



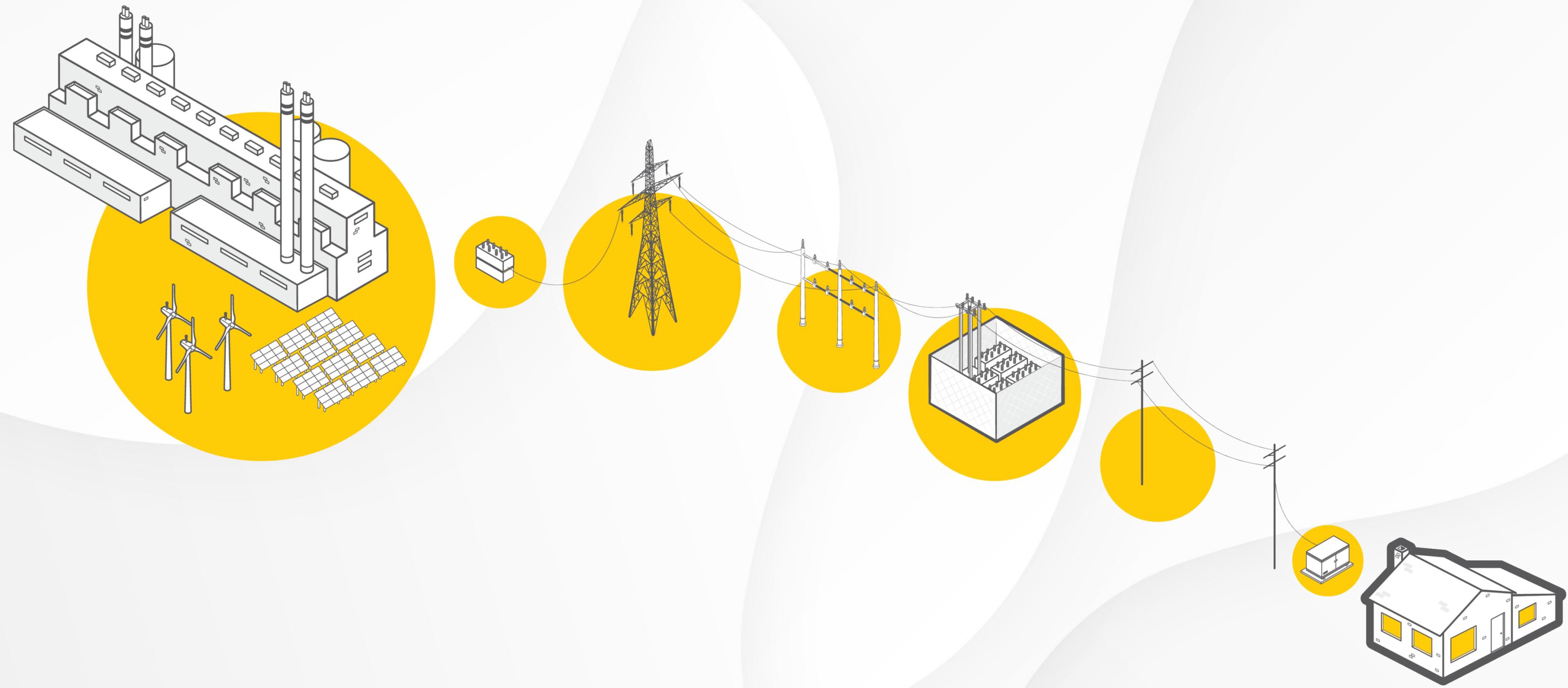
Empowering. Connecting. Exceeding.

Inside My Cooperative: Member Engagement Forum

Your Questions

- Why have rates increased recently?
- Can we implement caps or levelized rolling cost adjustments?
- Why is building a reliable electric grid so expensive?
- Can I, as a member, invite my own auditor and view contractor bids?
- How does fiber play a role in the Cooperative's finances?
- Is my kilowatt-hour usage being read accurately? Can the meters be trusted?
- My habits haven't changed, why has my bill?
- What tools are available to monitor usage?
- How can I lower my usage?
- If costs keep rising, what's the breaking point?

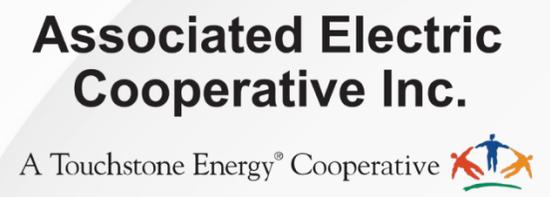
Following the Power



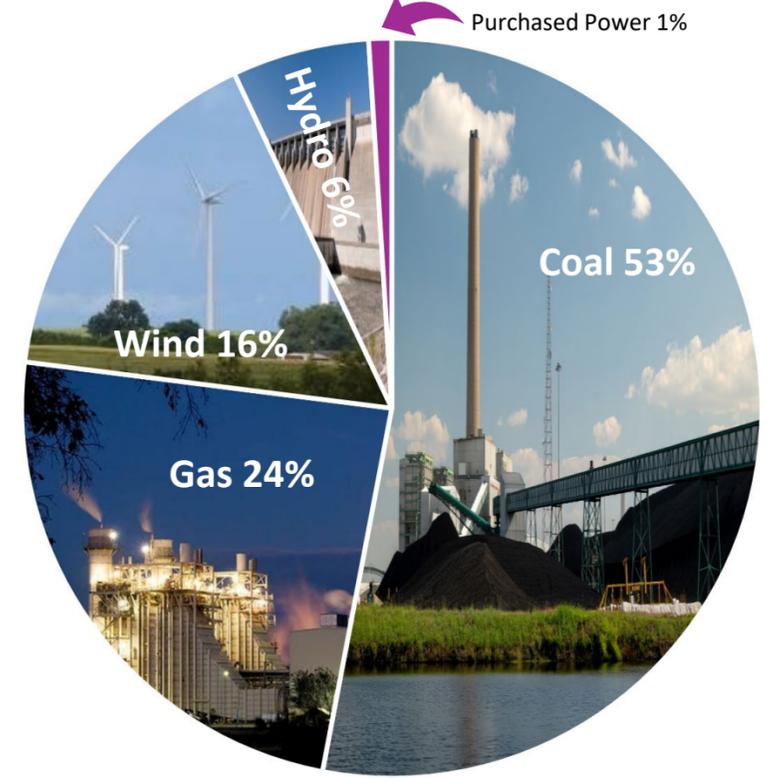
Power Generation

Question: Why have rates increased recently?

- **Diverse resources = Reliability**
- **Reserve Capacity Requirements**
(36% Winter & 16% Summer)
- **Fuel Markets**
- **30-year decisions based on 4-year political terms**
- **Power Cost Adjustment is a direct pass-through**



Associated 2025 Resources for Member Load



Source:
Southwest Power Pool



Fluctuation in the Power Cost Adjustment, January 2020 - January 2026



Transmission

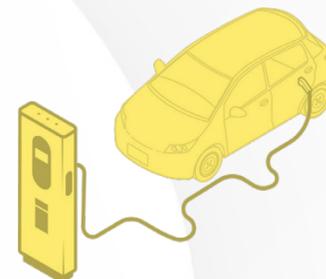
Question: Can we implement caps or levelize cost adjustments?

- It's not just how much we use, it's when we use it.
- Co-op is billed by our Generation & Transmission Partners for electrical demand set by Annual Peak.
- Nationally, demand is rising due to:



Associated Electric Cooperative Inc.

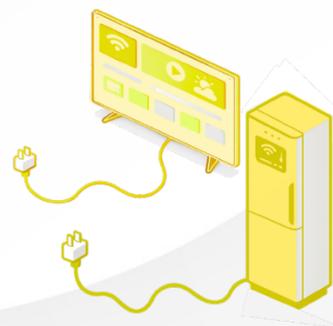
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



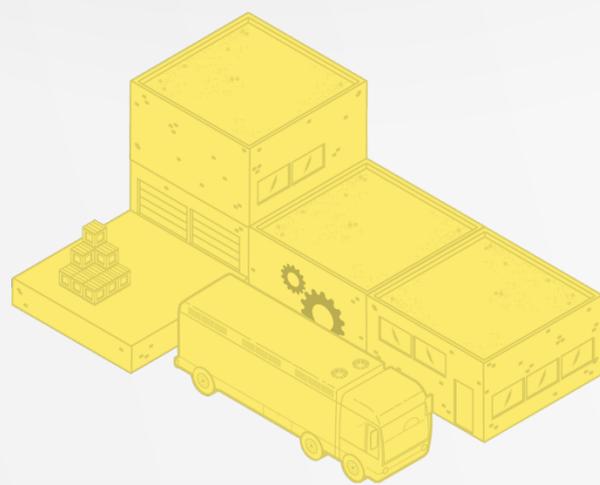
Increased electrification
(EVs, Home Heating, etc.)



