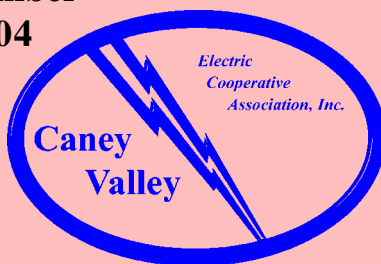


September  
2004

A Communication  
Service To Our Members

**OICE**

Website: [caneyvalley.com](http://caneyvalley.com) • E-mail: [cve@caneyvalley.com](mailto:cve@caneyvalley.com)  
In Case of an Outage, Please call 1-800-310-8911



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P.O. Box 308, 401 Lawrence  
Cedar Vale, Kansas 67024  
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## From the Manager's Desk....

This note to you is being written on August 10, and if the extended forecast holds true, the high temperature for August may not reach 100°. The summer period has been exceptionally cooler overall than normal. One good example is the recorded high and low temperatures in Sedan for the last week of July. This year the average daily high was 80°, and the average low was 62°. In the last week of July, 2003, the average high was 98° and the average low was 72°. A difference of 18° in the high temperatures can have an extreme effect on the kilowatt hours used for air conditioners and your overall electric bills.

If this temperature pattern continues through August, the electric bills Caney Valley ECA receives from its wholesale power supplier, KEPCo, will be significantly lower during the off-peak months of October through May. This is due to the billing method by KEPCo which ties the billing demand portion of the electric bill to Caney Valley ECA to the peak electricity demands in July and August, each year. With much lower peak demands, there will be a corresponding lowering effect on Caney Valley's power costs, which results in a similar effect on your bills, October through May.

All of this is in general terms, and is difficult to summarize. Please give me a call or come by the office to discuss it all in greater detail.

*Allen Zadorozny, Manager*

## **Reminder: Are you reading your meter?**

Caney Valley Electric requires all rural members to read their own meters. Although it is such a simple request and may be one that is forgotten, the importance of this task can be colossal.

We recommend that if you read your own meter, it should be read approximately the same time each month. This will give you, the member, a more realistic idea of the consumption history for the service and will keep your billing to a 30/31 day billing interval.

By reading the meter at regular intervals, you will avoid large swings in your billing and a distorted picture of your usage. The situation you want to avoid is reading your meter in the middle of the month one time and the next at the end of the month. If Caney Valley has not received a reading by the 25<sup>th</sup>, the computer will estimate a reading for your meter. The estimate is based on the usage for this service in the previous 3 months.

As good as this may sound, if we are in the beginning of the summer this estimate can be very low, causing an extremely high bill when an actual reading is entered. Actual rounded readings month after month ensure you getting an accurate billing at the time you use the electricity. (*Payment after the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month results in a 2% penalty being added on the past due amount.*)

## **Moving From Your Current Residence?**

### **What do you need to do when you move from your current residence:**

1. Contact the cooperative office and inform them that you are moving.
2. Provide the cooperative with the date you are moving.
3. Provide the cooperative with your new address. The new address is where you will receive your final bill or a refund if you had a security deposit larger than your final bill. The new address is also used for capital credit refunds.
4. If you know the name of the person moving into the residence, please provide that information to the cooperative.
5. If you know the new consumer, let them know that they need to contact the cooperative to establish service.

We have no way of knowing that you want your service discontinued if you do not contact us with the information we need to close your account. The bill will continue in your name and you will be responsible for those charges until your account is closed.

# 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 July, 2004:

| Consumers   |                 |                 |                 |                              |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| <u>Date</u> | <u>Area</u>     | <u>Affected</u> | <u>Duration</u> | <u>Cause</u>                 |
| July 4      | Oak Valley      | 25              | 5hrs 15min      | Transformer burned up        |
| July 4      | No of Havana    | 35              | 3hrs 15min      | Reset OCR                    |
| July 4      | NW of Howard    | 25              | 6hrs            | Trampoline blew through line |
| July 4      | Maple City      | 15              | 3hrs 15min      | Tree on line                 |
| July 4      | E of Maple City | 25              | 3hrs            | Reset OCR                    |
| July 4      | SW of Howard    | 40              | 3hrs 30min      | Pole down                    |
| July 5      | W of Sedan      | 25              | 3hrs 30min      | Burndown                     |
| July 5      | Sedan sub       | 1544            | 45min           | 69KV switch off              |
| July 6      | SW of Dexter    | 50              | 1hr 15min       | Reset OCR                    |
| July 23     | No of Sedan     | 38              | 1hr 15min       | Broken insulator on pole     |

## OPERATING STATISTICS

| <u>For Month Ending:</u>   | <u>June, 2003</u> | <u>June, 2004</u> |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Customers Served (average) | 5,192             | 5,162             |
| kWh Sold                   | 3,535,089         | 3,323,756         |
| Revenue                    | \$429,528         | \$414,387         |
| Purchased Power            | \$256,960         | \$258,611         |
| Operating Expenses         | \$139,830         | \$156,174         |
| Depreciation Expenses      | \$40,331          | \$43,838          |
| Interest Expenses          | \$27,122          | \$25,058          |
| Other Expenses             | \$50              | \$150             |
| Operating Margins          | \$(34,765)        | \$(69,444)        |
| Non-operating Margins      | \$2,610           | \$2,273           |
| Total Margins              | \$(32,155)        | \$(67,171)        |
| Margins Year-to-Date       | \$83,232          | \$(27,692)        |

## POWER COST ADJUSTMENT

The Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) for September is \$.01210. This calculates to an additional \$12.10 per 1,000 kilowatt hours used.

## Electrical Farm Accidents Can be Avoided

Electricity is just as important on the farm as in the office today, but presents more potential hazards for the farmer or rancher than for the computer operator. Every year, serious accidents involving electricity occur on American farms. Most could be prevented with a few simple safety steps:

- First, make sure that you, your family and your farm workers know the location of overhead power lines, and map out ways to avoid them when moving equipment. Make sure everyone understands that any contact with these lines creates a path to the ground for electricity and carries the potential for a serious, even fatal, accident.
- Everyone should know the height of all your farm equipment and how high those power lines are to prevent accidental contact. A good rule of thumb is to stay at least 10 feet away from power lines.
- Be extra-careful when moving irrigation pipes. Many electrical accidents on farms occur when irrigation pipes are accidentally raised into power lines. The combination can be deadly.
- Avoid moving large equipment alone. Have someone watch out for you as you drive equipment to ensure that you stay clear of the power lines.
- These rules also apply to guy wires, which support power line poles. Damaging guy wires can weaken the poles and even cause them to topple, bringing live power lines down onto the ground and creating an extremely hazardous situation.

## Safety For Our Crews

Your Caney Valley Electric Cooperative is concerned about everyone's safety - yours, and its employees'. Our line crews receive continuing professional training in handling electricity safely, as well as other job safety training.

You can help keep electric Caney Valley' line crews safe when they're working. When you see a co-op truck alongside the road, slow down! Crews are working to ensure that you receive reliable service. By taking care and watching for crews at work, you can do your part to keep them safe and keep the power on.