



P.O. Box 360, 14935 U.S. Highway 36, Norton, KS 67654
785-877-3323 or 800-577-3323
www.prairielandelectric.com

PRAIRIE LAND
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

NEWS

PRAIRIE LAND ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mike Rogers
President

Keith Ross
Vice President

Sandy Benoit
Secretary

Ronald Griffith
Treasurer

Ivan Bohl
Trustee

Robert Paxson
Trustee

William Peterson
Trustee

Lowell Thoman
Trustee

Scott Urban
Trustee

Eric Witmer
Trustee

STAFF

Kirk Girard
CEO

POWER LINE ISSUES

Call 800-577-3323 to report outages and other power line issues.

POWER
to make life better

FROM THE CEO

Notice to Members: Proposed Rate Changes

In May, we shared that Prairie Land had begun a rate and cost-of-service study with an independent consultant to evaluate whether our rates provide the revenue needed to operate, maintain and invest in the cooperative. The study reviewed Prairie Land's total revenue needs, how costs are allocated among rate classes, and how those costs are recovered through rates. The study is now complete. On Tuesday, Oct., 27, 2026, at 1 p.m., the board of trustees will hold a member rate meeting at the Norton office. Action on the retail rates may be taken at that time. The meeting is open to any member who wishes to attend and hear the rate proposal presentation.

RATE STUDY RESULTS

The study determined that additional revenue is needed to maintain the cooperative's financial strength, support reliable service, and fund ongoing investments in the electric system. The consultant's analysis showed a need for \$5.7 million, or about 7.3%, in additional rate revenue for 2027. After considering the potential impact on members, the board elected to reduce the margin requirement to a level still adequate to meet those needs and maintain lender covenants, and to phase the increase



Kirk Girard

Continued on page 12C ►

NOTICE OF RATE MEETING

The Board of Trustees of Prairie Land Electric Cooperative, Inc. will meet on **TUESDAY, OCT. 27, 2026, AT 1 P.M.** to discuss proposed rate changes. This meeting will be held at the cooperative's headquarters located at 14935 US Highway 36, Norton, Kansas, and will be open to any member who wishes to attend.

Action on the retail rates may be taken at that time. Members have the right to request review by the Kansas Corporation Commission of any rate change approved by the cooperative as provided by K.S.A. 66-104d(g).

Please RSVP to ensure adequate seating. Call Prairie Land at 785-877-3323 or 800-577-3323.

COLD WEATHER ACCOMMODATION

Prairie Land wants to help members maintain electric service during winter while recognizing the member's responsibility to plan to pay for service received. The Cold Weather Accommodation allows members to set up payment plans to make sure both goals are met.

Cold Weather Accommodation is in effect Nov. 1 through March 31 and applies to existing residential members at their primary residence, subject to the rules and regulations.

HOW TO QUALIFY

- ▶ Contact cooperative if you can't pay your bill. **OPTIONS:**
 - ▶ Pay 1/12 of the total due plus all disconnection/reconnection fees, and spread the rest over 11 months OR negotiate payment plan to pay overdue amount in under 12 months.
 - ▶ You must continue paying the current monthly bill.
 - ▶ If you're behind on a previous plan, make a new agreement.

THE COOPERATIVE WILL

- ▶ Inform members of Cold Weather Accommodation and any other available payment plans.
- ▶ Provide the member with a 10-day written notice before disconnection and attempt a phone or personal contact the day before.
- ▶ Share information on agencies offering financial assistance.

DISCONNECTION POLICY

- ▶ Disconnection won't occur if temperatures are forecast below 35 F within the next 24 hours.
- ▶ Disconnection may happen when temperatures are forecast above 35 F for 48 hours unless payment arrangements are made.

If You Depend on Life Support, PLEASE LET US KNOW

Prairie Land Electric strives to maintain the best possible service with minimum outages. However, outages do occur. Cooperative members who depend on life support equipment should complete a Prairie Land Electric Life Support/Critical Needs form.

We keep a register of members on life support equipment, and it is important this information be current and accurate. We will make every effort to give priority service restoration to members on life support systems. However, Prairie

Land advises that it is imperative for the member to have an alternate plan, such as a standby generator or a family/friend's house to stay during outages.

IF YOU OR A FAMILY MEMBER DEPEND ON LIFE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT, PLEASE CALL 800-577-3323 OR 785-877-3323 TO REQUEST A FORM OR DOWNLOAD THE FORM AT WWW.PRAIRIELANDELECTRIC.COM/FORMS.

Please note that completing this form does not prevent service disconnection for nonpayment.

MEDICAL DEVICE SAFETY

YOUR BACKUP POWER OPTIONS



Know if your device works with batteries or a generator, and for how long.



