



Central Electric Power Association

A tradition of dependable, hometown service since 1937

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Cooperatives see the future

Dramatic changes are transforming all aspects of the energy industry. Interest in renewable energy is at an all-time high, and ultimately consumers want greater control over their energy use and payment methods. The prevalence of smartphone apps and “smart” technology for the home is increasing, and consumers and businesses are showing greater interest in electric vehicles. There’s no denying it: Electric utilities will have to make changes to the way they provide energy to accommodate these trends. Luckily, Central Electric Power Association is uniquely positioned to meet these changing energy needs because we are a cooperative.

Co-ops are community-led

October is National Co-op Month, which is the perfect time to highlight the



many ways electric cooperatives are unique.

Cooperatives are locally governed, looking out for the long-term needs of their consumer-members.

Brian Long, general manager of Central Electric, explains: “Electric cooperatives belong to the communities they serve. This heightened community focus allows us to quickly adapt to evolving

consumer expectations. Our closeness to the community ensures a better response to these needs because we are led by the people that we serve.”

Co-ops are a catalyst for good

Electric co-ops, like Central Electric, are a catalyst for good in their communities. Co-ops engage their consumer-members to do things that might other-

wise be impossible or difficult, like more than 80 years ago when electric co-ops brought power to areas where other utilities did not find it economically feasible.

Cooperatives exist to meet a need that was previously unmet in the community, and they are ever striving to anticipate and plan for the future needs of their consumer-members.

The co-op business model is unique. It is pragmatic, mission-oriented and puts people first. Co-ops strive to be a trusted voice in their communities. Co-ops have earned that trust because, while not perfect, they always have their members’ best interest at heart and are determined to enrich the lives of those living and working in the communities they serve—now and in the future.



**SAFE,
RELIABLE,
AFFORDABLE
ENERGY.**

**THEN. NOW.
ALWAYS.**

We are proud to power your life.

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH

TVA rates to increase Oct. 1 to all power distributors



Effective Oct. 1, 2018, TVA will increase their retail electrical rates 1.5 percent to all power distributors in the Tennessee Valley as approved by the TVA board.

The Tennessee Valley Authority Board of Directors approved a \$10.55 billion budget for the upcoming fiscal year, which begins Oct. 1, 2018.

The budget continues to align with TVA’s long-range financial plan implemented in 2013, seeking to balance capital improvements and financial health with debt reduction and minimizing the impact on rates. It further reduces TVA operating and maintenance spending from FY18 levels while maintaining funds for capital improvement and continuing the process of debt reduction.

“The hard work and focus of TVA’s employees has consistently kept us on course for better financial and operational performance, and we are seeing those efforts in our results,” said TVA President and CEO Bill Johnson. “Our FY19 budget reflects our ongoing commitment to serve the people of the Valley with safe, reliable and increasingly cleaner power at the lowest feasible rates.”

The budget approval contained a 1.5 percent effective retail rate increase, slightly below the rate of inflation, amounting to about \$1.78 more a month for the average Valley resident using 1,000 kilowatt-hours per month. The increase will take effect on Oct. 1, 2018.

“In FY19, we enter the sixth year of our long-range financial plan that outlined capital investments in assets to diversify and maintain our fleet, fuel cost savings and a reduction in overall debt. The plan also calls for lower operating and maintenance costs, which have been achieved through the work of our employees,” said TVA Chief Financial Officer John Thomas.

“The advantage to this approach becomes apparent when looking at our results. Rates today remain among the lowest 25 percent in the U.S. and TVA’s wholesale rates are essentially the same as they were in 2013. During that same period, we’ve been able to reliably generate cleaner energy with lower fuel costs while beginning to reduce our debt.”

Central Electric Power Association encourages consumers to practice efficient use of electricity. Turning the lights off when leaving the house or adjusting the thermostat a couple of degrees is important. Visit www.energyright.com for more energy saving tips!

It’s time for an HVAC check-up



Every fall before it gets too chilly outside, call a qualified heating and air conditioning technician to give your central heating system a once-over.

In fact, it’s important to have your heating system professionally maintained every fall.

Regularly maintaining your heating will help prevent a breakdown on a cold night during the dead of winter.

Between annual check-ups, you can head off trouble by paying attention to your heating system.

Here’s how:

■ Replace your system’s air filters once every three months. Dirty filters can get clogged and prevent air from

flowing through them. That will make your system work harder, which is energy inefficient.

■ When you turn the heat on for the first time this fall, listen for banging, rattling or other unusual sounds. They could be a symptom of a malfunction-in-the-making. Call your tech back to check it.

■ If your windows are steaming up or you see rust or a lot of dirt on your heating vents, something is wrong. A professional can diagnose the problem.

■ And if some rooms in your home feel cold while others are comfortable, that’s a sign that something’s not quite right. Call for help.

Cooler temps are just around the corner! Is your home’s heating system ready?

Remember to replace furnace filters once a month or as recommended. If you heat your home with warm-air registers, baseboard heaters or radiators, remember to clean them regularly to increase efficiency.

Source: energy.gov

TIP
of the
Month



Fall Back

Daylight Saving Time ends Sunday, November 4, 2:00 a.m.

Remember to set your clocks back Saturday night.

TIP: This is a good time to change batteries in smoke alarms and CO detectors.