


Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

Hi-Lites

What's Mine? What's the Co-op's?

At CMEC, we take electric service very seriously. We know how important it is to you to have an electric utility you can count on.

It is also important for you to understand that we can only fix what belongs to the cooperative; that is, everything before the service point. You are responsible for everything after the service point. What's the service point? In general, the cooperative is responsible for everything before the meter and the member for everything after. For a typical residential service, this is the case. However, to better understand the "service point," please look at the illustrations provided.

Your meter is on a pole near your home

The cooperative is responsible for the meter, the connection at the top of the pole, the pole, ground wire, and ground rod. The member is responsible for the meter base, breakers, the wire running up the pole, and the service wire running from the pole to the house. The meter loop is purchased from the cooperative.

Your meter is attached to your home with overhead wires

When the metering is on a member's house, the overhead wire to the top of the mast and the connection are the cooperative's responsibility. The meter base, mast, service wires, ground wire and ground rod are the member's responsibility. In a new service, the metering equipment is set up by the member's electrician before service

is connected. The meter base is purchased from the cooperative.

Your meter connects from your home to a pad-mounted transformer

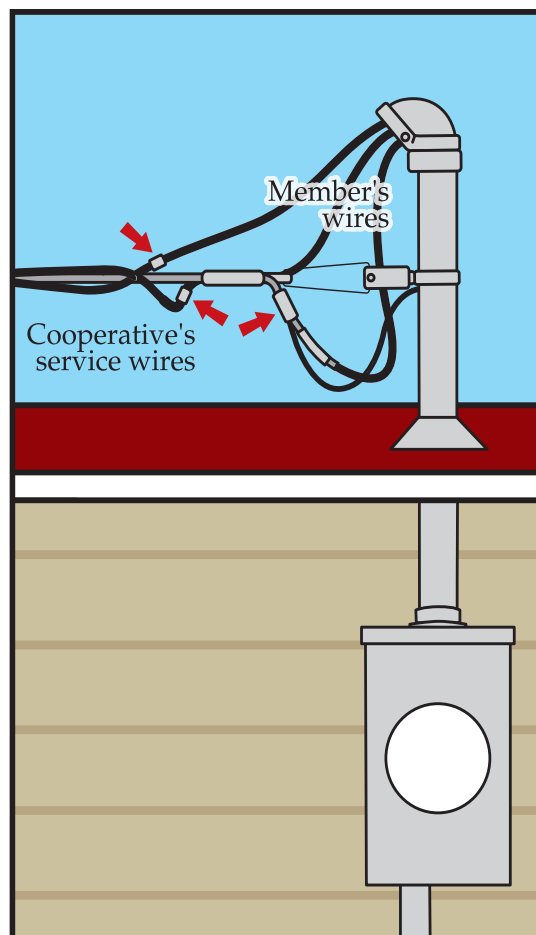
The cooperative is responsible for the pad-mounted transformer and the underground line running to the meter. The member is responsible for the meter base. The meter base is

purchased from the cooperative.

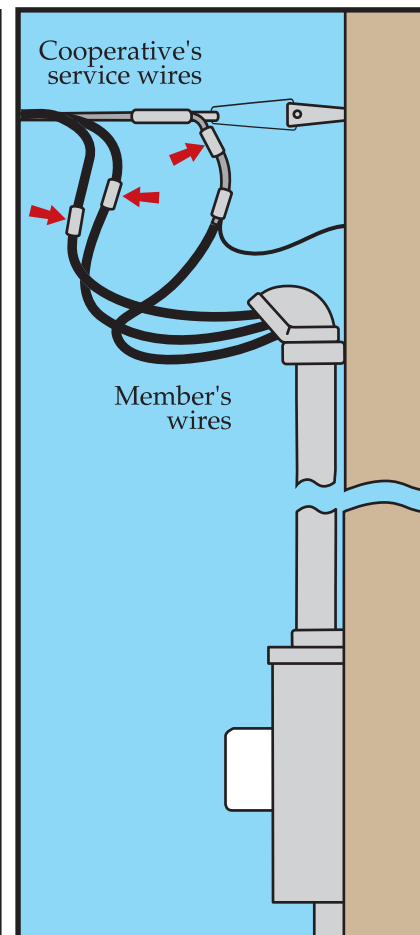
These examples illustrate the most common residential services. In some cases, the set-up may look different. If you are unsure of what is your responsibility and what belongs to the cooperative, please give us a call at 217-235-0341 or toll free 888-661-2632.

