



Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative

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SEDGWICK COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

currentnews

Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative

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FROM THE MANAGER

Coop Maximizes Financial Security for Members and Harvests Clean Energy with Solar Projects



Scott Ayres

Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative dedicated two solar farms in Sedgwick County, with a flip of the switch on May 27. The solar farms are intended to minimize the co-

operative's peak demand and maintain stable rates for its members.

Originally announced in November 2020, Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative's two solar farms were formally linked to the grid by Today's Power Inc. (TPI) of North Little Rock, Arkansas. These sun farms are among the first of the 22 systems to be built as part of the Kansas Cooperative Sun Power Program (KCSPP), a TPI solar power services agreement program that ensures low-cost renewable energy to 12 participating Kansas electric cooperatives.

Both of Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative's sun farms were customized in the design process to maximize output during the cooperative's peak demand hours, when power is most expensive. These factors will help Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative control power costs and keep power affordable

for their members. Along with the other participating Kansas electric cooperatives, Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative negotiated competitive long-term pricing.

"We are very excited to partner with Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative on this project," said Michael Henderson, president of TPI. "I have spent my career serving electric cooperative members and being able to provide direct, quantifiable savings through projects like KCSPP is very gratifying." He went on to say, "The leadership of Sedgwick County Electric should be commended for their forward-thinking efforts in serving their members."

Incorporating solar into our portfolio is another way our member-owners can benefit, by reducing electrical usage during our peak demand months. A

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Safe Summer Driving: Ensure your tires are ready for the road

During the warmer months, additional travel and hot roadways can put added stress on your vehicle and its tires, in particular. Normal driving, turning, and braking on hot roads can pose safety risks to your vehicle and tires. Whether you are simply commuting or planning a road trip this summer, these tips can help keep you safe on the road.

Get Pressure Right and Check It Often

Low tire pressure can lead to many issues for your tires, like decreased steering and braking control, poor gas mileage, excessive tire wear and the possibility of tire failure. Temperature changes can also impact tire pressure; for every 10 degrees in temperature change, your tire pressure changes 1 PSI (pound per square inch). Check your tire pressure at least once a month when the tires are cool. The impacts of bumps and turns from everyday use can lead to normal air loss, so check regularly and before any road trips. Find the manufacturer's recommended tire pressure on a sticker in your car's door jamb or in your owner's manual.

Check Your Tread

Tread depth refers to the amount of tread on a tire, which can impact a

vehicle's handling, traction, and safe stopping distance. More tread equals better road grip and shorter stopping distances while cars with lower tire tread can take significantly longer to stop. To easily check your tread depth, stick a penny upside down in a tread groove. If you can see President Lincoln's entire head, your tread is worn down and it's time to replace your tires.

Rotate Tires Often

Tires should be rotated every 6,000 miles or earlier if you notice any uneven wear. Rotating your tires increases tread life and helps ensure a smooth and safe ride.

Double Check Your Trunk

Many newer vehicles have replaced spare tires with tire inflation kits. These kits include tools to keep you on the road, like puncture-coating sealants, air



Placing an upside-down penny in any tread groove is an efficient way to check your tires' tread. If you can see Lincoln's entire head, it's time for a replacement.

compressors, and run-flat tires. Check to see what is included with your vehicle and consider adding a roadside assistance plan in case you experience a flat tire or other issues.

Ask an Expert

Stay educated on your tires and what you need to do to keep them safe. Consider booking an appointment for a free tire safety check. If it is time to replace your tires, an option like the Treadwell online tire guide can help you find personalized tire recommendations for your specific vehicle, where you live and your driving habits.

Kampling Retires after 20 Years with Sedgwick County Electric Co-op

MARCIA KAMPLING's last day was June 7 after 20 dedicated years with the cooperative. Marcia began her career with Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative in 2001, as accountant/billing supervisor. Marcia advanced to office manager in July 2002, the position she held at her retirement.

When asked her biggest challenges and changes, she mentioned keeping up with technology. When she started at the cooperative everything was done by hand on ledgers, adding totals on a 10-key. Marcia is also very involved with her community and

said the annual pedal tractor pull held at the Sedgwick County Fair is one of her biggest accomplishments.

Marcia and her husband Greg have six grandchildren that they follow in their sports and activities. She and Greg plan to travel and take life easy.

A luncheon and reception were held Monday, June 7 to celebrate Marcia's service to the cooperative.

Marcia, congratulations on your well-deserved retirement and thank you for the 20 dedicated years at Sedgwick County Electric



Listen for Peak Alerts and Save

This month, we are asking members to participate in Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative's Peak Control program. This voluntary program helps you save on your summer energy bills and can also help the co-op hold down wholesale power costs during the eight months of our off-peak period.

A major portion of our annual wholesale power bill is based on power consumed during the 3-6 p.m. demand timeframe during the summer months. The price of electricity is at a premium during that three-hour window due to the high demand for energy production during those hot, summer hours.

