

P.O. Box 967, Pratt, KS 67124  
620-672-5538 • 800-828-5538  
[www.ninnescah.com](http://www.ninnescah.com)



NINNESCAH RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

# Watts Ahead

## Ninnescah Rural Electric Co-op, Inc.

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Manager of Operations

### In Case of an Outage

If your electricity is off for more than a few minutes, please call 800-828-5538. The office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday–Friday. After hours, calls will be answered by dispatch and forwarded to our on-call personnel.

## Ensuring Reliability as Power Supply Tightens

You expect reliable and affordable electricity from your electric cooperative, so how does your co-op deliver on that promise?

A complex network of electricity generators and tens of thousands of miles of electrical lines work together to ensure that enough electricity is available on the coldest winter morning and during the dog days of summer.

What happens when the demand for power overwhelms the ability to provide it? That's a particularly vexing question given the transition taking place in how electricity is produced and shared across this network.

The key to meeting the energy needs so essential to your quality of life is balancing electricity supply with demand. While that may sound simple, there is a complex web of facilities and organizations that work together to make it happen each day.

Regional transmission organizations coordinate, control and monitor the electric grid across several states in a region. For Kansas, that entity is the Southwest Power Pool (SPP). Think of them as energy traffic managers on an interstate highway system, regulating the number of cars — in this case, electricity — and their destination.

Even so, on some days there is an imbalance in that system that leads to

rolling power interruptions or blackouts — so-called “max-gen” events. In those cases, supply simply can't keep up. In the Midcontinent region comprised of 15 states, there were six max-gen events from 2006-2016. Since 2016, there have been 15, including three last July and August alone.

Simply, that's because power plants that generate electricity are being closed faster than new producers come online. In most cases, traditional large-scale power suppliers such as coal and nuclear plants are being closed and replaced by alternatives on a much smaller scale. And this gap is closing more quickly despite the development of new natural gas-fueled power plants.

As more electric utilities pursue zero- or low-carbon initiatives by 2035 and beyond, this challenge will grow more complex. So, what's the answer?

Electric cooperatives and others in the energy sector will continue to develop renewable options and pursue new technologies. But absent new large-scale alternatives and advances in energy storage, the stalwarts of today's energy fleet — coal and nuclear energy facilities — must continue to operate in many regions. In some, they remain the most cost-effective options for producing electricity.

## Join Us for YOUR Annual Meeting

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR JUNE 8 AT 6 P.M.**

The annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 8, 2021, at 6 p.m. at the Pratt Municipal Building. More details to follow in next month's issue of *Kansas Country Living*.

June 2021						
S	M	T	W	U	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

## Thank a Lineworker on April 12

If you were asked to associate an image or a person with Ninnescah Electric, most members would picture a lineworker. One of the most visible employees of the co-op, lineworkers work tirelessly to ensure our community receives uninterrupted power 24/7.

"Lineworker" is listed as one of the top 10 most dangerous jobs in the U.S. This is understandable as they perform detailed tasks near high-voltage power lines.

Regardless of the time of day, having to brave stormy weather and other challenging conditions, lineworkers must climb 40 feet in the air, often carrying heavy equipment to get the job done.

Being a lineworker is not a glamorous or easy profession. It takes years of specialized training, ongoing education, dedication, and equally important, a sense of service and commitment. How else can you explain the willingness to leave the comfort of your home to tackle a challenging job in difficult conditions, when most are sheltering comfortably at home? This dedication and sense of service to the community is truly what sets them apart. That's why we set aside the second Monday in April to celebrate and recognize the men and women who



On April 12, our dedicated lineworkers deserve all the appreciation and accolades that come their way on Lineworker Appreciation Day.

work around the clock to keep the lights on.

While lineworkers may be the most visible employees at Ninnescah Electric, it's important to note that there is a team of highly skilled professionals working behind the scenes. Engineers provide ongoing expertise and guidance on the operations side of the co-op. Member service representatives are always standing by to take your calls and questions. Our information technology experts are continuously monitoring our system to help safeguard sensitive data. And these are just a few of the folks who work together to ensure we can deliver the service and reliability you expect and deserve. Without them, our lineworkers wouldn't be able to "bring the light" to our community.

