



**Sumner-Cowley  
Electric Co-op., Inc.**

*Building on our past. Lighting the way to the future.*

P.O. Box 220, Wellington, KS 67152  
888-326-3356  
[www.sucocoop.com](http://www.sucocoop.com)

**SUMNER-COWLEY  
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

# NEWS FROM THE **WHEAT CAPITAL**

## **SUMNER-COWLEY ELECTRIC CO-OP, INC.**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**John Schon**

President, District 7

**Keith Leddy**

Vice President, District 4

**Jeff Swanson**

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**John Beard**

Director, District 3

**Craig Knudsen**

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**Jim McMullin**

Director, District 5

**Gabe Schlickau**

Director, District 6

### **STAFF**

**Coni Adams**

CEO

**Jordan Creed**

Director of Operations

**Stacy Wiley**

Director of Finance

**Casha Short**

Member Engagement and  
Creative Services

## **LIKE US ON FACEBOOK**

Join us on Facebook for updates from Sumner-Cowley Electric. Simply search for Sumner-Cowley Electric Cooperative and click the "like" button.



## **FROM THE CEO**

# **Balancing Electricity Supply and Demand**

Electricity is essential for nearly every aspect of daily life — so essential that we rarely think about how it's produced and delivered to our homes. You might be surprised to learn that behind the scenes, a network of experts is working daily (and even by the minute) to anticipate how much electricity you need before you even use it.

We're all connected to the electric grid, so ensuring the right amount of electricity for all involves a complex process of forecasting energy demand, planning for capacity and securing enough supply to meet Americans' needs.

## **POWERFUL SOURCES**

First, electricity must be generated at a power plant using either traditional sources, such as coal, natural gas or nuclear energy, or from renewable sources, such as solar, wind or hydropower.

At Sumner-Cowley Electric Cooperative, we work closely with Kansas Electric Power Cooperative, our local wholesale power partner, to secure enough electricity for our distribution system, using a diverse mix of energy sources to generate the power we deliver to your home or business.

By maintaining a diverse energy mix — nuclear, coal, natural gas, wind, solar (in partnership with Today's Power) and hydropower — Sumner-Cowley has options to ensure reliable power at a competitive cost.

On a larger scale, across the country, electricity supply and demand are managed through a market that includes long-term planning agreements, where electricity is bought and sold just like other common goods and services. Because Sumner-Cowley works with our wholesale power partner, which is also a cooperative, we are able to pool resources and expertise to deliver affordable power to our local communities.

Electricity supply changes throughout the day because demand fluctuates based on consumers' needs. For example, Sumner-Cowley Electric knows that we need to ensure more electricity in the mornings when you're starting your day, and in the evenings when you're cooking dinner, running appliances and watching TV. Demand also increases when weather patterns change, such as extremely warm or cold temperatures.



**Coni Adams**

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## LOOK FOR THE KANSAS COUNTRY LIVING READERSHIP SURVEY IN YOUR EMAIL!

Kansas Country Living  
has engaged

INSIDE  
INFORMATION.

a research and data analytics company in Smithville, Missouri, to oversee a readership survey beginning this month. The short, 21-question survey will be conducted through email and will help *Kansas Country Living* — the official communication channel for your electric cooperative — measure reader engagement and perceptions about the publication and your electric cooperative's local pages.

The magazine is the most cost-effective way to share essential business information with our consumer-members, along with articles about legislative and regulatory issues potentially affecting our rural way of life, cooperative youth programs, outage and construction activities, features highlighting the great state in which we live, safe electricity tips for around the farm and home, plus ways to use electricity wisely. By law, some of this information must be received by members and verified, and the magazine fulfills that requirement in the most cost-effective way possible.

If you are one of the lucky randomly selected readers to receive the survey, the email will come from

[SURVEY@KANSASCOUNTRYLIVING.COM](mailto:SURVEY@KANSASCOUNTRYLIVING.COM)

and the email headline will clearly indicate it is a survey from *Kansas Country Living* magazine.