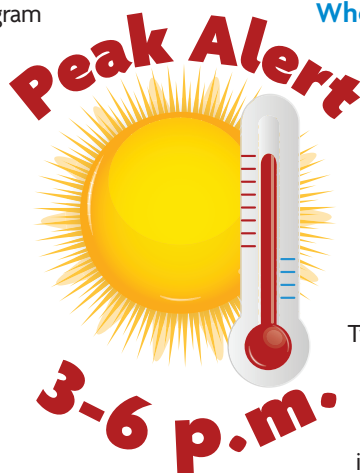
What is Peak Control?

Peak control is a voluntary program in which our members can participate to hold down electricity costs.

How Can I Participate in Peak Control?

You can participate by monitoring your use of electric appliances and equipment that require larger amounts of electricity during peak hours. Any steps you can take to lower your energy use

from 3-6 p.m., Monday through Friday will help control costs.



When Should I Participate in Peak Control?

Participate when "Peak Alerts" are issued, typically between the hours of 3-6 p.m. weekdays from June 1 through Sept. 30. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter to receive peak alerts. The actual peak demand for June, July, August and September is the billing demand for each respective month. Special

emphasis is placed during July and August, as the peak electricity demand registered by the co-op during those two months drives the demand billing for the following "off peak" eight months.

Be aware of days when temperatures are forecast to be above 95 degrees. These are the type of days when peak demand can occur.

What are the Benefits of Peak Control?

Reducing electric usage between 3-6 p.m. will help reduce our peak load. Each kilowatt shaved or shifted during peak load is a cost savings for cooperative members.

Hale Welcomes New Addition

Andrew and Bridget Hale are the proud parents of another baby boy. Kolsen Ray Hale was born on May 18 weighing 7 lbs., 8 ounces and was 19 ½ inches long. Kolsen is welcomed home by big brother Kallen.

Andrew is the assistant staking engineer/warehouseman for Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative. Congratulations Andrew, Bridget and big brother Kallen.

Special Meeting Scheduled for Members

Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative requests members to attend a special meeting on July 19, 2021, at 6 p.m. at the cooperative office, 1355 S. 383rd St. W., Cheney, KS 67025, to discuss and approve changes to the Net Metering rider. Proposed changes are:

- ▶ **SMALL GENERATING FACILITY NO LARGER THAN 10KW** – Non-refundable processing fee of \$100 would increase to \$500.
- ▶ **LARGE GENERATING FACILITY OVER 10KW** – Non-refundable processing fee of \$500 would increase to \$1,000 with a supplemental fee of \$2,000 on a request that does not pass the Fast Track Process. Pursuant to KSA 66-104d (g), as a member, you have the right to request the Kansas Corporation Commission to review the proposed fee change.

Co-op Sponsors Pedal Tractor Pull

Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative will host the pedal tractor pull at the Sedgwick County Fair on Saturday, July 10.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. at the Sedgwick County Fairgrounds, just east of the open-air arena, and the pull begins at 10 a.m.

Children ages 4-12 are eligible to participate. There is no entry fee. Participants are required to wear shoes and must have a parent or legal guardian present to register. Top finishers will advance to the tractor pull event at the State Fair in Hutchinson.



Co-op Maximizes Financial Security for Members *Continued from page 16A ►*



Brady Klein, Chris Fair, Mark Hansen, Chandler Gechter, Scott Leis, Victor Ayala and Tommy Hill were onsite during the flip the switch event.

major portion of our annual wholesale power bill is based on power consumed between June and September, when temperatures are above 95 degrees.

"As an electric cooperative owned by the members we serve, it is our job to do our part to make a difference at home and for the greater good of our members," said Scott Ayres, Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative's general manager/CEO.

TPI was chosen by Kansas Cooperative Sun Power Program in 2020 to provide solar-produced



Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative dedicated two solar farms in Sedgwick County, with a flip of the switch on May 27, 2021.

power for cooperative use. Work on the two sun farms began in early 2021 and was completed in May 2021, after all regulatory and engineering approvals were issued. For the length of the 25-year-or-more agreement, the cooperative will purchase electricity generated by the solar farms at a fixed-low cost. TPI owns and operates 100% of the solar arrays.

This opportunity to participate in the Kansas Cooperative Sun Power Program began when the wholesale power contract between all participating cooperatives and their forward-thinking generation and transmission cooperative, Kansas Electric Power Cooperative Inc., was recently modified to provide Kansas electric cooperatives with the ability to self-procure up to 15% of peak demand — with 5% of that amount specifically allowing for the addition of solar.

Using the sixth cooperative principle of cooperation among cooperatives, 12 cooperatives in Kansas have joined together to make a small investment for the next 25 years or more in the harvesting of sunshine. Participating electric cooperatives will be able to procure low-up-front cost solar energy to serve their membership through the Kansas Cooperative Sun Power Program and reduce their peak demand.

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DEADLIEST

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Extension cords are useful tools around the home and farm, but remember to replace any damaged or frayed cords. Damaged cords could cause electrical issues. Extension cords should never be a permanent solution. If you find yourself needing extension cords often, it may be time to add more outlets to your home or farm. #CatchItChangeIt