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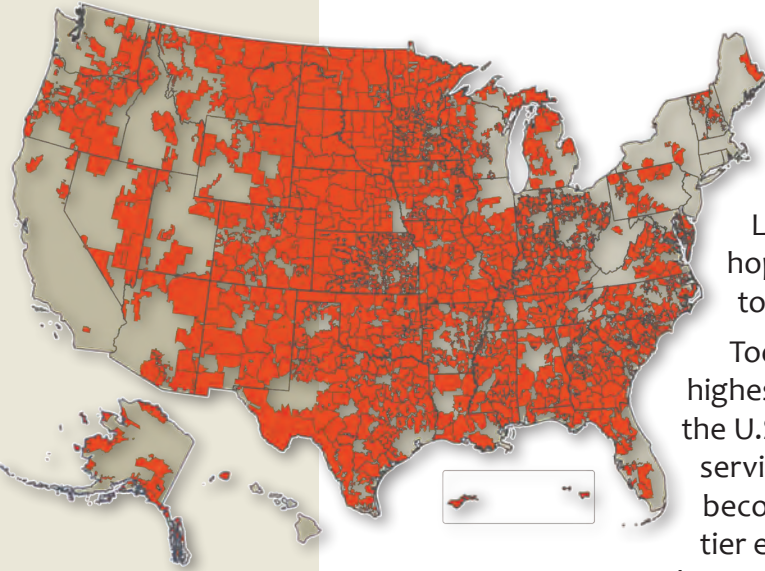
MEMBER NEWSLETTER OF CENTRAL VIRGINIA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

September 2015

"Improving the quality of your life in a quietly impressive way."

Volume 24, Number 3

TOP-TIER COOPERATIVE



Member-owned electric cooperatives serve about 75% of the land area in the U.S. and have been called one of the greatest self-help projects ever.

(Electric co-op territories are designated in red on map.)

Located in geographic areas where there was little to no hope of receiving electric service, people banded together to form their own electric utility, starting in the early 1900's.

Today, cooperatives enjoy some of the highest consumer satisfaction ratings in the U.S. compared to other businesses and service providers. CVEC has set a goal to become one of the best of the best, a top-tier electric cooperative. This will require that members find that CVEC works to keep

rates as low as possible and has a plan to have the highest reliability. Put simply, do member-owners find that their cooperative is a good value and has their best interest in mind?

Over the past five years, CVEC has been reducing average outage minutes per member and has a plan to keep moving on that path. You can help with that effort. Send us a photo of

a "danger tree" growing outside of the CVEC maintained right-of-way and its location. We can pay it a visit and take it down before a storm knocks it into one of our distribution lines.

During the same time, CVEC has made a transition in how it buys power, from a low-cost, long term wholesale energy contract, to a wholesale market dominated by traders and investments bankers, as well as a transmission organization that has shifted costs away from the big power generation companies to utility customers and cooperative members.



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TOP-TIER COOPERATIVE

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CVEC has responded by building a power portfolio that features 20+ different contracts and power sources with varying fuels and durations. This portfolio provides the lowest, most stable source of power to cooperative members from a wholesale energy market structured to benefit the wealthy and powerful.

Despite all of the challenges facing rural utilities, the cost of electric energy has barely doubled since 1937. Today, electricity is more important than ever, powering the comfort of heat in the winter and air conditioning in the summer, as well as all of the appliances and gadgets that deliver convenience to our families. While electric energy is a great value, CVEC wants members to receive the best bargain in electric service and report a high level of satisfaction.

Take a moment to help us with that goal. Send a constructive suggestion on how you think your Cooperative can improve and become the best of the best in the world of member-owned electric cooperatives. You can:

- ① use the tear out pre-paid mailer on the back mail panel of this newsletter,
- ① visit our website and click this slide in the homepage slideshow, or
- ① go directly to the online survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CVECFeedback>. 📍



We want YOUR ideas!

Have a QR code reader on your smart phone?



Take the survey on the go!



When the trucks aren't red ...

CVEC contract crews will be working in these areas over the coming months.

Clearing rights-of-way:

- Andersonville
- Prospect
- New Store
- Mt. Rush
- Hamilton
- Cumberland
- Greenfield
- Batesville

System improvements:

- Pamplin
- Midway
- Piney River
- Tyro

Post-Construction/Inspections:

- Curdsville
- Henson's Store
- Rockfish Valley
- Cunningham

Pole inspections

- Amherst
- Gladstone
- Appomattox

All crews who are NOT Co-op employees will have a sign identifying them as CVEC contractors.