**When you complete the survey,  
you will be entered into a drawing for  
ONE OF 15 \$25 GIFT CARDS  
as our thank you for helping us keep  
you informed of co-op-related matters  
as an owner of**

**SUMNER-COWLEY  
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# Balancing Electricity Supply and Demand

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## MANAGING SUPPLY AND DEMAND ACROSS THE GRID

Across the country, other electric utilities are managing the same task of balancing supply and demand, which is why we have a larger network of key players in place to ensure enough power is delivered across the grid.

In most cases, the amount of electricity generated and how much is sent to specific areas are coordinated and monitored by regional transmission organizations (RTOs) and independent system operators (ISOs). In Kansas, our RTO is the Southwest Power Pool, the monitor for our 14-state region. In other areas, individual electric utilities perform these tasks.

RTOs, ISOs and electric utilities act as air traffic controllers for the electric grid. They forecast when you, your neighbors and communities across a large region will need more power. These organizations take measured steps to ensure there's enough supply to meet demand.

## LOOKING AHEAD

As the energy sector undergoes rapid change, it's important for all consumers to understand the basics of electricity supply and demand.

Electricity use in the U.S. is expected to rise to record highs this year and next, with the demand for electricity expected to at least double by 2050. At the same time, energy policies are pushing the early retirement of always-available generation sources, which will undoubtedly compromise reliable electricity.

Your cooperative remains committed to providing affordable, reliable energy to the members we serve. That's why we are preparing now for increased demand and other challenges that could compromise our local electric supply.

Managing the balancing act of electricity supply and demand is a complex job, which is why we have a network of utilities, power plant operators and energy traffic managers in place to direct the electricity we need and keep the electric grid balanced.

**COOPERATIVELY YOURS,  
CONI ADAMS, CEO**

## A BALANCING ACT: ELECTRICITY SUPPLY AND DEMAND

Behind the scenes, a network of people and facilities work together to ensure you have electricity when you flip the switch.

### FACTORS THAT IMPACT ELECTRICITY SUPPLY AND DEMAND

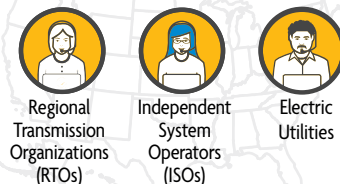
- ▶ Demand Surges
- ▶ Extreme Temperatures
- ▶ Infrastructure Costs and Availability
- ▶ Supply Chain Challenges
- ▶ Fuel Costs
- ▶ Federal and State Regulations



Electricity is generated at a power plant, then sent across the grid to homes, schools and businesses.

The amount of electricity generated and how much is sent to where it's needed are typically coordinated and monitored by regional grid operators.

### REGIONAL GRID OPERATORS



As electricity demand varies throughout the day, grid operators, power plant operators and electric utilities work to forecast, plan and purchase enough electricity for everyone.

Ensuring communities have the exact amount of electricity they need is a challenging task, but a network of industry experts make it happen every day.







# Share Your Feedback: Participate in Our Annual ACSI Survey

It's that time of year! We are excited to open our annual American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI) survey, and we want to hear from you! Your feedback is incredibly important to us as we continuously strive to improve our services and better meet your needs. The survey is brief and anonymous, but your input will make a significant impact in helping us enhance the experience for all of our members.

We value your perspective and encourage you to visit our website at [www.sucocoop.com](http://www.sucocoop.com) to participate. Your responses will provide valuable insights that will help shape the future of SCEC. Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with us!

Touchstone Energy<sup>®</sup>  
Cooperatives

**LEARN MORE**  
SUCOCOOP.COM/MORNINGS-MEMBERS


**MORNINGS WITH MEMBERS**  
Sumner-Cowley Electric Co-op., Inc.  
*Building on our past. Lighting the way to the future.*

**DATES & LOCATIONS**

RELEASING ON OUR WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK



CONTACT CASHA SHORT FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO GIVE YOUR SUGGESTIONS!  
888-326-3356 CASHAS@SUCOCOOP.COM



SCEC is excited to support your educational journey and help you achieve your goals through scholarships. This is your chance to invest in a brighter tomorrow —apply now and take the first step toward success!

