

Editor, Sarah Fellows, CCC
Featured above: Cashier Christina Stottmann
1 year of service

Comments from the President & CEO

Sustainability – ensuring we're here to serve you into the future

We hear a lot about “sustainability” these days.

Sustainability is critically important. For a business, “sustainability” means doing what is necessary to continue operating far into the future. It means meeting changing expectations, keeping pace with technology and remaining agile in a rapidly changing world.

In the energy industry, we have encountered a great deal of change. Our grandparents weren't as dependent on electricity as we are today. If their lights went out, it rarely stopped them doing what needed to be done. Today, if the power goes out, our electricity-dependent world comes to a stand-still.

As expectations have changed, electric co-ops have adjusted to meet those changes. Nolin RECC's power provider, East Kentucky Power Cooperative, recently released a sustainability plan that outlines how they will address the reality now and into the future. Just as standards for reliable service have changed, EKPC's plan recognizes shifting expectations among co-op members, employees, policymakers, regulators, lenders and many other stakeholders.

For example, co-op members increasingly want to know how their



TIM WEBB

energy is generated and how it affects the environment. EKPC's plan sets targets for using more renewables and reducing emissions of carbon dioxide. Not only does this help meet changing expectations, but, as the cost of renewables decreases, it helps keep our energy affordable. While fossil fuels such as coal and natural gas will remain essential to providing reliable, affordable energy for the foreseeable future, a diversified energy portfolio helps control costs and manage risks while also addressing environmental concerns.

EKPC has also considered financial sustainability. Financial health is imperative to a stable business. To that end, they have determined a need for a wholesale power cost rate increase

for all of their member co-ops, including Nolin. Information about the proposed rate increase can be found on the next page.

As a member co-op, Nolin benefits from our partnership with EKPC which not only provides reliable, safe and affordable power to our members but also a proactive path toward the future. If you are interested in EKPC's plan, I encourage you to check out an overview at www.ekpc.coop.



Greg Lee
President & CEO

East Kentucky Power Cooperative seeks rate increase

East Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC), which generates and transmits wholesale electricity to Nolin RECC, is seeking to raise the base rates it charges Nolin RECC and 15 other electric co-ops.

EKPC filed its application with the Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC). If approved, the proposal by EKPC will increase Nolin RECC's rates by 3.6–6% depending on the rate class.

The proposed rate increase is from EKPC, not Nolin RECC, and any additional revenue from this rate increase will go to EKPC.

EKPC has determined that it needs a base rate increase to ensure there are sufficient margins to maintain financial strength and reliable service. If approved by the PSC, it will mark EKPC's first increase in base rates since 2011.

EKPC filed the rate-adjustment request on April 1. Nolin RECC also filed an application with the PSC detailing how the adjustment would be passed through to those on Nolin service.

The wholesale power component of your electric bill is about 66%. The remaining funds are used by

Nolin RECC to maintain and operate its system and to cover other costs.

As a not-for-profit, member-owned organization, EKPC strives to keep rates steady by containing and reducing operating costs. One of the most effective ways EKPC has done that is by obtaining low-cost energy through PJM, a major regional energy marketplace. As a result of the effort by our co-op and EKPC to keep energy economical, Nolin RECC's rates are competitive with neighboring utilities.

HAPPY
MOTHER'S
DAY!

SUNDAY, MAY 9

Most Nolin RECC revenue goes to purchase power

When you look at your monthly electric bill from Nolin RECC, you might wonder how the money is used to keep the lights on.

You may be surprised that out of every dollar of revenue we collect, about 66 cents of that dollar goes to buy wholesale electricity from our power supplier, East Kentucky Power Cooperative. We spend another 32 cents of each dollar to pay our debt service, payroll, operating and maintenance costs, depreciation, and other routine costs of running a business.