If you have any questions:
800-367-2832 | ms@mycvec.com

AT THE 2015 CVEC ANNUAL MEETING



Got the CVEC app?

HONEST
FAIR &
RESPONSIBLE



Coming soon ...

A new text messaging notification service for account & outage info ... look for updates!



Want your deposit back?

Ask about our Pay-as-you-Go service ... pay what & when YOU want!

Three Directors and Four Officers Elected

CVEC members returned 1,447 proxy ballots by mail and 68 in person as part of the June 24 Annual Members' Meeting.

Did you vote?

Those who did vote chose three fellow members to lead our Cooperative for three-year terms:

H. T. Brown, Jr. | Nelson County, serving the West District

Robert M. Duncan | Cumberland County, serving the South District

Gloria W. Vest | Fluvanna County, serving the East District



H. T. Brown, Jr.
West District



Robert M. Duncan
South District



Gloria W. Vest
East District

From their ranks and every two years, CVEC's Board elects officers who serve a two-year term in their elected office. At the July Board of Directors meeting, the following were elected for a 2015-2017 term:

Chair: Roberta I. Harlowe | Troy, Fluvanna County

Vice Chair: H. T. Brown, Jr. | Roseland, Nelson County

Secretary: Frank H. Baber III | Cartersville, Cumberland County

Treasurer: George N. Goin | Scottsville, Fluvanna County



Roberta I. Harlowe
Chair



H. T. Brown, Jr.
Vice Chair



Frank H. Baber III
Secretary



George N. Goin
Treasurer

Thanks to all of you for your continued counsel and service to CVEC.



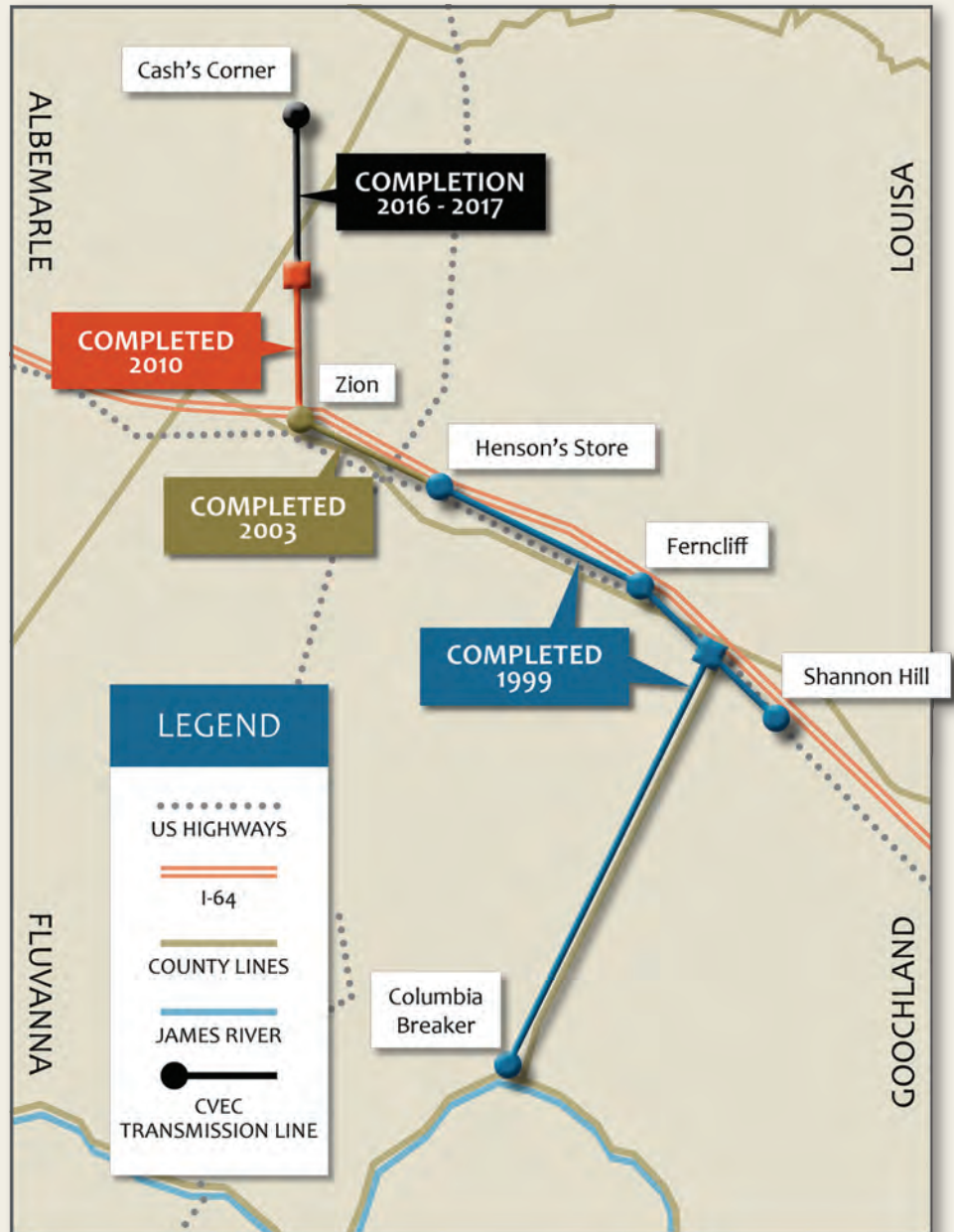
One Big Step to Improve Reliability:

