

# JAMUUP

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

## Update on the Cost-of-Service Study — Moving forward with purpose



**David A. Johnston**  
General Manager

Dear Members,  
As part of our continued commitment to transparency and keeping you informed, I want to provide an update on the **Cost-of-Service Study (COSS)** currently underway. This study is a key part of the process in evaluating how much it costs to deliver safe, reliable electricity to you, our member-owners, and ensuring that our rates reflect those costs **fairly and responsibly**.

So far, the data is helping us build a clear picture of where our expenses are coming from and how they relate to the services we provide to each member.

### Why it matters

The COSS will guide how rates are structured — not just how much is needed overall, but how costs are shared among different types of members in a fair and balanced way. The goal is **equity and transparency**, ensuring that our rate design supports long-term reliability.

### What's next?

Over the next month, we'll continue refining the study and reviewing potential rate design options. Once the analysis is complete, we'll share the findings with the board of directors to ensure they have the tools needed to make an informed decision.

We anticipate presenting preliminary results to the board of directors by the end of May 2025.

### Stay connected

Your input is always welcome. As member-owners, your voices guide the direction of this cooperative. If you have questions or want to learn more about the cost-of-service study, please don't hesitate to reach out.

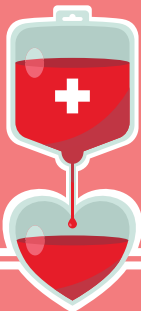
We appreciate your patience and participation as we work through this important process. Thank you for your continued support and involvement.

### Where we are in the process

The study, which began earlier this year, is progressing steadily. Our team, along with experienced consultants, is deep into analyzing:

- Power supply and distribution costs
- Usage patterns across member classes (residential, commercial, industrial, etc.)
- Fixed and variable costs of maintaining the electric system **Hope L. Clarks**
- Future system needs and long-term financial sustainability

## Sponsored Blood Drives



**Cross Road Church**  
1289 Ullin Ave., Ullin, IL 62992  
Drive hours: 1-6 p.m.

**First Baptist Church Metropolis**  
307 Massac Creek Rd, Metropolis, IL 62960  
Drive hours: 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

*Members who donate will receive a \$10 bill credit!*

## Nominating Committee to meet May 13, 2025

Members to serve on the 2024-2025 Nominating Committee were appointed by William E. Littrell, president of the board of directors, at the 2024 Annual Meeting of the Members held Aug. 8, 2024. The committee will meet at the cooperative headquarters, 7420 U.S. Highway 51 South, Dongola, Ill., at 6 p.m. on Monday, May 13, 2025, to consider nominees for election to the board of directors at the 2025 annual meeting of members.

The following committee members were appointed to the 2024-2025 Nominating Committee to represent their respective counties:

### Alexander County

Delegate: Tim J. Pierce, 27753 State Highway 3, Thebes, IL 62990

Alternate: Larry D. Houston, 715 Railroad Street, Tamms, IL 62988

### Johnson County

Delegate: Linda M. Wood, 4145 Indian Point Road, Vienna, IL 62995

Alternate: Nancy Breeden, 2390 Lick Creek Road, Buncombe, IL 62912

### Massac County

Delegate: Ashley Thompson, 85 Wesley Drive, Metropolis, IL 62960

Alternate: Randy Wilke, 1389 Karnak Road, Karnak, IL 62956

### Pulaski County

Delegate: Craig Bradley, P.O. Box 16, Karnak, IL 62956

Alternate: Danny J. Thurston, 819 Sandusky Road, Pulaski, IL 62976

### Union County

Delegate: Glenn Russell Heisner, 3605 Nash Road, Anna, IL 62906

Alternate: Bruce Mosby, 1215 Bauer Road, Jonesboro, IL 62952

The bylaws of the cooperative provide the nominations to the board of directors may be made by: (1) nominating committee, or (2) petition received not less than 45 days prior to the actual meeting, signed by 15 or more active members. The three-year terms of the directors are expired alternatively so that each year elections are held for a portion of the board. At the 2025 annual meeting, elections will be held for a director from each of these three counties: Alexander, Pulaski and Union County.

## Keep your home's second floor cool in the summer

Are you struggling to keep the second story of your home cool on these sizzling summer days? As heat and hot air rises, so does the temperature on your upper level. Keeping it cool can be a challenge, even if you have an air conditioner. The key is to limit heat gain and to keep the air circulating.

These steps can help cool down your upper floor, as well as keep your entire home cool through the end of the season. No sweat!

**Keep blinds and drapes closed.** Close blinds or curtains when the sun is shining to reduce solar heat. Remember that light-colored window coverings are most effective at blocking heat energy from the sun. Consider investing in thermal blocking drapes or insulated shades to keep your rooms cool and reduce demand on your air conditioning (AC) system.

**Limit heat being created upstairs.** Devices such as computers and hair dryers emit hot air. Use them downstairs to help reduce heat upstairs.