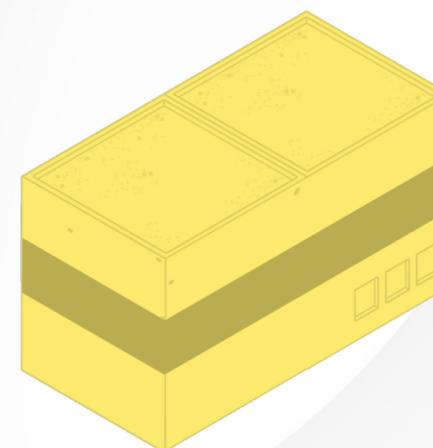
Economic Growth
(Residential Consumption projected to grow by 14-22% by 2050)



Smart Device Adoption
(Always on displays and standby mode use power when not in use.)



Manufacturing Growth & Onshoring
(Federal incentives projected to increase industrial demand by 13,000 GWh per year.)



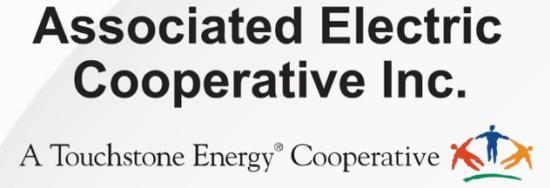
Data Centers *
(Projected to increase 65% by 2050)
*None on ECOEC Lines

Source:
U.S. Energy Information Administration

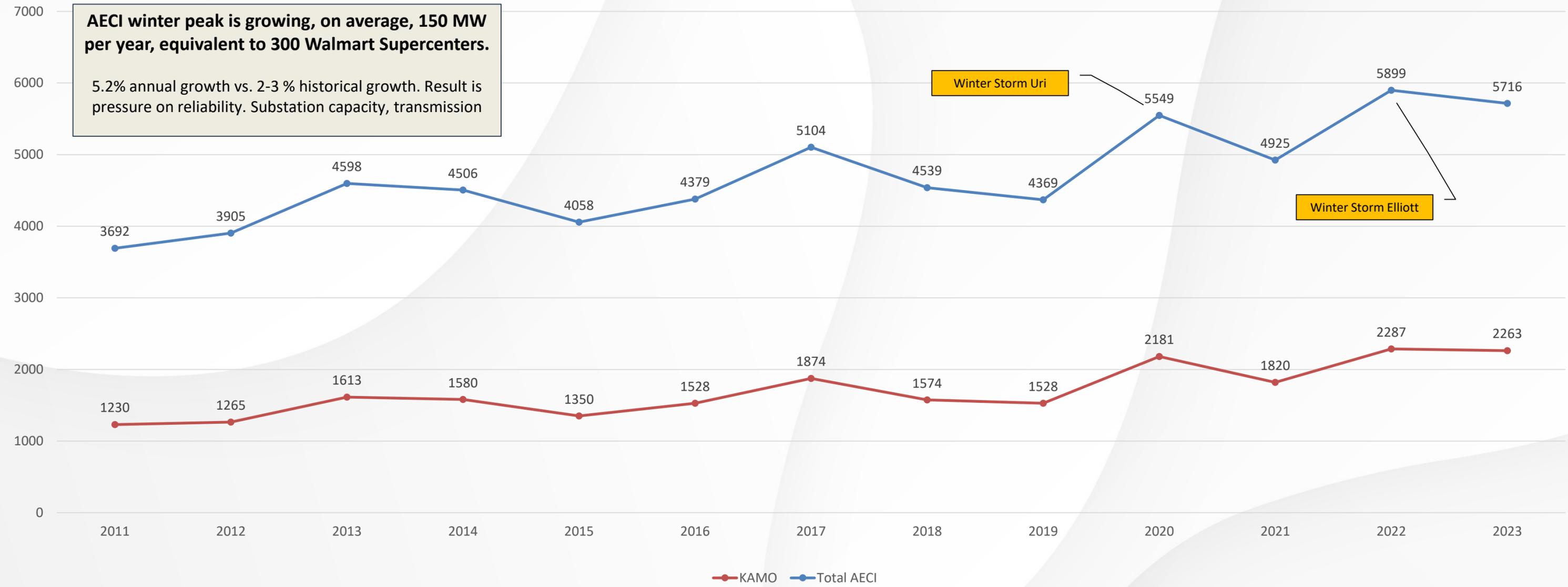


Transmission

Question: Can we implement caps or levelize cost adjustments?



AECI & KAMO Winter Peak Demand, MW



AECI winter peak is growing, on average, 150 MW per year, equivalent to 300 Walmart Supercenters.
5.2% annual growth vs. 2-3 % historical growth. Result is pressure on reliability. Substation capacity, transmission

Winter Storm Uri

Winter Storm Elliott

— KAMO — Total AECI

Substations

Question: Why is building a reliable grid so expensive?

- **Reliability is built, not assumed.**
- **Aging Infrastructure Vs. Growing Demand**
- **Strategic investment and disciplined planning protect members and support long-term growth.**



Associated Electric Cooperative Inc.

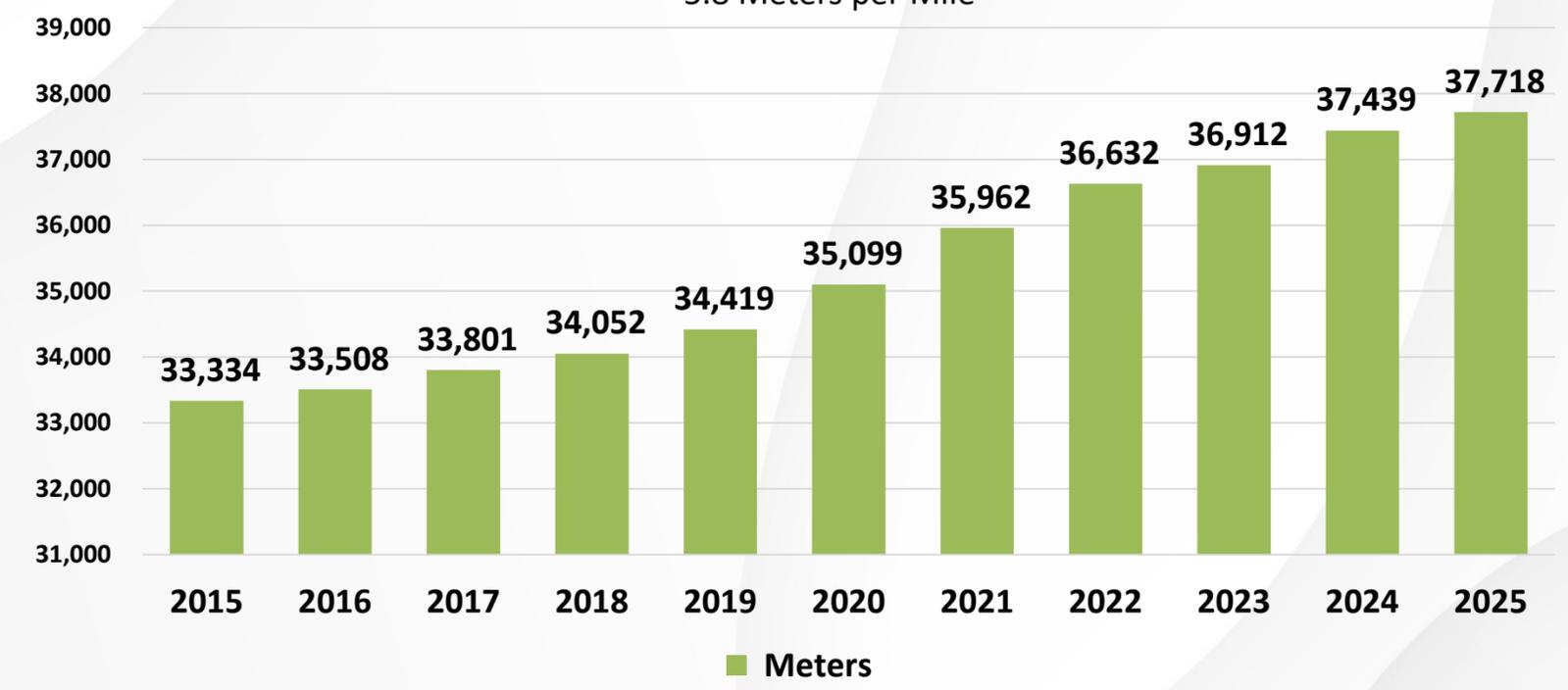
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Source:
Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc.



