



Egyptian Electric News

1732 Finney Road • Murphysboro, IL 62966 • 800-606-1505 • eeca.coop

NOVEMBER 2025

YOU ASKED

WE ANSWERED

We're excited to introduce a new feature in our monthly newsletter: You Asked, We Answered!

Have a question for Egyptian Electric Cooperative?

Send it to **info@eeca.coop** with the subject line "You Asked" and it may be featured in a later issue. Chances are, if you're wondering about something, other consumer-members are too. Our goal is to provide straightforward answers so our consumer-members have the information they need to make informed decisions about their energy use and service.



Shane Hermetz
Executive Vice President
& General Manager

Q: Hi, I know some power companies charge less for electricity at nighttime. Does EECA do this?

A: Great question! Right now, EECA doesn't offer this, but it's something we're actively working toward. What you're describing is called a **"time-of-use rate,"** where electricity costs vary based on when you use it, with lower costs during times of lower demand. Many utilities are moving in this direction as an option to give members more control as energy costs rise. While we don't have a timeline just yet, we will let you know as soon as it's available. Thanks for asking!

Q: I'm reaching out to learn more about Egyptian Electric Cooperative's perspective on community solar

programs. We're interested in understanding whether the co-op currently supports it or is considering any community solar initiatives?

A: Community solar is something we are very interested in and are actively exploring as part of our long-term strategy to give members more renewable energy options. Because Egyptian Electric Cooperative has an all-power purchase agreement with our wholesale power supplier, Southern Illinois Power Cooperative (SIPC) in Marion, any community solar initiative would need to be developed and offered through them.

We've expressed our interest in this opportunity to them and will continue to work closely with SIPC as they consider how community solar could fit into

their generation mix. If and when a program becomes available, we will let our members know as soon as possible!





Egyptian Electric
Cooperative Association
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

1732 Finney Road
Murphysboro, IL 62966

Business hours/After hours
800-606-1505

24/7 Automated Pay-by-Phone
855-939-3675

Office hours 8 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. M-F
www.eeca.coop

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Shane Hermetz
General Manager

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- Off-site kiosks located at 2301 N. Reed Station Parkway and 1815 W. Main in Carbondale



L to R: Linemen Matt McElroy, Andy Ahner, Mike Smith, and Tyler Atchison

EECA Linemen Shine at 2025 Lineman's Safety Rodeo

In September, line personnel from Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association (EECA) participated in the annual Lineman's Safety Rodeo coordinated by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC). Eighteen teams from 13 electric co-ops and two municipal electric utilities participated in the friendly competition, and 10 competed individually. The event was held at the Lincoln Land Community College Line School yard in Springfield.

EECA linemen Andy Ahner, Matt McElroy, Mike Smith and Tyler Atchison competed against teams and individuals from across Illinois in events using skills that focus on agility, speed and accuracy. While these skills are part of the judging criteria, above all, participants are judged on safe work practices.

Line personnel competed in an armor rod install, cutout change, hurt man rescue, 40-foot transition climb and transition climbing challenge.



EECA Lineman Mike Smith competes in the Hurt Man Rescue event, where he once again claimed 1st place as an individual.

Scores for each event are based on completion time, proper execution of the task and safety. Deductions were made to a team or individual's overall performance score due to mistakes such as slipping when climbing poles, dropping tools or executing inappropriate procedures or methods.

At the end of the day, Smith placed first in the Hurt Man Rescue, and Atchison placed second. The team (Ahner, McElroy and Smith) placed second in the cutout change and third in the 40-foot transition climb. Congratulations to our EECA lineworkers on their team and individual efforts!



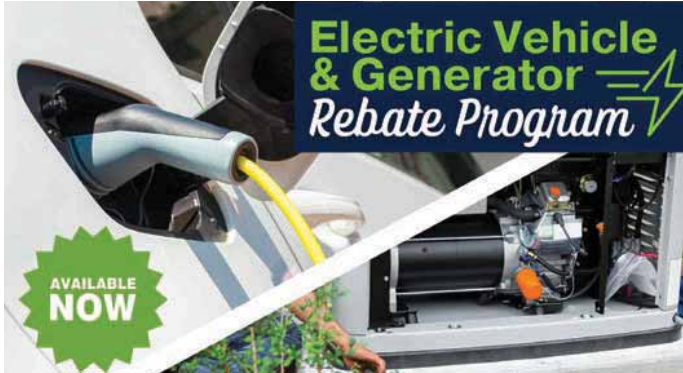
EECA Lineman Tyler Atchison competes in the 40ft Transition Climb event.



EECA Lineman Matt McElroy competes in the Hurt Man Rescue Event.