**Use ceiling fans.** Ceiling fans make you feel cool by circulating air and providing a cooling sensation on your skin. Be sure to set ceiling fans to rotate

counterclockwise in the summer to push cool air downwards and turn them off when you leave to conserve energy.

**Adjust the dampers.** Control airflow by adjusting dampers up and down to restrict or increase airflow. If the second floor is warmer in the summer months, keep dampers on second-floor vents fully open, and only partially open the vents on the first floor to force more cool air to the second floor.

**Check for air leaks.** EnergyStar.gov estimates that between 25% and 40% of the money spent on cooling and heating homes is lost due to air leakage problems. Identify air leaks in your home and use caulking, weatherstripping and insulation to seal the gaps.

**Turn the fan from auto to on.** Use "on" instead of "auto" to keep your thermostat fan on and maintain air circulation throughout the home. This allows the entire house to stay cool, whether or not the air conditioner is running.

**Evaluate ductwork.** Check your ductwork for leaks or improper sizing to ensure even air distribution in every part of your home. If you don't feel cold air coming from second floor vents, or you

see old and cracked seals in your ductwork, it could be time for maintenance.

**Check your air filters.** Regularly change your air filters to optimize airflow — dirty filters decrease air movement.

**Add portable air conditioners.** Use portable AC units in specific rooms that need extra cooling. They are relatively easy to install, effectively remove heat and provide a cool environment for sleeping.

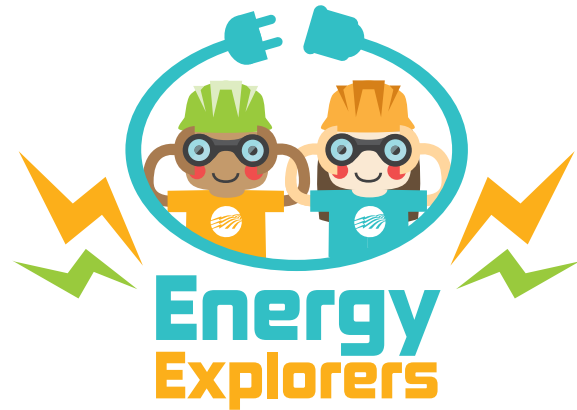
**Adjust HVAC systems.** Consider a zoned HVAC system, with thermostats on each floor, to control the temperature on each floor separately.

**Keep heat-generating appliances off during the hottest hours.** Your dryer, oven and television produce heat, causing your air conditioner to work harder. Limit use of these appliances to early morning or evening when possible and consider grilling outdoors if you plan to cook.

**Don't forget the attic:** If your roof and attic area are not properly insulated, heat will seep in through the roof and heat the second floor. You can also have an attic fan or vents installed to help remove hot air from the attic.

# CAN YOU SPOT THE ELECTRICAL HAZARD?

Electricity is essential for everyday life, but when combined with seemingly harmless items or elements, it can create a hazardous situation. View the grouped items below, then circle the two items that (when combined) create a potential electrical hazard.



Check your work in the answer key below.

1.
  - a)
  - b)
  - c)
2.
  - a)
  - b)
  - c)
3.
  - a)
  - b)
  - c)
4.
  - a)
  - b)
  - c)
5.
  - a)
  - b)
  - c)

Answer Key  
1. a&b 2. a&c 3. b&c 4. a&c 5. b&c

## Member prize

In this issue of the JAMUP, we printed the names of three SIEC members who are eligible to receive a \$10 credit toward their utility bill. If you find your name printed in this center section and it's not part of the story, call Brent with your account number at **800-762-1400** to claim your prize.

### SIEC Board of Directors

Scott L. Ury  
(President).....Union Co.  
Jerry P. Thurston  
(Vice President).....Pulaski Co.  
Toni L. Snell  
(Secretary-Treasurer).....Johnson Co.  
Kim Bakehouse.....Massac Co.  
Lamar Houston, Jr.....Alexander Co.  
Bill Littrell.....Union Co.  
Josh Miller.....Alexander Co.  
Randall Rushing.....Massac Co.  
Tadge Wilson.....Pulaski Co.  
Ronald E. Osman (Attorney)  
Executive VP/General Manager  
David A. Johnston  
Brent Goforth (Editor)

**For Outages Call:**  
800-762-1400 • 618-827-3555

### Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative

7420 U.S. Highway 51 South  
P.O. Box 100  
Dongola, Illinois 62926  
618-827-3555

**Office hours: 8 a.m. — 4 p.m.**  
[www.siec.coop](http://www.siec.coop)

# SUMMER IS COMING PREPARE YOUR HOME NOW

## Don't Let Summer Heat Up Your Utility Bill



Seal cracks around the house with weather stripping or caulk to keep warm air out.



Change the air filter on your cooling unit.



Wash your outdoor AC unit and have your HVAC unit inspected.



Clear the air vents throughout your house.



Install a programmable thermostat. Leave it on a higher temperature when you are away, and set it to cool the house half an hour before you return home.



Update your insulation to keep cool air in your home and warm air out.

Learn more at:  [SafeElectricity.org](http://SafeElectricity.org)