



**FREESTATE ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE, INC.**

The Outlet

FreeState Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Board of Trustees

Larry Butel
Overbrook

Jeanine Murphy
Leavenworth

Bill Conley
Delia

Ralph Phillips
Mayetta

Karol Lohman
Leavenworth

Rob Sage
Maple Hill

Don Montgomery
Burlingame

Matthew Turecek
Valley Falls

Mark Wulfkuhle
Lawrence

Staff

Christopher Parr
CEO

District Offices

McLouth Office
P.O. Box 70
McLouth, KS 66054-0070

Topeka Office
1100 SW Auburn Road
Topeka, KS 66615

Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Holiday Office Closures

FreeState offices will be closed on **DEC. 13** for an all-employee meeting and **DEC. 25 AND DEC. 26** for the Christmas holiday. The offices will be open 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Dec. 27-29.

FROM THE CEO

Merry and Bright

It's the holiday season, and I find myself reflecting on the year. It brings me joy and gratitude, as we express our heartfelt holiday greetings and best wishes for the upcoming year.

I want to express my sincere gratitude for your trust and continued support.

Our cooperative is more than just your energy provider, we are member-focused and community driven. We care about the communities we serve, and we know it takes more than power poles and line to really empower a community.

Here at FreeState we empower our employees to carry out six core values. Each employee works to make sure our members are the priority, but we also strive to be:

- ▶ **TRANSPARENT:** We are open and honest in our dealings with our members, employees and other stakeholders.
- ▶ **ETHICAL:** We do what is right and are accountable to our members.
- ▶ **SAFE:** We look out for the well-being of each other, our members and the public.
- ▶ **DEDICATED:** We are committed to working together as a team to serve our members and communities.
- ▶ **PROGRESSIVE:** We continually seek opportunities to find new and better ways to achieve member satisfaction and operational efficiencies.

▶ **RESPECTFUL:**

We treat everyone we encounter with compassion and professionalism.

As we move into 2024, I want to make certain our members know that your cooperative is here to help. We take pride in our member service, and we want to be your trusted energy partner.

We encourage members to ask questions and engage with us.

After all, as a member-owner, this is your electric cooperative.

In the spirit of the holidays, I wish you and your loved ones a joyous and peaceful season. May the warmth of this festive time bring you moments of happiness, reflection and connection. May the new year be filled with prosperity.

On behalf of the entire FreeState team, thank you for being a part of the FreeState family. I wish you all a merry and bright holiday season!



Chris Parr

I wish you and your loved ones a joyous and peaceful season.

BILLING OPTIONS

Made for You

FreeState Electric Cooperative, Inc.
 Remit to: P.O. Box 70, McLouth, KS 66054-0070
 1-800-794-1989

McLouth Office
 1160 SW Auburn Road, 66054
 Telephone: 785-478-3444

Willie Wierzbard
 1234 Cooperative Way, Anytown KS 123456

Billing Information:
 Billing Date: 06/12/2023
 Account Number: 1234567890
 AutoPay on 07/05/2023

Service Summary:
 Previous Budget Balance: 260.00
 Payment(s) Received: 260.00CR
 Budget Balance Prior to this Billing: 0.00

Message Center:
 Service Address: 1234 Cooperative Way
 Substation: NAME of SUB

Meter #	Rate Schedule	From	To	Days	Previous	Present	Mult.	Current Usage
05550555	Large Residential	05/01/23	06/01/23		37364	39573	1	2209

Current Account Activity:

Electric Usage Charge	228.45
Electric Service Charge	33.50
PCA -0.00198	2.39CR
County Tax	3.50
Total Current Charges	268.06
Account Balance Prior to this Billing	328.09CR
Total Account Balance - Your balance if Budget Billing is discontinued! Shown for your info!	\$7.03
Total Budget Amount Due - Your amount due now to continue on the Budget Billing Program!	260.00
Current Budget Amount	0.00
Budget Balance Prior to this Billing	260.00
Total Budget Amount Due - Your amount due now to continue on the Budget Billing Program!	260.00

Budget Amount Due on Receipt: \$260.00
 7% Late Penalty + tax added to next bill if paid after 07/05/2023

FreeState knows it is important to offer not only multiple ways to pay, but also a variety of billing options. Every member typically receives a standard monthly bill, but did you know we offer multiple billing options? If you need further assistance or have questions about billing program qualifications, call **1-800-794-1989 AND PRESS ZERO** to speak directly with a representative.

