

## KNOW A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT?

We are asking for your help spreading the word throughout our community about the Youth Tour-an all-expenses-paid trip to the nation's capital. BCEC will send three students on this incredible journey. Students' parents or quardians do not have to be members of BCEC for the student to compete in and win the Youth Tour contest.

### APPLICATIONS ARE DUE ON JAN 15. 2026

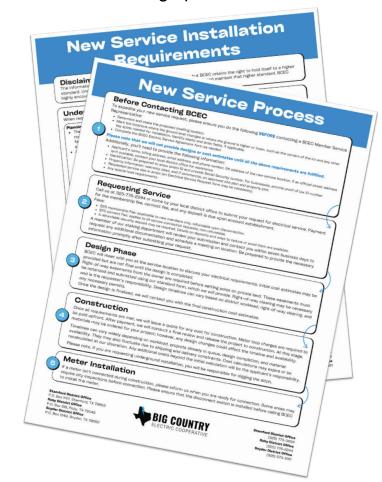
### **VIDEO CONTEST TOPIC:**

What are the differences between an electric cooperative and an investor-owned utility?

START YOUR ADVENTURE AT BIGCOUNTRY.COOP/YOUTH-TOUR

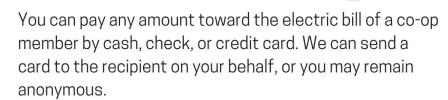
## Need a new service installed?

Visit the 'New Service' page under 'About Us' at bigcountry.coop for the process and installation requirements for setting up a new service.



Need knows no season, and many of our friends and neighbors are in need this year.

A wonderful gift that keeps on giving and can be appreciated by anyone is the Gift of Light.



Contact us for more information.







## **UPCOMING OFFICE CLOSINGS**

Thursday, December 11th **Thursday Afternoon, December 18th** Wednesday & Thursday, December 24 & 25 Thursday, January 1

Phones will be answered, and crews will stand by to respond to outages.

www.bigcountry.coop

## December 2025

## **OUR COMMITMENT TO RELIABILITY**



We are continuing to make progress on system maintenance following recent pole inspections. Our partnership with Empact Engineering is helping keep this work on schedule, with their team staking jobs and designing work orders to support upcoming construction projects.

After completing work on the Anson circuits, Empact is now moving on to projects served by our Stamford Substation. Their crews typically operate in two-week rotations and may be seen in trucks or UTVs marked with BCEC signage.

Sundance Power Pole Inspections is also continuing its inspection of transmission and distribution lines throughout our service area.

We appreciate your patience as these efforts continue to strengthen system reliability and support safe, long-term service for our members.

# Scholarships!

Attention Moms, Dads, and Grads! Scholarships are available through Big Country EC. Don't miss out on this opportunity



### **Big Country EC Academic** Scholarship

Deadline: March 1, 2026

Two \$4,000 scholarships for graduating seniors whose parents/guardians are BCEC members.

Golden Spread EC Directors' Memorial Scholarship Deadline: March 1, 2026

\$2,000 scholarships for selected graduating seniors whose parents/guardians are BCEC members.

#### Texas Rural Electric Women's Association Scholarship

Deadline: March 15, 2026

Twenty \$1,500 scholarships are available for TREWA members and their children, open to graduating high school seniors, full-time college students, and adults accepted as full-time students at any accredited institution.

For full details and applications, visit bigcountry. coop and click on Service Beyond Electricity, then Scholarships. Please contact Krysha Burleson at (325) 776-3803 or kburleson@bigcountry.coop.



### **Committed to Community**

For complete information about our Operation Round Up program or to opt out of participation, visit bigcountry.coop/ operation-round-up.

## **Supporting Our Community Together**

## What is Operation Round Up?

The Operation Round Up program is supported by BCEC members whose electric bills are "Rounded Up" to the nearest dollar.

The "Rounded Up" amounts fund Operation Round Up for distribution to individuals and organizations with demonstrated financial need in the counties we serve: Borden. Fisher, Garza, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry, Shackelford, Stonewall, and Throckmorton.

## Every penny stays right here at home!

Who can apply to Operation Round Up?

- · Local organizations or programs that provide vital community services, such as food banks, shelters. medical and health needs, rescue organizations, educational projects, childcare programs, and other community needs.
- · Families and individuals with demonstrated financial need due to life-altering circumstances.

