

# REA Energy Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



Website: [www.reaenergy.com](http://www.reaenergy.com)  
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President and CEO

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Network & Systems Manager

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Safety & Right of Way Manager

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Accounting Services

**Nick Hartman**  
Manager of Engineering

**Stacy Hilliard, CCC, CKAE**  
Communications & Marketing Manager  
Local Pages Editor

**Chris Weller**  
Load Management Supervisor

**OUTAGES & EMERGENCIES**  
844-920-3395

**OFFICE HOURS**  
Indiana Office: 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Ebensburg Office: 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
Monday, Wednesday and Friday  
Closed Tuesday and Thursday

# COOPERATIVE CONNECTION

## Understanding Changes to Your Electric Bill



**STACY  
HILLIARD**

IN JANUARY, THE GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION portion of your electric bill increased by approximately 13%, which translates to about \$10 more per month for an average residential member. This rate covers the cost of producing and delivering electricity to REA Energy.

It's important to note that REA Energy currently has no plans to increase our own distribution rates. This portion of your bill, which includes the per-kilowatt-hour (kWh) distribution rate and the monthly access fee, remains unchanged. Even so, the cooperative is taking proactive steps to help reduce the impact of rising energy costs on consumers and keep future rates as stable as possible.

To better understand how this will look, an example bill is shown and explained on the next page.

### What REA Energy is doing to support members

REA Energy is committed to helping members manage their energy use and reduce costs where possible. Several initiatives are already underway:

- ▶ **Launching an energy-management initiative:** In January, a team of employees began developing tools and strategies to help members better understand and manage their energy consumption.
- ▶ **Building a new member-focused website:** This updated platform will feature energy-saving tools, calculators and resources designed to help members make informed decisions about their use.
- ▶ **Evaluating load-management programs:** The cooperative is reviewing its existing programs to identify options that could benefit members.
- ▶ **Exploring time-of-use rate structures:** REA Energy is assessing whether offering time-of-use rates could help members shift use and save money.

### How members can help keep costs down

While REA Energy works to manage long-term costs, our members can also play a key role in keeping rates affordable. Small changes in daily habits can make a meaningful difference, including the following:

- ▶ **Participate in load-management programs:** Current options include programs for electric water heaters, dual-fuel heating systems and electric thermal storage heaters. Some of these programs offer reduced rates.
- ▶ **Reduce unnecessary energy use:** Turning off lights and appliances when not in use helps lower overall demand.
- ▶ **Shift use during peak times:** The most impactful time to shift use is on weekdays, especially during extreme heat or cold. Members are encouraged to move non-essential electricity use to before 7 a.m., after 7 p.m. or to the weekend, when possible.

### Working together for a more affordable energy future

Rising energy costs are a challenge nationwide, but REA Energy remains committed to supporting its members through transparency, innovation and collaboration. We will continuously lobby for support from our elected officials to keep costs of generation and transmission down. By combining the cooperative's efforts with mindful energy use at home, we can work together to keep rates as affordable as possible and ensure a reliable energy future for our communities. 

**STACY HILLIARD, CCC, CKAE**  
COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING MANAGER

**REA energy**  
Cooperative Inc.

PO BOX 70 • INDIANA PA 15701-0070  
Office: 724-349-4800 • 800-211-5667  
Hours: 7:00 AM - 3:30 PM (Monday - Friday)  
Ebensburg walk in only M,W,F  
Website: [www.reaenergy.com](http://www.reaenergy.com)

Customer Name: JOHN SMITH

Billing Date: 01/02/2026  
Net Due Date: 01/12/2026

Account Number	Service Address				Mailing Address				
12345	123 MAIN STREET				123 MAIN STREET				
Meter Number	Service	To	No. Days	Previous Reading	Present Reading	Multi.	kWh Usage	Rate	Bill Type
1234567	11/16/2025	12/14/2025	28	308119	308549	1	730	200	Normal

Previous Account Balance: \$125.92  
Previous Balance: \$125.92  
Payments Received - Thank You  
Balance Forward: \$0.00

Current Charges:  
Auto Draft (Service Cost)  
kWh < 1500 REA Charge (730 kWh @ \$0.03472)  
kWh Gen & Tran Market Charge (730 kWh @ \$0.0908)  
Demand Charge (NVA kWh @ \$0.0000)  
Current Amount Due: \$133.63

Net Amount Due By 01/12/26  
After 01/12/26 Pay

2

3

4

5

6

Featuring REA Energy Services™ - See back of bill.

Previous Months Current Month

TO REPORT A POWER OUTAGE OR PAY YOUR BILL CALL: 844-920-3395  
From the number we have listed for you: (724) 459-5568

Please detach and return bottom portion with payment. Retain top copy for your records.

**REA energy**  
Cooperative Inc.

PO BOX 70 • INDIANA PA 15701-0070

I have new contact information. See back.

Scan here to download our App →  

2121 0 AB 0 641  
JOHN SMITH  
123 MAIN STREET  
INDIANA, PA 15701

REA Energy Cooperative Inc  
PO Box 70  
Indiana PA 15701-0070  


400060000042636000013363000014033122320250

5

Your monthly REA Energy bill includes valuable information about your account and energy use. Members can also elect to round up their electric bills each month (see area No. 5) to support Operation Round-Up, which helps fund the co-op's Members Sharing with Members program.