Typically, our margin—the money left over from revenue

after expenses are paid—is about 2 cents on every dollar received. The margin is reserve capital that covers storm damage, uncollected bills and business risks. This margin also determines when we are able to retire capital credits to our members.

NOLIN RECC

Where the revenue goes to keep the lights on



Distribution of revenue dollars for Nolin RECC

Spring storms can bring down power lines

It's not every day that a power line in your neighborhood falls to the ground, so most of us have very little experience when it comes to dealing with one when it does.

The best thing to do if you see a fallen electrical line: Stay far, far away from it.

A downed line can energize the ground as far away as 35 feet—and even farther when the ground is wet.

NEVER drive over a power line, touch it or try to move it by touching it with a stick or other object. Instead, call Nolin RECC or the local power provider. If the line is across a road or otherwise poses a public safety risk, call 911.

It's hard to tell if a downed line

is a power line or another line, but do not go close enough to find out. Even when you know it's a power line, you still have no idea whether

the line is energized or not. Assume that all downed lines are dangerous. Steer clear of it—and teach your children to do the same.



Nolin RECC crews repair a broken pole caused by wind damage from a March storm in Roanoke. Photo: Nolin RECC Line Technician Shaun Scherer

MAY IS ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH



BROVOKOSERH/ADOBE STOCK

Practice electrical safety when you DIY

Annually, 8% of electrocutions in the U.S. are attributed to improper use of power tools. The Electrical Safety Foundation International offers the following safety tips:

- Use ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) with every power tool to protect against electrical shock.
- Never use power tools near live electrical wires or water pipes.
- Use extreme caution when cutting or drilling into walls where electrical wires or water pipes could be accidentally touched or penetrated.
- If a power tool trips a safety device while in use, take the tool to

a manufacturer-authorized repair center for service.

- Do not use power tools without the proper guards.
- When using a wet-dry vacuum cleaner or a pressure washer, be sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions to avoid electrical shock.

Remember, you should only tackle DIY home projects within your skill and comfort level. For projects that require extensive electrical work, we strongly recommend you hire a licensed, qualified electrician for assistance.



DEAGREEZ/ADOBE STOCK

Operation Round-Up Recipient Spotlight

Hardin County Regional Farmers Market Foundation

The Hardin County Farmers Market is a local, grower-only market in Hardin County, KY. Starting in April each year, the local vendors who set up at the farmers market sell fresh fruits, vegetables, eggs, meats, baked goods, jam and jellies and other grower-sourced items. The popularity of the market has grown steadily over time, especially with the establishment of the permanent structure at the Peterson Drive location. The non-profit foundation identified a need for a restroom facility that can be used for vendors and patrons. They were awarded an Operation Round-Up grant in 2020 to help toward the cost of constructing that facility.

Applications are being accepted until May 7, 2021, for this year's Operation Round-Up grants. Find details at www.nolinrecc.com/operation-round-up/ or call (270) 765-6153.



Hardin County Farmers' Market. Photo: Sarah Fellows

**Our offices
will be closed
on Monday,
May 31, in
observance of
Memorial Day**



JASON/ADORE STOCK

HOW TO REACH NOLIN RECC

ELIZABETHTOWN OFFICE

411 Ring Road, Elizabethtown, KY 42701-6767
8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Mon-Fri • (270) 765-6153

RADCLIFF OFFICE

101 West Lincoln Trail Blvd., Radcliff, KY 40160
8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Mon-Fri

TOLL-FREE BUSINESS CALLS — 1-888-637-4247

PAY DIRECT BY PHONE TOLL FREE — 1-855-356-6359

FOR EMERGENCIES — (270) 765-6153

Website: www.nolinrecc.com
email: comments@nolinrecc.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David P. Brown
Gene Straney
A.L. "Buddy" Rosenberger
Lawrence Ireland
R.E. "Rick" Thomas
Linda Grimes
ATTORNEY
John J. Scott
President & CEO
Greg Lee



Download our
SmartHub App



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

