

THE CANEY VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.

TheVoice

Caney Valley Electric Cooperative Assn., Inc. Allen Zadorozny - General Manager

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Contact Us

401 Lawrence, P.O. Box 308
Cedar Vale, KS 67024
Phone: 620-758-2262
Fax: 620-758-2926
www.caneyvalley.com

Office Hours

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

Power Cost Adjustment

The PCA for September is \$.02031/kilowatt-hour. This calculates to an additional \$20.31 per 1,000 kWh used.

The PCA varies each month depending on wholesale charges from Kansas Electric Power Cooperative (KEPCo), our power supplier, and is a flow-through on your electric bills based on the factor for the month.

FROM THE MANAGER

Explaining Power Cost Adjustments

We all have watched the way costs for almost everything continues to rise over the years. This includes your electric utility bills.

The board and staff at your cooperative have constantly worked at holding the line on what you pay for electricity. The current basic electric rates were established in 1993. They were reduced by 3.5 percent in 1999.

In 2002, the wholesale price of electricity began to be much higher than the 1993 rates were designed to cover. The wholesale power cost accommodated in the rates was about five cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh). In order to increase your electric bills to cover only the higher wholesale prices, the power cost adjustment (PCA) was started.

Your electric bills were increased by the amount per kWh that the monthly wholesale power cost was above five cents. All other operating expenses are being covered by the 1993 rates.

The PCA for August and September bills was about two cents per kWh, or \$20 for 1,000 kWh's. The average PCA this year is 1.5 cents, compared to last year—1.6 cents.

As you watch the news about the energy debates and legislation proposals, keep in mind how those decisions will affect your PCA. Consider contacting your congressmen and senators to share your concerns.



Allen Zadorozny

As you watch the news about the energy debates... keep in mind how those decisions will affect your PCA.

We have an energy challenge, America.

When it comes to finding solutions, we must meet climate change goals while keeping costs down and electricity available.

Now is the time to have a candid conversation with your elected officials. Together, we can find answers and take action.

Start the conversation today at
www.ourenergy.coop



Attaching Signs to Utility Poles is Unsafe— And It's Illegal



Staples, nails, and tacks used to hang signs pose dangers to Caney Valley Electric's linemen.

Although seemingly innocent enough, putting signs or other items on utility poles creates serious safety hazards.

Staples, nails, and tacks used to hang signs—as well as the signs themselves—pose

dangers to Caney Valley Electric's linemen who must climb poles when either restoring power following storms or while performing routine maintenance to ensure system reliability.

Posters or other objects (birdhouses, balloons, flags, and even basketball nets) can create dangerous obstacles. Also, the nails and tacks left behind from signs can snag utility workers' boots or puncture their insulating rubber gloves and safety clothing making linemen vulnerable to slipping or even electrocution.

In addition to being hazardous, tampering with utility poles can be costly. Posting signs or attaching other objects to utility poles is illegal. Caney Valley Electric encourages co-op members to contact local zoning officers to inquire about where signage can be posted legally.

Caney Valley Sponsors Local Youth

Ben Bellar, Howard; Erin Champlin, Cedar Vale; and Cale Ellis, Grenola; were selected by Caney Valley Electric to participate in the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp July 11-17 in Steamboat Springs, CO.

They joined 27 other Kansas students plus youth from Oklahoma, Colorado and Wyoming.

To win this trip, students were asked to write a short essay on how electricity affects their lives, and to read materials and take a short quiz over electric cooperatives in general.

"I loved everything," Ben said. "The cabins were better than expected and the food was great. Totally fun!"

During their weeklong stay in Colorado, the students created a candy cooperative. They established a board of trustees, selected a general manager, paid dues, and held daily membership meetings. In the evenings they marketed their product at the canteen. At the end of the week, the group decided how to handle any profit margins.

"This camp was a blast!" Erin said. "I learned some awesome leadership skills and how to open up to people. I loved the mountains and would do it all over again if I could."

The campers took part in a leg-



From left: Ben Bellar, Erin Champlin and Cale Ellis

islative presentation, a light and high voltage display, and a competition to build a transmission line from craft supplies. They explored the Steamboat Village and Old Town Steamboat Springs, and toured the Craig Power



The 2009 campers build a human pyramid on top of Mt. Werner.

Youth at Leadership Camp



enjoy the view on top of Mt. Werner in Steamboat Springs.

Plant and Trapper Mine.

"This experience was amazing, and I wouldn't trade it for anything!" Cale said. "Being involved with everyone at camp has changed my life."

"Caney Valley Electric is proud to support the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp," said Allen Zadorozny, Caney Valley's Manager. "Our hope is that local students will gain some awareness of how our co-operative system works and how important it is for the youth to be involved in our community."

A big congratulations goes to Cale, who was selected by his fellow campers to return on the trip next year



Cale poses with a bald eagle, which was part of a presentation on how cooperative's protect birds of prey.

as an ambassador. Each year, one female and one male student from each participating state are selected to return as a junior counselor.

