

PowerLines

YOUR CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE NEWS CONNECTION

Central Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy[®] Cooperative



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Solar Generation and the Distribution System

BY MATT BOSHAW
CEO & General Manager

At this year's CEC Annual Meeting of the Members, I addressed several questions about solar generation facilities in our service territory. A subsequent discussion on this topic in our boardroom led to a suggestion that we continue making efforts to educate the membership on the subject, as there can be conflicting information circulating.

As a distribution cooperative, we are generation agnostic. What I mean by that is CEC does not own any generation assets directly. We receive all services related to generation and transmission supply from our generation and transmission cooperative, Allegheny Electric Cooperative. Our role is to operate and maintain the distribution electric system and secure transmission and generation services that supply power to our system to meet your needs. To further explain generation, generator assets are not all the same regarding their efficacy in serving load efficiently.

For example, conservatively speaking, if we wanted to replace 100 MW of natural gas generation approximately 400-700 MW of solar generation and batteries would be required but this is a topic for another article.

The purpose of this article is to describe the two types of solar generating facilities in our service territory and their impact on our system and our membership. The first type is what we would call a net-metering facility. A net-metering facility is any qualifying generator, typically solar, that a member installs on their side of the meter. These installations are typically sized to meet the load demands of the individual member and are restricted in size by equipment capabilities and CEC policy. The member utilizes the output from the generator to serve their needs and any amount remaining is pushed out to the system through our meter. The member receives a credit for the power put into the system equivalent to the avoided cost of power that would have had to be purchased by CEC. Since the member is connected to our system, CEC continues to supply power when their generator does not meet their energy needs. When CEC has a power

Continued on page 2

outage, the member generator is isolated from the system and can serve the member's needs as would any other backup generator.

The second type of solar generating facility is often referred to as a solar farm. These facilities are larger, utility scale generators that do not serve load directly as net-metering facilities do. These facilities connect directly to the larger electric grid either through our distribution lines or more likely through a larger capacity transmission line. The output from these facilities is sold in the generation marketplace and does not serve homes and businesses in the area. If these facilities reside within our service territory, CEC supplies their station power needs and as a result the operators would be a CEC member like any other business. Our relationship with them is limited to serving their load and not purchasing the output of the generator. If the interconnection point is through our system, a fee would be charged for using our system to access the grid. Otherwise, CEC would not be involved with the output from the generator.

Unlike the net-metering facility, which is isolated from the grid and serves individual members, these large systems do not and cannot operate independently. It is important to recognize that when there is an outage on CEC's system, this output does not serve local load. This misunderstanding is one that we discuss with members and communities that are considering the installation of a large solar facility regularly. The topic of defined service territory can add a layer of complexity to the utility scale, solar facility discussion. As I mentioned, if a solar farm is located within CEC's service territory, we serve their retail service requirements. However, the output from the generator could utilize CEC facilities, another utility's facilities, or even the generator's own facilities to interconnect to the grid.

CEC policies and procedures allow our membership to participate in individual or utility-sized solar generating facilities, while protecting our membership from any undue costs or risks. As I stated earlier, and in previous

articles, CEC is committed to supplying safe, reliable, and affordable electricity to our members and we are generation agnostic. All fuel sources for electric generation have pros and cons and each generator has uses that suit them best. Given the growing demand for electricity, we need to incorporate any and all generation resources into the mix.

This can be a complex topic, but hopefully, this brief description helps with your understanding of the two types of solar generating facilities that CEC has the most interaction with and the impact that each has on our membership.



Our commitment goes beyond power lines.

That's the cooperative difference.



**Central Electric
Cooperative**

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Matthew P. Boshaw	<i>CEO & General Manager</i>
Chester Conti	<i>Director of Finance and Accounting/CFO</i>
Lisa A. Hoover	<i>Director of Member Services</i>
Christopher W. Kossman	<i>Director of Information Technology</i>
Fred E. Terwilliger	<i>Assistant General Manager/COO</i>

Make a Difference, Join the MAAC!

Are you interested in serving on a respected committee and sharing your ideas with CEC employees and members? Then the Member Aware Advisory Committee (MAAC) is the perfect opportunity for you!

CEC is currently looking for members to serve on the 2026-2027 MAAC committee. The committee establishes effective communication between cooperative members, the board of directors and management.