Budget Billing Program

This program is designed to help our members spread the cost of energy consumption over a 12-month period with consistent monthly payments. Variable energy consumption during seasonal peaks can create energy bills that are higher or lower than expected. Any residential member in good standing, with consistent on-time payments, is eligible to enroll in the program.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

In order to enroll, you must be a FreeState member for at least one year. The cooperative calculates your monthly budget billing amount by averaging your billing history over the previous 11 months. This calculation is reflected on your monthly bill as the amount due.

Each monthly bill will also display the actual energy usage charge during that billing cycle. Your actual usage charge may be more or less than your budget billing amount due.

Each member is required to pay for the energy they consume over the 12-month period, and delinquent payments could result in expulsion from the program.

Members are expected to pay the budget billing amount, but are strongly encouraged to monitor their actual account with SmartHub to conserve energy when possible. There will be times of the year a member will use more, or less, energy than the budget billing set amount.

Your budget billing amount due is recalculated quarterly. Members may see an increase or decrease in the amount every three months depending on your energy consumption.

THE MORE YOU CONSERVE, THE MORE YOU SAVE!

A If you are paying the correct budget amount every month, the budget balance prior to this billing will always be \$0. If you underpay, you will see an amount due on this line.

B The amount is due as soon as you receive the bill. You must pay this amount prior to the fifth of the month to avoid a late penalty. Always reference this amount due when making a payment. Remember, it may change slightly during recalculation months (January, April, July and October).

C Current charges for the current billing period. This is the total for actual usage during the current billing period. This is for your information and NOT the budget amount due.

D Budget settlement amount if you stop the budget billing program.

E New overall account balance after current charges have been deducted. The actual account balance is always tracked and is available for reference. Any payment made will be credited toward the total account balance.

Standard Monthly Billing

FreeState's default billing option provides all members with a monthly bill for electrical use. Bills are due and payable upon receipt. Bills can be paid at our offices, placed in drop boxes outside each office or mailed to our McLouth office at: **P.O. BOX 70, MCLOUTH, KS 66054.**



Paperless Billing

Save a stamp and pay from the convenience of your phone, laptop or PC with paperless billing. We offer an array of paperless payment options including SmartHub (online or app), Pay Now and our IVR secure pay-by-phone option. These payment options allow for convenience and ability to pay your bill at your fingertips.



Time-of-Use Program

East District (McLouth) members can participate in this program, which is designed to keep your bill consistent with FreeState's other rates and gives members the opportunity to save on their monthly bill by adjusting energy consumption habits.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

FreeState is charged a premium by our power suppliers for energy consumed between 3-6 p.m., Monday-Friday. During this three-hour window, members on the rate pay 17.89¢ per kWh compared to 8.45¢ per kWh during all other hours, including major holidays.

HOW CAN YOU SAVE?

Any effort on your part to alter your habits and consumption as much as possible outside of those peak hours, may result in savings on your bill. Wait until after 6 p.m. to run your dishwasher, dryer or adjust the thermostat. And, wait to do laundry or other high energy chores until the weekend.



PowerPay Program

PowerPay allows you to monitor your account and adjust your energy usage to help you save. This program offers a great solution for members who would prefer to pay in smaller increments versus one larger monthly bill. Paying in smaller increments can be helpful if you're paid on a weekly basis or if you're managing a very tight budget. All members are eligible and can sign up by signing our PowerPay agreement and making an initial payment of any past due amount (if applicable) or \$50.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Each day, the previous day's kWh use, estimated power cost adjustment (PCA), prorated service, device charge and applicable taxes are calculated and deducted from your PowerPay balance. PowerPay members do not receive a bill each month, but do receive email notifications when their PowerPay account falls below \$30.