Caney Valley Encourages Peak Control

What is Peak Control?

Peak Control is a voluntary program in which our members can participate to hold down electricity costs to both Caney Valley ECA and themselves.

What Can You Do to Participate?

You can participate by voluntarily monitoring when you use electric equipment and appliances which require larger amounts of electricity.

When Do You Need to Participate?

During the hours of 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. every weekday from June 1 through September 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 ECA during those two months drives the electricity billings for the following eight months. Be aware of days that have high temperatures forecasted above 90 degrees these are the type of days when peak demands usually occur.

What are the Benefits of Peak Control?

By helping hold the line for the kW demand charges on Caney Valley ECA's wholesale electric bill, you will also limit the amount of the resulting power cost adjustment (PCA) charges added to your electric bills.

Please contact our office at 758-2261 or 800-310-8911 for any questions you may have. We thank you for your participation in this program.

Operating Statistics

For Month Ending	June 2009	June 2009
Members Billed	5,458	5,528
kWh Sold	3,687,991	3,894,565
Total Revenue	\$ 489,595	\$ 487,060
Purchased Power	\$ 381,683	\$ 404,925
Operating Expenses	\$ 197,223	\$ 175,300
Depreciation Expenses	\$ 51,465	\$ 44,077
Interest Expenses	\$ 36,519	\$ 40,000
Other Expenses	\$ 75	\$ 578
Operating Margins	\$ (177,370)	\$ (177,820)
Non-operating Margins	\$ 2,196	\$ 1,946
Total Margins	\$ (175,174)	\$ (175,874)
Margins Year-to-Date	\$ (29,195)	\$ 64,229

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIPS

Take it Slow on Changing Energy Policies BY DOUG RYE

I have been writing this column for six years. I must tell you that I love to do it. Based on the hundreds of calls that I receive from you folks about the column, it appears that we are helping you.

I love it when you call and tell me that the information has helped make your energy situation better. I really love it when you tell me to keep up the good work and how important that it is to have someone who really cares about the average Joe. Let me remind you that this is made possible by your electric co-op, which also cares about you. Please don't hesitate to tell them and say thank you.

I have decided not to give you an energy tip in this column. Instead, I would rather share with you a great concern that I have about some issues that could affect every one of us.

We live in a great country that seems to be changing at an extremely rapid pace. As I have written before, while we may all be reluctant to change, change is often good. However, changes that result from actions that are not well thought out can be disastrous. The leaders of our nation are now considering several proposals related to the generation of electricity. These proposals are related to renewable energy, carbon emissions, and climate change. Some of the proposals call for placing caps on emissions of carbon dioxide from power plants (and other industries, as well as cars, trucks, etc.) and charging utilities to pay at an auction for the right (allowances) to emit CO₂.

This system will no doubt raise electricity rates for Americans, perhaps significantly, at a time when the nation is in the midst of the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression.

Other proposals would require utilities to

generate a certain amount of electricity from renewable energy. While I support using renewable energy whenever possible, it isn't wise to set unrealistic targets for the use of such energy. Doing so will only raise electricity costs and could even threaten the reliability of the electric grid.

Simply stated, these are very serious proposals and must be thoroughly considered. I think that rapid decisions on these issues could lead to a gigantic new tax or taxes on the average Joe.

Folks, I am not a politician nor am I an expert on climate change. I am an energy efficiency consultant. But I know that this is a very serious matter. I think we must let our voices be heard.

If you have a computer and Internet access, please visit the "Our Energy, Our Future" Web site sponsored by the nation's electric cooperatives at www.ourenergy.coop. You can communicate with your congressional delegation through this site about the critical energy issues now under consideration.

If you don't have access to a computer, please write your representatives and senators and ask them to listen to the electric cooperatives as they consider the major energy policies before them. The cooperatives are acting on behalf of their members with regard to these issues, as they always, do.

The cooperatives mission, as it has been for more than 70 years, is to provide affordable and reliable electricity to their members. They now need you to help them continue their mission.

Doug Rye, is a licensed architect and the popular host of the "Home Remedies" radio show. You can contact Doug at 1-888-Doug-Rye. Source: Arkansas Electric Cooperatives Corporation.



Doug Rye

Rapid decisions on these issues could lead to a gigantic new tax or taxes on the average Joe.

Outages for July 2009

Occasionally, a part or parts of the delivery system fail and an outage occurs. Below are the larger outages that occurred during July.

Date	Area	Consumers Affected	Duration	Cause
7/10	Sedan, Cedar Vale	2358	2 hrs	Snake in Sedan substation
7/10	East of Maple City	73	2 hrs 30 min	Snake in Sedan substation
7/21	Sedan, Cedar Vale, Maple City	2505	1 hr	Lightning hit 69KV line
7/21	South of Peru & Niotaze	27	2 hrs 20 min	Tree limb on line
7/21	Atlanta, Burden, Cambridge	159	1 hr	Westar lost 69KV line