

BIG COUNTRY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE Membergram

October Billing Update: PCA Credit & Extended Cycle

This month's bills may look a little different than usual—and we want you to know why.

Due to a meter reading issue with our meter reading software provider, ACLARA, we were unable to import usage readings for August 30 and 31 in time for September bills. As a result:

- September bills covered August 2-August 29 (three days shorter than normal).
- October bills now reflect August 30-October 1, making this cycle a few days longer than usual.

This adjustment ensures that no usage is missed—your September bill was a little short, and your October bill will "catch up" by including those extra days.

How this affects your bill

The impact of this extended billing period should be minimal thanks to two factors:

- Seasonal weather: With cooler September temperatures, most members saw reduced electricity use compared to the hottest summer months.
- PCA credit: The Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) is currently a -\$0.005 credit per kilowatt-hour, which helps lower your bill total by offsetting wholesale power costs.

Together, this means your October bill may show slightly higher usage due to the longer period, but the PCA credit and reduced demand should help balance the overall effect.

What is the PCA?

The PCA is a line item on your bill that reflects changes in the cost BCEC pays for wholesale power. When those costs are lower than expected, you receive a PCA credit. When they are higher, a PCA charge may appear. This adjustment ensures fairness for members by directly passing through fluctuations in energy costs—without adding any markup.

Questions? We're here to help

We know any change in billing can raise questions. If you'd like help reviewing your bill or understanding the PCA, please give us a call. Our member services team is happy to walk through the details with you.

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October 2025

OUR COMMITMENT TO RELIABILITY



Following our recent pole inspections, we identified a significant number of projects that need to be addressed. To move this work forward more efficiently, BCEC has partnered with Empact Engineering, a trusted engineering firm that will assist by staking jobs and designing work orders. Their expertise will help ensure projects are completed accurately and on schedule.

In October, the Empact Engineering crew will focus on the Anson circuits, which include areas in and around Anson and Hawley. The crew will typically work two weeks on and one week off, with some weekends included in their schedule. For easy identification, their vehicles and UTVs will display BCEC signage.

This partnership allows us to complete more work in less time while maintaining our focus on safety and quality. Though you may see Empact Engineering crews out and about, please know their efforts are part of our ongoing commitment to provide better, more reliable service to every member.

In addition to this engineering work, Sundance Power Pole Inspections continues inspecting transmission and distribution lines across our service area. These inspections are vital for maintaining system safety and reliability, helping us spot and address issues before they become hazards. Sundance crews may be traveling in pickup trucks and UTVs along our lines. While some equipment may not display BCEC markings, all vehicles and personnel will carry Sundance identification and licensing.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as this work takes place to continue strengthening the electric system that serves our communities well into the future.

For the most current updates on system maintenance, please visit https:// bigcountry.coop/ongoing-systemmaintenance.

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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.



Celebrating Cooperative Month Together

October marks National Cooperative Month, a time to reflect on what makes electric cooperatives unique. At Big Country Electric Cooperative, our members come first. As the owners of the cooperative, your voice and participation guide our direction and help us serve our communities better every day.

This September, we had the privilege of celebrating you at our Member Appreciation Open Houses. These gatherings are one of our favorite traditions because they give us the chance to connect face-to-face with the people we serve. We are grateful to everyone who took time to stop by, share a conversation, and enjoy fellowship with neighbors and staff.

Your support is the heartbeat of BCEC. By staying involved and engaged, you strengthen not only our cooperative but also the communities we all call home. That's the cooperative spirit in action.

If you missed it, the 2025 Annual Meeting video is still available at bigcountry.coop /director-election-andvirtual-annual-meeting.

Thank you for being part of our co-op family, we couldn't do it without you!



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





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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.