Our dedicated and beloved lineworkers are proud to represent Ninnescah Electric, and they deserve all the appreciation and accolades that come their way on Lineworker Appreciation Day.

On April 12, and any time you see a lineworker, we hope you'll join us in thanking them for their exceptional service. We also hope you'll remember that you have a dedicated team of professionals working behind the scenes at the co-op whose commitment to service runs just as deep.



## Help Us Locate These Former Members

Below is a listing of members who have retired capital credits owed to them, but for whom we no longer have valid mailing addresses. If you recognize a name on this list, please alert the member (or member's heirs) so they can begin working with the cooperative to claim the capital credits. Please have them contact our office at 620-672-5538 or 800-828-5538.

AETNA TOWNSHIP	CATCHING LOUIS A	FERRIN DELMER L
ALLIED CEMENTING CO INC	COULTER JOYCE M	FSL FARM CORP
APACHE DRILLING CO INC	CATLIN LLOYD	FRAZEE JUDITH L
ANDERSON RAY	COASTAL REFINING & MARK	FENWICK LEROY
ADAMS TROY L	CROWLEY TINA M	FOX TIM
ACID SERVICES LLC	CHADD TRACY	FLORIDA PUBLIC RADIO IN
BAUMAN JANE L MRS	CUTRIGHT DAVID	FULKS JOHN HSR
BERRY OREN	CALL JAMES W	FITZSIMMONS DENNIS L
BRANT JOHN	CHOCKLEY LESLIE	GILL DONALD L
BRIGGEMAN ROBERT	CARMEL CORPORATION INC	GILLESPIE DAYLE O JR
BRUMMER MRS EDNA M	CULP WILLIAM M	GEAR PETROLEUM CO INC
BRYANT RAYMOND W	CLARK CHARLES RYAN	GETTING DAVID J
BAKER ZANE S	CROSS BROTHERS	GRABER CALVIN C
BORHO DAVID	CORONADO GUS A	GORDON RICK
BECKHAM V G	CADLE WILLIAM P	GLOVER DOROTHY M
BAIER SAM	CHAMBERS LINDA A	GREAT PLAINS PASSION PL
BEBERSTINE CAROL A	CANTRELL GARRETT L	GOERTZEN SCOTT A
BARDOT JEFF	CROCKETT OIL & GAS	GADBURY RON
BROWN RICHARD C AGT	CROMER CONSOL HOLDINGS	GOBBLE TRACY L
B-Y OPERATING INC	CAPANSKY KELLY	GROW JOHN R DR
BAILEY JIMMY J	COLT RESOURCES CORP	GALLAGHER MATT
BARKER DONALD W	COOPER DAVID L	GENTRY CLIFF
BLEVINS LAURA L	COENERGY OPER CO	GOLDEN BELT FEEDERS
BAILEY VAN R	DELP CECIL	HENNING LOUIS
BEAL STEPHEN	DONDLINGER & SONS CONST	HORNBAKER VINCENT MRS
BROWN DONNA J	DUNCAN CHARLES W	HOGARD DON
BATES TERRY	DIETZ DARREN R	HAAS HERMAN
BECK LISA	DOWLING RANDY L	HALL DAN
BALES MYRON R	DYCHE DEAN	HARRIS SHANE
BISON PRODUCTION CO	DAVIS WARREN C	HOPKINS MELINDA C
BELDEN JOHN C	DEHAVEN BRUCE L	HUNTER ROBERTA F
BUFFALO OPERATING LLC	DUCEY GERALD A	HORYNA DENNIS J
BRENNEMAN TOM	DEROME RICHARD A JR	HAAS CHARLES
BAIRD ROBERT O	DILLEY C MATTHEW	HIMMELWRIGHT SUZANNE
BRG PETROLEUM INC	DEBUHR MELVIN L	HOFFMAN TODD D
BAYNE BARRY	DAVIS JACK R	HOLDT BRIAN A
BELT FARRELL E	DAVIS KEVIN	HILDEBRAND JEFF
BLACKBURN OIL/GAS INC	ELLISON CHARLIE V	HOECK JODY
CONLEY JOHN R	EVANS ERIN	HANZLICEK KRIS K
COMMONWEALTH RELOC SERV	ENGLER RON	HAMMEKE JOE A
CONSOLIDATED OIL & GAS	EDIGER THAYNE	

*Continued on page 16D ►*

## Don't Wait too Long to Pay a Delinquent Bill

A job Ninnescah Electric employees and some members dread each month is the collection of delinquent electric accounts.

