

THE CIRCUIT!

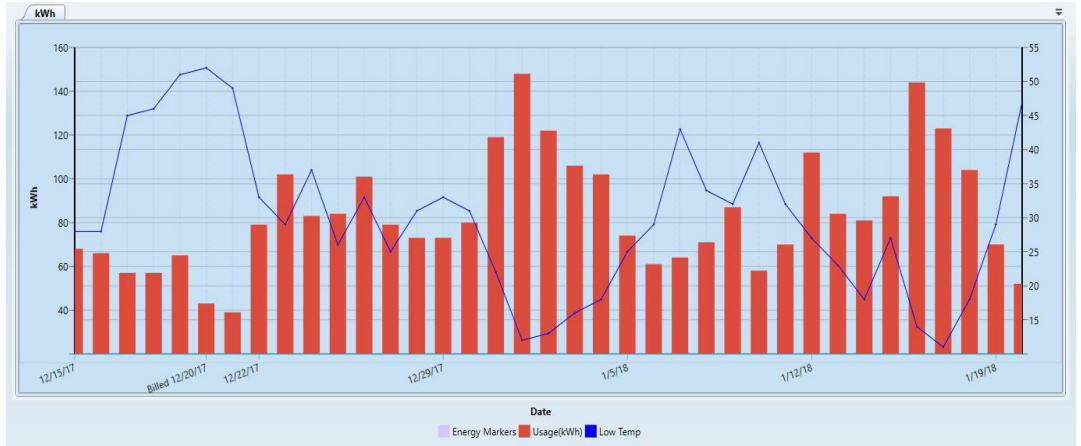
March 2018

A publication for our Members
in Atoka•Bryan•Choctaw
Coal•Johnston Counties



Get High Energy Usage Alerts Daily

The first bill of the year was a hard one to swallow for many SEC Members. Due to the record low temperatures during that particular billing cycle, bill amounts increased for everyone.



While your Cooperative cannot prevent your high energy usage during the extremely cold temperatures, we can certainly help you monitor it! You can receive a text, e-mail or voice alert when a day occurs where you reach your threshold, or what you consider to be an excessive amount of kWh usage. When you sign up, you will be asked what you would like your notification threshold to be - *we suggest using \$5* since any amount over that *per day* would be considered “above average” usage.

Your meter is read daily and the alerts will generally come between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and
See Alerts on Pg. 2

Levelized Billing Can Absorb the Blow

Levelized Billing allows for billed amounts to be an averaged total for over a twelve month period. Members who are enrolled will still receive a bill each month but with a more predictable charge.

A person wanting to be on Levelized Billing must be a Member of the Co-op for at least one year since the average that is used for the calculations is collected over a 12 month period of time. The average kilowatt hour used for those

twelve months then has the current rate applied to it. This rate is calculated the same as a normal residential Member would receive.

A Member can enroll for this type of billing if they have no more than two late payments reflecting on their account and an up-to-date balance. If this sounds like a good option for you or if you have questions, come by the Co-op and visit with us, or by calling the office Monday thru Friday.***

Electricity in the Modern World

Electricity keeps us connected to our modern world. Consider all the necessities and conveniences we enjoy in part because of the power lines running to the electric meter outside your home.

Count up your televisions, desktop, laptop and tablet computers, printers, your gaming consoles, music and video players and personal assistant devices. Whether they get used every day or just occasionally, the electricity that keeps them working comes from Southeastern Electric.



Have you looked around your kitchen lately? Between the coffee maker and toaster and the microwave and electric skillet, a lot of us have added several other modern small appliances. If you've
Cont. Electricity on Pg. 4

Anthony Dillard Celebrates Ten Years Service



Mr. Anthony Dillard celebrated his Ten Years of Service to the Cooperative Board of Trustees during the January Board Meeting. Pictured here with Office Manager, Randy Cloyd.

Alerts

9:00 a.m. You will be notified if your previous day was a high usage day and that you went over your threshold - giving you insight that you may want to lessen your energy consumption by adjusting the thermostat, turning down space-heaters, etc. on days where the outside temperature is similar.

This is a FREE service from your Cooperative. If you would like to sign up to receive these types of alerts, please call us at 580-924-2170 or 580-745-9463! ***

Ever Considered A Power Outage Pantry?

YOUR POWER OUTAGE PANTRY

We do our best to avoid power outages, but unfortunately, Mother Nature occasionally has different plans. Stay ahead of the storm by stocking your pantry with a variety of non-perishable items.

Set these items aside for extended outages only, and your storm prep will be a breeze!

Don't forget to stock up on disposable goods, like paper plates, napkins, plastic cutlery and cups.

- BEANS
- CANNED FRUIT
- CANNED TUNA
- CANNED VEGETABLES
- CEREAL
- DRIED FRUITS
- DRIED MEATS/JERKY
- GRAHAM CRACKERS
- PASTA
- RICE
- SPAM
- OATMEAL



We all know how much of an inconvenience a electrical outage can be. The Members and the Co-op as well never like when the power is out. However, we know that being a Cooperative that serves the rural areas of our counties, there will be outages.

One smart way to plan for an outage, and actually a pretty neat idea is by having what is called a "Power Outage Pantry"! Pack in non perishable items such as canned fruit, beans, tuna, canned vegetables, cereals, dried meats such as jerky, crackers, Spam, and other items that you like!

You may want to also throw in a manual can opener in case yours is electric. Remember your disposable goods such as paper plates, napkins, plastic ware and paper cups!

With the spring storm season right around the corner, the better and quicker you get ready, the more prepared you will be!***

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The Circuit! is composed monthly by



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Electricity

got a craft nook or workshop, the power tools and machines you use to cut and shape your projects are either plugged in or recharged from the outlets connecting your household wiring to SEC.

You use electricity to run all these devices, and we still keep the lights on, use the stove, heating and air conditioning, and get hot water from tap. The good news is, even as we rely more on electricity, it's still a bargain, especially compared to other things we pay for regularly. Since 2011, medical care, residential rental rates and education have increased at rates of 3 percent or more per year. Butter, meat and egg costs have been up by more than one to 2 percent annually, and even bread costs have risen better than a half point on average. Electricity costs rise about 1 percent a year, but co-ops across the country have reported a decline in average residential use per household since 2010. That means we're doing more things with less energy.

When it comes to value, electricity is a clear winner, and we're always looking for ways to work with you to make it even better. That's why SEC urges energy efficiency, encourages you to look for ENERGY STAR® appliances, and promotes technology, designed to give members more control over their electricity use. Energy performance dashboards, smart thermostats and power strips, and appliance settings that shift most water heating, laundry and dish washing outside of peak rate periods help reduce the co-op's overall power demand. They also give you opportunities to control or even trim your monthly utility bills.



That's good for families, couples and individuals trying to live within their budgets. And it's going to become even more important as digital devices and internet-connected technologies become even more important in our lives.

The average home now has 10 Wi-Fi connected devices. Technology and the gateways that keep it working use electricity, so you'll depend upon SEC for more than the power that keeps the lights on. That's why we're always working to provide service that's reliable, keep it affordable, and make it even more valuable to our member— you, your family and your neighbors.***