



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

**“Taking Care of Our Member-Owners”**

# Member Information Bulletin

March 2022



## GO GREEN!

**ENROLL IN  
PAPERLESS BILLING**

[tcectexas.com/paperless-billing](http://tcectexas.com/paperless-billing)

## Power Costs & your Electric Bill

Tri-County Electric Cooperative is a distribution cooperative, which means we distribute electrical power to you, our member-owners. Tri-County Electric Co-op does not produce electrical energy. We purchase it through our generation and transmission cooperative, Brazos Electric Power Cooperative (Brazos). Brazos owns and operates generation and transmission assets in the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) grid and contracts to acquire on the open market the additional electricity necessary to meet the needs of its 16 member-cooperatives, including Tri-County Electric Co-op. The cost of the electricity we have received from Brazos has increased over the last several months, which has in turn impacted your bill. 800764467

**Here are some helpful tips to understand your monthly billing statement. See page two for a sample bill.**

► **Electric Charge Line Item:** Most Tri-County Electric Co-op residential members have a “bundled” Electric Charge line item on their billing statement. Included in the Electric Charge are the Customer Charge, the Energy Charge, and Power Cost Recovery Factor (PCRF). Now, let’s break those components down further:

► **Customer Charge:** The \$15 Customer Charge is an availability charge designed to capture Tri-County Electric Co-op’s fixed costs for providing electric distribution service. This charge does not include any energy charges and does not fluctuate based on use.

► **Energy Charge (seasonal):** The Energy Charge is a seasonal rate (\$0.064/kWh November-April and \$0.07/kWh May-October). Included in the Energy Charge is a base power (Base Rate) rate of \$0.04897/kWh and 100% of the money generated from this charge is paid to Brazos. The remainder of the Energy Charge is retained by Tri-County Electric Co-op to support distribution-related costs. 41846001

► **PCRF:** Power Cost Recovery Factor is a per kWh billing adjustment designed to cover costs Tri-County Electric Co-op is charged by Brazos for generation and transmission costs in excess of those covered by the Base Rate included in the Energy Charge. Power costs may fluctuate from month to month and Tri-County Electric Co-op passes those costs on to you dollar-for-dollar, with no mark-up.

► **Electric Consumption:** Members may see an increase in electric use due to the recent cold snaps. You can track your monthly electric use through the online member portal or the app, TCEC Connect.

► **Contributors to rising power costs and an increase in the PCRF:** The cost of natural gas has been volatile and has risen over the last several months. Natural gas is the fuel most widely used to generate power in Texas and this increase has affected rate payers across the state. In addition to the increase in natural gas prices, Brazos has been in bankruptcy for 12 months which has also been a costly endeavor. These costs are pass through by Brazos to the member-cooperatives, including Tri-County Electric Co-op. 800712158

Tri-County Electric Co-op works hard to manage costs and our distribution rate has remained the same since July 2002. However, the overall rate you pay as an end-user has fluctuated and increased over time due to the increases in power costs billed to us by Brazos. For a member who uses 1,000 kWh, 75% of the money collected goes straight to Brazos to recover charges. Through all of this, our commitment to you remains the same. We will continue to be open and transparent.

**We are in this together.**

# How to Read your Bill

**A** indicates your Account Number and Statement ID.

**B** shows your account information. If this is not correct, please let us know.

**C** indicates your last payment made and total from last bill.

**D** indicates your current bill charges. **Current bill charges for residential members include the \$15 Customer Charge, PCRF and Energy Charge bundled as one item.**

Some members may have city franchise fees and other applicable taxes and fees included in the line item or as a separate line item. Other line items may include outdoor lights and city taxes. 800733147

**E** shows your Account Balance, which is the total of current charges and anything owed from last month, current bill due date and if you are on Auto Pay.

**F** provides information on PCRF and the Customer Charge of \$15.00. **For March billing statements, PCRF is \$0.0425 per kWh.**

**G** shows dates of service and your meter number. This shows your previous reading and the reading at the end of the billing period and total kilowatt hours consumed during this billing period.

