

Apply TODAY
for THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME
JUNE 14-21, 2026

GOVERNMENT-IN-ACTION YOUTH TOUR

ARE YOU A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT?

Interested in traveling, exploring a big city, and visiting historic landmarks for free? Want to meet your congressional representative or have an inspiring experience with other Texas teens? If so, the Government-in-Action Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., is your tour!

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE ON JAN 15, 2026

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

Happy Thanksgiving

Our offices will be closed November 26-28 in observance of the holiday. Crews will be ready to respond to any outages, should they occur.

OPERATION ROUND UP
Deadline: November 11, 2025 by 5:30 PM

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.
Every penny stays right here at home!

Operation Round Up welcomes applications from:
Local organizations that provide essential community services, including food banks, shelters, medical assistance, rescue organizations, educational projects, childcare programs, and more.
Families and individuals facing financial hardships due to life-altering circumstances.

Visit bigcountry.coop/Operation-Round-Up or contact Krysha Burlison at kburlison@bigcountry.coop.

Infrastructure Costs

The past five years have been a period of exploding costs for the electric utility industry and for broadband providers, pushed by soaring demand, supply chain challenges, raw materials shortages, increased labor costs and tariffs. The impact has been rapid increases in the cost of producing power, longer and more unpredictable project timelines and the need for more financing, all of which have driven electric rates up for residences, businesses and other end-users. Here's a look at what's contributing to the trend. **Percent increase since 2020:**

<p>Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utility poles (wood, steel, composite) +25-40% Crossarms & braces (steel/wood)..... +20-35% Conductor wire (aluminum/copper)... +30-50% Transformers..... +70-100% Grain-oriented electrical steel..... +80-100% Oil/dielectric fluids..... +25-40% Copper wiring..... +50% Concrete..... +25-35% Smart meters..... +20-35% Pad-mounted switchgear..... +25-40% Circuit breakers/reclosers..... +20-35% 	<p>Generation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diesel gensets..... +20-40% Gas turbines..... +20-30% Solar PV systems..... +25-35% Wind turbines..... +25-35% Hydropower components..... +20-30% Battery storage..... +25-40% SCADA/EMS systems..... +20-30% Inverters..... +20-30% Relays & switchgear..... +25-40% Natural Gas..... +20-120% Coal..... +30-60% Diesel/fuel oil..... +40-70%
<p>Build-outs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utility construction labor..... +20-40% Freight/logistics..... +30-60% 	<p>Fleets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Light trucks..... +25-40% Bucket trucks, digger derricks +20-50% Fuel costs (especially diesel)..... +20-30% Maintenance..... +15-25% Insurance premiums..... +20%
<p>Broadband</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fiber-optic cable..... +25-40% Splicing & telecom gear..... +20-30% 	

Sources: BLS; energynews.com; Reuters; Wood Mackenzie; NREL; IEA

BIG COUNTRY

ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Membergram

Power Cost Adjustment Credit Continues in November

As we near the end of the year, we're pleased to continue passing savings back to our members through the Power Cost Adjustment (PCA). **Beginning with November bills (reflecting October usage), the PCA credit will increase from half a cent to one full cent per kilowatt-hour (-\$0.01/kWh).**

The PCA is a rate component on your electric bill that reflects the fluctuating cost of purchased power from our generation and transmission cooperative, Golden Spread Electric Cooperative (GSEC). Each year, BCEC budgets for an average purchased power cost of \$0.06 per kWh. Because actual costs vary from month to month, we base our rates on this budgeted average.

BCEC's residential, farm, and seasonal rate is \$0.099665 per kWh. The difference between that and the budgeted power cost—about \$0.039665 per kWh—covers the cooperative's operational expenses, such as maintaining and improving infrastructure. The PCA then adjusts for the difference between the budgeted cost and the actual market price of power passed through from GSEC.

When the actual cost of power comes in higher than budgeted, a PCA charge is applied to recover those costs. When it's lower, a PCA credit is applied, passing the savings directly back to you. This process ensures BCEC neither under-collects nor over-collects from members. When collections exceed actual costs, those funds are promptly returned through credits like this one.

Because purchased power costs are trending below forecasted levels as we close out 2025, members will see this increased credit on their November bills. For perspective, a 1¢ PCA credit equals \$20 in savings for an average member using 2,000 kWh in a month.