A Redundant Transmission Feed from Albemarle to the James

CVEC serves more than 6,000 members adjacent to the I-64 corridor from Keswick to Goochland through four interconnected substations: Zion, Henson's Store, Ferncliff, and Shannon Hill. Henson's Store now includes members formerly served by the Trevillians Metering Point.

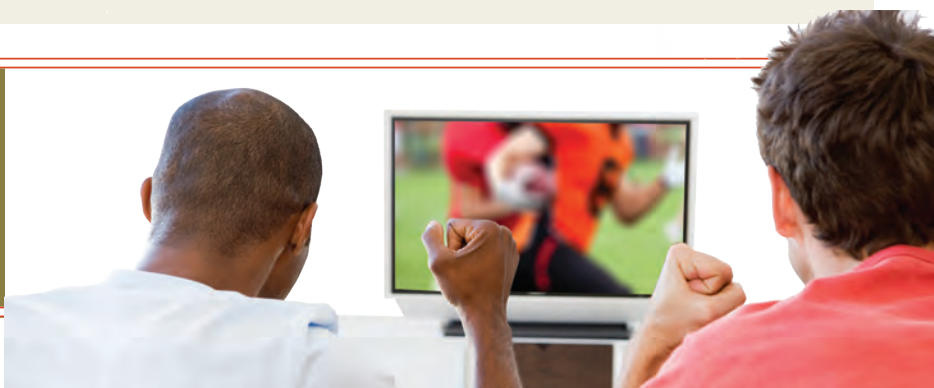
Unlike urban and suburban systems where power can be distributed from two different directions, CVEC receives power at one location and feeds those substations in a straight line. When there is an issue with the transmission system, many Cooperative members are affected and CVEC must await power restoration by the transmission company.

As a solution, CVEC has planned and has been constructing an internal transmission line that will provide an alternate feed to the Zion substation. Most of the line is built. CVEC is working through the planning requirements for a very short section in one remaining county before the line can be connected at the Cash's Corner substation in Albemarle County. This separate transmission line will provide the redundancy needed to keep the lights on when trouble occurs beyond the CVEC distribution system. 📍

