



Along the LINE

JUNE 2022

For members of
Edgecombe-Martin County EMC

Revised Renewable Energy and EE Riders Become Effective July 1

In July 2022, updated renewable energy and energy efficiency rider charges will be applied to Edgecombe-Martin County EMC members' bills to recoup the incremental costs associated with the state mandated REPS (Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard).



These two riders appear on your bill as the NC Renewable Charge and the NC EE Charge. The NC Renewable Charge has been billed monthly as follows since July 2021: Residential, \$0.09; Commercial, \$0.50; Industrial, \$3.36.

Beginning with the July 2022 billing, the rates will be

billed as follows: Residential, \$0.28; Commercial, \$1.56; Industrial, \$10.45. The NC EE Charge will also be updated for all bills rendered after July 1, 2022, and the current charge will increase from \$0.00066 per kilowatt hour to \$0.000869 per kilowatt hour.

Each of these riders will be reviewed annually and updated if approved by your board of directors in July. Changes in each rate come from participation in additional renewable energy projects and implementation of energy efficiency programs.

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC's participation as a member of NCEMC has allowed us to make market purchases of various types of renewable energy to help keep us in compliance with the NC REPS. We will keep you informed as we work to meet the required compliance standards set forth in this energy legislation.

BEFORE JUMPING IN

KNOW THESE 6 POOL SAFETY TIPS

Keep these electrical safety tips in mind before and during swimming season. These safety tips also apply to hot tubs.



Teach these tips to kids and teens, especially when it comes to using a cell phone that is plugged into an outlet.

Safe
Electricity.org

2022 Poletop and Bucket Rescue Training

The co-op has a culture of safety that permeates everything we do. Whatever the task, the first aspect of performing that job is determining how it can be done safely.

In April, Edgecombe-Martin County EMC Line technicians participated in our annual pole top rescue training. As an OSHA-mandated safety training requirement, the course is designed to evaluate each line technician on their ability to properly rescue an injured and/or stranded line technician.

During the training, each line technician must execute a scenario that finds a fellow worker unconscious atop a utility pole. The line technician, dressed in full climbing gear, must radio for help, scale 20 feet up the utility pole, lower a 170-pound mannequin and begin lifesaving procedures. All line technicians must complete this same scenario in less than five minutes to maintain their certification.

This is one skill that you hope a line technician never needs to use. But if they do, the training is an opportunity to prepare and hone their skills if the need should ever arise. Two of the fastest times for the pole top rescue were Blake Fleming with a time of 2 minutes, 32 seconds, and CJ Keel with a time of 2 minutes, 40 seconds.

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC continuously places safety first. We conduct daily tailgate meetings and weekly safety meetings, and include special training such as CPR and first aid to assure that our employees



Blake Fleming set the top time at this year's pole top competition

are properly trained to handle nearly any situation. In addition to safety training for employees, Edgecombe-Martin County EMC actively raises electric safety awareness in our service territory by performing high-voltage demonstrations at many community events.

"We work within our communities to show our members just how easy it is for an accident to occur when working with electricity," stated Mike Johnson, Edgecombe-Martin County EMC's vice president of Engineering and Operations. "Learning how to prevent these dangerous and sometimes deadly mishaps helps to keep our line technician's, as well members of the community, safe."

Touchstone Energy Scholarship Attend Camp

Local middle-school students will shoot hoops and run drills at basketball camps hosted by two of the state's largest universities this summer.



Kendall Hopkins, attending UNC Camp



Abigail Teboe, attending NC State Camp

Edgecombe-Martin County EMC has awarded Touchstone Energy Sports Camp scholarships that will send two local middle school students to basketball camps this month at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill and NC State University in Raleigh. Kendall Hopkins of Elm City has received a scholarship for the Carolina Men's Basketball Camp at UNC, and Abigail Teboe of Hobgood was selected for a scholarship to attend the Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camp at NC State. At the camps, students stay overnight in campus dorms, learn fundamental basketball and life skills, and receive individual and group instruction from Division 1 coaches. Edgecombe-Martin County EMC is one of 26 Touchstone Energy cooperatives in North Carolina that collectively award more than 50 sports camp scholarships to students statewide each year.

lines

FROM V.P. Of Human Resources
LISA TOLSON

In addition to providing power to approximately 11,000 meters, Edgecombe-Martin County EMC also serves our communities by giving educators the resources they need to provide students of all ages with educational tools to help them succeed in our line of work.

Focusing on workforce development in the communities we serve is key to the economic success of North Carolina. Edgecombe-Martin County EMC is taking a novel approach to recruiting the line technicians of the future. We recently completed a series of four Line Technician Camps for high school students across our service territory.

In partnership with area schools, the camps were hosted from April 4 – April 7. Drawing nearly 150 participants from multiple high schools, students were given the opportunity to learn firsthand about potential careers in the electric utility industry.

It's more than a career day at a local high school, with co-op employees sitting at a table handing out literature. Instead, Edgecombe-Martin County EMC brought groups of students to our office with a training field to immerse them in the roles, responsibilities, and, above all, the culture of electric utility line technicians. We must remain engaged and work closely with our community



partners to develop a local pool of talent that can meet the current and future needs of our membership.

There's a dual purpose for the co-op, too. Line technicians across the country are aging, and it's essential to groom their replacements. Labor stats indicate the demand for line technicians is expected to grow by nine percent through 2022. There's a need in the field, and this career choice hasn't been emphasized to an entire generation of students. We're filling that need, and it's evident by the way most students respond to the program that we're showing them something they've never considered before.

Concern for community is one of the seven cooperative principles. Investing in programs like these is yet another example of how we work to do just that. Meeting future employment needs related to recruitment, development, and retention of employees will prove beneficial for the communities we serve by providing future jobs for individuals that call our area home.

Cooperatively Yours,

Lisa Tolson

Lisa Tolson



Please Inform Your Co-op Before Adding Load to Your Service

Don't forget to let Edgecombe-Martin County EMC know about any changes that may have been made that have added load to your service.



Edgecombe-Martin County EMC offers a special EV rate for owners who use most of their energy overnight when charging their vehicle. The co-op also provides a \$200 rebate for members with an electric vehicle to help with electric service improvements to charge their EV.

As electric vehicle technology improves, and the cost of electric vehicles decreases, more Americans will continue to make the switch to electric. If you own or are considering the purchase of a plug-in electric vehicle, please let us know so that we can ensure our equipment is set up to properly handle the increased load and help you save energy and money!

Due to advancements in technology, modern farms and agricultural operations work far differently than those a few decades ago. These changes include the sensors, devices, machines, and information technology. We need to be informed of any changes or upgrades you have made to your operations since last year's curing

season. It is possible that we may need to make changes to our distribution system to allow for any added load, such as additional bulk barns or grain dryers.

Call the Cooperative at 1-800-445-6486 or (252) 823-2171 to let us know of any change to your account(s).

Along The LINE

ememc.com

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Payments after office hours and on holidays can be made at the kiosk under the drive thru canopy, by calling our automated telephone service at

1-855-356-6358, placed in the night deposit box or you may choose to utilize the convenience of online bill-pay by logging on to ememc.com

June Rights-of-Way Schedule

In order to provide safe, reliable electrical service, we maintain the rights-of-way under and around our power lines. We do this through rights-of-way and vegetation management. This requires pruning, removing, and cutting brush to prevent vegetation from interrupting your electric service.

Throughout June, Xylem Tree experts will be trimming in the Mayo-Dunbar and Rocky Mount substation areas, which include: Speights Chapel, Hwy. 97 near Rocky Mount, and surrounding areas.