As a MAAC member, you have the chance to discuss and contribute your ideas on issues concerning members, as well as submit recommendations to the board of directors and management on improving services and procedures. The MAAC will meet eight times (once a quarter) during the 2026-2027 term.

CEC will select representatives from the following counties: Armstrong, Butler, Clarion, Forest and Venango. In keeping with the co-op's bylaws, Allegheny County members shall be affiliated with Butler County and Mercer County members with Venango County.

MAAC members must be residential members with their permanent residence on CEC lines in the county they

represent. In addition to residential members, the committee will also include a seasonal representative who has a seasonal account on CEC lines.

All interested members must be in good standing with the cooperative to be considered. The board of directors will appoint members if there are no volunteers for a specific county. MAAC members receive a per diem and mileage compensation for attending each meeting.

CEC would like to recognize the 2024-2025 MAAC members for their dedication and outstanding efforts. They are: Brian Opitz, Susan Daniels, and Timothy Edmonds of Butler County; Samuel and Kimberly Wagner of Forest County; Robert Best and Dennis and Deb Meals of Clarion County; Debra Ehrhart of Venango County.

If you are interested, please complete the coupon below and send it to: Central Electric Cooperative, MAAC Committee, P.O. Box 329, Parker, PA 16049. If you would like to learn more or submit a form online, scan the QR code!



Member Aware Advisory Committee

I would like to volunteer to serve on the 2026-2027 MAAC Committee

Name(s): _____ Residential or Seasonal (circle one)

Account #: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

County: _____ Email: _____

Coupons must be returned by Dec. 5. If you have any questions, please call 800-521-0570.

Deck the Halls for CEC's Christmas Lights Contest!

Show off your holiday spirit and you could win the CEC Christmas Lights Contest! **First Place (the Griswold Award) will receive a \$500 bill credit and \$500 donation to a charity of their choice. Second place will receive a \$250 bill credit and third a \$100 bill credit!**

The contest is open to both residential and commercial CEC members. There are no specific themes or guidelines, just showcase your creativity and festivity!

www.central.coop



Members must complete the registration form on CEC's website and attach a photo or video of their display before Dec. 7 to enter.

Voting is open to all and will take place on the website from Dec. 9 to Dec. 19. The winners will be announced on CEC's website on Dec. 22 and in February's Power Lines newsletter.

Visit www.central.coop for additional contest details!

Halloween Safety

by Grant Potsabay, Administrator of Safety and Loss Control

As Halloween approaches, our neighborhoods come alive with costumes, candy, and people getting into the spirit of the holiday. Trick-or-treating is an all time favorite with excited kids going from door to door. It's easy to overlook safety amongst all the festivities, but practicing safe choices is equally as important. Central Electric Cooperatives wants everyone to have a safe and enjoyable Halloween. That's why we've put together a few essentials tips to keep your little ghouls and goblins safe while they're out trick-or-treating.

Trick-or-Treating SAFETY TIPS

1. Have children travel in groups or with a trusted adult.
2. Stay on sidewalks and crosswalks. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far left as possible.
3. Have children wear bright, or reflective costumes.
4. Use flashlights or glow sticks to stay visible.
5. Never enter a stranger's home or vehicle.
6. Inspect all treats before eating and watch for allergens.
7. Set a curfew for older kids and review their route.



SOURCES: Children's Health, Safe Kids Worldwide



Role: General Utility Worker
Employee Since: 2021

Employee Spotlight: Dave McGregor



What do you do at CEC? Building and facility maintenance.



What do you enjoy most about working at CEC? Something new everyday.



Do you have a favorite family tradition? For many years now, my wife and I have hosted Thanksgiving Dinner with the whole family.



What's the most memorable trip you've ever been on? Went to Alaska for the Army and really enjoyed it other than I didn't have my beautiful wife with me.



What is one thing on your bucket list? Visit Scotland.

Co-op History and How We Hold the Same Values

by Izzy Cellucci, Communication Representative

What does a phone, your morning coffee, and a water pump have in common? They all need electricity! For millions of rural Pennsylvanians in the 1930s, the thought of living with electricity seemed impossible. Farmers did all their work with muscle power while the power of electricity could change their way of life for the better. This desire for change sparked a movement. A movement that was built without the help of corporations, but, instead, by farmers, neighbors, and people who believe in the power of community.

