

**ROLLING HILLS
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

NEWS

**ROLLING HILLS
ELECTRIC CO-OP, INC.**

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For outage updates,
energy efficiency tips and
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FROM THE CEO/GENERAL MANAGER

New Rates Effective Oct. 1

After several months of going through a cost-of-service study and rate design process the Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative Board took action at their regular board meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 23, to approve the proposed tariff changes that were published in the September *Kansas Country Living*. These new rates went into effect Oct. 1, 2025, and will show on the bill members receive in November. This is the first rate adjustment since 2020 and was initiated due to the continued rising costs impacting the electric utility industry.

The information from the latest cost-of-service study, the approved rate matrix, and other useful tools is still available on our website at www.rollinghills.coop/2025-rate-study. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to us so we can provide answers or insights into the changes you may see on your bill.

The primary change for most of our members is the change to an electric demand component in many of our rate structures. Demand is the instantaneous load that a member puts on the system. Demand is billed to your cooperative and has always been a component that has been recovered through member billing. Regardless of how you used electricity, everyone paid the same rate. Member demand was included in the kilowatt-hour (kWh) charge.

We are now going to slowly split the demand component out of the per kWh charge, which will more fairly distribute the cost of each unique member and their usage habits. If you were a member with low demand, but using a lot of kWhs each month, you were probably overpaying for your impact on the system. Conversely, if you were a member with high demand but low kWh usage, you may have been underpaying for your impact.

As the energy markets continue to change, it is important to make sure that we have a rate structure that accurately and fairly charges our members without impacting other members. While rate structures may become more sophisticated, they will actually give our members more insight into their usage habits and also give them more power over controlling their costs.

At Rolling Hills, we will continue to work hard to control costs, provide reliable electricity in the heart of rural America, and make sure our members are served every day.



Jason Rabe

Happy Thanksgiving
from our co-op family to yours

*Our offices will be closed Thursday, Nov. 27,
and Friday, Nov. 28, to celebrate the holiday.*

Applications Open Now for All-Expenses-Paid Trip and Scholarship



Summer 2026 may seem far away as fall fades and winter approaches, but finding and selecting stellar delegates for youth trips takes time. Rolling Hills Electric is now accepting applications from **HIGH SCHOOL SOPHOMORES OR JUNIORS** who are interested in competing for a “trip of a lifetime.”

In addition to the trip, each winner will receive a \$500 scholarship to the college of their choice upon high school graduation.

To be eligible, parents' or guardians' primary residence must be on Rolling Hills Electric's power lines. We encourage all eligible students to apply for the summer youth trip!

Rolling Hills will sponsor delegates to attend either the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., or the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp near Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Rolling Hills

Electric pays for transportation, lodging, meals and other incidental costs.

The safety of our students and chaperones is our top priority. If trip coordinators believe that travel is unsafe, we will cancel the trips. In this case, we may offer an alternate activity for an award.

To apply, submit your application **BY DEC. 30, 2025**. Application details can be found at www.rollinghills.coop/apply-our-youth-programs.

Summer will be here before you know it. Don't delay; enter today!

YOUTH TOUR APPLICATION

Applicant Name _____ Birth date _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Student Phone _____ Student Email _____

Grade _____ School _____

Name of Parent(s) or Guardian(s) _____

Electric Account No. _____

Parent/Guardian(s) Phone _____

Parent/Guardian(s) Email _____

I agree that all information supplied in this application is accurate and true.

Applicant Signature _____

The safety of our students and chaperones is our top priority. If the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour or Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp organizers believe that travel is unsafe due to concerns with the coronavirus (or any other acts of terrorism, disaster, civil disorder, or curtailment of transportation facilities), the trip will be canceled.

Third Graders Spark Excitement at Electrical Safety Demo

Beloit elementary third graders got a spark of excitement during our electrical safety demo! A few students even had a special day — getting to watch their parents or grandparents who work right here at the co-op!



CO-OPORTUNITY DAY PICNIC

What a day! Over 300 burgers served, sunshine all around, and a big boost for our local food pantry thanks to your donations. We're grateful to everyone who joined us at the Co-opportunity Day Picnic!



Members sharing a meal, sharing stories and celebrating community.



Central Valley Ag, Farmway Credit Union and RHEC ready to serve their members.



