



**FREESTATE ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE, INC.**

The Outlet

FreeState Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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Chief Executive Officer

District Offices

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

Topeka Office
1100 SW Auburn Rd.
Topeka, KS 66615

Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday, 7:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

NOTICE

FreeState Electric Cooperative offices will be **CLOSED ON TUESDAY, JULY 4**, in observance of Independence Day. We wish our members a safe holiday.

FROM THE CEO

Beat the Summer Peak

July heat brings the need to stay cool by running the air conditioner during those sweltering days. It's hard to think about cutting back on energy use when it reaches three digits, but in fact, that's the best time to consider saving electricity — even if it is just a tiny bit.

By saving or conserving energy, you're helping all FreeState members save money.

Just a few degrees on your thermostat could mean savings. Being conscious of the peak times from 3 to 6 p.m. each day. Did you know that shifting the time you do household chores, to early morning or after 6 p.m., can help you save energy for your home and the entire cooperative? If all members do their part, the cooperative purchases less electricity during times of the day when it is most expensive — and that results in real savings for everyone.

Summer isn't the only time to conserve energy. It really is a year-round consideration. Look at making mechanical changes in your home, like replacing older HVAC units or less efficient appliances. Those may be pricey options, but one inexpensive way to increase efficiency without buying new items is by looking at your windows. Take simple steps like improving seals by caulking doors, windows, and any other open-

ings where cold air could escape.

Another way to increase your efficiency is through the energy you use. The thermostat is a great starting point. Try setting the thermostat higher when you're away, programming it to match your schedule or try out a smart option with app included. There are additional simple things you can do. Wash clothes in cold water, run the dishwasher when you go to bed, keep lights off when you aren't in a room, or take the family outside instead of sitting in front of the television.

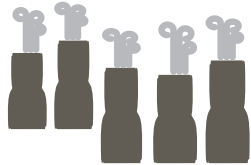
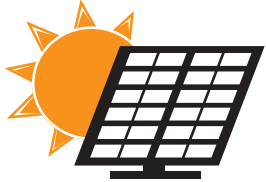
If you have questions about how you can save or start conserving energy, contact our energy use coordinator. No matter what steps you take, small ones, or larger ones, it doesn't matter. We want to help you save money and find ways to make your home as efficient as possible.



Chris Parr

“By saving or conserving energy, you're helping all FreeState members save money.”

THE PATH OF

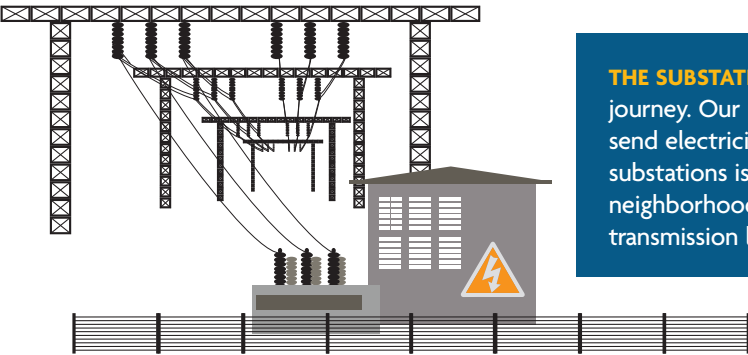


FreeState receives power through **POWER GENERATION** from our **POWER SUPPLIERS**, Eversource and Kansas Electric Power Cooperative (KEPCo). These power suppliers send generated power through miles of high-voltage transmission lines to our 21 metering points and 18 substations.

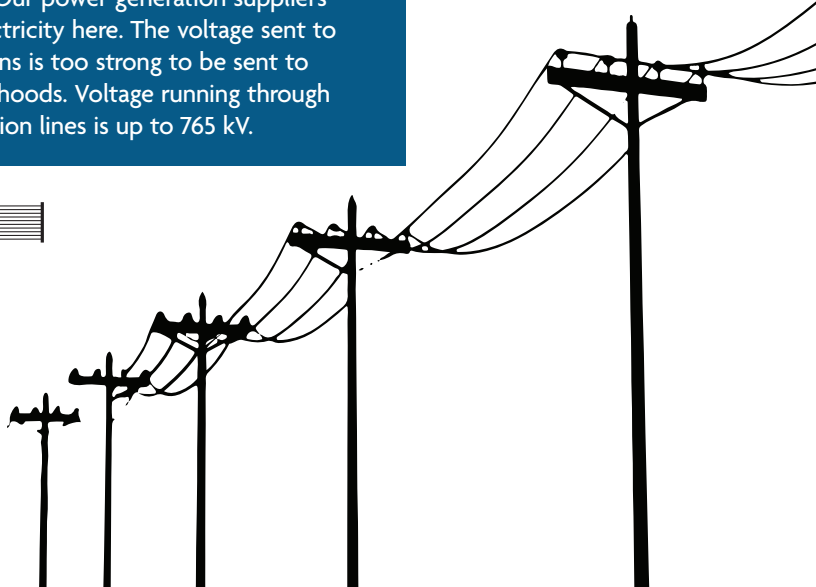
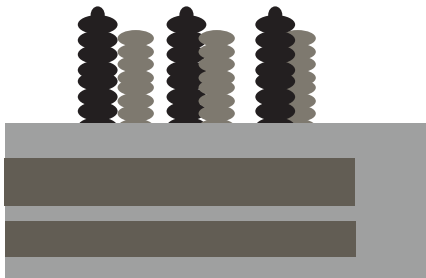
Arriving to your home and flipping on a light switch or plugging in to charge may seem effortless. However, the energy used to power one light has taken quite the journey to make it inside your home. FreeState Electric Cooperative is known as a distribution cooperative (co-op). We are responsible for the delivery of power to the homes of our co-op member-owners (YOU).