EAST CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE METER GROWTH

13.2 % since 2015
5.8 Meters per Mile



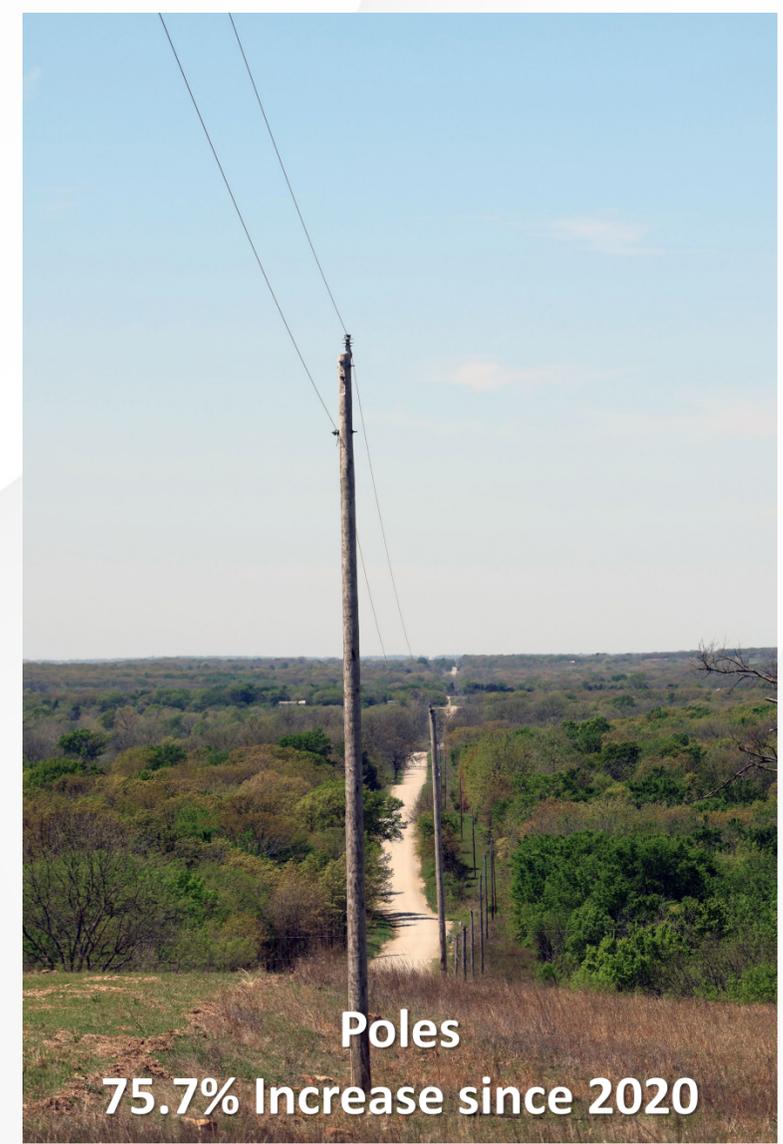
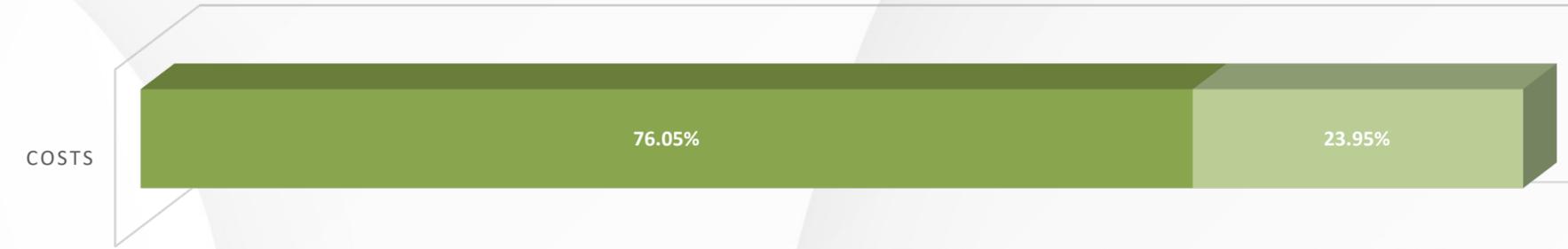
Distribution Lines



Question: Why is building a reliable grid so expensive?

- Where local decisions matter most.
- Rising costs of everything we use to build and maintain.
- These are examples of our fixed costs.

■ Fixed ■ Variable



Distribution Lines

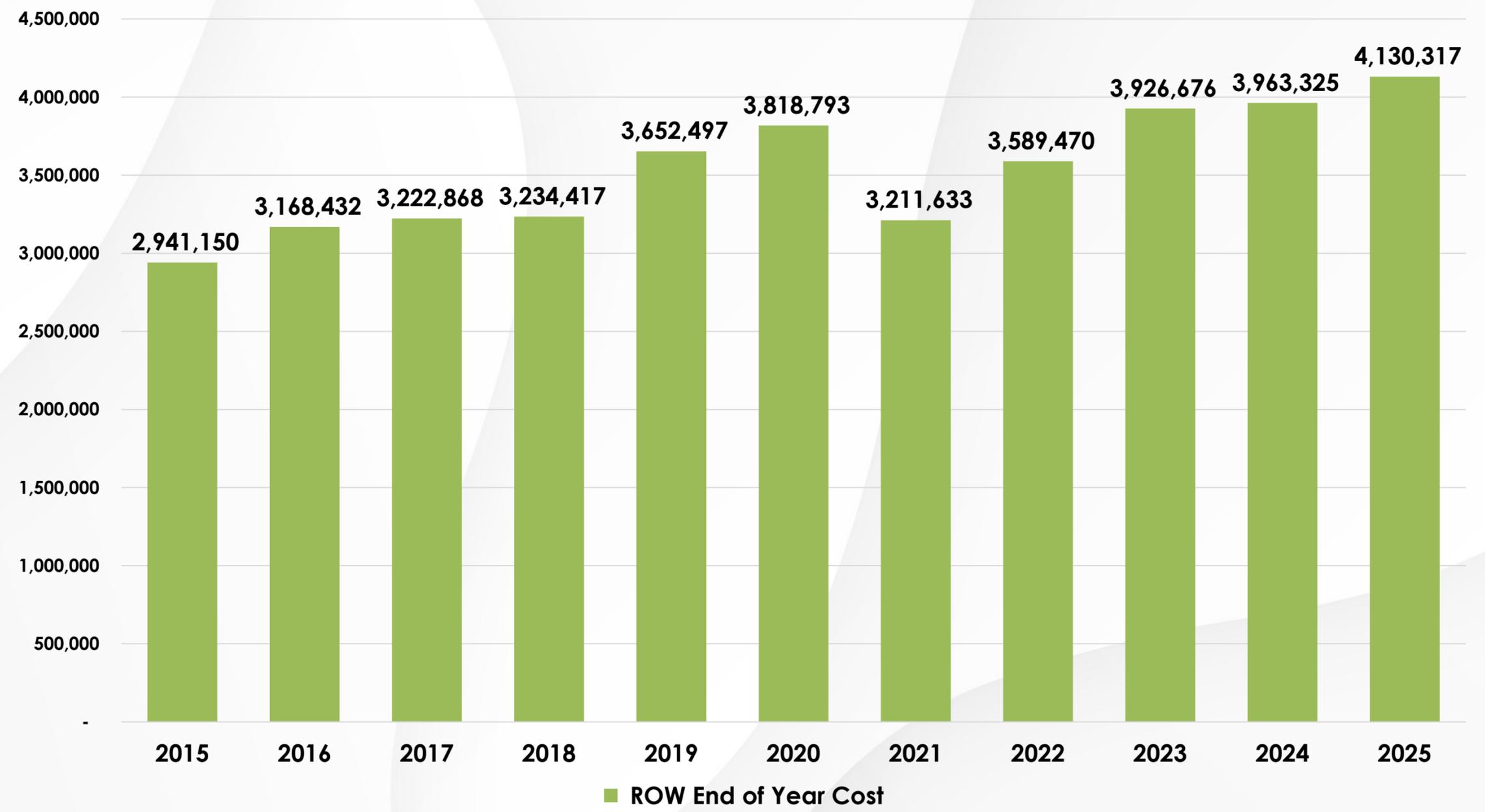


Question: Why is building a reliable grid so expensive?