Article and graphics courtesy of Adams Electric Cooperative

Point of Service



Point of Service



P.O. Box 709 (104 Dewitt Ave., East)
 Mattoon, Illinois 61938

Phone: 217/235-0341 or
 Toll-Free: 1-888-661-CMEC (2632)
 Office hours:
 Monday-Friday
 7:30a.m. - 4:30p.m.

Chairperson

Debbie Albin.....Mattoon

Vice Chairperson

John Bowers Lovington

Secretary

Natalie ParkersonMattoon

Treasurer

Steve Shrader..... Westfield

Director

Jeffery Hudson..... Charleston

Kent MetzgerGays

Bill Voyles..... Sullivan

President/CEO

Kim Leftwich

To report an outage

- First check your fuses or circuit breakers and see if your neighbors have power.
- If the problem appears to be with the cooperative's lines, call the office at the toll free number (888-661-2632), give the name the service is listed under, and report any hazardous conditions.

Send your current email
 to info@cmeccoop.com



for a chance to win a
 \$25 bill credit.

Save the Date!

Come and celebrate with us! June 14, 2019 will be our 80th Annual Meeting. A lot has changed for our cooperative and our communities; however, our mission has never changed. We look forward to providing you safe, reliable and affordable electricity for many years to come. Save the date and watch for

upcoming details in this newsletter or follow us on Facebook.



CMEC Scholarships

We are your cooperative and we care about more than electricity. One of our guiding cooperative principles is Concern for Community. Another is Education, Training and Information. These are just a few of the reasons we provide annual scholarships to area students. In 2019, we will award six \$500 scholarships to assist members or dependents with their college education. To qualify:

- Must be either a CMEC member or under 21 years of age and a legal dependent of a member
- Must be enrolled in a two or four-year degree program at an accredited institution in Illinois
- Must not have previously received a CMEC scholarship
- CMEC employees, directors and any of their dependents are ineligible

- Priority given to one applicant specializing in electrical engineering
- Applications must be received at Coles-Moultrie Electric's office (104 Dewitt Avenue East, P.O. Box 709, Mattoon, IL 61938) no later than April 30, 2019.

Applications may be picked up at our office or printed from our website, cmeccoop.com.



Youth to Washington Tour Reminder

The Youth to Washington Tour allows students the chance to get out of their house and see the White House. They may even see the President! They will spend the week of June 14 – 21, 2019 chatting with key members of congress, visiting historical national sites and touring moving memorials. CMEC will select two students from those attending Youth Day, April 3, 2019, to attend

the Youth to Washington Tour for free. Go to aieccoop.com for details.



President & CEO Report – December 2018

CONNECT

- 423 current customers
- Moultrie County water tower upgrade is the last tower that we will update for this year and is located north of Gays. We plan to move forward with this upgrade in the next month.

Marketing/Member Services

- HomeServe program update: HomeServe will send out a new mailer at the end of December on Outdoor Wiring. Over 350 members take advantage of this member service/program. We hope to continue to supply our members with programs that they can benefit from with no cost to the cooperative. This program continues to gain momentum around the country. We are constantly receiving calls from other cooperatives asking about the program with interest in starting their own.
- CMEC was contacted by Windsor High School about two students that were interested in becoming linemen. CMEC hosted these individuals all day and took them to each department as well as went out in the field to visit crews to talk with them.
- CMEC employee Carla Bradbury attended the “Real World” at Mattoon High School. This program is for juniors in high school and is a requirement to graduate.
- CMEC received the biannual member survey results.

Key Accounts

- A CMEC staff member has begun yearly Key Accounts visits. He plans to speak with CMEC’s top accounts to share the cooperative advantage. In addition, he delivered some capital credit checks to them personally.

Safety

- CMEC Safety Committee met on Dec. 4 to have our monthly meeting.
- Inside department and staff attended a safety training meeting about office ergonomics.
- Safety Committee continues to move toward finishing the safety manual for CMEC.
- Installed first aid kits and AED machines that will be managed by CINTAS.

- Online safety training completed for all employees for 2018.
- Facebook has 2,215 followers.

Accounting/Finance

- 2019 Operating Budget and 10-year forecast have been completed. Large amount of labor still involved in processing capital credits and early estate retirements. Review of member policies will start after the December (January) board meeting.

LED Lighting

- To date, (2,188) LED lights have been installed replacing (435) mercury vapor and (1,653) sodium vapor lights.