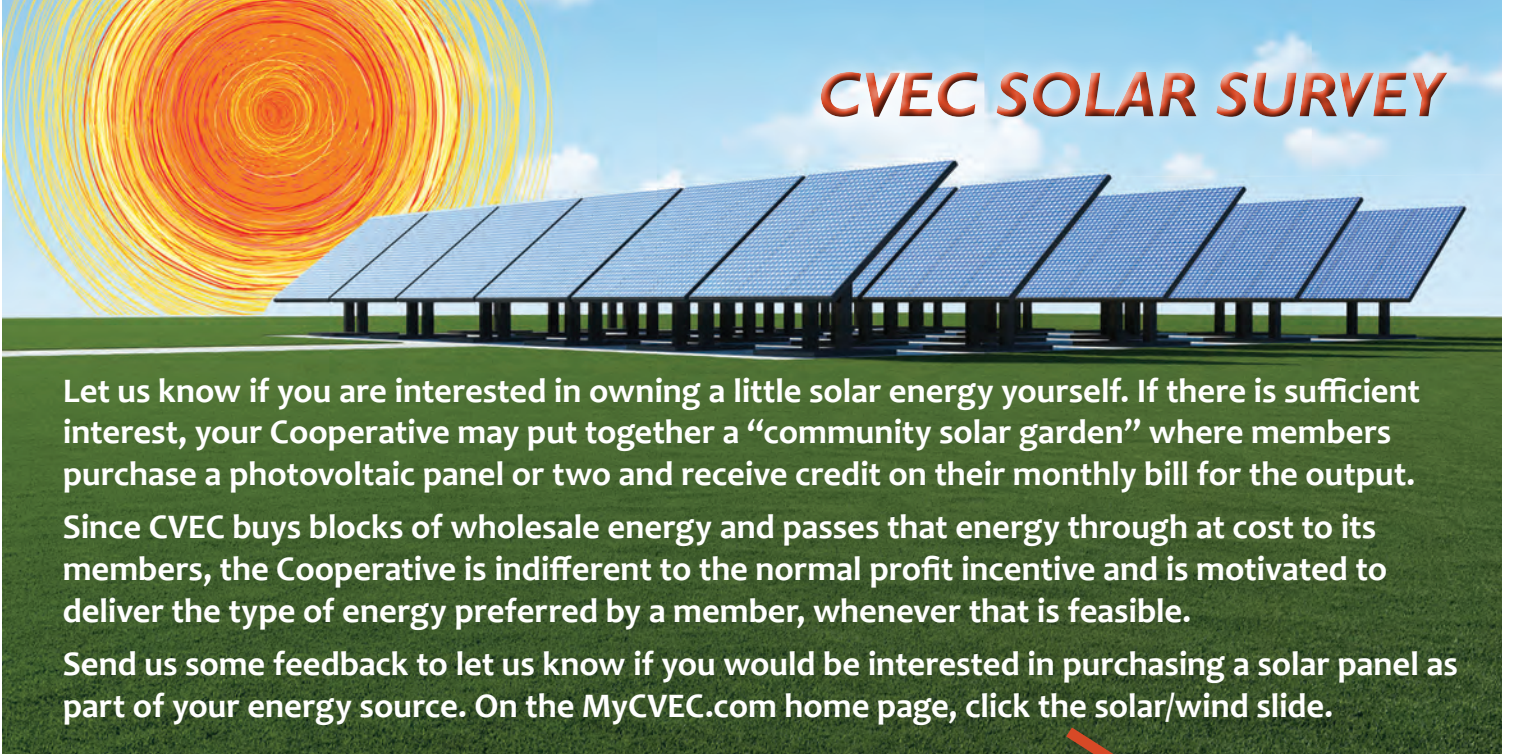


I-64 corridor is the fastest growing area on the CVEC grid with our aggregate load jumping from 24 MW in 2000 to 44 MW in 2010. Future development will include more homes, businesses and a shopping center.

Fall football awaits! Electricity is your best friend, providing
Comfort & Convenience



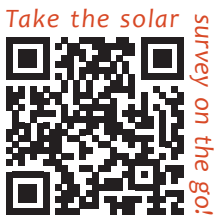
CVEC SOLAR SURVEY




Let us know if you are interested in owning a little solar energy yourself. If there is sufficient interest, your Cooperative may put together a “community solar garden” where members purchase a photovoltaic panel or two and receive credit on their monthly bill for the output.

Since CVEC buys blocks of wholesale energy and passes that energy through at cost to its members, the Cooperative is indifferent to the normal profit incentive and is motivated to deliver the type of energy preferred by a member, whenever that is feasible.

Send us some feedback to let us know if you would be interested in purchasing a solar panel as part of your energy source. On the MyCVEC.com home page, click the solar/wind slide.



The short survey questions you’ll find are:

- Do you like the idea of a community solar garden?
- Are you interested in purchasing a solar panel as part of your energy source?
- Would you be responsible for the upfront cost of the panel and like to know more?
- Would you consider installing solar on your home, business, church or school? 




What in the World is that PCA?

If you study your electric bill, as most of us do, you will likely have noticed a PCA or Power Cost Adjustment charge. It has always been on the bill, sometimes a fraction of a penny charged or a fraction of a penny credit. This year, the PCA has been higher, more noticeable, and painful to the pocketbook!

So what is it?

In the “old days” the adjustment provided a true-up, or reconciliation, for the cost of fuel to run the generators that produced the wholesale electricity. More recently, the CVEC PCA has provided a true-up for differences in wholesale electricity costs from month to month. This year the costs are higher because of higher costs associated with peak events from the January 2014 Polar Vortex. All costs and savings used in calculating the PCA factor are the actual costs or savings received by CVEC in its wholesale power bills without mark up.

