



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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LEAVENWORTH-JEFFERSON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

The Powerline

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Efficiency Tip of the Month

Looking for an easy efficiency upgrade? Additional insulation can make a difference! The Department

Reduce Heating & Cooling Needs by

30%

of Energy estimates you can reduce heating and cooling needs up to 30 percent by properly insulating and weatherizing your home.

FROM THE MANAGER

EPA Ruling Presents Co-op Challenge

On August 3, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized their Clean Power Plan that calls for the U.S. power sector to cut carbon dioxide emissions by 32 percent by 2030. States will be required to produce a compliance plan by 2018, make interim reductions by 2022, and be in full compliance by 2030.

Compliance will not be optional.

The concern for cooperatives is that the Clean Power Plan's reduction of greenhouse gas goals will come at the expense of reliability and affordability.

This means transitioning coal generation to alternative energy sources.

Renewables account for approximately 13 percent of power generated according to the Energy Information Administration. This plan projects renewable energy will reach 21 percent by 2030, which is considerable large-scale growth in a short amount of time. This shift will push utilities to invest in upgrades to transmission and delivery networks across the country.

A transition of coal burning plants to alternative energy sources could mean coal plants may have to shut down or undergo massive upgrades to meet compliance.

It seems fairly simple. The goal of the Clean Power Plan is to generate 28 percent of electricity from renewable sources. Enough to rival non-renewables, but not surpass them. This goal is designed to make the U.S. less dependent on non-renewable fuels over the 15 year timetable.

So what impact does the Clean Power Plan have on members?

Short-term implications will primarily be legal battles by states who feel that the EPA has overstepped its boundaries. States who fight the EPA and the Clean Power Plan will most likely alter the timing and implementation of the plan, but what cooperatives are most concerned with is the long-term consequences members should be aware of.

These consequences could mean drastic changes to how we consume electricity in the next 15 years. It will mean large capital expenditure plans for coal-based generation. It means the cost of doing business may increase dramatically, and that could mean higher rates in the long run for our members.

We want our members to be aware of the EPA proposal, and to know that we are doing everything we can to understand the plan, and how it will trickle down to our membership. We don't expect any vast changes immediately, but we do want you to be aware of the ever changing landscape of the industry.

Right now, very little impact will be felt. However, change is inevitable.

As always, if you have questions about the Clean Power Plan we encourage you to contact us by calling the office at 913-796-6111 or emailing info@ljec.coop.



Steve Foss

SHARING SUCCESS

LJEC Shares Success with Jefferson Co. Service Organization

The employees of LJEC were challenged by the Board of Trustees in June to raise funds as part of CoBank's "Sharing Success" program.

LJEC selected The Jefferson County Service Organization to receive the \$6,469.50 donation. The organization is located in Oskaloosa and provides utility assistance and general public transportation for all persons living in Jefferson County for medical and/or professional appointments, recreations, and shopping.

"Jefferson County has very few resources for direct assistance," said Lynn Luck, the organization's Executive Director. "A donation like this is significant, and will give us valuable resources to help more people."

CoBank, LJEC's primary lender, matches employee donations dollar-for-dollar charitable donations to



LJEC and CoBank Shared Success with the Jefferson County Service Organization with a \$6,469.50 donation. From left: Jeanine Murphy, President, LJEC Board of Trustees; Lynn Luck, Executive Director, Jefferson County Service Organization; Christopher Parr, LJEC Assistant Manager; and Seth Hart, Vice President, CoBank Electric Distribution Division Rural Infrastructure Banking Group.

one non-profit organization of the cooperative's choosing.

"CoBank is committed to making rural America stronger," said Seth Hart, Vice President, CoBank Electric Distribution Division Rural Infrastructure Banking Group. "One way to achieve that commitment is with the Sharing Success program that allows our members gain access to funding that will help the communities in which they serve."

LJEC Board members also committed to the program by committing one month per diem per member. Board President Jeanine

Murphy said that community service and programs like CoBank's Sharing Success go hand-in-hand with the seven cooperative principles LJEC abides by.

"We're a member service organization and vested in the communities and members we serve," Murphy said. "This is exactly what our cooperative mission is all about."

LJEC has participated in the Sharing Success program for the past four years and has made meaningful donations to local organizations in the Jefferson and Leavenworth county areas.

This is exactly what our cooperative mission is all about.

JEANINE MURPHY, LJEC BOARD PRESIDENT

Alliance Question of the Month

Will the cooperative alliance eliminate jobs?

Not at all. No full-time jobs will be eliminated. The greatest cost savings and timing for the alliance center on upcoming employee retirements at both cooperatives. Under the alliance, as employees retire, if possible, jobs will be filled internally based on how we blend our operations to ensure maximum cost savings and operating efficiencies, while providing high quality, reliable electric service.

As the cooperatives blend, some job duties may evolve. As we move forward with the alliance, employees can look forward to opportunities for specialized skill training and advancements.