## Understanding Your Bill

1. Your account number is your key to billing and consumer services. For members with multiple accounts, you will most likely have consecutive numbers, i.e. 12345, 12346.
2. Your bill includes the address where your service is located, in addition to your mailing address. If either address is different than what is printed on the bill, please update this information on the back of your bill.
3. Your account summary shows the charges for the current month, along with previous charges and payments. Sales taxes and outdoor yard light charges are also shown, if applicable. Your bill indicates the net amount, but if your payment is late, you will be charged an additional 5% penalty.
4. To report an outage or use our pay-by-phone option, call 844-920-3395. Your primary contact number is also included on your bill.
5. The payment portion of your bill includes your account number. Here, it will indicate if you pay by auto draft or the net and penalty balance with your due date. Finally, there is a line to include an optional donation to Operation Round-Up.
6. The billing address is listed here. If your address or phone number have changed, please check the box and update your information on the back of the bill. Having the correct phone number allows lineworkers to accurately locate your outages when reported.

## Rates

### Residential

Access Fee: \$42

Generation and Transmission: \$.09080/kWh

Distribution First 1500 kWh: \$.03472

Distribution Over 1500 kWh: \$.02894

### Electric Heat

Generation and Transmission: \$.09080/kWh

Distribution: \$.02372/kWh

### Small Commercial — No Demand

Access Fee: \$50

Generation and Transmission: \$.09080/kWh

Distribution First 1500 kWh: \$.03472

Distribution Over 1500 kWh: \$.02894

### Small Commercial — Demand

Access Fee: \$134.50

Demand Charge: \$13.50

\$.09285/kWh

### Large Commercial

Access Fee: \$269.00

Demand Charge: \$18.50

\$.07635/kWh

### Dual Fuel and ETS

\$.08185/kWh

### Outdoor Lights

\$17.95/month

# Right-of-Way Vegetation Management Scheduled for 2026

**BRENDAN SHORT**, RIGHT-OF-WAY / FORESTRY SUPERVISOR

**REA ENERGY IS COMMITTED** to providing the highest quality service to our members. Utility right-of-way (ROW) vegetation management plays a major role in achieving this commitment, so REA Energy can provide members with safe, reliable electricity.

## What are the benefits of a vegetation management program?

A well-established vegetation management program (VMP) offers many benefits. The first — and, we believe, the most important — is safety. Our power lines carry high-voltage electricity that can be extremely dangerous to utility personnel, landowners and the public. At REA Energy, we take safety very seriously. Our VMP eases the dangers by keeping vegetation from encroaching on our ROW/distribution lines.

When vegetation comes into contact with a power line, it can carry electricity, creating a serious safety risk. If you notice a situation like this, DO NOT take matters into your own hands; instead, call REA Energy or FirstEnergy and report the problem. Only trained, industry professionals can assess the situation and resolve it safely.

Other benefits of a well-established VMP are shorter and fewer vegetation-caused outages. In fact, REA's restoration times and outage numbers have been reduced drastically because we have properly maintained vegetation within the utility ROW over the years.

REA Energy's utility personnel not only have better visual access to our electrical infrastructure but they also can navigate our utility easements more efficiently.

When a ROW isn't maintained, utility lines may become entangled with brush and tree limbs. This hampers outage restoration because it takes personnel more time to find the cause and then reach it to make repairs.

Depending on the severity of the overgrowth, a vegetation management contractor may need to be called in to clear the ROW so personnel can safely restore power to members.

Well-established VMPs also reduce costs by minimizing damaged infrastructure, labor hours and more. Currently, REA Energy is running on a five-year VMP cycle, which means contractor crews revisit each of our substations every five years. This cycle has significantly decreased the size and volume of vegetation found within our ROWs. In return, this has decreased the contractor's labor hours and the cooperative's VMP costs.

## Landowner notification

REA Energy Cooperative uses several methods to notify members before ROW work is done, including letters and monthly announcements in *Penn Lines*.

The final notification will be from a representative of the contractor, who will visit your home and, if you're not available, will leave a yellow door hanger with the contractor's phone number. If you have questions or want

to schedule an appointment, call the representative. REA Energy encourages landowners to ask questions so they fully understand the work that will be performed on their property and the cooperative's utility easement.

## REA Energy's cycle trimming program

REA Energy has approximately 2,700 miles of electric line to maintain within its territory. In 2026, the following projects are scheduled:

- **Belsano substation:** 78 miles
- **Amsbry substation:** 71 miles
- **Reese/Wilmore Dam/Mariner substations, Metering Point:** 102 miles
- **Smithport substation:** 75 miles
- **Locust substation:** 88 miles

## Reliability

This year, we are focusing on reducing vegetation-related outages and interference. This is achievable with proper maintenance and the cooperation of all members. REA Energy appreciates your cooperation with us and our contractors in accomplishing our vegetation-management objectives. By working together, we can reduce costs and outages and keep the system safe for members, landowners, and employees.

If you have any questions about ROW issues, visit our website at [reaenergy.com](http://reaenergy.com) to see proper specifications for ROW clearance. You can also contact the Indiana office at 724-349-4800. ☎



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## Right-of-Way Management News

REA Energy contractors will complete tree-trimming work in the following areas in February:

Contractor crews from Penn Line Tree Service will be trimming the rights of way of the Amsbry substation area, in addition to emergency maintenance areas.

Members in affected areas will be notified. Contractors will perform all right-of-way work per REA Energy specifications. All contractor employees will carry employee identification cards and their vehicles will display their company name. If you have any questions, call 724-349-4800, or view the specifications at [reaenergy.com](http://reaenergy.com).

## Your Board of Directors



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