- Investment in Right-of-Way protects Reliability.
- 2025 Reliability Rate: 99.92%

RIGHT-OF-WAY STATS 2025

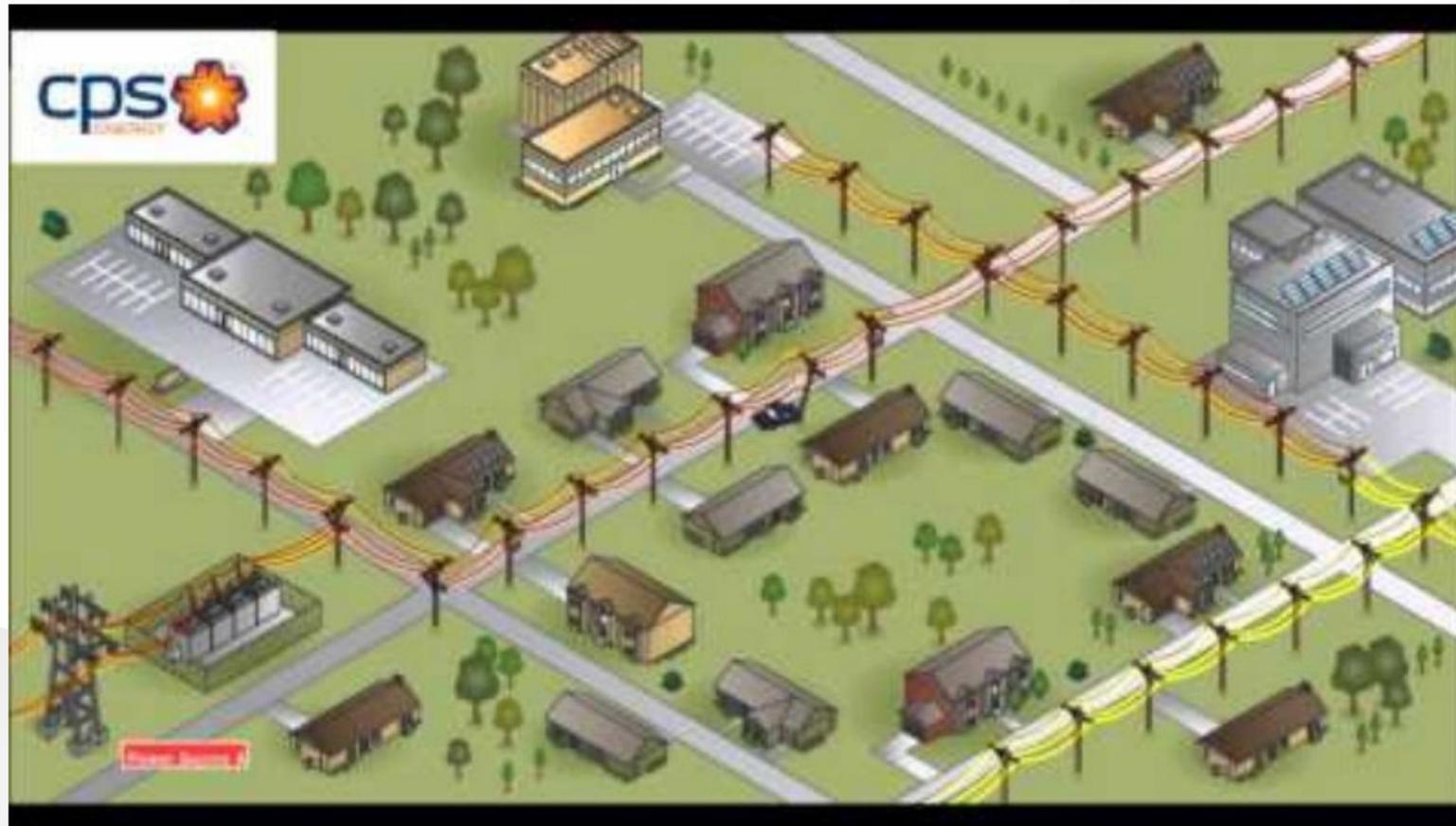
- Total Miles of Line: 6,460
- Miles of Line Trimmed: 405.6
- Miles of Line Cleared: 130.6
- Miles of Line Sprayed: 413.4
- Trees Removed: 3,190



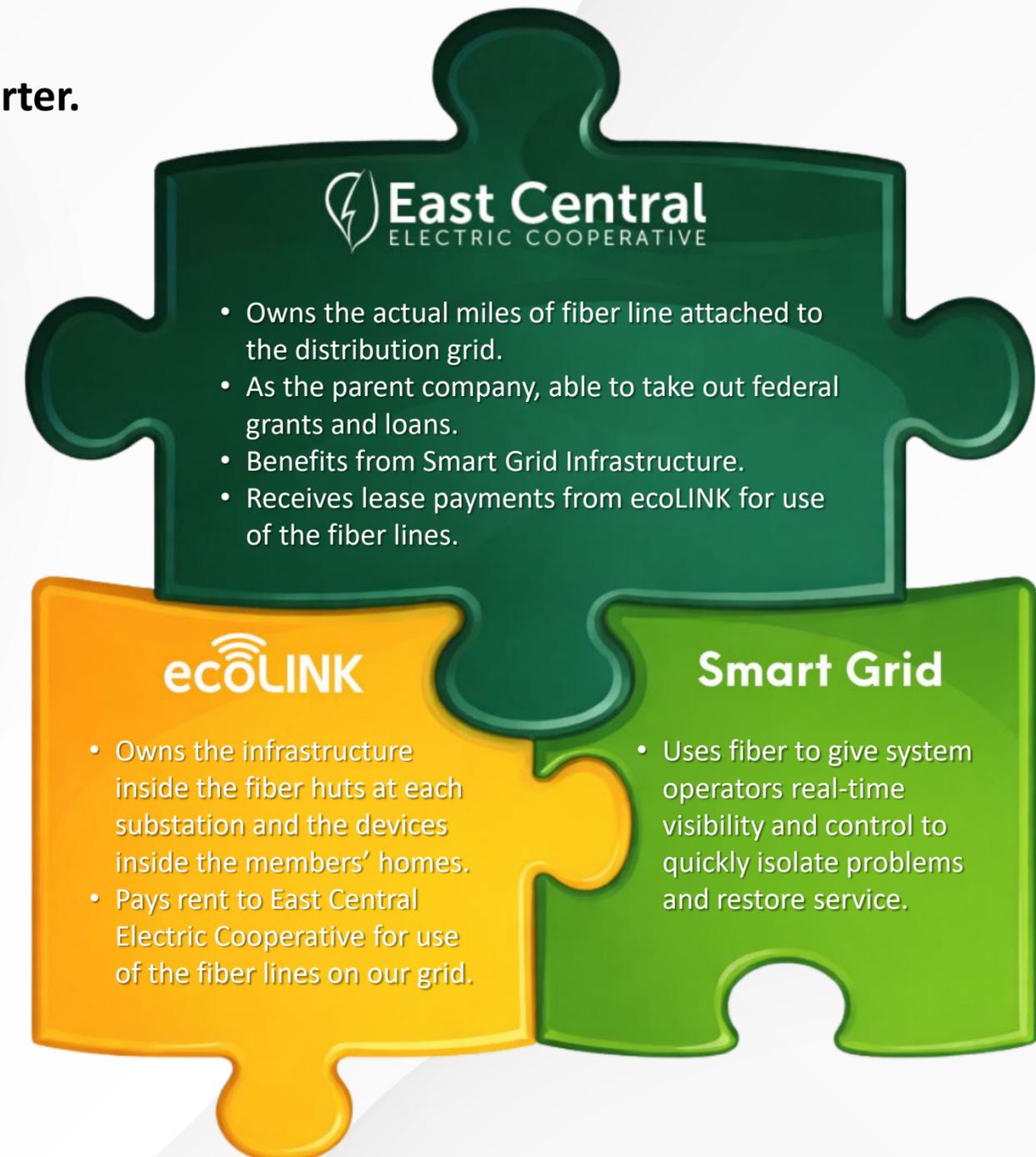
Smart Grid & Fiber

Questions: How does fiber play a role in the Cooperative's Finances?

- Fiber allows us to see problems sooner, fix them faster, and plan smarter.



Video: Self Healing Network by CPS Energy



The Meter



Questions: Is my kilowatt-hour usage being read accurately? Can the meters be trusted?

- **Solid-state digital meters measure electricity by using sensors to sample voltage and current, converting analog signals into digital data.**
- **Our metering system uses power line carrier technology for two-way communication between the meter and our office.**
- **Every meter is accuracy tested by the manufacturer to American National Standards Institute specifications, $\pm 0.5\%$.**
- **Once they are in the field, we follow Oklahoma Corporation Commission Standards as a best practice, $\pm 2\%$.**

Source:

Aclara Meter Manufacturing
Specifications



The Meter



Questions: Is my kilowatt-hour usage being read accurately? Can the meters be trusted?

