



October 2025

Rate Changes Coming November 1

At South Central Electric Association, our mission is to provide safe, reliable, and cost-conscious electricity to our members. Like many electric cooperatives across Minnesota, we continue to face rising costs and evolving industry challenges.

Over the past several years, the price of fuel, materials, and equipment has increased significantly. In addition, aging infrastructure needs to be updated to ensure we can continue meeting the growing energy needs of our members. These factors, combined with statewide trends in rising electric rates, have made it necessary to adjust our pricing. Beginning **November 1**, both **Legacy members** and **former Alliant members** will see a \$5 increase in their monthly cost of service charge.



\$5.00 SERVICE RATE INCREASE

LEGACY

Type of Service	Monthly Rate	Effective November Monthly Rate
General Service Single Phase	\$ 45.00	\$ 50.00
General Service Multiphase	\$ 75.00	\$ 80.00
Large Power Irrigation Service	\$ 100.00	\$ 105.00
Large Power Service Single Phase	\$ 65.00	\$ 70.00
Large Power Service Multiphase	\$ 90.00	\$ 95.00

FORMER ALLIANT

Type of Service	Monthly Rate	Effective November Monthly Rate
Residential Single Phase	\$ 35.00	\$ 40.00
General and Farm Single Phase Service	\$ 45.00	\$ 50.00
General Demand Metered	\$ 75.00	\$ 80.00
Three Phase Farm	\$ 75.00	\$ 80.00
Large Power & Lighting	\$ 250.00	\$ 255.00

Important Billing Date Change for Former Alliant Members –

Effective January 1, 2026

Beginning **January 1, 2026**, all former Alliant members will have their **bill due dates changed** from the **28th of each month to the 10th**, aligning with our Legacy members' billing schedule. Along with the due date change, you will also transition to our Legacy member rates starting January 1, 2026.

What This Means for You:

- Your November kwh usage will be billed normally and **due on December 28, 2025**
- Your December kwh usage will be billed at the end of **January 2026**, but **not due until February 10, 2026**.
- Your energy charges will reflect our standard Legacy rates

This transition helps unify our billing system and improve consistency across all member accounts.

If you have any questions, please contact our member services team.



Local Organizations Can Apply for Funds

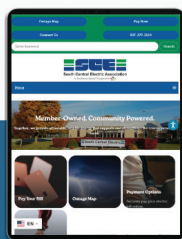
Are you a local organization that helps improve the lives of the residents of Watonwan, Cottonwood and Martin counties? Your organization can apply for funding from the South Central Electric Association Trust.

The South Central Electric Association Trust distributes funds contributed by South Central Electric members through its Operation Round Up program. The independent Trust Board, which consists of South Central Electric members, evaluates local funding requests and distributes the funds. The South Central Electric Trust has provided over \$150,000 to local organizations and student scholarships since the program began in 2015.

The Trust Board is seeking applications for its fall round of funding. Local organizations that improve the lives of area seniors, educate, provide emergency response, community service and other charitable programs may be eligible for funds. The deadline for submitting applications is October 23, 2025. You can download the application from South Central Electric's Operation Round Up page under the Community tab on our website: www.southcentralelectric.com or call South Central Electric at 375-3164 to request an application.



We're Live!
Explore our Brand-New
Website Today



FARMFEST 2025

Electric Co-op Booth Drawings

Thanks for stopping by the Electric Cooperative Booth at Farmfest. The winners from the drawings are:

Power Chain Saw – Davis Schreier, Nobles Coop

Power String Trimmer – Bonita Tabbut, Kandiyo Power

Blower – Roger Polkow, Redwood Electric

Ice Auger – Joe Koehl, Agralite Electric

Pole Saw – Randy Huhnerkoch, Redwood Electric

We have winners!





Cold Weather Rule Outlines

Process to Avoid Winter

Disconnection & Loss of Electricity

The state’s Cold Weather Rule guides utilities on winter disconnections as long as customers follow these main guidelines.

Residential Customer Notice

An electric cooperative must not disconnect and must reconnect the utility service of a home between October 1 and April 30 if the disconnection affects the primary heat source for the residential unit **and all of the following conditions are met:**

1. The household income of the customer is at or below 50 percent of the state median household income. The electric cooperative may verify income on forms it provides or obtain verification of income from the local energy assistance provider. A customer meets the income requirements of this clause if the customer receives any public assistance, including energy assistance that uses an income eligibility threshold set at or below 50 percent of the state median household income;
2. A customer enters into and makes reasonably timely payments under a payment agreement that considers the financial resources of the household; and
3. A customer receives referrals to energy assistance, weatherization, conservation or other programs likely to reduce the customer’s energy bills. In addition, an electric cooperative must, between August 15 and October 1 of each year, notify all residential customers of these provisions.

