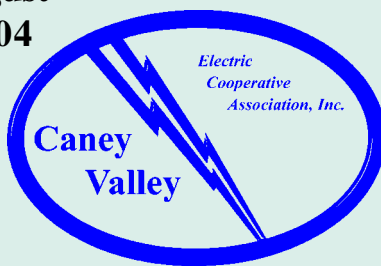


August
2004

A Communication
Service To Our Members

OICE

Website: caneyvalley.com • E-mail: cve@caneyvalley.com
In Case of an Outage, Please call 1-800-310-8911



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The Caney Valley Electric Cooperative Assn., Inc.

P.O. Box 308, 401 Lawrence
Cedar Vale, Kansas 67024
Phone 620/758-2262 • Fax 620/758-2926

From the Manager's Desk...

The weather pattern and conditions probably have changed by the time this issue is printed, but this spring and early summer kept your cooperative's line personnel extra busy dealing with numerous strong thunderstorms. Heavy winds and intense lightning can cause widespread outages in a short period of time. In the majority of cases, trees and brush are the tools the wind uses to get into the electric lines, pulling the poles down or snapping electric wires.

The rains which come with the storms cause two big problems: 1) muddy conditions which cause slow going getting to the source of the outages, and 2) quicker, thicker vegetation growth.

Your cooperative has been using a tree and brush clearing program for several years to help reduce the number of storm-related outages and line loss. This program is a very important part of service continuity and reliability. The costs involved are high, but are only a small fraction of the costly effects of not keeping the service lines cleared as much as possible.

Your continued cooperation with Caney Valley ECA's right-of-way clearing programs is very much appreciated.

Allen A. Zadorozny, Manager

Please Remember to Use 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.

You can participate by voluntarily not using, or limiting the use of, electric equipment and appliances which require larger amounts of electricity, during the hours of 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., every weekday from June 1 through September 30.

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 off-peak months – October through May.

Be aware of days that have high temperatures forecasted above 90%; these are the type of days when peak demands usually occur.

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

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

Don't Touch!!!

Some people believe that overhead electric power lines are insulated.

They're *NOT!*

Therefore, they can hurt you if you come into contact with them. In fact, you can be killed. That's one of the reasons why they are placed high above the ground or even buried—so that they are out of the way. But if for some reason you come across an electric power line that is within reach, don't reach for it.

Instead, reach for your phone and notify us.

We will come out and handle the situation safely. And that's what this message is all about —safety around electricity. Don't touch electric power lines! It can help you avoid the shock of your life.

School Starts in August . . .



Drive Carefully
And
Watch
For School Buses
Stopped for Children
On The Roadway

Keeping You Informed...

Occasionally, a part or parts of the delivery system fail and an outage occurs. The following is a summary of the larger outages and their causes that occurred in June, 2004:

Consumers				
<u>Date</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Affected</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Cause</u>
6/07/04	No of Howard	25	1hr 30 min	Tree trimmer fell tree on line
6/13/04	No of Havana	30	1hr 15 min	Tree fell through line
6/20/04	No of Grenola	45	1hr 30 min	Limbo on line
6/21/04	No of Burden	35	2hr 15 min	OCR had hole in it
6/27/04	No of Havana	50	1hr 45 min	Lightning hit line

OPERATING STATISTICS

For Month Ending:	May, 2003	May, 2004
Customers Served (average)	5,182	5,163
kWh Sold	3,180,016	3,132,077
Revenue	\$378,735	\$384,500
Purchased Power	\$217,777	\$236,771
Operating Expenses	\$139,729	\$152,487
Depreciation Expenses	\$ 40,108	\$ 43,782
Interest Expenses	\$ 30,424	\$ 23,224
Other Expenses	\$ 300	\$ 170
Operating Margins	\$(49,603)	\$(71,934)
Non-Operating Margins	\$ 2,790	\$ 2,179
Total Margins	\$(46,813)	\$(69,755)
Margins Year-to-Date	\$115,387	\$ 39,479

POWER COST ADJUSTMENT

The Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) for August is \$.00820

This calculates to an additional \$8.20 per 1,000 kilowatt hours used.

“Blinks” Can Signal a Properly Working Electrical System

We often hear the question from members “What causes my lights to blink?”

The utility network is subject to certain short-term losses of power, and Caney Valley Electric takes all possible measures to prevent these occurrences and minimize the affects to our members.

Blinking lights are a result of momentary outages that occur when some type of disturbance exists on the line. This could be a lightning strike, an automobile striking a pole, or when a squirrel or tree branch comes into contact with an energized power line.

When lights blink, it is an indication that the cooperative’s equipment is operating properly. If a fault or short circuit happens on a power line, a device

called an “oil circuit recloser” (OCR) opens to stop it, then quickly closes back in.

Although the process is quick – and usually temporary – it may cause your lights to blink, making it necessary to reset digital clocks and appliances with digital displays.

The OCR is essentially a breaker, functioning much like a breaker in the electrical panel in your home. It permits power to continue flowing through the line with only a brief interruption of service – rather than causing an extended power outage.

If the short circuit continues, the OCR will operate or ‘trip’ three times before eventually stopping the flow of electricity and causing a power outage. This

process protects the lines from damage, cutting off power to the affected section of the line and isolating the problem until it can be repaired.

Although the weather and nature’s creatures are beyond our control, cooperative members can lessen the effects and inconvenience of “blinks” when they occur.

When purchasing small appliances and digital clocks, consider a model with battery backup. You may also want to install meter-base surge protection for the major appliances in your home and surge protection with built-in uninterruptible power supply (UPS) for your computer or other electronic devices whose “memory” would be lost with a power interruption.