



First Electric
Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



A Member-Owned
Cooperative

800-489-7405

www.firstelectric.coop

If unexpected outage occurs, you have 3 ways to report it

We work to provide our members with safe and reliable service. In the event of an outage, you can help us isolate and repair the problem by reporting it.

Call 888-827-3322.

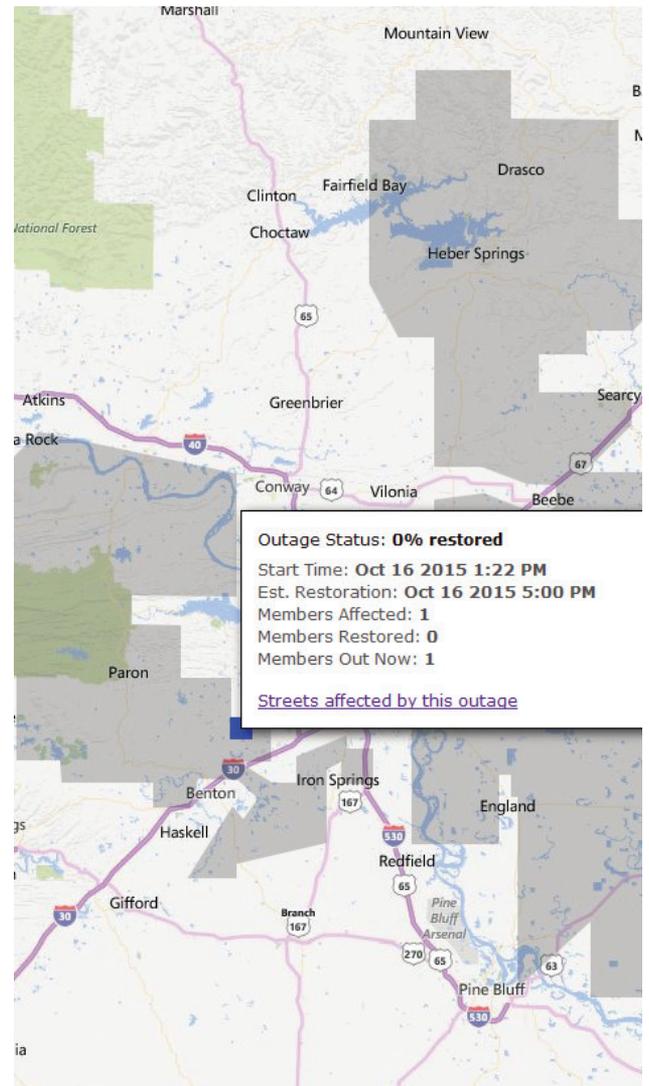
If the automated system doesn't recognize your number, it will ask for one on file. You may either enter the number using touch-tone buttons or by saying the number aloud. If you wish, you may leave a voice message with your service address and details about the outage. The system will provide an estimated time of restoration if one is available at that time. Remember to call any time your power is out and do not assume that others have reported the outage. Once you make your outage report, please do not report the outage again unless an emergency arises.

Use the SmartHub website or app.

SmartHub, the co-op's free online bill payment system, also allows you to report an outage. Using www.firstelectric.coop, log in to SmartHub and click on "Report an Outage" under Quick Links. Using the SmartHub app, click on "Report an Outage." SmartHub especially works well for members with multiple accounts. At this time, SmartHub cannot provide estimated time of restoration or notification once power is restored. (Need help with the app? Call 800-489-7405.)

Text "OUT" to 85700.

To enroll in First Electric's texting service, just send a text to 85700 with "FECC" in the body. After texting "OUT" during an outage, the system will ask you to confirm your address and then send restoration status updates when you request them. Please note the cell phone you use must be on file. Standard text messaging rates apply.



The Outage Viewer at outage.fecc.coop shows where an outage is located and provides an estimated time of restoration if one is available. It also lists the total number of outages, total number of members without service and the number of members without service in each county.

Get updates via social media —



facebook.com/FirstElectric



twitter.com/FirstElecCoop

Correct contact information helps us serve you better. Please call 800-489-7405 to update your records.

Applications for scholarship program due by April 3

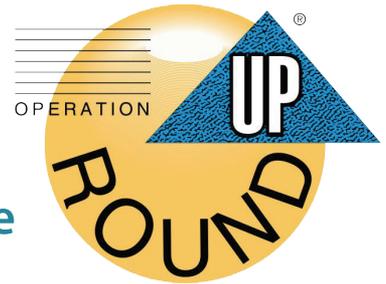
High school seniors have until April 3 to turn in an application for a First Electric Cooperative scholarship. First Electric awards a \$2,000 scholarship to a high school senior in each of the co-op's five districts.

Students may visit their counselor or a First Electric office for an application or download from the co-op's website at www.firstelectric.coop/community/scholarships.