## 2026 Quarterly Deadlines

February 17, 2026 at 5:30PM

May 19, 2026 at 5:30PM

August 18, 2026 at 5:30PM

November 10, 2026 at 5:30PM

For more information about the Operation Round Up program or to opt out of participation, please visit bigcountry.coop and navigate to the Service Beyond Electricity dropdown menu.

## 2015 Chevy 3500 Duramax for Sale by Sealed Bid

Interested in a 2015 Chevy 3500 Duramax? 189,000 miles · CM bed · On-board air system installed Note: Vehicle needs a new engine.

Please mail your sealed bid by January 15 to:

Big Country Electric Cooperative c/o Jakob Clawson P.O. Box 518 Roby, TX 79543

Minimum bid: \$8,500



Agricultural Tax Exemptions - In order to claim an exemption from Texas sales and use taxes on electricity and other items used in agricultural and timber operations, you are required to provide us with a registration number on Texas Agriculture Sales and Use Tax Exemption Certification Form 01-924. All water wells should be exempt if used for irrigation or watering livestock. The Texas Comptroller's Office issues the registration number and those wanting to claim the exemption must fill out an application. Registration numbers must be renewed every four years. Applicants can request a paper application to mail in by calling 1-800-252-5555 or download a copy from the comptroller's website, www.getreadvtexas.org. The generic exemption certificate, Form 01-339, cannot be used to claim the agricultural exemption. Accounts that do not have the new required form on file will be subject to taxation Commercial Tax Exemption Records - A completed and signed exemption form is required for each commercial tax exempt account. Accounts that do not have current exemptions on file will be changed to taxable accounts. Any refunds for taxes must be claimed from the State of Texas. Thank you for your help

## Exciting News: PCA Set at 2¢ Credit on December Bills

We are happy to share that members will see a **2-cent credit** on December electric bills for November usage. This credit reflects a significant decrease in the cost of purchased power, and we are glad to pass these savings directly back to you.

#### Understanding the PCA

The Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) is a rate component on your electric bill that accounts for changes in the cost of purchased power. BCEC budgets for an average purchased power cost of \$0.06 per kWh. Because actual market prices vary from month to month, the PCA adjusts up or down to reflect the difference between our budgeted cost and the real cost of electricity.

This mechanism ensures fair, transparent billing and helps us recover only what is necessary to cover power costsnothing more.

#### Why the Credit?

Purchased power costs decreased substantially this fall. As a result, BCEC is able to issue a 2-cent PCA credit for December bills, with a reduced credit anticipated in the months ahead. Providing this credit helps us balance collections over time without causing large swings in monthly bills.

### **Looking Ahead**

While the 2-cent credit applies to December billing, we expect to continue issuing a reduced PCA credit into 2026. However, this is not guaranteed. Market conditions and wholesale power prices can shift quickly, which may change the amount—or availability—of future credits.

By spreading these savings over multiple months, we can help minimize sudden fluctuations in your electric bill.

#### **Your Cooperative, Your Savings**

Transparency and accountability are central to how we operate. Our financial team works year-round to forecast and manage power costs so we can keep rates stable and ensure members benefit whenever savings are available.

If you have questions about the PCA or any other part of your bill, please reach out—our team is always here to help.





www.bigcountry.coop

#### **Office Hours**

Monday - Thursday: 7:30-12:00, 1:00-5:30

Friday: 7:30-11:30

#### **Contact Us**

Toll Free: 1-855-940-3872 Roby: (325) 776-2244 Stamford: (325) 773-3684 Snyder: (325) 573-3161

#### **Report Outages**

Please call your local BCEC office to report

power outages.



## We're Mobile!



Access your BCEC account anytime with SmartHub! Download the app for your mobile device today by visiting www.bigcountry.coop or searching for SmartHub in the app store.

## Ask about our partnerships with:











**Rural Development Assistance Available Through BCEC** BCEC is an Equal Opportunity Lender.

Big Country Electric Cooperative, Inc. has a limited amount of funds available for low-interest loans to qualified applicants to stimulate rural development. Applicant does not have to be a member of Big Country Electric Cooperative. Please contact Sarah McLen at smclen@bigcountry.coop for details.



Call 811 at least 2 working days before you dig. Visit www.texas811.org for more information.