

THE AMP

YOUR MONTHLY CONNECTION



November 2024



Southern Iowa
Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

OUR MISSION:

PROVIDING SAFE, RELIABLE ELECTRICITY

OFFICE:

22458 HIGHWAY 2, PO BOX 70
BLOOMFIELD, IA 52537

OFFICE HOURS: MON. - FRI. 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

PAYMENTS BY PHONE: 800-927-5341

OFFICE: 641-664-2277 / 800-607-2027

WEBSITE: WWW.SIE.COOP

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF TROUBLE:

*CHECK FOR BLOWN FUSES OR TRIPPED
BREAKERS AT THE METER POLE.

*CHECK WITH NEIGHBORS AND ASK IF THEIR
ELECTRICITY IS OFF AND IF THEY HAVE
REPORTED THE OUTAGE. IF NOT, CALL SIEC
AND REPORT THE PROBLEM 24 HOURS A
DAY AT 641-664-2277 OR 800-607-2027.

SERVICE CHARGES:

- BILL COLLECTION \$ 50.00
- DISCONNECT \$ 50.00
- POSTING \$ 50.00
- RETURNED CHECK \$ 30.00
- RECONNECT \$ 75.00
- TRIP CHARGE \$ 50.00
- METER TAMPERING \$150.00

MANAGEMENT:

GREG PROCTOR, CEO/GM
ROSS HUNTER, COO/SYSTEMS ANALYST
LINDSAY SMITH, OFFICE/ACCOUNTING MGR
KELLY MOORE, HR MGR

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

DARRELL DOWNING, PRESIDENT
TRAVIS HARRIS, VICE PRESIDENT
EARL TRACHSEL, SECRETARY
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JASON WELLS
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JAMES SCHOOLEY

SIEC'S RECare Program

SIEC has always extended a helping hand to people in need. That's why we've established RECare, a program of members helping members. Through RECare you can help members in need pay their winter heating bills. If you are interested in helping, please complete and return this form to our office. We currently have a balance of \$8,359.16 in the RECare fund. Disbursements are made to low-income members on a case-by-case basis by local community action agencies. Any amount you give will be appreciated!



RECare Member Authorization Form

YES, I want to contribute to RECare.

_____ I will make a one-time contribution to RECare.

My check is enclosed.

_____ I will contribute \$_____ per month for __ months.

I understand this amount will automatically be
added to my monthly electric bill.



Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Signature _____

Please mail to:

RECare
Southern Iowa Electric Cooperative
PO Box 70
Bloomfield, IA 52537

Our office will be closed Thursday,
November 28th and Friday,
November 29th for Thanksgiving



Safety Tip

When decorating outside, look up and look out. Never throw holiday lights or other decorations into trees near power lines. Be especially careful when working near power lines attached to your house. Keep ladders, equipment and yourself at least 10 feet from power lines.



Engine Heaters and Your Electric Bill

Truck and tractors often have engine block heaters installed to help start the engines in cold weather. These heaters are often a necessity to get your vehicle going in frigid temperatures, but they can also add a wallop to your electric bill. Typical block heaters can use 600 to 1,000 watts of electricity, and usually don't have any type of thermostat control. So, when you plug in your heater, you're drawing a continuous flow of energy that may equal the light bulbs in your whole house! If used 6 hours a day (during off-peak hours) a heater can add up to 150 kilowatt hours a month, costing around \$14 on your bill. If you need an engine heater, install a timer to start warming the engine an hour before you plan to drive it. If possible, stay completely out of the on-peak hours (7-8 AM and 4-8 PM, Monday through Friday) to avoid on-peak demand charges. That will save energy and help keep your electric bill under control.



On-Call Dispatch

Winter is approaching and with it comes the potential for winter storms. When large outages occur, SIEC may have to temporarily switch our phone lines over to our On-Call Dispatch Service during regular business hours. This is due to the high call volume experienced during large outages. When this is necessary, you will not be talking directly to a local SIEC employee. SIEC's On-Call Dispatch Service is very proficient in getting critical outage information to our Operations Manager so he can effectively dispatch crews in the safest and quickest means possible to get your power restored. Please know your calls are very important to us, especially during outages, and we appreciate your understanding and patience when this happens.



Generator Safety

During a power outage, a generator can provide temporary electricity that, depending on type, can power a few appliances or an entire building. While convenient, generators used improperly can create safety hazards. Know the difference between standby and portable generators. Standby generators are wired directly into the home and can be sized to match the electrical demands of the home or building. A permanently installed standby generator must have an approved transfer safety switch to avoid feeding electricity back into the electrical system outdoors, creating what's known as "backfeed." Backfeed is dangerous for line workers as well as anyone who may be near downed power lines. Installation should be done by a licensed electrician to avoid voltage feedback. Don't wait for a power outage to prepare for safety.

Live Line Safety Demo



On October 8th, emergency personnel, agriculture service personnel, electricians, and utility workers from our four-county service area had the unique opportunity to enhance their knowledge and skills regarding electrical safety, particularly in situations involving downed power lines and other electrical hazards. The insights gained from this event were invaluable for ensuring the safety and preparedness for our communities.