To be eligible for the scholarships, which are funded through the Operation Round-Up program, applicants must be a high school senior whose parents or guardians are First Electric members. They must have a minimum 3.0 grade-point average through their senior year of high school and attend an accredited institute of higher learning in Arkansas on a full-time basis. Applications are due by April 3.

To help fund future scholarships and donations to local nonprofits, enroll in Operation Round-Up. More information is available on the program at www.firstelectric.coop/community/operation-round-up.

First Electric scholarship recipient Jacob Hill (pictured right) said, "The First Electric Cooperative Operation Round-Up scholarship has played a key role in my education. With tuition on the rise, the scholarship is not only a means of helping to pay for college, but also a morale booster knowing that our communities care enough about me and the other recipients' and our educational success to contribute every month to keep the program going. Thank you First Electric!"



Helping fund the future through scholarships

Operation Round-Up has shown commitment to helping students by funding five scholarships each year since 2002. A total of \$106,500 in scholarships have been awarded to date. Not only does the Round-Up board support high school seniors in the beginning of their journey through college, but they are big advocates of The Arkansas Single Parent Scholarship Fund which enables single parents to attain self-sufficiency while continuing their education.

Enroll in Operation Round-Up to enter into drawing for \$25 bill credit

Members who enroll in Operation Round-Up using this form will be entered into a drawing for a \$25 bill credit. Just drop it by an office or mail it in with your payment. The form must be received by Feb. 28. The winner will be notified by Mar. 15.

Name as it appears on account

Account number

Address



Juniors — Apply for 2017 Youth Tour by March 17

High school juniors can explore the nation's capital on the 2017 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour, an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. Approximately 1,500 students from across the U.S. will gather June 9-15 to learn more about government and electric cooperatives and tour historic sights and museums, including the Newseum, Smithsonian Institution, World War II Memorial and Mount Vernon.

Any junior whose parents or guardians are members of First Electric may submit a Youth Tour application. They are available at any First Electric office and under the "Community" tab at www.firstelectric.coop. First Electric must receive applications by March 17. Winners will be selected based on information supplied on the applications and personal interviews. Call 800-489-7405 with any questions.

Take it from her...

Caleigh Pickard was one of four students chosen by First Electric to go on Youth Tour last year. She was then selected to represent Arkansas on the NRECA Youth Leadership Council.

"Life is about learning and living, about taking experiences from the past to shape the future. Visiting Washington D.C. and experiencing our country's history has greatly influenced my perspective of the future. First Electric and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association provided me with an opportunity of a lifetime and helped open many doors for future endeavors. The relationships I was able to build from Youth Tour and Youth Leadership Council have continued to grow long after our trip. Youth Tour and YLC was the perfect mixture of fun and enrichment. I would encourage any and all students to apply for Youth Tour 2017 and create lifelong memories," said Caleigh.



Notice of Proposed Rate Changes

SCHEDULE OF RATE ADJUSTMENTS

First Electric Cooperative has submitted proposed rate changes to the Arkansas Public Service Commission. If approved, the new rates will be reflected on the May 2017 bills. The rate changes will more closely align rates with incurred costs.

For residential accounts, the Service Availability Charge will change from \$14.00 to \$20.00, an increase of \$6.00. The Service Availability Charge is a fixed charge designed to recover the basic monthly costs of providing poles, wire, transformers, meters, billing, etc. The Minimum Bill will include 64 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity. If you use more than 64 kWh's per month, this change will not increase your bill.

Included in the proposed rates, the price per kWh will decrease \$.003085 in the summer and for the first 500 kWh per month in the winter. The amount collected in the Energy Cost Adjustment and the Debt Cost Adjustment increases \$.000095 per kWh. For example, residential summer bills using 1000 kWh, under the existing rate would pay \$110.37 versus \$113.38 using the proposed rate.

For irrigation accounts, there will be a \$5.00 per month increase in the Service Availability Charge. In addition, the total irrigation rate class will increase 7% on average. The 5 hour load control summer energy credit rate option has increased to \$.07; potentially offering a higher credit and greater savings.

The Cooperative will charge a reconnect fee of \$65.00 when a member pays to be reconnected prior to 4:00 p.m. during normal working hours*. The Cooperative will charge a reconnect fee of \$100.00 when a member pays to be reconnected after 4:00 p.m. Reconnections will not be made on the same day unless payment is received by 5:00 p.m. *Normal working hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday excluding holidays.