There are no deposits or fees to join and no surprise bills after you get started. The power to manage your account is all yours!



Youth Programs Build Better Youth



FreeState Electric Cooperative invests in our youth through opportunities designed to provide dynamic, personal interactions with fellow youth, cooperative employees and legislators.

These experiences guide students to develop leadership and communication skills important to becoming employable adults. Youth programs are all-expenses-paid and will truly be experiences of a lifetime for area youth.

One student will have an opportunity to visit Washington, D.C., for the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour in June, and one student will experience Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp near Steamboat Springs, Colorado, in July. The two winners will each receive a \$1,000 scholarship.

Any high school junior living in the FreeState Electric Cooperative territory whose parent or guardian is a FreeState member is eligible.

**APPLY BY
FEB. 15, 2024**



www.freestate.coop/youth



The year may be coming to an end, but our work to power your homes and businesses while making your life easier never stops. Wishing you and yours all the best from your co-op family at FreeState Electric Cooperative. We look forward to serving you in 2024 and beyond.

- ▶ Britton Anderson
- ▶ Darren Anderson
- ▶ Eli Adkins
- ▶ Bryce Best
- ▶ Blake Blassingame
- ▶ Tory Blosser
- ▶ Josh Bogatz
- ▶ Tanner Bristol
- ▶ Derrick Brown
- ▶ Paul Brugh
- ▶ Cole Bryant
- ▶ Jeremy Cameron
- ▶ Ryan Coates
- ▶ Dustin Crotinger
- ▶ Billy Denzer
- ▶ Traci DePriest
- ▶ Corey Ealy
- ▶ Rob Ecklund
- ▶ Brent Edgcomb
- ▶ Melanie Eichman
- ▶ Sarah Farlee
- ▶ Derek Fraizer
- ▶ Kyle Fritz
- ▶ Mat Frye
- ▶ David Gechter
- ▶ Loren Goss
- ▶ Roderick Haffener
- ▶ Kyle Hallgren
- ▶ John Hamm
- ▶ Kyle Hammer
- ▶ Brad Heideman
- ▶ Adam Hernandez
- ▶ Paul Herring
- ▶ Tanner Hinson
- ▶ Wes Holthaus
- ▶ Jim Holwick
- ▶ Kim Howbert
- ▶ Elle Jolley
- ▶ Mike Jones
- ▶ Ashley Karl
- ▶ Michael Kay
- ▶ Lori Kloepper
- ▶ Greg Kramer
- ▶ Desiree LaForge
- ▶ Matt Lambert
- ▶ Dean Lasher
- ▶ Nolan Lewis
- ▶ Joel McDaniel
- ▶ Conner McManus
- ▶ Danny Mehrhoff
- ▶ Michelle Meyer
- ▶ Tyler Meyer
- ▶ Beth Miller
- ▶ Chase Mills
- ▶ Christina Mitchell
- ▶ Jordann Moody
- ▶ Ken Ottensmeier
- ▶ Chris Parr
- ▶ Zane Peak
- ▶ Jake Peltzer
- ▶ Jacob Pineau
- ▶ Anthony Pousher
- ▶ Mark Raines
- ▶ Bobby Riedel
- ▶ Shad Schafer
- ▶ Justin Steele
- ▶ Bryce Shaver
- ▶ Scott Shepherd
- ▶ Shauna Snyder
- ▶ Marcus Steinlage
- ▶ Zach Sterling
- ▶ Jill Taggart
- ▶ Amanda Tarwater
- ▶ Brooks Vaughn
- ▶ Chelsea Villaneuva
- ▶ Randy Wager
- ▶ Grant Walker
- ▶ Jeff Werner
- ▶ Mitch West
- ▶ Gary Willits
- ▶ Scott Wright