

# Co-ops continue working for you



Like groceries, gasoline and inflation, energy costs are rising.

Since mid-2021, the cost of fuel for power plants and market power has skyrocketed. Likely, you have seen the impact on your monthly power bill, especially during hot summer months and cold winter months when your air-conditioning and heating systems are working harder, driving electric usage up.

Your electric cooperative is working hard to keep costs affordable and service reliable.

Few things in life are as reliable as electricity. Still, we mostly take it for granted that the lights will come on when the switch is flipped — at least until we read the news about massive power outages in Texas and California in recent times.

Extreme weather events in those states exposed weaknesses in their systems, but also provided valuable lessons about the reliability we enjoy here in Kentucky. Through strategic thinking and constant improvement, Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives are prepared to meet our members' need for electricity 24/7/365.

How? Following our parents' advice, we never put all our eggs in one basket. The sources of electricity for the 16 owner-members are strategically diversified to meet the round-the-clock needs of the homes and businesses they serve.

EKPC generates electricity for the co-ops through four plants fueled by coal and natural gas, along with its portfolio of renewable resources.

On our system, we also recognize renewables are an essential part of our energy production. They offer competitive prices with low or no carbon emissions. Our Cooperative Solar Farm One is one of the largest solar projects in Kentucky. We purchase hydropower from the federal Southeastern Power Administration through Laurel and Wolf Creek dams. Six more cooperative plants generate renewable power from methane gas at landfills.

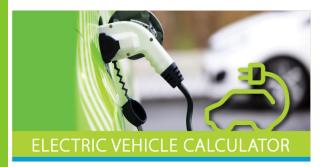
We also have options outside of our own power plants. We are part of a power market covering 13 states called PJM Interconnection. This allows us to tap into power sources outside of Kentucky.

PJM manages the largest electric power grid in North America, and administers one of the world's largest competitive electricity markets. Being a member greatly helps EKPC to ensure reliable service. It's like belonging to a very large reserve power sharing organization.

Our owner-members and the 1.1 million people they serve can rest easy knowing that their need for electricity can be reliably met through our diversified power generation sources. We've got this.

Thank you for being a member of your local Touchstone Energy Cooperative, and for participating in the envirowatts program. Learn more about how co-ops are working for you at Rising Costs - Together We Save (togetherwesaveky.com)

#### Check out our EV Calculator to find your next ride



Is an EV right for you? With prices dropping and technology changing, Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives have seen a surge of interest in electric vehicles.

We offer an EV calculator that compares makes and models. It's free, easy to use and unbiased. Go to Electric Vehicle Calculator and check it out!



#### **Learn more about Cooperative Solar**

Looking for another way to purchase renewable energy? Check out our Cooperative Solar program.

Co-op members can license solar panels at Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives' not-for-profit 60-acre solar farm. You can tap into renewable solar energy for your home or business without the headaches of installing and maintaining solar panels themselves.

Learn more and submit an application atwww.cooperativesolar.com.

## Want to do more?

### The right choice for you

We know many Kentuckians are looking for ways to support renewable energy efforts. Again, we thank you for your support. Feel free to share this e-newsletter and talk about your participation with friends and family.



You can also learn about ways to improve your home's energy efficiency by visiting www.togetherwesaveky.com.

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