Egyptian Electric is Launching Two New Programs for Members!

EECA is excited to announce two new programs designed to help our members save on energy costs and take advantage of modern energy solutions.



1. Electric Vehicle and Generator Rebate Program – Available Now!

Starting now, members can take advantage of a one-time \$100 bill credit (per service location) for each eligible item: an installed Level 2 EV charger at your home and/or a home generator equipped with a proper transfer switch.

Gary R Shain
This program was created to help us identify where on our lines we have heavier loads and where members have backup generators. The more we know, the better service we can provide to you now and in the future. If you have either of these eligible items, complete the application at eeeca.coop.



2. Peak Power Rewards Program – Coming Soon!

Electricity costs the most when demand is high and the grid is stretched to its limit. When there is less power to go around, costs rise for everyone.

That's why our power supplier, SIPC, will soon launch the "Peak Power Rewards Program" in conjunction with EECA, a voluntary program that gives electric cooperative consumer-members throughout southern Illinois the chance to reduce their demand and save on their energy bills.

When SIPC predicts a coming high demand window of time, they'll call a "peak power rewards event." You decide *if* and *how* to reduce your energy use during that time. If you do, you could earn bill credits as a thank-you for helping lower costs!

Stay tuned! We'll have more information for you soon and plan to begin enrolling EECA consumer-members this winter!



ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

With the holiday season approaching and more time spent in the kitchen, consider ways to save energy in the heart of your home. When possible, cook meals with smaller, energy efficient appliances, such as toaster ovens, slow cookers and air fryers. When using the range, match the size of the pan to the heating element. Keep range-top burners and reflectors clean so they reflect heat more efficiently. After your holiday meals are complete, load the dishwasher fully before starting the wash cycle.

Source: energy.gov



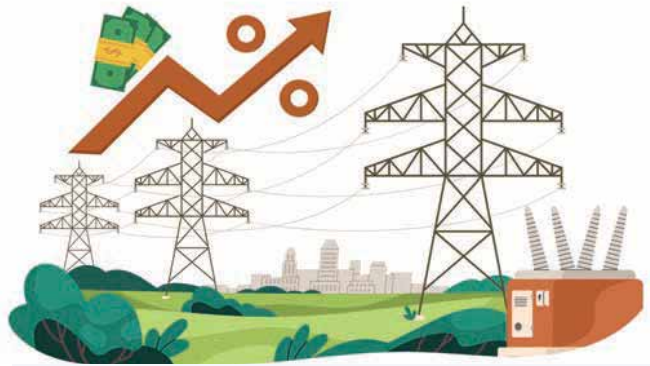
Reminder 

TEN \$500

CLASSROOM GRANT OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!

Have an innovative idea but need more funding? Apply today!

Applications due November 7
and can be found at eeca.coop

Important Update on EECA's Electric Rates

As 2025 draws to a close and our cooperative gains a clearer outlook for 2026, EECA will adjust the Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) and Delivery Cost Adjustment (DCA) on November 2025 bills to mainly cover the rapidly rising cost of power supply.

We expect these adjustments to become part of the base rate in the near future, as our cooperative braces for a sharp, double-digit increase in power supply costs and faces rising expenses across all areas of EECA's operations.

What This Means for EECA Consumer-Members in 2025

For October usage/November bills:

- PCA: Increasing from \$0.002/kWh to \$0.005/kWh, an increase of 0.003/kWh.
- DCA: Increasing from \$0.007/kWh to \$0.008/kWh, an increase of 0.001/kWh.

For November usage/December bills:

- PCA: Increasing from \$0.005/kWh to \$0.009/kWh, an increase of 0.004/kWh.

By year's end, these adjustments will result in an increase of \$8.00 for every 1,000 kWh used.

EECA Prepares for 2026

It appears that prices will continue to rise in 2026. Inflation and tariffs have driven up costs across many areas of EECA's operations, including the price of materials, fleet maintenance and fuel, and property taxes for our substations and office. Rates in 2026 may fluctuate as we await promised grant funding reimbursements.

Elizabeth J Graham

We understand that these increases can be challenging. Please know that EECA is mindful about spending and works hard to keep costs as low as possible for consumer-members while continuing to provide safe, reliable service. We hope to share more details next month about our plans for 2026, or as soon as we have Board approval. These decisions are not taken lightly. For more information, please visit our website at eeca.coop.

EECA WILL BE

Closed

VETERANS DAY
Tuesday, November 11

THANKSGIVING
Thursday, November 27
Friday, November 28

Every month we will have three member names hidden throughout our Egyptian Electric News section. If you find your name, call our office and identify yourself and the page that it is on and you will win a \$10 credit on your next electric bill.

MEMBER PRIZES