- **At midnight, the office calls all the meters to ask for a hard reading of the meter. This is used for billing.**
- **Meter stores hard midnight readings for 30 days.**
- **Every hour, every meter attempts to report the hourly change in meter data over the lines, without being asked. This is not used for billing.**
- **If communication is unsuccessful (power outage, harmonics from oil fields, electromagnetic interference, etc.) the system will attempt to estimate what was used in that hour based on = (what was used for the whole day – what is already accounted for by the successfully read hours) factored against what is typically used at the hour each day for that meter.**



226

Meters tested so far in 2026

0

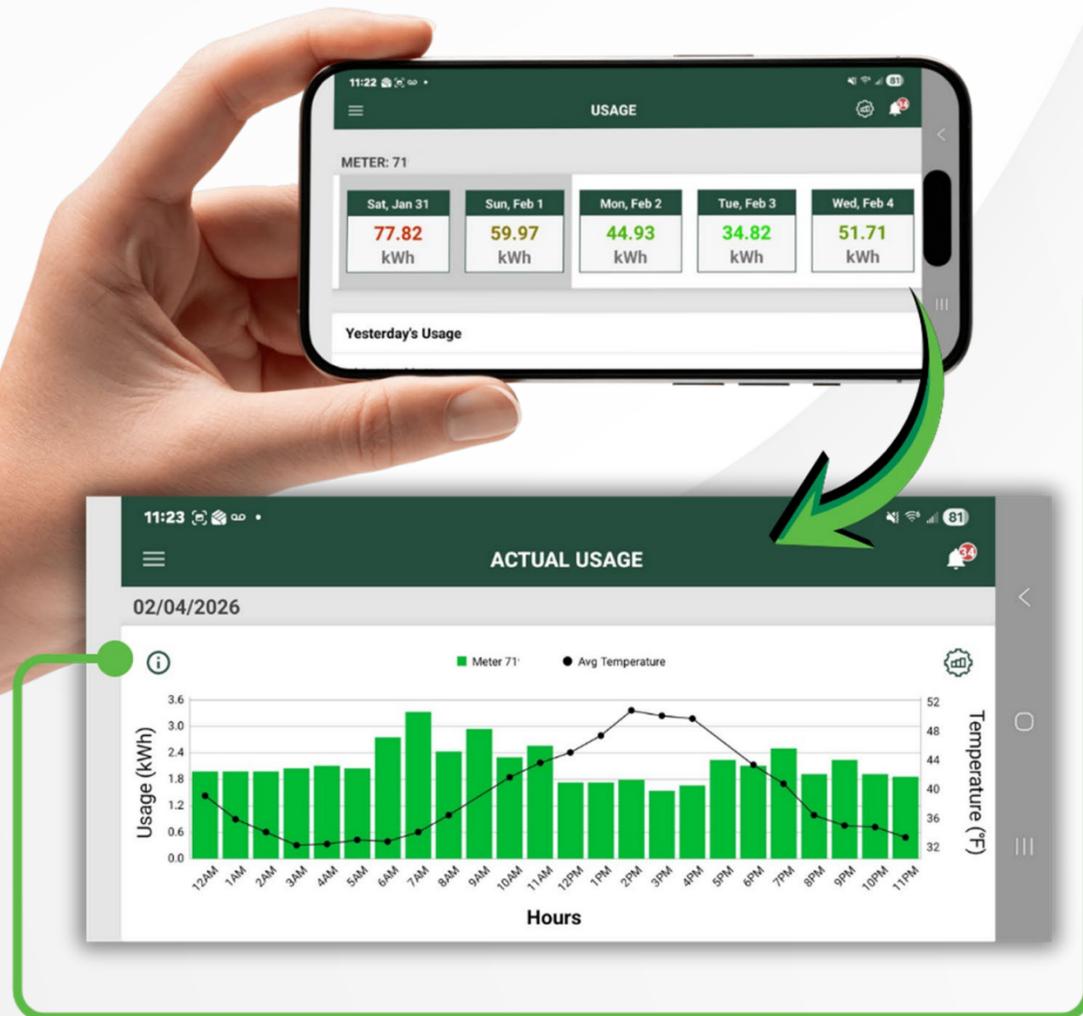
Meters that tested outside of OCC standards

The Meter



Questions: Is my kilowatt-hour usage being read accurately? Can the meters be trusted?

- SmartHub is a tool to monitor usage and displays when hourly interval usage has been estimated.
- You can set up notifications in the app to alert you of hours and/or days when usage is higher than you want for your budget.



ACTUAL USAGE	
02/04/2026	
SUMMARY	DETAIL
USAGE	
High:	3.33 kWh (7:00 AM)
Low:	1.54 kWh (3:00 PM)
Average:	2.15 kWh
Total:	51.70 kWh
WEATHER	
Average Temperature:	38°F
Average High Temperature:	51°F
Average Low Temperature:	32°F

ACTUAL USAGE	
02/04/2026	
SUMMARY	DETAIL
METER: 71	
3:00 PM	1.54 kWh 50°F
4:00 PM	1.66 kWh 50°F
5:00 PM	2.24 kWh
6:00 PM	2.11 kWh 43°F
7:00 PM	2.50 kWh 41°F
8:00 PM	1.92 kWh 37°F
9:00 PM	2.24 kWh 35°F
10:00 PM	1.92 kWh 35°F
11:00 PM	1.86 kWh 35°F

* Estimates may be used due to unforeseen weather or equipment events, including but not limited to outages. You will not be charged for estimated interval, or hourly, usage. Please refer to your bill for exact meter readings and costs.

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Member Tools & Control

Question: What tools are available so I won't be surprised by my electric bill?

Billing Options

- Billing Cycle Change
- Average Monthly Billing
- Prepay Billing

Frequently Asked Questions about Average Billing and Prepay Billing



Prepay Billing

You purchase electricity before you use it, like gasoline in your car.



