please contact us at (580) 745-9463 or e-mail our office at jcoleman@se-coop.com.

2021 Cost of Service Study (COSS) – Rate Revision

Board of Trustees Approved August 24, 2021

Implementation Date: October Billing (September Usage)

RESIDENTIAL RATE CLASS:

	2013 Existing Rate	2021 Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Monthly Customer Charge -	\$20.00	\$21.50	\$23.00	\$24.50
Energy Charge Summer -	\$0.093596	\$0.091768	\$0.091768	\$0.091768
Winter -	\$0.087569	\$0.091768	\$0.091768	\$0.091768
Power Cost Adjustment -	*-/+	*As applicable	*As applicable	*As applicable
Average Member Usage -	1,248 kWhs	+ 1.4%	+ 1.1%	+1.1%

*Customer Charge increases \$1.50 each year for the first 3 years only.

SMALL COMMERCIAL RATE CLASS:

	2013 Existing Rate	2021 New Rate
Monthly Customer Charge -	\$30.00	\$34.00
Energy Charge -	\$0.08866	\$0.097173
Power Cost Adjustment -	*-/+	*As applicable
Average Member Usage -	1,244 kWhs	+9.5%

LARGE POWER RATE CLASS:

	2013 Existing Rate	2021 New Rate
Monthly Customer Charge -	\$60.00	\$75.00
Monthly Demand Charge(kW) -	\$7.43	\$7.68
Energy Charge -	\$0.067875	\$0.072076
Power Cost Adjustment -	*-/+	*As applicable
Average Member Usage -	8,057 kWhs	+5.5%

LARGE POWER IRRIGATION RATE CLASS:

	2013 Existing Rate	2021 New Rate
Monthly Customer Charge -	\$90.00	\$90.00
Monthly Demand Charge(kW) -	\$8.00	\$8.00
Energy Charge -	\$0.076287	\$0.076968
Power Cost Adjustment -	*-/+	*As applicable
Average Member Increase -		+0.9%

SECURITY LIGHTING RATE CLASS:

	2013 Existing Rate	2021 New Rate
Monthly Customer Charge -	\$10.63	\$11.67
Power Cost Adjustment -	*-/+	*As applicable
Average Member Usage -	40 kWhs	+9.78%

DISTRIBUTIVE GENERATION RATE RIDER: (Solar & Wind)

	2005 & 2018 Existing Rate	2021 New Rate
Monthly Customer Charge -	\$7.25	\$8.50



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Ida (cont.)

said in a statement made shortly after the catastrophic event. The following electric cooperatives had crews in route as of September 7, 2021:

- East Central Electric Cooperative, based in Okmulgee – 6 crew members
- Kay Electric Cooperative, based in Blackwell – 6 crew members
- Northeast Oklahoma Electric Cooperative, based in Vinita 8 crew members
- Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative, based in Stigler- 10 crew members
- People’s Electric Cooperative, based in Ada- 5 crew members
- Oklahoma Electric Cooperative, based in Norman – 7 crew members
- **Southeastern Electric Cooperative, based in Durant -- 4 crew members**

“Cooperation among cooperatives is one of the principles that guide electric cooperatives,” says Chris Meyers, general manager of the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives. “We are proud of the co-op crews that are lending a hand in this difficult time to help a sister cooperative. This is the cooperative difference at work. Our thoughts and prayers go out to everyone in the hurricane’s path.”



Top Right: Crews are seen working together to set one of the many new poles in the ground.

Left: Crews are seen constructing the crossarm prepping a pole for setting.

Right: Crew members in a bucket truck placing wire and equipment on a pole.

