



**FREESTATE ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE, INC.**

The Outlet

FreeState Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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Office Hours:
Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Office Closure Notice

The FreeState offices will be closed on **MONDAY, SEPT. 5**, in observance of Labor Day. You can still call 800-794-1989 to report outages, or utilize the SmartHub app. Thank you!

FROM THE CEO

The Demand is High

The electricity demand is higher than it's ever been. On July 5, the Southwest Power Pool set a record for energy demand, and overall, we see demand on the rise.

Energy consumption and demand are different. Consumption is how much you use overall, and demand is when you use that energy. FreeState must be able to supply the maximum amount of energy required by our members. Every time we turn on a light, make a meal or adjust a thermostat, we increase demand. However, when we aren't home, demand decreases. It's very easy to see how electricity demand fluctuates.

Why Does FreeState Focus on Demand?

Distributing power to our members is our job. We need to have enough power to supply every member with what they need — no matter how much they use. Demand matters because significant increases can put pressure on the power grid. If demand exceeds the capability to supply it, the price can go up. That matters because power is the co-op's greatest expense. Two-thirds of our monthly expenses go directly to power costs.

We talk about ways members can beat the peak, but there are other things you can do to help the cooperative. One of the biggest things you can do is tell us if you add significant

power-pulling items at home.

For example, if you purchase a new electric vehicle (EV) — then communicating it to us is important, and not just for your service — but for your neighbor's service, too.

If the co-op knows you need that extra demand, we can plan for it, and that not only helps with cost management but also reliability. Our engineering and operations staff can look at the infrastructure already present and whether adjustments need to be made to keep everyone's lights on.

FreeState's Energy Use Coordinator Matt Lambert addresses how big items like an EV can impact demand and monthly billing in this month's Ask Matt feature on Page 12D. If you have questions about demand or energy use, contact us at 800-794-1989 or by email at customerservice@freestate.coop.



Chris Parr

“If the co-op knows you need that extra demand, we can plan for it, and that not only helps with cost management but also reliability.”

My Time at Cooperative Leadership Camp

BY HENRY CLOYD



Henry Cloyd will be a senior at McLouth High School. He is the son of Tom and Angela Cloyd.

To get to the camp in Colorado, the Kansas and Oklahoma students got to ride on a charter bus. We picked up other students on multiple stops on the way to Steamboat Springs.

On our first night we stopped in Denver. While in Denver we went to "IFly" for indoor skydiving. At our hotel we were assigned another person to room with for that night only. This person was someone different than the person we would bunk with for the rest of camp so we could get to know as many people as we could. The next morning, we left Denver for Steamboat Springs.

When we got to camp, we quickly made friends with the Colorado and Wyoming students. On Sunday, we had a volleyball tournament and barbecue night. At camp there is a hot tub and pool that you can go to during free time. However, there is not a whole lot of free time because a lot of our time is filled with team-building

activities and speakers who come in to talk about different aspects of leadership and how to become a better leader.

The next day, we had a talent show where everyone had the chance to show off their unique selves and individual or group talents. On Tuesday, we went whitewater rafting down the Colorado River and ate lunch in the bank of the river. Later that day we had our dance. It was an outdoor dance and we got to make the playlist by request. There were lots of line dancing songs as well as swing dancing but there were also songs to just get hyped up, too.

On our final day, we went to a restaurant for dinner. At dinner, our ambassadors gave their speeches for the people who would come back the following year. In the morning, we said our goodbyes and left to hit the road back home. My time at camp was the best part of my summer.



Henry Cloyd (left) with a group of fellow campers from Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and Wyoming.



Campers enjoy a dance party on Tuesday evening.



The 2022 CYLC Campers on their way to Steamboat Springs, Colorado.



Cloyd (right) participates in the annual camp talent show with fellow campers.



Cloyd and a fellow camper from Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative pose for a photo.



Campers create bonds and participate in a range of youth leadership exercises.



Campers learn about electric cooperatives by creating a model transmission line out of craft supplies.



Teamwork exercises teach campers about electric safety.



Kansas and Oklahoma campers stop for a hat photo-op at Lookout Mountain on the way to Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

ASK Matt

Energy Use Coordinator **MATT LAMBERT** answers questions about energy efficiency, renewables, co-op programs and everything in between. Email Matt your question at askmatt@freestate.coop.



What kind of consumption rate impact will I see if I plan to purchase an electric vehicle (EV)?

This is a great question and one that we are hearing more and more from our members. With most of the major auto manufacturers moving much of their future production to electric vehicles (EVs) and the cost of fuel what it is, EVs are worth a look!

Online research estimates it will add \$30-60 a month to a person's electric bill. I can imagine some rural Kansas residents with long commutes will exceed this and some city dwellers will be on the lower side.

To Figure Out Your Cost, First You Will Need this Information:

- ▶ **VEHICLE TYPE**
 - ▶ Make, model and year of the vehicle.
- ▶ **AVERAGE FUEL ECONOMY** (*Found online or on the window sticker in the dealer lot*).
 - ▶ Gas cars provide the miles per gallon.
 - ▶ For the EV, look for the kWh per 100 miles.
- ▶ **EXPECTED MILES YOU WILL DRIVE IN A MONTH?**
 - ▶ This is highly variable depending if the vehicle is a daily commuter.
 - ▶ Average mileage of monthly trips.
- ▶ **COST OF ENERGY UNIT**
 - ▶ Gallon of gas.
 - ▶ Price per kWh estimate is 12 cents a kWh. This considers other pricing variables.

With this information we can figure out what the average cost increase will be to our electric bill.

Car	Annual Mileage	Energy Unit per mile	Cost Per Energy Unit	Monthly Cost
Tesla model 3	15,000	0.237 kWh	\$0.12	\$35.55
Ford F-150 Lightning	15,000	0.497 kWh	\$0.12	\$71.85
Voltswagen ID.4	15,000	0.32 kWh	\$0.12	\$48.00
2013 Chevy Malibu	15,000	0.041 gal	\$3.89*	\$199.36

In addition to the savings on the fuel of electric vehicles, there will also be maintenance savings. On average, electric vehicles are about 33% cheaper to maintain. No oil changes, and much less need for brake pads due to regenerative braking.

Example

Willie lives in Auburn and is employed by a business located in downtown Topeka. Willie's annual milage averages around 15,000. Willie currently owns a 2013 Chevrolet Malibu, but is considering an upgrade to an electric vehicle. Compared to his Malibu, **WILLIE COULD SAVE BETWEEN \$127.51 AND \$163.88 PER MONTH BY SWITCHING TO AN EV.**

There are always more factors to consider when looking to purchase a new vehicle, electric or not. Apply these tools to your own situation to find out if an electric vehicle could be financially beneficial for you.

If you have any questions about electric vehicles, contact us at **800-794-1989** or by email at **CUSTOMERSERVICE@FREESTATE.COOP**.

*BASED OFF CURRENT PRICE OF FUEL AS OF PUBLICATION. MEMBERS WILL NEED TO PLUG IN THE CURRENT COST OF FUEL WHEN CALCULATING.