**H** shows your current and previous billing information and 13-month kilowatt usage history so you can watch trends and electric consumption.

**I** is the payment stub to be filled out and returned with mail-in payments or in-person payments.



Website Address: [www.tcectexas.com](http://www.tcectexas.com)  
Office hours: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Monday - Friday  
Please register questions and concerns about your bill prior to the due date.

## ELECTRIC SERVICE

For:  
SAMPLE  
Service Address:  
1234 Coop Dr

Aledo TX 76008  
Map Location: 01234567  
Telephone Number: (817) 444-3201

## ELECTRIC USE

KWH	Service Meter No.	From	To	Reading	Prev	Pres	Mult	Rate	KWH	Read Type
	1234567	01-24	02-22	0	1000	0	RES	1000	1000	KWH

**G**

<b>A</b>	Your Bill Account Number	111111111
	Use when calling or writing	
	Statement ID: 1234567	
	Board District: District	

**C**  
**D**

Total From Last Bill	\$200.00
02/20/22 Payment -- Thank You	\$200.00 CR
<b>Current Charges</b>	
Electric Charge - 03/01/22	\$121.50
Account Balance Due Mar 17, 2022	\$121.50
Auto Pay Will Be Drawn on Above Date for Amount Shown	

**E**  
**F**

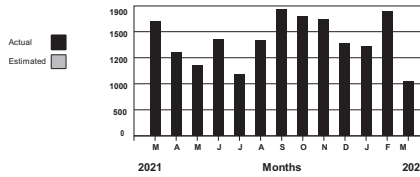
PCRF = \$0.0425. The above electric charge includes a customer charge of \$15.00.  
To avoid a 5% late fee, please pay your bill prior to the due date. You can make payments and view account information 24/7 by accessing our web site at [www.TCECTEXAS.com](http://www.TCECTEXAS.com) or our automated pay-by-phone service by calling 817-444-3201. Power outages can also be reported to this number.

Comparisons	Days Service	Total KWH	Avg KWH/Day
Current Billing Period	28	1000	35
Previous Billing Period	30	1900	63
Same Period Last Year	31	1200	39

**H**

## Average Monthly KWH: 2033

This graph shows your kWh billed over the last 13 months



Keller District Office  
4900 Keller Hicks Rd  
Fort Worth, TX 76244  
(817) 431-1541  
(817) 379-4703

Seymour District Office  
419 N. Main  
Seymour, TX 76380  
(940) 888-3441

Granbury District Office  
1623 Weatherford Hwy  
Granbury, TX 76048  
(817) 279-7010

Please detach stub and return with payment. Make check payable to TRI-COUNTY Electric Cooperative, Inc.

TX28800F



Account Number	111111111	<b>AUTOPAY</b>
Current Amount Due	03/17/22	

Please indicate change of address or phone number here

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode \_\_\_\_\_

NAME  
1234 COOP DR  
ALEDO TX 76002-1234

**I**

TRI-COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC  
PO BOX 961032  
FORT WORTH TX 76161-0032  
Cycle 1

## What's my electric charge?

Most residential member bills have a single line item or "bundled" Energy Charge.

Here is what's included in the residential electric charge on March billing statements:

- ▶ Customer Charge: \$15
- ▶ Energy Charge: kWh consumed x \$0.064
- ▶ PCRF: kWh consumed x \$0.0425

## It Pays to Stay Informed!

Find your account number in our Member Information Bulletin or the *Texas Co-op Power* and you will receive a \$20 credit on your electric bill! **Simply contact our Member Services team at 817-444-3201 to claim your credit.**



# TRI-COUNTY Electric Cooperative, Inc.

"Taking Care of our Member-Owners"

200 Bailey Ranch Road | Aledo, Texas 76008  
Phone: 817-444-3201 | Fax: 817-444-7679  
[www.tcectexas.com](http://www.tcectexas.com)

Azle ★ Keller ★ Granbury ★ Aledo ★ Seymour ★ Munday