On July 12, 1937, CEC's five founders met at their attorney's office in Kittanning and signed the official incorporation notice for CEC — originally called Central Pennsylvania Rural Electric Cooperative Company, changed to Central Electric Cooperative in 1938. This began the mission to provide reliable and reasonably priced electricity to our rural area.

CEC, with its rich history, couldn't be where it is today without its core values: honesty and integrity; commitment and initiative; accountability and dedication; and professionalism and reliability. Amongst all the uncertainty in the electrical distribution industry today, we continue to rely on these values to help the cooperative navigate towards a better tomorrow.

Past Annual Reports and strategic plans reflect our ongoing commitment to cooperation and community.

2024's report, that can be found on our website at central.coop/powerlines, highlights progress in areas such as quality of service, and system improvement. Our 2025-2027 Strategic Plan outlines goals focused on safety, reliability, cost control and the communities we serve. These initiatives are made to align our resources

with CEC's mission and vision, demonstrating how these values are at the center of nearly everything we do and have done.

CEC remains committed to transparency and member engagement as we work toward our strategic goals. We prioritize open communication through mail, email, SmartHub, and direct contact during business hours. This commitment was recently seen at our 88th Annual Business Meeting, where members expressed their concerns and feedback directly with our CEO and General Manager, and Board of Directors. The Annual Meeting has been held every August since its start in 1939, in Parker, Pa.

Cooperatives were built by members, for members and this is still the case now as capital credit reflects each member's ownership in the cooperative. Any margins or revenues related to the sale of electric service, remaining after all expenses have been paid, are returned to the cooperative's members in proportion to their electrical use. Over the years, CEC has returned a total of 35.7 million dollars in capital credit payments to both current and past cooperative member-owners. Since the beginning of Central Electric Cooperative in 1937, members have shared in the financial success of the co-op.

Today, cooperatives serve 42 million people and power over 22 million businesses, homes, schools, and farms in 48 states which is about 56% of American landscape. The cooperative vision began with the same values that continue to guide Central Electric Cooperative, driving its commitment to community and shared success.

Sources:

<https://www.electric.coop/electric-cooperative-fact-sheet>
CEC Celebrates 85 Years | Central Electric Cooperative





Rebate Updates

by Connie Long, Member Energy Specialist

As the Member Energy Specialist, part of my job is to educate and help you, our members, when it comes to energy usage and a few programs we offer. We try to make members aware of CEC's available programs but sometimes there are still members missing out on the opportunities. I recommend always reading our Power Lines newsletter as it is filled with useful information. If you find it helpful, you should recommend it to your neighbors, friends and family too. Without going into too much detail let's highlight some of the programs CEC offers you as a member and see how much you have learned from me over the years, or maybe even learn something new.

First on our list and usually the most popular is the GenerLink. The GenerLink is a device we offer to our members, at a cost, that allows you to use a portable generator safely, for both you and lineman, while connected. We also have a whole home surge protector that can be installed, at a cost, behind your electric meter, helping protect your home from any potential surges. Are you aware, as a member of CEC, you can get a 50-gallon

hot water heater installed for a lower price using rebates? CEC requires water heaters to be connected to a demand response unit, which is installed by a professional contractor through CEC.

CEC offers many rebates for Energy Star products. As of September 1, 2025, we updated our list of rebates and the time limit for submitting your application to better serve you. CEC offers rebates for certain products including:

- heat pump systems
- refrigerators
- electric dryers
- electric stoves
- level 2 Electric Vehicle chargers
- dehumidifiers
- smart thermostats

Members can submit a rebate application online or through the mail within 90 days of purchasing a qualifying item. For full details on eligibility and requirements, please visit our website or request a printed application to be mailed to you.

If you have not done so already, take a moment to check out our website — it is full of useful information and remember to continue reading our monthly newsletter for the latest updates!

CEC's 2025 Annual Meeting Recap

On August 6th, 2025, Central Electric Cooperative, CEC, held the 88th Annual Meeting of the Members at A-C Valley Elementary School at 6:00 p.m.

118 members and their guests attended the meeting. Members who attended the meeting spoke with CEC's board of directors, management team, and staff, and learned of the official election results.