**February 10 DEADLINE!**

**JUNIORS** **SENIORS**




Sumner-Cowley is proud to offer this incredible ALL-EXPENSES-PAID-opportunity to TWO HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS, whose parents/guardians are SCEC members! The Electric Cooperative Youth Tour and Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp are designed for high school juniors to develop their leadership skills and explore the power of cooperatives. This trip of a lifetime will connect you with peers from across the nation, inspire your future, and empower you to become a leader in your community. Don't miss the chance to discover your potential and make lasting memories!

**January 31 DEADLINE!**

## SHAPE THE FUTURE OF YOUR COOPERATIVE

# RUN FOR THE BOARD

Nominations are now open for trustee elections in Districts 1, 2 and 5 set for 2025. Submit your petition by Jan. 31, 2025, to run for a position on the SCEC Board of Directors.

Joining the board allows you to make a meaningful impact in your community, using your unique skills to influence important decisions. We're looking for passionate individuals who are eager to serve and represent the diverse members of our cooperative. You don't need to be an expert in electricity or business — just a dedication to rural Kansas and a willingness to learn.

The board meets monthly and provides training to help members make informed decisions on key issues, including the electric utility industry, cooperative business models, and local development. While staff manages daily operations, the board focuses on policies and strategies that ensure the cooperative's success.

**TO RUN, SUBMIT A PETITION SIGNED BY AT LEAST FIVE MEMBERS FROM YOUR DISTRICT TO CEO CONI ADAMS BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND JAN. 31, 2025. DOWNLOAD THE PETITION AT [HTTPS://SUCOCOOP.COM/BOARD-APPLICATION-PETITION](https://sucocoop.com/board-application-petition).**

For more information about the election process, visit [www.sucocoop.com](http://www.sucocoop.com), or contact Casha Short at 888-326-3356 or [cashas@sucocoop.com](mailto:cashas@sucocoop.com).

## SCEC Employee Spotlight

This month, we recognize **DANNY CLARK**, our systems operator and director of safety, on his first year of employment with SCEC. With nearly 20 years of experience as a lineman, Danny made the transition to the cooperative world just over a year ago, and has already made a significant impact.

Danny brings many outstanding qualities to our team, but what stands out most is his admirable work ethic and attention to detail. He often recalls the advice his dad gave him: "If there is something you want, go get it."

This motto resonates with him in everything he does, whether it's conducting substation checks or preparing the boat for a fun family weekend at the lake. No matter the task, Danny ensures that everything is safe, functioning well and ready to handle whatever comes its way.

When he's not at work, Danny makes

family time a top priority. He and his wife, Jordyn, are busy raising three energetic boys. Whether it's coaching, fishing, hunting or working on their forever home, Danny is always on the move and fully embracing the joys of life.

When asked about his favorite part of the cooperative world, Danny shared, "I find purpose in being a part of building and maintaining something that people all around us use and need."

His selfless mindset and dedication to the membership are qualities that we at SCEC are incredibly fortunate to have. We look forward to many more years of Danny's leadership and dedication, both to our team and the members we serve.



Danny Clark

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Taking steps to help your home heating system run more efficiently can reduce energy use and lower your bills. Check to see if any air vents around your home are blocked by furniture, curtains or other items. Obstructed vents force your heating system to work harder than necessary and can increase pressure in the ductwork, causing cracks and leaks to form. If necessary, consider purchasing a vent extender, which can be placed over a vent to redirect air flow from underneath furniture or other obstructions. **SOURCE: ENERGY.GOV**



## TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS

Never make a utility bill payment to anyone calling you on the phone, texting you or emailing you. Always call your utility company at the number provided on your bill or on the utility's website if you have a question about payment or billing information. Know your utility bill payment options — online, by phone, automatic bank draft, mail or in person.

SOURCE: UTILITIES UNITED AGAINST SCAMS