CVEC is working to limit the impact of the costs that are passed through the PCA. We are also looking for ways to stabilize the factor to avoid the monthly fluctuations. If you have more questions about the specifics of what is in the PCA, call our Member Service Department at CVEC. 



How to win \$500 (without leaving home!)

Every year, in conjunction with the CVEC Members' Annual Meeting, we offer a chance for cash prizes to all members who can't attend, but who send in their proxy ballot. Ten proxies are drawn and those members receive a \$100 credit on their power bill.

The 2015 winners are:

- ◆ **O'Connor G. Ashby** | Fredericksburg
- ◆ **Wanda Ballowe** | Roseland
- ◆ **Ron Cain** | Gaynesville, FL
- ◆ **Paul Coffey** | Afton
- ◆ **Gleanie or Sharyn Cooper** | Gladstone
- ◆ **Neil R. Gleberman** | Nellysford
- ◆ **Gerald or Nanci Gould** | Troy
- ◆ **John or Lisa Raimonde** | Concord
- ◆ **Thomas Riggs** | Palmyra
- ◆ **Lawrence K. York** | Palmyra

Further, we annually offer one **Grand Prize**. The winner receives **\$500 cash!** This year's lucky recipient was:

David M. Morgan
Matthews, NC

Congrats to all,
and thanks for participating in
your membership cooperative! ♥



SHORT BURSTS

Do you pay your power bill at BB&T?

The option to pay your bill at a BB&T branch stopped at the beginning of September 2015. BB&T gave CVEC customers an info sheet throughout August informing of this change.

So how else do you pay?

Go to our website, mycvec.com, and in the search box (top right of screen) type in "ways to pay" ... it will lead you to a handy chart covering all options.

You can also always call and speak to a Member Services rep, 800-367-2832, Option 0, or send an email to ms@mycvec.com. ♥

BB&T

Soon you can choose your pay date!

Want to pay your CVEC bill soon after YOU get paid ... no problem! Starting in October, if you are a good paying member, you will be able to choose the date your payment comes due.

What is "good paying"?

- ◆ Two or fewer late payments in the past 12 months.
- ◆ No disconnects in past 36 months.
- ◆ Been a CVEC member for at least 12 months.

What are the details?

A member can ...

- ◆ ... select a date between the 1st and 25th day of the month.
- ◆ ... stay on auto bank draft OR use Western Union Speedpay online/phone options.
- ◆ ... enroll as of October 1, 2015.

Be aware that the first bill with this option may be higher or lower than normal as we adjust for shorter or longer billing periods! ♥



Want to know about our reliability efforts from our CEO?

Did you miss the Town Hall Meeting with CEO/President Gary Wood on July 24? You can see the recorded event and presentation on our website.

In the Search box on the home page of mycvec.com, type in Town Hall. Choose the page. ♥



OCTOBER IS CO-OP MONTH!



Every October, cooperatives across the US are recognized for the qualities that make their business model unique.

We celebrate the power of working together for the common good and bettering the quality of life for our friends and neighbors.

Seven cooperative principles set us apart from other businesses:

- » voluntary and open membership
- » democratic member control
- » member's economic participation
- » autonomy and independence
- » education, training and information
- » cooperation among cooperatives
- » concern for community

Co-ops can be:

- » for-profit or non-profit,
- » worker or consumer owned,
- » created to collaboratively produce or purchase.

Cooperatives work in all parts of the economy, from:

- » healthcare to housing,
- » credit unions to child care,
- » farms to manufacturing,
- » food co-ops to utilities.

There are:

- » roughly 45,000 co-ops in the US, owned by more than 130 million people.
- » more than 900 electric cooperatives, serving 42 million in 47 states.
- » 755,000 (and growing) cooperative electricity accounts in Virginia alone. 💡

Tear at perforation, fold & seal



How can we be THE BEST?
We want YOUR ideas!

Please take our member survey on the opposite side of this page or on our website www.myvec.com.

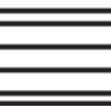
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Central Virginia Electric Cooperative set a goal of becoming one of the top performing electric cooperatives in the nation. As a member-owner of CVEC, we value your opinion and rely on your input to help us learn how we are doing and where we can make improvements.

Please take a moment to provide feedback that will help us achieve our goal and better serve you, a member-owner. ♥

What can CVEC do to become one of the top performing cooperatives in the nation?

Grid area for providing feedback.