Ninnescah notifies the delinquent member three times prior to collection:

- We mail nonpayment notices;
- The past due amount is listed on the new bill; and
- We make courtesy calls reminding members of the delinquent bill.

We will no longer make courtesy collection trips. This means if we have to go to your home, we will either collect the money or the meter will be disconnected for nonpayment, and the additional charges listed below apply.

Trip Charges (per meter)	
Collection Charges	\$50 + tax
Disconnect/Reconnect Charge before 3 p.m.	\$100 + tax
Disconnect/Reconnect Charge after 3 p.m.	\$150 + tax
Plus the amount of your delinquent bill.	

If you have any questions about a delinquent bill or need to make payment arrangements, please call our office Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 620-672-5538 or 800-828-5538.

## Welcome New Members

Brandon &/or Lyndsey VanSickle – *Belpre*  
 Randy &/or Mekinzie L Hudson – *Stafford*  
 Bear Petroleum LCC – *Haysville*  
 James A Maggard – *Harper*





# Help Us Locate These Former Members *Continued from page 16C*

HARPER MIKE  
HANSEN ROGER M  
HAMILTON RITA A  
HEMPHILL MARGIE  
HAGEMAN KAREN  
HUBIN TIM  
HAMILTON ROGER L  
HOLMQUIST DENNIS C  
HORTON MONTY K  
HERRMANN JIM  
HUNT WESLEY J  
HOEME NANCY J  
HAMMOND CHRIS  
HOWERY WILLIAM H  
HAMILTON KIMBERLY K  
HALL RANDY  
HEDDEN R J  
HEARTLAND WIRELESS KS P  
JACOBS JAMES W TRUST  
JARBOE GALE  
JAMES DON A SR  
JONES WANDA  
JOHNSON LEONNA M  
JHS ENERGY INC  
KACHELMAN LUCY MRS  
KOEHN RICHARD D  
KASTENS MARK W  
KREHBIEL KIM D  
KOHLMIEIER VIOLA C  
KOEHN FARMS  
KINNEY JAMES S JR  
KENWORTHY & BEFORT  
KRAISINGER DON  
KS INDUST ENRGY SPLY CO  
LOEB HERMAN L  
LOWE STEVEN J  
LIBBY DANIEL E

LANDERS/MUSGROVE OIL  
LEWIS QUINTIN  
LANGFORD TOM  
LONG JOHN R  
LAMMEY ERNEST  
LAIRD JASON  
LACHANCE BONNIE  
LEFORCE FARMS INC  
LANDWEHR RANDIE  
LYGHTLE BOBBY G  
LEWIS TAMMY  
LEFORCE LND/LIVESTOCK  
MCHENRY KENNETH  
MONAGHAN H C ESTATE  
MORFORD CRAIG  
MILAM KURT A  
MONTGOMERY GERALD G  
MILLER TERRY C  
MOORE VICTOR D  
MISCELLCO  
COMMUNICATION  
MCCLURE ALEX  
MURPHY BETTY L  
MCCANN SCOTT  
MRS COMMUNICATIONS  
MCCALL SHANE  
MCCOMB DAVID W  
MURROW STEVEN D  
MAYES PERRY R  
MACGIRVIN JOHN D  
MECKFESSEL ELDON E  
MCGINLEY PETER J  
MUNARI BRUNO  
MEREDITH LANCE  
MOORE KENT  
MOSSHART RICHARD  
MCCARTY DONALD G