Engineering

- Manual meter reads decreased from 59 to 31 for Dec 1.
- Engineering received requests for 238 JULIE locates and called in 38 JULIE locates. Of the 238 locate notifications received, CMEC personnel performed 28 primary and 16 secondary locates.
- 20 Report-On-Calls were received and assigned for member/new member requests.
- Field engineers are working on the following projects: W1 mile (Line rebuild on the Work Plan), X7-X10 mile rebuild (conductor replacement for the Work Plan), U3BA mile (moving a line out of ROW that is extremely rough to traverse), L3A1 mile (relocating line from a field to the road for access since the poles in the field need replaced).
- Field engineers generated 30 Work Orders for the month of November.
- Updated Board Policy #42 to reflect the policy as it is presently administered.
- Selected Anixter as the successful bidder for 22 G&W Viper breakers to be installed in the heavier loaded substations. This is in the four-year work plan and is part of our aggressive distribution automation plan.
- Fall Substation Testing took place Nov 6-8 at the Sarah Bush, Sullivan and Bethany Subs. No major issues found.
- The development of the automated staking program has begun. Shaun is working with the field engineers to learn the processes in order to develop a suitable product.

Operations

- In November, crews performed the following work: (7) new services, (2) service upgrades, (24) pole replacements due to: age (4), farm equipment (2), O&M (16), weather (1), and vehicle (1).

Fleet

- Purchased new Unit #3, a 2018 Dodge Ram 4500. This truck was budgeted for 2019 as a unit for the forestry crew to pull a new low-profile gooseneck to transport the Terex unit.
- Annual dielectric testing and structural testing was performed on all units over 15,000 # GVWR.

IT/SCADA

- Continuing work on software updates on office computers that PPI has suggested to help eliminate known vulnerabilities.
- We have applied an additional hotfix to the AMI system to increase performance.
- SCADA product testing is going well. We have found a RTAC that we will be using. We are now testing regulator panels.
- Working on creating new SCADA user interfaces.

GIS

- Shaun Vester, David Welsh, and Jim Wallace visited Norris Electric on Dec. 5 to discuss the automated staking platform they presently use.
- GIS Manager is developing our staking software. He has been working with the engineers closely and have been getting feedback. In addition, he attended Milsoft training to get a better understanding of how the windmill model is created. The plan is to export our GIS data directly into Windmill.

Deadline

Board Director nominations must be received no later than March 13, 2019.

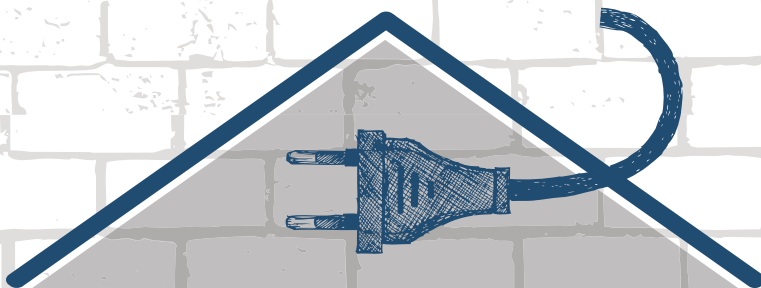
Monthly Board Meeting Minutes can be viewed on our website: www.cmec.coop

Home Electrical Inspection:

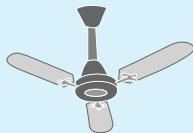
Inspection:

Pass or Fail?

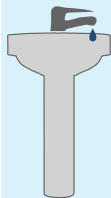
Would your home pass an electrical inspection? Local electrical codes vary, so check with your qualified electrician, but here are **five things your home should have:**



Wiring should be sound (not overcrowded or knob-and-tube wiring used in old homes).



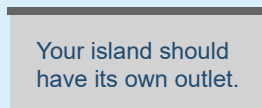
Ceiling fixtures should be controlled by a wall switch and not just a pull chain.



Outlets near water should have GFCIs (ground fault circuit interrupters).



Your refrigerator, microwave and garbage disposal should each have its own circuit.



Your island should have its own outlet.



Learn more at

 Safe
Electricity.org

SmartHub

What is free, easy to use, allows you to make payments, and monitor your electric usage? SmartHub!! Download the free mobile app or link from our website, cmec.coop.



More Money in Your Wallet

Cooperative incentives are available now. CMEC is offering both insulation and water heater rebates again in 2019. If you have replaced your water heater or added insulation to your home, let us know.



Air Evac

CMEC continues to partner with Air Evac Lifeteam to allow our residential members the opportunity to join through an affordable billing plan. You have the option and convenience to pay a \$5 monthly fee reflected on your electric bill. Email us, info@cmec.coop, or visit membership@airmedcarenetwork.com, #800-793-0010, for details.