Smiles, sunshine and picnic fun for our youngest co-op members!



Lisa Colson (left) and Mallory Shoemaker delivering items to the food pantry.

Need Assistance Paying Your Bill? Apply for LIEAP by March 31

NOTE: The start date of the 2026 LIEAP season is contingent on approval of federal funding for the program. DCF is awaiting updates from the federal government regarding the required financial support. If the federal funding becomes available, DCF will continue planning the 2026 LIEAP. Information regarding the next application period will be provided when it is available.

Rolling Hills Electric receives requests for assistance with member electricity bills throughout the year. The Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) is a federally funded program that helps eligible households pay a portion of their home energy costs by providing a one-time per year benefit.

THE 2026 LIEAP APPLICATION PERIOD IS FROM NOW THROUGH MARCH 31, 2026, BY 5 P.M. To qualify, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- ▶ An adult living at the address must be personally responsible for paying the heating costs incurred at the current residence, payable either to the landlord or the fuel vendor.
- ▶ Applicants must demonstrate a recent history of payments toward purchases of the primary heating energy.
- ▶ The combined gross income (before deductions) of all persons living at the address may not exceed 150% of the federal poverty level according to the guidelines listed in the table.

THE BENEFIT LEVELS VARY ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING FACTORS:

- ▶ Household income.
- ▶ Number of persons living at the address.
- ▶ Type of dwelling.
- ▶ Type of heating fuel.

For more information and to apply, visit WWW.DCF.KS.GOV, select the **ASSISTANCE & SERVICES**, then **UTILITIES & ENERGY ASSISTANCE**. Applications must be received at the DCF office prior to 5 p.m., **MARCH 31, 2026**. Late arrivals will not be considered for assistance. The state will contact Rolling Hills Electric to verify payments are being made on the account and the account is active in the applicant's name. LIEAP payments will come directly to Rolling Hills Electric and be applied directly to the account.

For more information or assistance in completing the application, please contact the LIEAP office at 888-369-4777.

COLD WEATHER RULE: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative Inc. wants consumer-members to have the electric service needed to keep their homes warm during the winter. Rolling Hills Electric also recognizes the member's responsibility to make contact to establish payment arrangements. When we work together it ensures both goals are met.

WHAT DOES THE COLD WEATHER RULE MEAN FOR ME?

The Cold Weather Rule helps existing consumer-members maintain electric service for their homes during the winter. You must make payment arrangements with Rolling Hills Electric.

HOW DO I QUALIFY?

If you cannot pay your entire electric bill, call Rolling Hills Electric to make payment arrangements:

- ▶ Agree to pay 1/12 of the past due amount of your bill, plus your current bill, all disconnection and connection fees, and agree to pay the remainder in equal payments over the next 11 months.
- ▶ Negotiate a payment plan to pay the past due amount off in fewer billing cycles.
- ▶ It will be necessary to pay your current monthly bill while paying off the past-due amount.

It will be necessary to contact Rolling Hills Electric if you are unable to fulfill the above qualifications.

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT FROM ROLLING HILLS ELECTRIC?

Rolling Hills Electric will inform you of the Cold Weather Rule payment

plan as well as other available payment options. Remember, under the Cold Weather Rule, you have the option of spreading your payment over a 12-month period.

Rolling Hills Electric will send written notice to consumer-members 10 days before disconnection, plus will call by phone or make personal contact the day before.

CAN I BE DISCONNECTED DURING THE COLD WEATHER RULE?

Rolling Hills Electric will not disconnect your primary residence when the temperature is forecast to drop below 35 degrees over the next 48 hours, except in certain circumstances.

To prevent disconnection when it is 35 degrees or above, or to be reconnected regardless of temperature, you must make payment arrangements with Rolling Hills Electric.

Rolling Hills Electric may start the final notification and disconnection process if there is a 48-hour forecast of temperatures above 35 degrees.

If the 48-hour forecast changes before the period ends and there is a forecast of below 35 degrees, Rolling Hills Electric will not disconnect until there is another 48-hour forecast of temperatures above 35 degrees.

QUESTIONS?

Please call Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc. at 800-530-5572.

The Cold Weather Rule applies only to existing residential consumer-members at their primary residence and is subject to the rules and regulations of the cooperative.