Rate/Block	Existing Rate	Proposed Rate	Rate/Block	Existing Rate	Proposed Rate
Energy Cost Adjustment Applicable to all Rates Excluding Industrial			Rate 12 Athletic Fields		
ECA Monthly Average Factor	\$0.003074	\$0.000000	Service Availability Charge	\$35.00	\$35.00
DCA Monthly Average Factor	(\$0.003169)	\$0.000000	Demand Charge, per kW	\$1.68	\$1.68
			Energy Charge, per kWh	\$0.046897	\$0.046828
Rates 1, 51 Single Phase Service (Residential & Commercial)			Rate 8 Security Lighting		
Service Availability Charge	\$14.00	\$20.00	<u>Mercury Vapor</u>		
Minimum Bill	\$20.00	\$26.00	175 Watt MVL	\$7.51	\$7.28
All summer kWh, per kWh	\$0.096460	\$0.093375	250 Watt MVL	\$10.13	\$9.87
0-500 Winter kWh, per kWh	\$0.096460	\$0.093375	400 Watt MVL	\$13.57	\$12.83
Excess Winter kWh, per kWh	\$0.081400	\$0.078375	<u>High Pressure Sodium</u>		
			100 Watt HPS	\$7.16	\$7.28
Rate 2 Three Phase Service (50 kVA and Under)			150 Watt HPS	\$9.71	\$9.87
Service Availability Charge	\$24.00	\$35.00	250 Watt HPS	\$12.63	\$12.83
Minimum Bill	\$35.00	\$46.00	400 Watt HPS	\$18.31	\$18.60
All summer kWh, per kWh	\$0.107894	\$0.105520	<u>Metal Halide</u>		
0-500 Winter kWh, per kWh	\$0.107894	\$0.105520	400 Watt MH	\$18.24	\$18.53
Excess Winter kWh, per kWh	\$0.092834	\$0.090520	Rate 54 Municipal Street Lighting		
			<u>Cooperative Owned</u>		
Rate 4 General Service (51-151 kVA)			100 Watt MVL	\$5.22	\$5.32
Service Availability Charge	\$32.00	\$37.50	175 Watt MVL	\$6.70	\$6.48
All Summer kW Demand, per kW	\$13.61	\$14.37	250 Watt MVL	\$9.26	\$9.02
All Winter kW Demand, per kW	\$7.81	\$9.37	400 Watt MVL	\$12.61	\$12.14
All kWh, per kWh	\$0.046225	\$0.041659	100 Watt HPS	\$6.35	\$6.48
			150 Watt HPS	\$8.84	\$9.02
Rate 5 Agricultural Water Pumping (Irrigation)			250 Watt HPS	\$11.90	\$12.14
Service Availability Charge	\$35.00	\$40.00	400 Watt HPS	\$15.61	\$15.92
0-342 kWh/kW Summer, per kWh	\$0.165583	\$0.192264	<u>Municipal Owned</u>		
Excess Summer kWh, per kWh	\$0.120564	\$0.105429	100 Watt MVL	\$3.74	\$3.81
All Winter kWh, per kWh	\$0.120564	\$0.105429	175 Watt MVL	\$6.47	\$6.60
			250 Watt MVL	\$9.10	\$9.28
Rate 11 Optional Agricultural Water Pumping 5 Hr Control			400 Watt MVL	\$12.37	\$12.62
Credit per summer kWh	(\$0.051700)	(\$0.070000)	100 Watt HPS	\$4.69	\$4.78
			150 Watt HPS	\$6.47	\$6.60
Rate 13 Large General Service			250 Watt HPS	\$9.10	\$9.28
Service Availability Charge	\$60.00	\$65.00	400 Watt HPS	\$12.37	\$12.62
All Summer kW Demand, per kW	\$15.00	\$15.48	Rate 16 Industrial Power-Optional Interruptible		
All Winter kW Demand, per kW	\$8.52	\$9.98	Service Availability Charge	\$150.00	\$150.00
All kWh, per kWh	\$0.046383	\$0.043995	All kW Demand, per kW	\$10.14	\$10.14
			All kWh, per kWh	\$0.032737	\$0.033493
			Interruptible Credit, per kW	(\$5.10)	(\$5.10)

Public Service Commission reviewing rate adjustment

Notice is hereby given that the First Electric Cooperative Board of Directors has approved in the above rate schedule and fees of this Cooperative as set forth. The proposed rate increase to the Agricultural Water Pumping (Irrigation) class is 7% or \$654,868 change in rates, Residential Single-Phase is 2.38% or 2,830,053 change in rates, Commercial Single-Phase is 1.74% or \$108,529 change in rates, Three Phase 50 kVA or less is 1.09% or \$45,590 change in rates and General Service is 0.75% or \$29,471 change in rates. Overall, the proposed changes in rates and fees increase

the Cooperative's total annual revenue by \$3,759,227. The effect of the rate change on individual consumers will vary depending on the class of service and the amount of electricity used. The proposed rates and fees will become effective for all bills issued on or after May 1, 2017, unless, on or before such effective date, petitions from ten percent (10%) of the membership have been received by the Arkansas Public Service Commission, 1000 Center Street, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201, the mailing address is: P.O. Box 400, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-0400.