Each month we'll address a question regarding the cooperative alliance between Leavenworth-Jefferson Electric Cooperative and Kaw Valley Electric. Do you have a question you'd like us to address regarding the alliance? Feel free to submit your question to info@kve.coop.

Join us for the LJEC Health Fair on Sept. 22

Leavenworth Jefferson Electric Cooperative (LJEC) is hosting the 7th Annual Health Fair and Member Appreciation Day on Tuesday, September 22, 2015. The event will include a food drive to assist Good Shepherd of Tonganoxie.

This event is open to LJEC and Kaw Valley Electric Cooperative members. Flu shots will be administered by the Jefferson County Health Department for a fee. A free meal will be provided. Area businesses will be on hand to distribute information regarding physical, mental, and financial health. They are:

- ▶ American Red Cross
- ▶ Bank of McLouth

- ▶ First State Bank & Trust
- ▶ Friends of Hospice
- ▶ Holland Eye Clinic
- ▶ Jefferson County Health Department
- ▶ Lawrence Memorial Hospital
- ▶ LMH Sleep Center
- ▶ McLouth Dental
- ▶ McLouth Fire and EMS
- ▶ Phillips Insurance
- ▶ Saint Vincent Clinic
- ▶ Sam's Club
- ▶ The Willow Domestic Violence Center
- ▶ Vintage Park at Tonganoxie

There is no charge to attend this event.



Hosted by Leavenworth Jefferson Electric Cooperative

Members are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to donate, or make a cash donation. The event opens at 4 p.m. on and will conclude at 7 p.m. at the LJEC office at 507 N. Union in McLouth.

For more information about the event visit www.ljec.coop or contact Sarah Farlee at LJEC, sarah.farlee@ljec.coop or 913-796-6111.

McAfee & Broxterman Attend Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp

MADDY BROXTERMAN and **CARISSA MCAFEE** were selected by LJEC to attend the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp near Steamboat Springs, CO, July 11-17. These local youth joined approximately 100 high school students from across Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and Wyoming to participate in the leadership camp sponsored by the electric cooperatives in each state.

As part of the week-long adventure, the students established a candy cooperative business, in which they elected a general manager and board of directors, participated in daily membership meetings and paid their dues membership of 50 cents to the newly established co-op business.

When not tending to their candy cooperative, the students learned about electric co-ops, witnessed a high-voltage safety demonstration and built a transmission line from craft supplies. They also created multiple committees to help plan and implement the week's activities while improving leadership and interpersonal communication skills.

"One of the many things on this trip that inspired me was the legislative activity," McAfee said. "I knew political censuses were difficult, but I didn't understand the extent until

going through that activity at camp."

The youth toured Fish Creek Falls, Trapper Mine, Craig Power Plant and a solar array; visited Steamboat Springs; experienced the adrenaline rush of river rafting; and enjoyed traditional camp activities, such as

volleyball, swimming, dancing, and competing in a talent show.

Camp participants were chosen by LJEC through an application and interview process based on academic achievements, positive attitudes and the youths' involvement within their communities.

"On this trip, the one thing that had the most impact on me was realizing that it's okay to go out of your comfort zone, and that it feels great to help people come out of theirs," Broxterman said. "I was inspired by others on this trip. Seeing them so comfortable being themselves helped me to jump out of my comfort zone and be who I really am."

LJEC sponsors two students for Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp as part of our strong commitment to the community and our mission to help the future generations to become leaders.

For more information about the trip, contact Sarah Farlee at 913-796-6111 or sarah.farlee@ljec.coop.



Maddy Broxterman (left) and Carissa McAfee enjoy the view of the Rockies during Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in July.

FUN FIVE

Get to Know Your Co-op Staff

Dean Lasher

Building & Vehicle Maintenance

8 years at LJEC



Dean Lasher

Q: If you could have a super power, what would it be?

A: Time travel.

Q: What is your favorite thing to do on a Sunday?

A: Be with family.

Q: What is one thing most people don't know about you?

A: I like to rebuild trucks and tractors.

Q: Do you collect anything?

A: Old tractors and trucks.

Q: What is the best part of your job?

A: Getting to work with all the LJEC employees.

Terry Recognized for 40 Years of Service



Jerry Terry

JERRY TERRY was recognized for his 40-year career at LJEC. In recognition, Terry received a giftcard from the Kansas Material Managers (KMM).

"I would like to thank the KMM for the gift," Terry said. "I wouldn't trade my 40 years at LJEC for anything. After leaving line work and pursuing a career in purchasing, it is because of ladies and gentlemen like those at KMM that made this a pleasant experience."

Working on the LINE

Journeyman and Area Lineman, Mike Jones, drives for LJEC in the annual Leavenworth County Fair parade in Tonganoxie. LJEC also had a booth at the fair July 28-August 1.



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