According to the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), electric co-ops provide electricity to one in eight Americans living in rural farming communities as well as suburbs and small cities throughout the United States. This means 42 million people are delivered reliable power daily from local electric co-ops.

Rural electric cooperatives like FreeState distribute reliable, affordable electricity by purchasing electric power at wholesale prices from our generation and transmission (G&T) co-op and delivering it directly to our consumer-members. G&Ts are formed by groups of distribution co-ops (like FreeState), making the power cost less expensive. G&Ts provide wholesale power by either purchasing it or by generating electricity themselves.

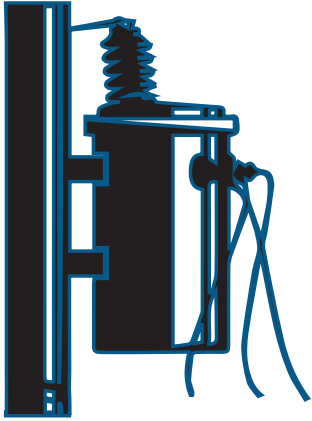


THE SUBSTATION is the first stop on this journey. Our power generation suppliers send electricity here. The voltage sent to substations is too strong to be sent to neighborhoods. Voltage running through transmission lines is up to 765 kV.



SUBSTATION TRANSFORMERS are used to transfer power from the high-voltage transmission system to a suitable voltage level for local distribution.

ELECTRICITY



A DISTRIBUTION TRANSFORMER

lowers the power voltage further to a level required by your home, about 120/140 volts. This kind of transformer could be mounted on a pole or at ground-level (pad-mounted “green box”).



A SERVICE

WIRE connects a distribution transformer to your house, which is also called the **SERVICE DROP**.



The **METER BOX** allows FreeState to measure your energy usage each month. There is a wire from the meter box on your property that connects to your home's breaker system.



FreeState operates and maintains **3,089 MILES** of distribution line, **RESPONSIBLE FOR SENDING POWER TO OVER 18,000 METERS**.



FINALLY, THE POWER IS IN YOUR HOME! The wiring in your home sends power to your light switches and outlet plugs with ease. The electricity in your home has made quite the journey to be at your fingertips. That's the power of the cooperative!

Capital Credit Retirement

Capital credits are just one of the many benefits that make up the cooperative difference. Capital credits are allocated to member-owners based on the dollar value of individual electric use. The credit amount is directly proportional to the amount of electricity purchased by each FreeState member. On your July statement, you may see a capital credits retirement bill credit. Capital credits retirement is the amount each member will receive as a capital credits payment. This amount is based on allocations for specific revenue years being retired. The amount to retire is decided upon annually by the board of trustees, based on the cooperative's financial condition.

Capital credits help FreeState remain in good financial standing. This capital is used for improvements, such as substations, power lines and other electrical system facilities that serve our members.

Temporary Disconnects Procedure

In accordance with FreeState Electric Cooperative's temporary disconnection procedure, the cooperative asks that you please provide two business days' notice for scheduling purposes. We will do our best to accommodate requests that cannot be scheduled in advance. There is **NO**

CHARGE for a temporary disconnection during normal field operating hours.

Any reconnection requests after **2 P.M., MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY, OR ANYTIME FRIDAY THROUGH SUNDAY (NON-EMERGENCY) WILL RESULT IN AN AFTER-HOURS CHARGE OF \$150 PER SITE VISIT.**

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the National Electric Safety Code specify that only qualified individuals are allowed to work on energized lines and equipment. Per FreeState's Rules and Regulations, and

Any reconnection requests after 2 p.m., Monday through Thursday, or anytime Friday through Sunday (non-emergency) will result in an after-hours charge of \$150 per site visit.

per the recommendation of FreeState's insurance provider, only authorized cooperative employees are permitted to energize and de-energize services. Members or electricians in violation of the rules and regulations will be subject to a \$300 meter tampering fee.

We appreciate your willingness to work with the cooperative to maintain a safe and reliable infrastructure. You can contact the cooperative at **800-794-1989 MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY 7 A.M.–5:30 P.M. OR EMAIL LINEDEPARTMENT@FREESTATE.COOP.**



SPRING
into **summer**

Scan the QR code to register for a Prize Pack!



Save the Date
Saturday, Aug. 26

Powering You at the Topeka Zoo!

