

About your bill.....

Dear Member,

You will notice a higher than normal PCRf Factor on your bill this month. Significant changes in fuel charges by our power supplier necessitate this increase. Power costs fluctuate monthly but were especially high in December. Unfortunately, these high costs are expected to continue through February.

Additionally, there is a new charge on the bills beginning December 31, 2022. It will appear on top of the bill next to the normal PCRf charge and will be called SCRF.

The new charge is to recover the extremely high power costs that were charged to us for Storm Uri in 2021 by our supplier, Brazos Electric Cooperative. The reason this charge is just now showing up, almost 2 years later, is because our power supplier has been in bankruptcy court fighting the high costs. The costs were reduced but are still substantial and must still be collected, by law.

The Texas legislature passed legislation allowing Brazos Electric Cooperative to sell bonds, (much like cities and schools do) to spread the costs over 30 years. These bonds have a cheaper interest rate than traditional loans and so are as inexpensive as possible.

The new SCRF charge will likely change every six months to ensure that we are collecting enough to make the debt service payments on the bonds. The initial charge for January through June will be 2.5 cents per kWh. This will be billed on the bills that go out December 31, 2022. It is expected to go down for the second half of the year, but we don't know how much yet.

The bankruptcy court has also established a "Hardship Fund" that will be up and running in a couple of months. Our members will be able to apply for assistance with this new charge and it will be retroactive to the December 31, 2022 bill. The approval for assistance with the new SCRF charge will be on an annual basis and will be administered by a company called Solix. More info on that ASAP.

You can help lower your usage by setting your thermostat a few degrees lower, using a smart thermostat to program and manage your energy use, cleaning or replacing heater filters monthly, replacing lightbulbs with LED bulbs, weatherizing your home by sealing gap/air leaks along vents, windows and doors.

If you are struggling to pay your electric bill, you may call one of the agencies listed below to see if you qualify for assistance. You may also consider enrolling in Budget Billing for a more consistent bill amount. Budget Billing averages your monthly bill amount based on past usage. Call the office and see if you qualify for this option.

EOAC (Economic Opportunity Advantage Corp.) (254) 754-0046 (Navarro, Freestone, Hill, Limestone & Ellis Counties)

Community Services (Navarro County) (903) 872-2401

Waxahachie Care (Ellis County) (972) 923-2273

Red Oak Outreach (Ellis County) (972) 617-7261