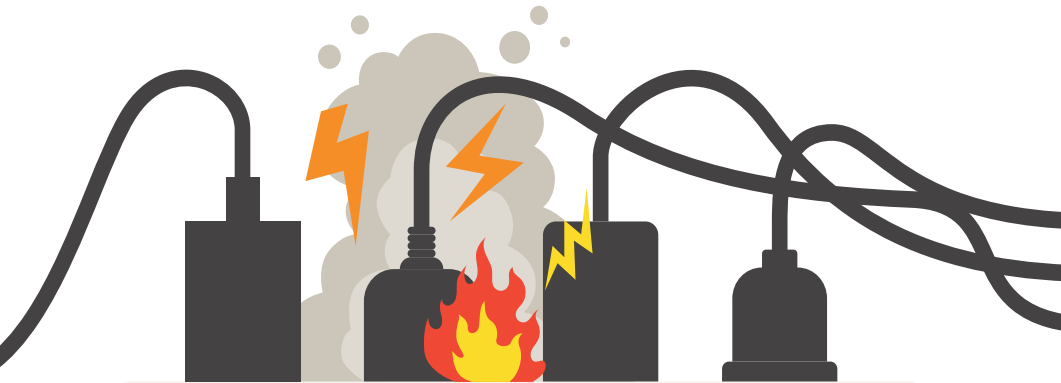
Before disconnecting service to a residential customer between October 1 and April 30, an electric cooperative must provide:

1. A notice of the proposed disconnection;
2. A statement with the customer’s rights and responsibilities;
3. A list of local energy assistance providers;
4. Forms on which to declare an inability to pay; and
5. A statement explaining available time-payment plans and other options to secure continued utility service.

Emergency energy assistance phone numbers

Des Moines Valley Health & Human Services (Cottonwood County).....	831-1891
Des Moines Valley Health & Human Services (Jackson County)	847-4000
Jackson County Sheriff’s Department	847-4420
Martin County Human Services	238-4757
Martin County Sheriff’s Department	238-4481
MN Dept. of Energy Services (Ask for fuel assistance).....	1-800-657-3805
Minnesota Valley Action Council	1-800-767-7139
Brown County	354-3138
Martin County	238-1663
Watonwan County	375-5748
Salvation Army’s Heat Share (Jackson & Martin Co.)	238-9797
Watonwan County Human Services.....	375-3294
United Community Action Partnership (Jackson & Cottonwood Co.) ...	1-800-992-1710

If you live in an area that is not listed, call your electric co-op for details.



FIRE PREVENTION: DON'T GET BURNED!

Electricity usually makes life easier by powering kitchen appliances, gadgets, and electronics we use for entertainment. However, that same electricity contains the potential to destroy homes and take lives. Electric fires are more destructive than any other type of fire, and they are twice as deadly.

Safe Electricity has the following information to help you keep your electric system safe.

- **Consider getting an electric inspection** of your home, especially if it is an older home, or you have never had an inspection.
- **If an electrical fire starts in your home, do not use water to extinguish it.** Water conducts electricity, and you could get an electric shock. Use an extinguisher that is approved for use on electric fires.
- **Flickering lights, warm, cracked, or sparking outlets** all indicate electrical problems and should be examined by a professional electrician.
- **If circuits trip, fuses blow, someone gets a shock,** your home has an electric problem. Get an electric inspection.
- **Do not overload outlets,** use an extension cord as a permanent wiring solution, or use light bulbs that are not rated for the socket.
- **Contact an electrician about installing an arc fault circuit interrupter (AFCI).** An AFCI monitors the flow of electricity in your home. If the flow of electricity is irregular and could cause a fire, the AFCI shuts off electricity.
- **Inspect electric plugs and cords annually.** If they are frayed or cracked, repair or replace them. Do not place cords under rugs, or staple or nail them to the wall.



SCEA WATER HEATER PROGRAM

SCEA's peak shave water heater program provides members with a Marathon water heater at a discounted price for participating in the load management program.

The cost for water heaters is **\$750**. This is a great value for members. SCEA pays the cost of the electrician to wire the water heater and radio control. The member would pay any costs incurred by a plumber.



Official monthly newsletter

South Central Electric

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Vice President, Michael Miest

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Treasurer, Matt Peters

Mark Sandberg, Director

Steve Sell, Director

Bill Kunz, Director

The Board meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at South Central Electric's building at 71176 Tiell Dr., St. James, MN.

Please see our website for a summary of the board meetings.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

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