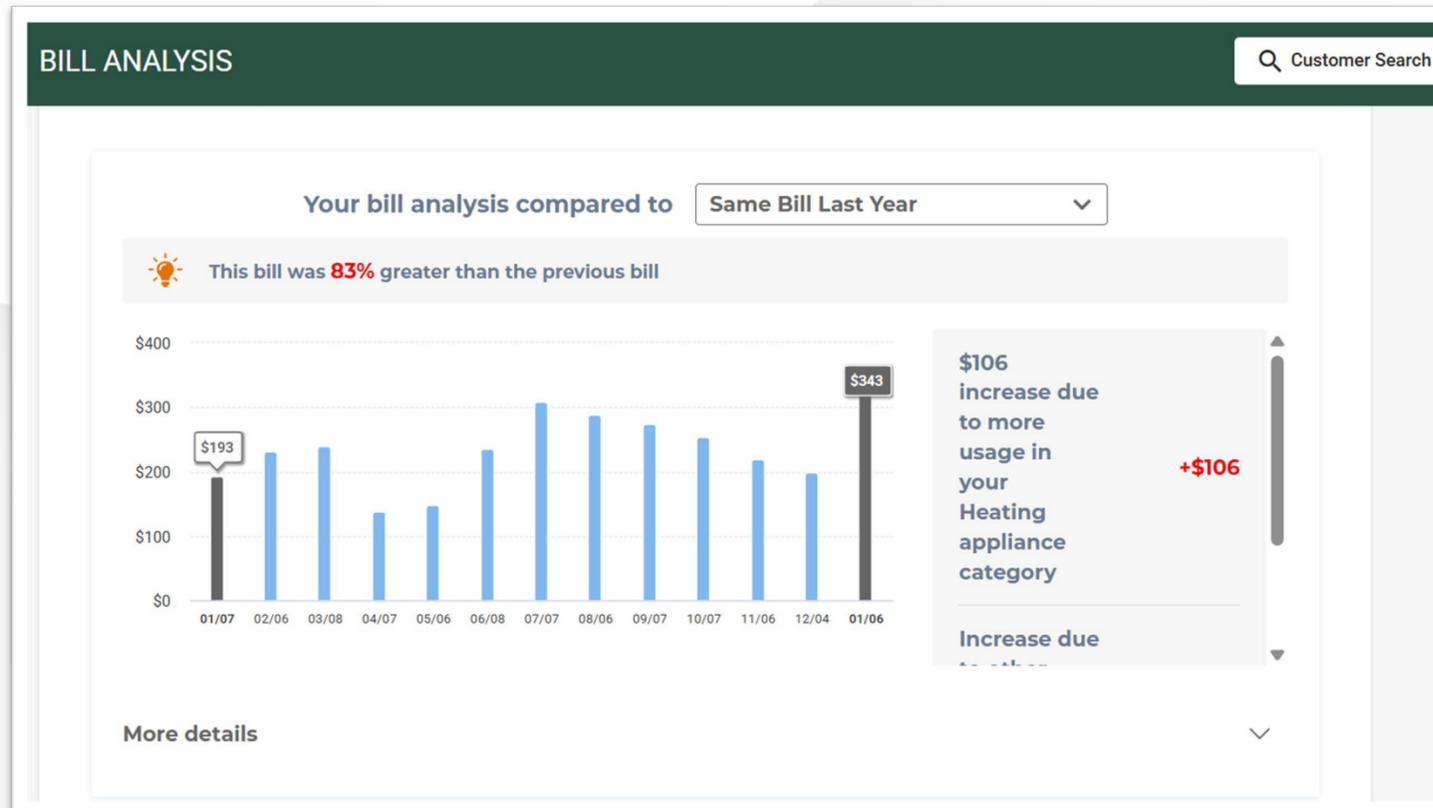
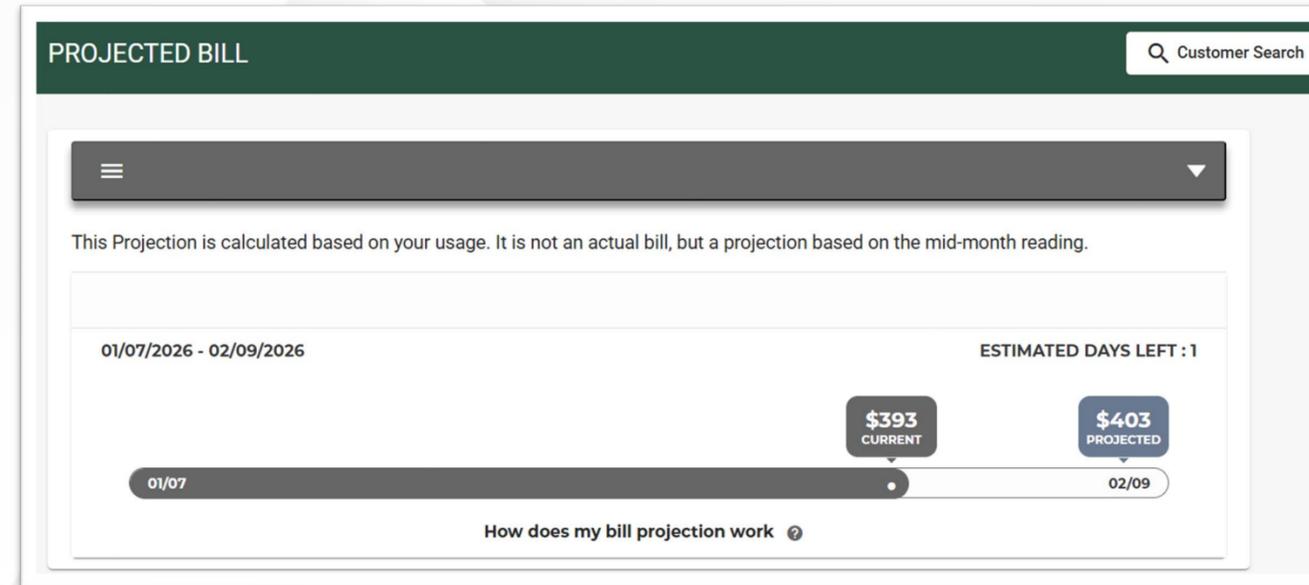
Member Tools & Control



Questions: What tools are available so I won't be surprised by my electric bill?

SmartHub Features

- Usage Alerts
- Bill Analysis
- Bill Projection
- Energy Detail
- These tools use algorithms and meter data to give a projection for your individual home.



Member Tools & Control



Question: What tools are available so I won't be surprised by my electric bill?

Bill Usage Variations

(January 2026, with winter rates)

500 kWhs

Energy Charge	\$70.39
Power Cost Adjustment	\$15.09
Consumer Cost Adjustment	\$1.55

Total Energy Cost on Bill \$87.03

1,000 kWhs

Energy Charge	\$105.78
Power Cost Adjustment	\$30.19
Consumer Cost Adjustment	\$3.10

Total Energy Cost on Bill \$139.07

2,000 kWhs

Energy Charge	\$176.56
Power Cost Adjustment	\$60.37
Consumer Cost Adjustment	\$6.20

Total Energy Cost on Bill \$243.13

4,000 kWhs

Energy Charge	\$288.12
Power Cost Adjustment	\$120.75
Consumer Cost Adjustment	\$12.41

Total Energy Cost on Bill \$421.28

Inside the Home

Question: My habits haven't changed, why has my bill?

- This isn't about fault. It's about awareness, so you can take action.

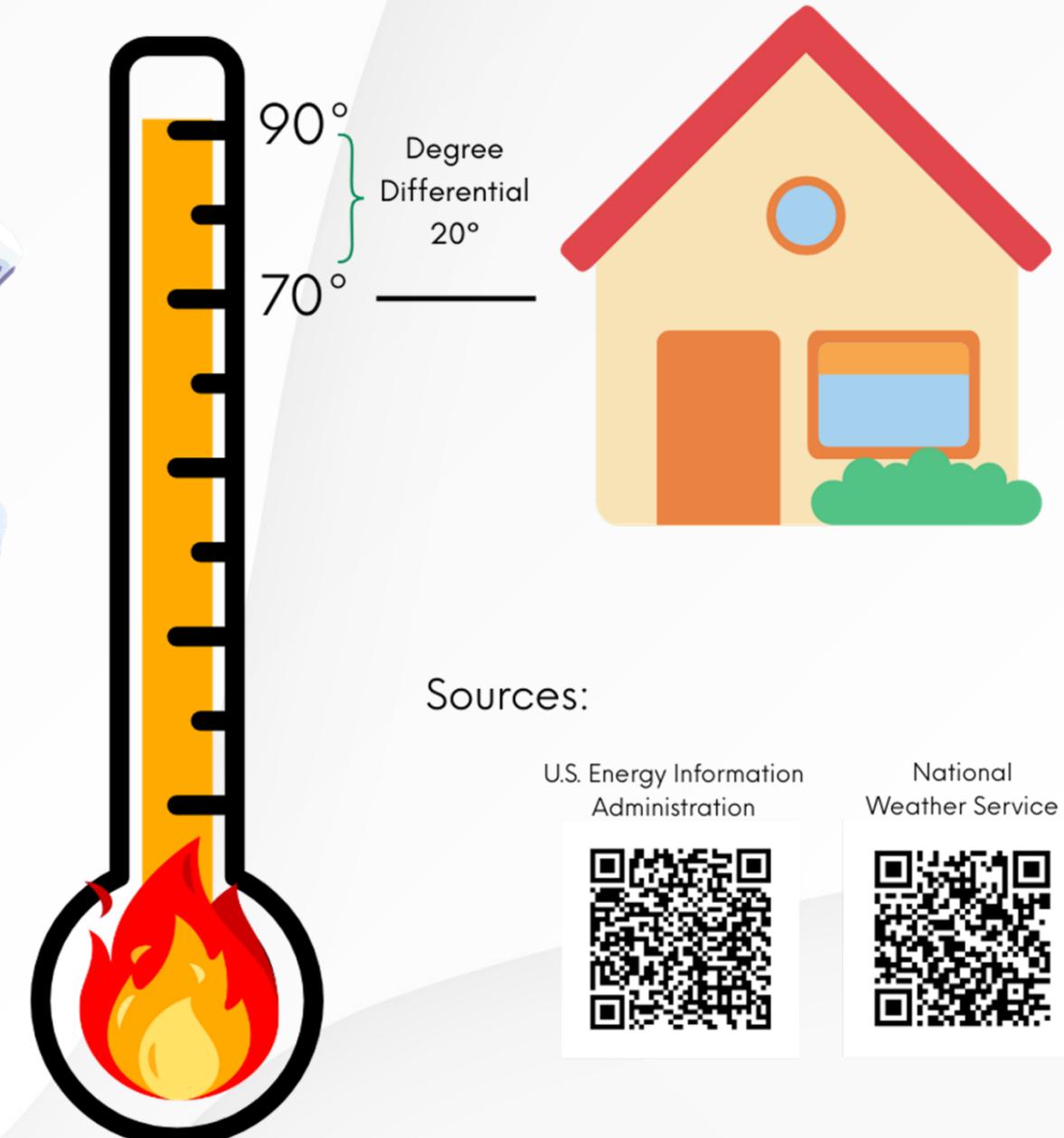
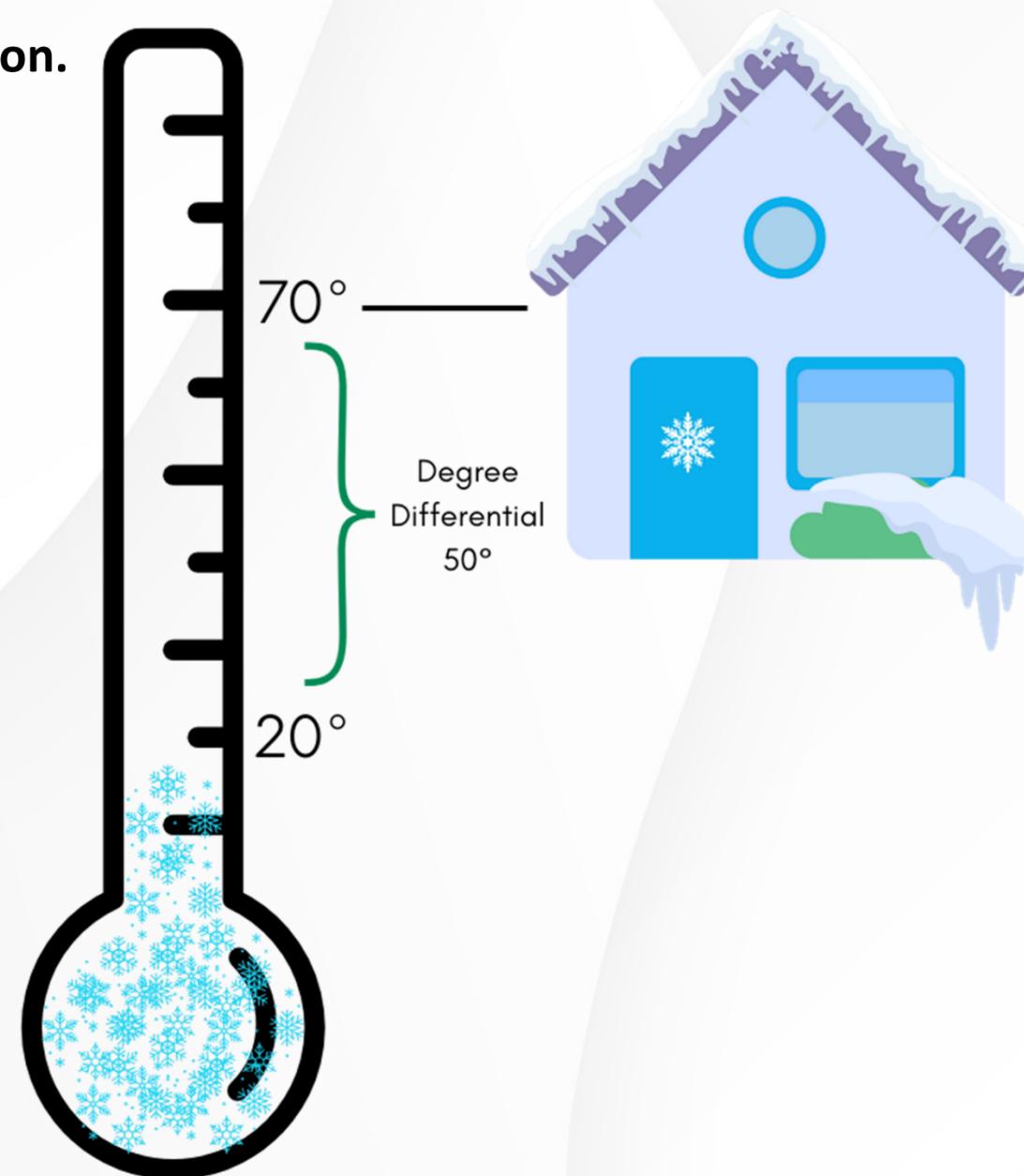
- Degree Differential

