

# Powerline Press

## NEWSLETTER



A Supplement of Oklahoma Living Published by Lake Region Electric Cooperative for its members.

January 2020

# Power Cost Adjustment Affects Members with a Credit on Their Bill

### What is power cost adjustment (PCA)?

As you monitor your electric usage on your monthly bill, you may be wondering what the (PCA) is and why it appears on your electric bill each month. You are not alone. Many co-op members wonder the same thing.

### Breakdown of Current Charges

Service Availability	32.50
Energy Charge 1,126 kWh @ 0.07974	89.79
PCA 1,126 kWh @ -0.006036	-6.80
Security Light x 1 @ \$9.80	9.80
Operation Round-Up	0.71

### Total New Charges

\$126.00

*Example: LREC Member bill with Power Cost Adjustment line item highlighted in yellow.*

### Understanding: Power Cost Adjustment -

When the cooperative sets the rates, it is based on the cooperative's operating expenses. The cost of purchasing power is the largest expense, roughly 65 percent of total expenses.

The purchased power cost also fluctuates from year to year. PCA or Power Cost Adjustment, merely, is the increase or decrease in what it costs your cooperative to buy wholesale power from our generation power plant and pay for the transmission services to all our substations in our local communities.

When the cost of wholesale power and transmission service increases, this cost is shared among all members of the co-op in the form of the power cost adjustment.

**When the price of wholesale power and transmission prices drop, we are happy to pass the savings on to you the members, as well.**

### GREAT NEWS for 2020 -

members will see a PCA credit for every kWh of electricity consumed on their billing statement. The PCA rate is set every January. The average residential members' consumption is 1,126 kWhs for a month. This will result in a \$6.80 credit on the bill.

Our co-op policy, as a non-profit, is to charge what it costs the co-op. Any increase or decrease in the cost of purchasing power from our power supplier and transmission co-op will be passed through to you, the members, in the form of positive or negative PCA.

This year the PCA is negative or a bill credit; other times, it may be positive or a charge. These prices fluctuate in the same manner as bread, milk, and nearly every other product.

Many factors affect the cost of wholesale power including, weather, environmental costs, the price of coal, natural gas, and other generation methods.

# Longtime LREC employee, Kathy Dill, Retired



LREC recently celebrated the long successful career of Kathy Dill. Kathy started her career with the co-op on November 11, 1984, in the billing department. She worked for nine years before moving to the accounting department. Kathy retired November 15, 2019, with a total of 35 years of service. Kathy experienced many ice storms and years of warehouse inventory over her career.

During the majority of Kathy's career, she served as LREC's plant accountant and work order accountant. She would make sure all material coming in and going out in the field with crews was accounted for, from bolts, and poles, to wire.

Kathy mentioned she enjoyed her job because it was engineering and accounting. I learned all the construction units, how our poles are framed, and how LREC linemen build and repair our system.

When asked about early memories, Kathy stated, "back in the day; we had to look everything up in a huge ledger book. We had bill cards to sort by zip code and mail out. Technology has changed a lot of the processes at LREC for the good. We can now look at items on a computer and less paper work. I also can say the co-op has grown, more employees and more services and products for our membership."

Kathy will be remembered for her cooking, fun times, and having new LREC policies created. Kathy has many stories of office pranks to co-workers, her birthday dinners and her famous coconut cream pies.

"Kathy always would make work fun if you could laugh a little," said Glen Clark.

In retirement, Kathy plans to build a new home next year and get started in the cattle business with her husband. She has a child in college, and another one heading to college, with a 10-year-old still at home.

Kathy will be missed by many, and LREC would like to wish her a long, happy retirement.

## Used Poles Available to Members

Used poles are available to members on a first-come-first-served basis, FREE of charge, at the main office location in Hulbert, Oklahoma.

Members may inquire about the availability of used poles by contacting the LREC office during regular office hours 918-772-2526. Members must bring a trailer and tie-downs to secure poles. Before removing used pole(s) from LREC property, members must check in with the front office. If a member cuts any used pole(s) on the Cooperative's property, all sections of the pole(s) shall be acquired by the member.

Used utility poles are excellent for fence posts.



# This Could Be YOUR High School Junior!



Photo courtesy of: OAEBC

2019 Youth Tour Winners, left to right: Hadley Keith, Claire Levesque, and Calvin White.

Your student could tour our nation's capital, get lost in one of the Smithsonian Museums, visit monuments, memorials, and meet elected officials. That, plus so much more, is what your child could experience on LREC's 2020 Rural Electric Youth Tour trip.

It is designed just for high school juniors. Youth Tour takes teens out of their small 3073101 communities for a week-long adventure in Washington D.C.

LREC Youth Tour Coordinator, Juanita Keener, will be visiting schools in LREC's service territory through January with details on the contest and trip of a lifetime. Please be sure to contact your school counselor today or **Juanita Keener** at **918-772-6940** for your schools' presentation date and entry details.

This trip covers; flight, room and board, tour admissions, meals and MORE!

## GET COZY NOT COSTLY

get smart with space heaters

When temperatures drop, it's an easy and common solution to plug in a portable electric space heater. Here are a few tips to understand the operating cost and get the most from your space heater.



### Operating Cost

Almost all space heaters on the market are 1500 watts. Space Heater 1,500 watts ÷ 1,000 = 1.5 x \$0.08 LREC's kWh rate = .12 cents an hour to operate. If you are running just one space heater 24/7, it will cost you \$2.88 a day. Now consider how many days you run the space heater a month plus all other electric appliances in your home. One space heater can cost close to \$100 a month to operate.

### Tips

Choose a newer model with multiple temperature settings, and operate on the lowest watts setting.

Only use to heat small spaces temporarily.

Opt for models with a thermostat, timer, or WiFi controls.

Regular use of an electric space heater can cost you roughly \$100 a month, so use them sparingly.

Checking up on family & friends on Facebook.

Ordering new glasses frames online.

Emailing photos of the grandchildren.

Video chatting with grandchildren.

Refilling blood pressure medication.

Researching new heart-healthy recipes.

# HOW DO YOU CONNECT?

## WHAT'S CONNECTED IN YOUR HOME?

We all use the internet differently, whether it's for work, entertainment, or prescription refills. No matter how you use the internet, you need a connection that is **FAST** and **RELIABLE**.



**Fast Internet | Simple TV | Reliable Home Phone**

**register.lrecok.net / 918-772-2526 / **

*\* Live service not available in all areas. Must pre-register for service. 24/mo contract is required for free installation. Other terms may apply.*

### Your Board of Trustees

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### Office Hours

Monday-Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### Telephone

**800-364-LREC or  
918-772-2526**

### Website:

[www.lrecok.coop](http://www.lrecok.coop)  
[www.lrecok.net](http://www.lrecok.net)

### Locations

Hulbert, Wagoner &  
Tahlequah, OK.

### Main Office Address

P.O. Box 127  
Hulbert, OK 74441

### Hidden Account Number

Look for your account number hidden in this issue of the *Powerline Press*. If you find your number, Lake Region Electric will credit your next bill. To claim your credit, notify LREC's Hulbert office by phone during the month of publication.

The amount increases by \$10 with each issue your prize goes unclaimed to a maximum of \$50.

**Cooperative bylaws** are available upon request at Lake Region Electric Cooperative's office in Hulbert.