Employee Anniversaries



Tom Huber
20 YEARS

TOM HUBER began his employment with Prairie Land Electric on Oct. 3, 2006, as an apprentice lineman for the Norton area. In April 2010, he advanced to journeyman lineman, and, in 2024, to construction foreman, the position he currently holds. Tom lives in Norton with his wife, Chelsey, and their 14-year-old daughter, Payton. In his spare time, Tom enjoys hunting, fishing and spending time with his family.

CALLY ENGEL began her career with Prairie Land Electric as a billing clerk on Oct. 4, 2011. In 2020, she accepted the position of operations assistant, the position she currently holds.

Cally enjoys helping members troubleshoot problems with their electric service and connecting them with the appropriate assistance to restore power or resolve service issues. As operations assistant, she serves as the dispatcher for the linemen, sends contracts to members who need new services built, and handles many other important tasks that help keep Prairie Land Electric running smoothly.

Cally and her husband, Chad, live in Norton and have two sons: Lucas, 31, and Maverick, 27. In her spare time, Cally enjoys spending time with family, caring for her goats and donkeys, baking and traveling.



Cally Engel
15 YEARS

Notice to Members: Proposed Rate Changes Continued from page 12A ▶

over three years rather than make the full adjustment in one year.

As a result, the required 2027 revenue increase was reduced to \$4.8 million, or about 6.1%, with an additional \$1.3 million needed in each of 2028 and 2029. If approved by the board of trustees, the proposed rates will take effect Jan. 1, 2027.

RATE CHANGE SUMMARY

Because the cost of providing service differs among rate classes, the proposed adjustments vary and will not be the same percentage for all members. The table to the right shows the proposed impact for an average-usage member in each class; individual impacts will vary based on electricity use.

BALANCING COST AND RELIABILITY

We know changes to electric rates matter to household budgets, farm operations and local businesses. As a member-owned, not-for-profit cooperative, our responsibility is to control the costs we can, prioritize essential investments and weigh cost, safety, reliability and long-term value. For example, we are identifying opportunities to strategically modernize portions of our system rather than replace or upgrade infrastructure where it is not necessary. At the same

PROPOSED RATE CHANGE				
AVERAGE IMPACT BY RATE CLASS				
RATE CLASSIFICATION	AVERAGE % CHANGE	AVERAGE BILL/MONTH		
		CURRENT	PROPOSED	INCREASE
Residential & Farm - Non-Commercial	10.7	\$134.30	\$148.72	\$14.42
General Service Small	12.8	\$113.54	\$128.08	\$14.54
General Service Small - Demand	1.9	\$521.85	\$531.71	\$9.86
General Service Medium	1.0	\$1,239.11	\$1,251.93	\$12.82
General Service Large	1.0	\$7,425.47	\$7,502.49	\$77.03
Irrigation*	10.7	\$452.10	\$500.67	\$48.57
Industrial Service	1.0	\$241,244.53	\$243,656.98	\$2,412.45
Idle Service	12.4	\$51.60	\$58.03	\$6.42
Interruptible Industrial	4.2	\$35,013.95	\$36,500.98	\$1,487.03
Athletic Field Lighting	8.4	\$96.69	\$104.85	\$8.16
Temporary Service	4.2	\$80.22	\$83.56	\$3.34
Sub-Transmission & Transmission Level Service	0	\$19,140.44	\$19,140.44	\$0

*IRRIGATION IS BASED ON SEASONAL USAGE DIVIDED BY 12 MONTHS FOR MONTHLY AVERAGE FOR COMPARISON ONLY. PROPOSED CHANGES AS OF SEPT. 22, 2026. IMPACT ASSUMES AVERAGE USAGE.

time, many costs of maintaining the local distribution system — including materials, labor, equipment, and state and local taxes and fees — are outside our full control.

Learn more about how Prairie Land balances reliability, system investment and cost, and find more information about the proposed rate changes by scanning the corresponding QR codes at right.

SCAN TO LEARN MORE ABOUT

PROPOSED RATE CHANGES



BALANCING RELIABILITY, SYSTEM INVESTMENT AND COST



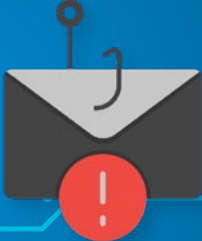
OCTOBER IS CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH



Longer passwords = stronger protection.



Think before you click.



Watch for co-op impersonation scams.



Use multifactor authentication.

OCTOBER IS CO-OP MONTH

Celebrating our members and our communities.

POWER
WITH
PURPOSE

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

County: _____

Member for:

☐ <5 Years ☐ 5-10 Years ☐ 11-20 Years

☐ 21-30 Years ☐ 31+ Years

Co-op Month Giveaway



To show appreciation for our members, we will be giving away prizes and bill credits throughout the month. We will announce three winners on Facebook each week on:
Oct. 9, 16, 23, 30.

Once you enter, your name stays in the drawing each week — enter early for more chances to win. Enter online with the QR code or return this form to:

**P.O. Box 360,
Norton, KS 67654.**

ENTER TO WIN