Our financial team works hard to forecast and monitor wholesale power costs throughout the year, aiming to keep the PCA as close to zero as possible. Their diligence helps ensure members are charged only what it truly costs to deliver electricity—no more, no less. By closely tracking power costs and adjusting the PCA as needed, our accounting team helps keep rates stable and fair for all members.

If you have any questions or need further clarification about the PCA or any other aspect of your bill, please don't hesitate to reach out. We're here to keep you informed and support you with your energy needs.

www.bigcountry.coop

November 2025

OUR COMMITMENT TO SAFETY

At Big Country Electric Cooperative, the safety of our employees and the public is our top priority. This commitment is guided by our Safety Creed:

"No task is so important that it involves violating safety rules; BCEC places safety as our number one priority—safeguarding our health, livelihood, reputation, and environment."

Each year, we conduct eleven employee safety meetings covering essential topics such as pole-top and bucket rescue, hazard recognition, safety data sheets, bloodborne pathogens, forklift certification, CPR, and first aid. These sessions help ensure that every employee is equipped with the knowledge and preparedness to work safely and respond effectively in any situation.

In October, our lineworkers participated in annual pole-top and bucket rescue training—a vital exercise designed to ensure they are ready should the unthinkable ever occur. While we always hope such emergencies never arise, safety means being prepared for every possible outcome.

We are proud of our employees' continued commitment to maintaining a culture of safety, vigilance, and care—for themselves, for one another, and for the members we serve.





Committed to Community

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

Operation Round Up Helping Our Communities

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

The next application deadline is 5:30 p.m. on November 11, 2025.

Need a new service installed?

Visit the "New Service" page under the "About Us" tab to find the process and installation requirements for setting up a new service.



TWN to Discontinue Internet Service in Texas

TWN Communications (TWN), the internet service provider that has partnered with Big Country Electric Cooperative for several years, has announced plans to discontinue its operations in Texas by December 31, 2025.

According to TWN, their original plans included expanding and upgrading their network across the Texas Panhandle with the help of BEAD funding, a federal rural broadband initiative. However, after the initiative finalized its BEAD parameters, the state broadband maps indicated this region was already deemed "sufficiently served." TWN stated that while they disagreed with that finding, it made their expansion plans ineligible for funding assistance—ultimately rendering continued operations financially unfeasible.

TWN will notify all affected TWN customers directly and manage every step of the transition, including service timelines, billing, and account credits. For BCEC members currently using TWN internet service, here are some key details:

- **Notifications:** TWN began sending initial notices in early October and will send a second notice at least 30 days before each service cancellation.
- **Decommission timeline:** Network decommissioning will begin in November and is expected to be completed by year-end 2025.
- **Contracts:** No early-termination fees will apply—customers may end service at any time during this process.
- **Equipment:** Customers do **not** need to return their internet equipment.
- **Refunds:** If a customer's account has a credit balance, TWN **will** issue a full refund.
- **Billing:** Final invoices will be based on each customer's deactivation date, or on the date the customer contacts TWN to discontinue service if earlier than the scheduled termination date.

For questions about service, billing, or account status, TWN customers should contact TWN Communications Customer Service at 877-877-6861 or visit twncomm.com.

To explore available internet options in your area, TWN recommends visiting highspeedinternet.com or broadbandnow.com.

We appreciate the partnership TWN has provided to our members and communities over the years and thank them for their service to rural Texas. As always, if you have any additional questions, please give us a call.

CHRISTMAS COOKOUT FUNDRAISERS

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 3
11:00 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

ONE DAY, THREE LOCATIONS!

STAMFORD, AT THE SQUARE
SNYDER, AT THE POCKET PARK
ROBY, AT THE COURTHOUSE SQUARE

BCEC will be cooking delicious sausage wraps and serving chips, drinks, and cookies for pick-up. Meals are available by donation, and all proceeds will benefit local charities.

We welcome monetary donations, as well as new, unwrapped toys and winter clothing — all of which will help local families in need.

Please join us if you can and share the holiday spirit!

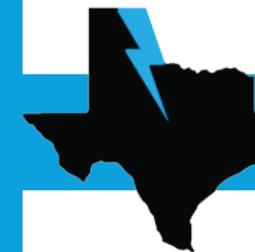
BIG COUNTRY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

2013 Hyundai Forklift for Sale by Sealed Bid

Interested in a 2013 Hyundai Forklift?! Mail your sealed bid by November 21st to:

Big Country Electric Co-op
C/O Jakob Clawson
P.O. BOX 518
Roby, Tx 79543

(Minimum bid: \$3,500)



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.

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.getreadytexas.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.