- Energy Vampires

- Cable and Satellite Boxes
- Smart TVs
- Gaming Consoles
- Computers and Monitors
- Smart Speakers
- Kitchen appliances with displays
- Plugged-in chargers, even with no device connected

- Warning Sign of Appliances Going Bad or being Overtaxed

- Emergency Heat Strips
- Old Refrigerators / Freezers
- Well Pumps



Sources:

U.S. Energy Information Administration



National Weather Service



Efficiency Programs

Question: How can I lower my usage?

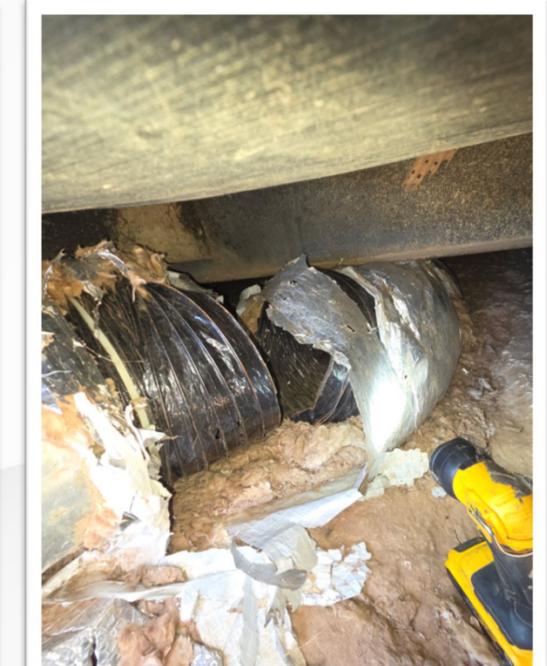
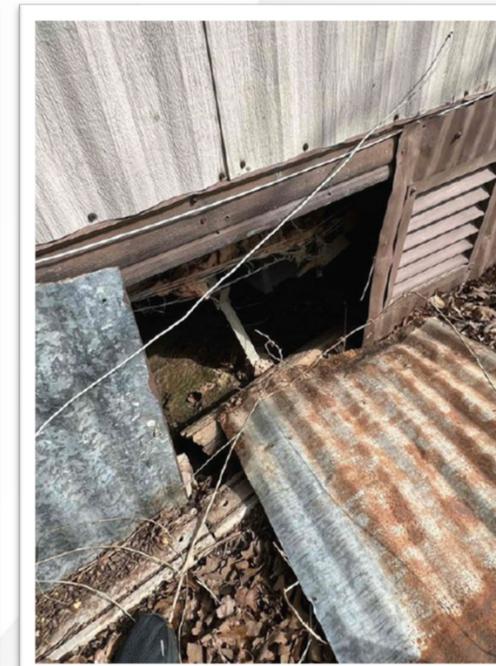
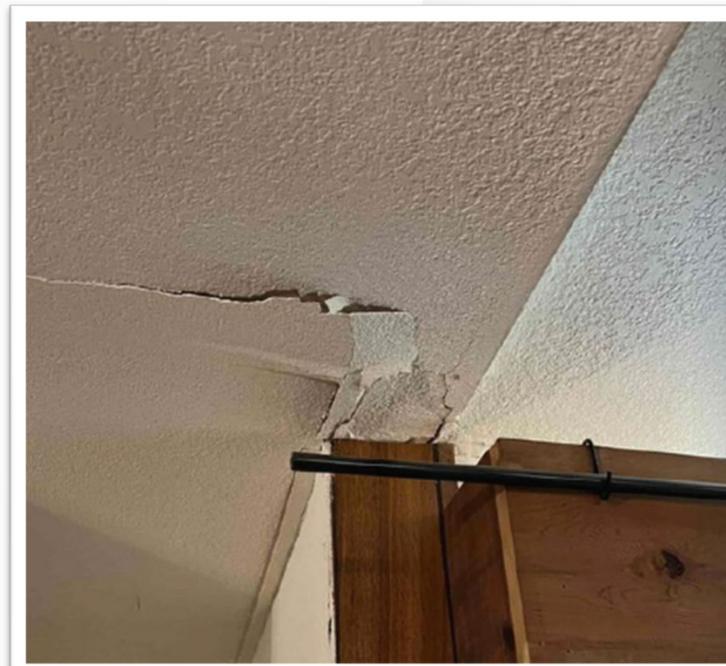
- **Energy Audit**

- Insulation testing
- Duct condition testing
- Awareness of hidden draft penetrations
- Blower door testing
- A detailed report highlighting areas in greatest need of attention
- A prioritized list of improvements based on estimated energy savings payback
- And the ability to take advantage of our Home Energy Audit Weatherization rebate.