Before the meeting commenced, members enjoyed refreshments and took the opportunity to interact with staff at the education center. CEC provided members with information on the GenerLink transfer switch, energy efficiency tips, solar power, CEC safety programs, and America's Electric Cooperatives PAC.

During the meeting, it was confirmed that incumbent director Jody Weaver, Clarion County Representative, was re-elected and Dana Kellogg, Venango County Representative, was elected to CEC's Board of Directors.

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All members in attendance received a \$15 bill credit and were entered to win door prizes. Prizes included \$250, \$100, and \$50 Visa gift cards.

For the members not in attendance, a video recording of the 88th Annual Meeting is provided at www.central.coop/CEC-annual-meeting. Thank you to everyone who attended the 88th Annual Meeting. We look forward to seeing you, our members, again in 2026.



Directors Dana Kellogg (left) and Jody Weaver (right).





Co-op Month Word Search

Did you know **October is National Co-op Month**?

Read the following facts to learn how co-ops are unique, then find and circle the **bolded** words in the puzzle.

B	T	A	M	L	J	S	T	K	S	N	B	M	T	M
S	R	G	T	A	C	F	V	E	S	I	S	U	J	P
Z	Q	Z	M	M	V	G	L	K	E	F	U	F	A	J
Q	R	F	R	M	N	P	C	W	I	Z	N	G	K	K
L	A	E	Q	B	I	N	P	C	T	N	V	K	T	W
H	K	V	H	C	X	I	C	B	I	H	Y	S	I	S
X	S	O	N	T	C	W	B	L	N	E	F	D	U	F
P	Z	I	M	R	E	R	I	W	U	L	H	F	K	I
C	R	C	Y	E	X	G	T	H	M	O	B	M	G	B
P	A	D	O	U	M	D	O	Z	M	C	J	W	Y	T
A	A	T	U	V	Z	B	X	T	O	A	Q	J	B	X
I	F	D	H	F	O	S	E	N	C	L	W	O	J	V
L	U	P	C	O	O	P	E	R	A	T	I	V	E	F
F	F	C	N	K	B	S	I	I	S	Q	D	S	U	Y
A	X	S	Y	X	Y	B	P	G	G	B	M	D	P	D

Fun Facts about Co-ops:

- Co-ops and their members work **together** toward a common goal.
- Co-ops are local organizations, so they understand the **communities** they serve.
- All co-ops operate according to the same set of seven cooperative **principles**.
- Concern for community is the seventh **cooperative** principle.
- Co-ops don't serve customers; instead, they serve **members**.
- Co-ops are led by the **local** members they serve.

From the Kitchen of:
Raven Graff



RECIPE: PEANUT BUTTER PIE

INGREDIENTS:

8 oz. cream cheese (room temperature)

3/4 c. sugar

3/4 c. marshmallow creme

1 tsp. vanilla

1 tsp. butter (softened)

1 c. peanut butter

8 oz. cool whip

1 prepared graham cracker crust

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Mix 6 ingredients together well, and fold in cool whip.
2. Pour into pie crust and refrigerate overnight. Enjoy!

Send your own recipe to:

Izzy Cellucci; icellucci@central.coop or mail to P.O. Box 329, Parker, PA 16049



Central Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy* Cooperative



Your Board of Directors

From left (back row): Kenneth Durrett, Vice President, Butler County; Jared McFarland, Forest County; Robert Smith, Butler County; Jody Weaver, President, Clarion County; **(front)** Richard Weaver, Clarion County; Nancy Lendyak, Armstrong County; Dana Kellogg, Venango County; Althea Smith, Secretary/Treasurer, Venango County.



central.coop/meet-your-directors

MISSION: CEC safely provides reliable and competitively priced electricity to our consumer-members and was established by and is committed to the communities we serve.

716 Route 368, P.O. Box 329, Parker PA 16049

Member Services: 800-521-0570

Outages: 800-282-8610

Newsletter Editor: Izzy Cellucci

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



ON THE GO AND IN CONTROL.

MANAGE

your account

REPORT

service issues

VIEW AND PAY

your bill

RECEIVE

key notices

MONITOR

usage 24/7

*...all in the palm of your
hand and online.*



Missed an issue?

Catch up at www.central.coop

Read past issues of Power Lines and
stay up to date on CEC news.