MILLER MICHAEL P  
MERCURY CELLULAR OF KS  
MCGOVNEY MIKE A  
MORRIS DEREK G  
MERRICK WM A  
MANTA PETROLEUM INC  
MILLS MARK  
MILNER MONTY L  
MILLION DWIGHT X  
NOSSAMAN ROY  
NICHOLAS WATER SERVICE  
NICHOLAS KEVIN  
NEW JERSEY NATL RES  
NYGREN DOUGLAS D  
NEUMANN DALE  
O MOORE MICHAEL  
OGLES ARLENE L  
OCEAN ENERGY INC  
PIKE CYRUS B  
PARK WILLIAM W  
PARKER ROBERT R  
PEREZ JOHN P JR  
PETRO LOCATORS INC  
PIKE JEAN  
PETERSON TIM C  
PIA-II PARTNERSHIP  
PLAINS LIQUIDS TRANSPOR  
PLANO PETROLEUM C  
PERDUE JOHN G  
PETERSON DOUGLAS J  
PLAINSCO LTD SMITH 1-8  
PHILLIPS ACE  
PRAIRIE RESOURCES INC  
PRAIRIE VALE FARM INC  
PITTS DAVID L  
PHILLIPS JOHN  
POWELL STELLA

ROBERTS BARBARA  
RUSH HAROLD  
REECE HOWARD W  
REILING RUTH E  
RICH LAVINA  
RITCHY ALAN INC  
RITCHIE EXPLORATION INC  
RAMSEY JEWEL I  
ROHLEDER ERIC G  
RATCLIFF REX  
REESE ANDREA  
SCHMIDT LELAND  
SCOTT MARY ALICE MRS  
SCHERER HENRY G  
SIMPSON RAYMOND  
SWEARINGEN RAY C  
SCHLESENER LORI A  
SANDERSON NATHAN C  
SLOAN DAVID  
SALING GEORGE  
SMITH KARL D  
SWONGER JENNIFER  
STALCUP DANNY  
STRAUB OILFIELD SERV IN  
SCHWEIN MIKE  
SMITH LEON E SR TRUST  
SHEETS DEBBIE  
SMITH MONTY D  
SEWING KIM  
STRAIT CORA LOU  
SMITH HEATH  
SMITHEY CLARENCE E  
SCOTT JIM  
STEPHENS PAUL L  
SCHMIDT DARREN W  
STUFFLEBEAM DALE L  
SALAZAR MARIA S

TALBOTT RICHARD E  
THOMPSON MRS JENNIE  
TUTTLE GERALD  
TERRY CECIL G  
THEURER G M  
THEIS JIM  
TUCKER WILLIAM E  
TOUCHSTONE CHUCK  
THOMPSON RAMONA V  
THELL CALVIN J  
TPC INC  
TONER CHARLES G  
UNRUH BRENT D  
UNIVERSAL RESOURCES  
UMC PETROLEUM CORP  
UNRUH STEVEN D  
VANRANKEN EARL DSR  
VANRANKEN MIKE  
WATERS RICHARD D  
WHITE L KEITH  
WARD BETH A  
WILLIAMS JANET  
WILSON G LYNN JR  
WRIGHT SHAWN  
WILLARD JOYCE  
WELLS JUSTIN G  
WILDHORSE FARMS INC  
WEBER VICTORIA  
WHITE EAGLE RESOURCES  
CORP  
WESTERN GAS RESOURCES  
W J V INC  
WOOLSEY PETRO CORP  
WAHRMAN CHAD  
WIMMER LISA D  
ZIMMERMAN PEGGY J

## Why Do We Trim Trees?

**Trees add beauty to our landscape, provide oxygen and can help conserve energy.**

When they grow too close to power lines, however, they can cause service disruptions or even outages. That is why branches and limbs that grow into or near lines need to be trimmed and sometimes even removed.

If you notice your trees start to crowd power lines, do not trim them yourself. Contact your electric utility to determine the next recommended step. Only professionals certified for line clearance should prune and trim trees near power lines.

**Trees and other vegetation are the leading cause of service interruptions in many areas.**