- **Rebates**

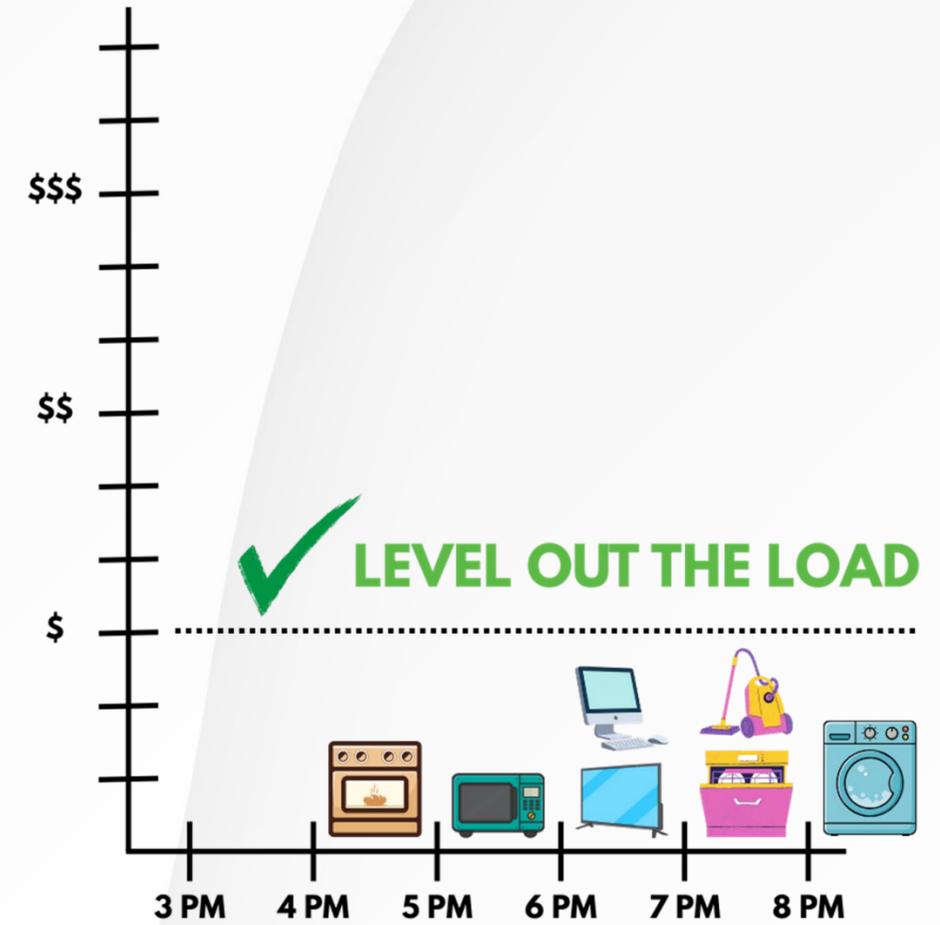
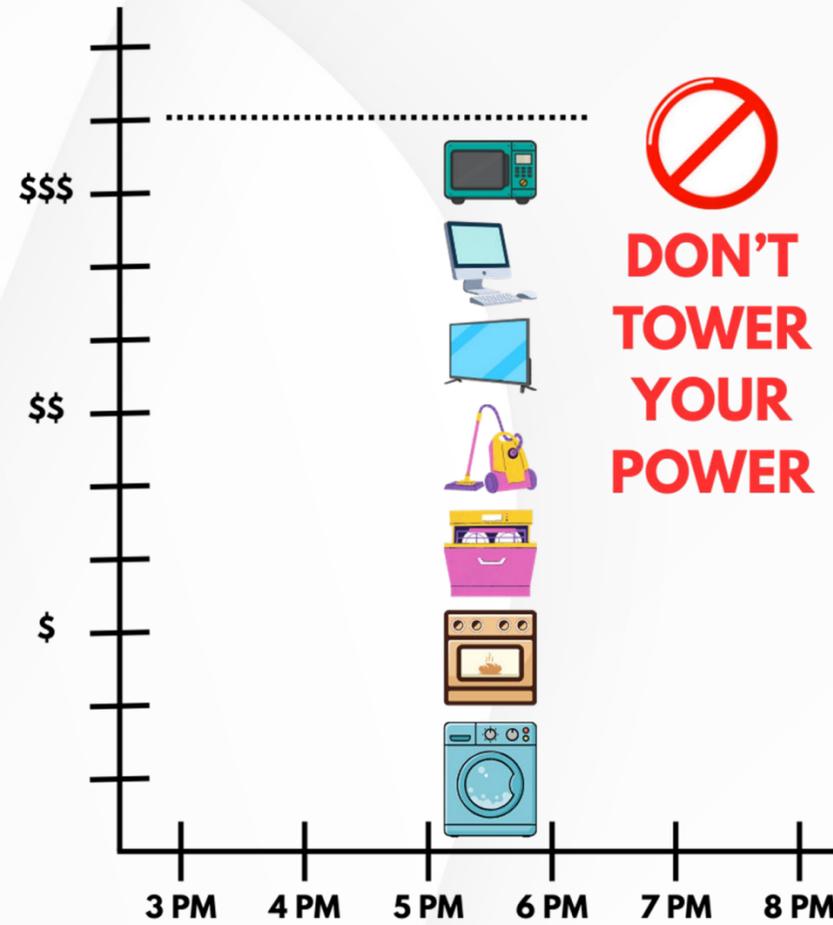
- Duel Fuel Air Source Heat Pumps
- Ducted Mini Split Heat Pumps
- Ductless Mini Split Heat Pumps
- Ground Source Heat Pumps
- Energy Star Advanced Programmable Thermostat
- Energy Star Rated Heat Pump Water Heaters
- Level 2 Electric Vehicle Charging Stations
- Home Energy Audit Weatherization



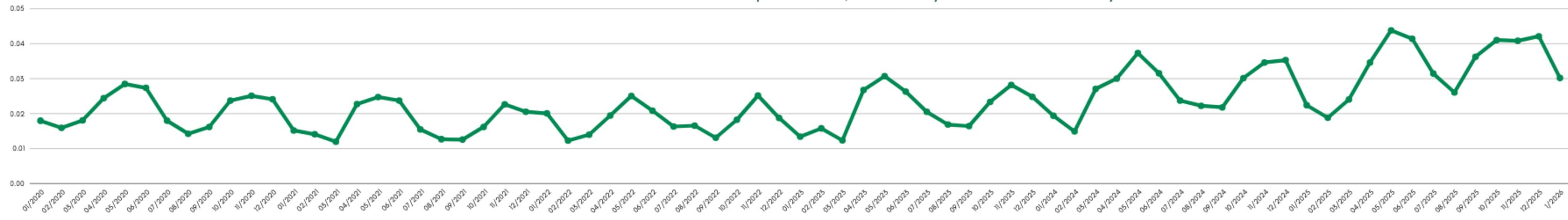
Financial Stewardship Matters

Question: Can we implement caps or levelize cost adjustments?

- Despite rising demand, each of us can play a part.
- This directly effects our power cost



Fluctuation in the Power Cost Adjustment, January 2020 - January 2026

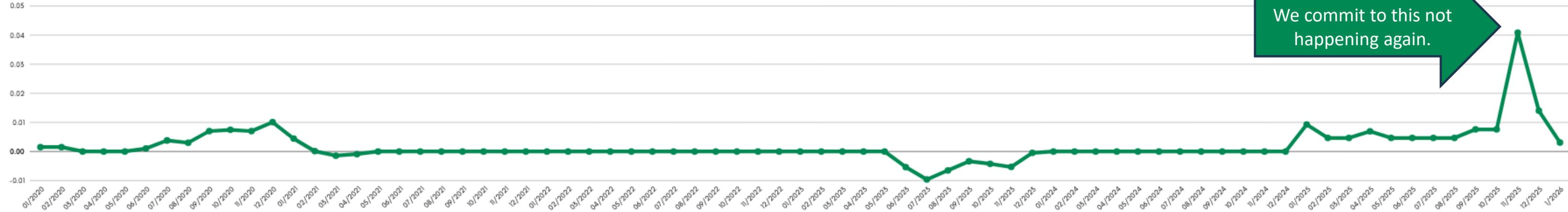


Financial Stewardship Matters



Question: Can I, as a member, invite my own auditor and view contractor bids?

Fluctuation in the Consumer Cost Adjustment, January 2020 - January 2026



We commit to this not happening again.

We were charging a CCA in 2020.

The CCA was 0 for two years.

The CCA was used to return \$2 Million to members in 2023.

The CCA was 0 for one year.

We began charging a CCA again in January 2025, up to 4 cents per kWh in November 2025.

- **RUS Certified Auditors selected through bid process every 3 years.**
 Certified Public Accountants must meet the qualifications outlined by the Rural Utilities Services branch of the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 7 CFR 1773.5 and be approved by RUS.
- **Contractor bidding through a sealed-bid process every 3 years.**

Source:
Auditors' Letters

Going Forward



- **Goal – Stability Over Time, not short-term fixes**
- **Oversight comes from multiple layers: employees, management, a member-elected board, and you as member-owners**
- **Cost of Service Study being performed now by a third-party rate consultant.**

What we can influence

State and federal energy regulations

G&T decision making

What we can control

Planning

Transparency

Reliability