



Clear Rights-of-Way Help Prevent Outages

by Cordis Slaughter
CVEC Manager of Operations

Spring is in the air and most folks are beginning to think about fishing trips, summer vacations, or maybe one of those projects around the house that has been on that back burner forever. As Operations Manager for your electric cooperative, I too am having those same thoughts, but they are overshadowed by nightmares of trees growing up into the line, squirrels and snakes turning your lights off, and giant thunderstorms causing massive power outages. That's one of the drawbacks of this career, I suppose.

I came to CVEC in late 1977 and can remember miles and miles of powerline rights of ways literally covered in trees from an inadequate or even non-existent maintenance program. Over the years we have tried to continually evaluate and improve annual budgets and methods in an effort to improve our rights of way. Three years ago we promoted Rusty Pritchett to Right of Way Specialist. Rusty has a degree in Agriculture and field experience prior to and during his time at CVEC. Over the past 3 years Rusty has developed an extensive database containing both outage and right of way maintenance data. Using this information, Rusty has put in place a maintenance plan making use of our in-house geographical information system (GIS) system and a Circuit Prioritization Model developed by Environmental Consultants, Inc. We now have the ability to instantly query any section of powerline and tell who last maintained the right of way, how many feet were cut trimmed or sprayed, and what were the associated costs. The model will allow us to responsibly target our nearly \$2 million

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By George

What comes first, food, shelter, medicine, electricity, doing without?

Growing pressures on the production of electricity will continue to put upward pressure on costs, including additional environmental regulations governing air, water and disposal of ash, as well as continued increases in fuel prices. Lower natural gas prices in 2012 had a significant impact on power costs during the year. All of these savings from lower natural gas prices during 2012 were passed on to consumers. This resulted in a \$19 million reduction in electric rates. However, about half that reduction was offset by other cost increases keeping customers from seeing the full benefit of the reduced natural gas price in their monthly electric bills.

All transmission lines in the multi-state area are managed by the Southwest Power Pool (SPP), a regional transmission organization. That organization has approved \$7.1 billion in new regional, socialized cost transmission. Costs are now rapidly being included in the rate base. Our power supplier's portion of this cost increased \$8 million dollars in 2012. Currently approved transmission projects in the SPP will likely increase our share of the socialized transmission cost by about \$3 million per year for the next 5 years. This is only for the currently approved transmission plan which will likely increase from year to year as regulatory mandates to increase reliability and security, as well as to provide transmission paths for renewable energy, continue to grow.

National Electric Reliability Corp (NERC) reliability and security costs added over \$1 million in new costs to our power supplier - WFEC - in 2012 in the form of training, materials and labor. Four new full time employees were

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**In recognition of Memorial Day,
CVEC offices will be closed Monday, May 27.**

Service personnel will be on duty should you experience an interruption in your electric service.
Call 1-877-382-3680 to report an outage.

CANADIAN VALLEY
ELECTRALITE

P.O. Box 751 Seminole, Okla.
Serving Hughes, Lincoln, McIntosh,
Okfuskee, Pottawatomie, Seminole
and portions of Oklahoma,
Cleveland and Creek counties

Main Office and Headquarters

Interstate 40 at the Prague/Seminole Exit

Area Office

35 W. JC Watts Street, Eufaula

Office Hours

8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday - Friday

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Seminole (405) 382-3680
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Toll-free (877) 382-3680

In Case of Trouble

1. Check for blown fuse or tripped circuit breakers.
2. Check with your neighbors. Ask if their electricity is off and if they have reported it.
3. If not call the office and report the trouble.

	<u>Read</u>	<u>Billing date</u>	
Cycle 1	26th-31st	5th	1-1/2% penalty is
Cycle 2	6th-11th	15th	applied 20 days
Cycle 3	16th-21st	25th	after billing date

Operating Statistics for February

	2012	2013
Operating Revenues	\$4,398,961	\$4,248,207
Wholesale Cost of Power	\$3,455,597	\$3,518,617
Percentage WPC is of Revenue	78.55	82.82
Revenue per Mile of Line	\$849.88	\$818.38
Consumers per Mile of Line	4.58	4.59
KW Peak Demand - This month	146,746	142,252
Billing kW demand	115,112	109,236
KW Peak Demand - YTD	146,746	146,172
KWh Purchased - This month	65,948,273	64,470,230
Taxes Paid	\$98,123	\$97,835
Interest on Long Term Debt	\$178,088	\$162,420
System Load Factor	64.6	67.4

New Services Staked in March

During the month of March 37 new services were staked. The total new services staked in 2013 is 85. This compares to 102 for the same period in 2012.

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added to keep up with these regulatory requirements. WFEC has gone through five audits since NERC became a regulatory body.

More mandates from the Environmental Protection Agency on air emissions, water quality and coal ash storage and handling threaten to significantly increase the cost of producing electricity. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Particulate Matter (PM) and Cross State Air Pollution regulations (CSAPR) required WFEC to add low nitrous oxide (NOx) burners to natural gas plants in order to reduce NOx generation fleet emissions to regulatory levels. The cost of those additions added over \$1 million in increased principal and interest costs. Mercury controls at the coal plant require an additional \$5 million in capital, and an annual \$1-\$2 million to the annual cost of operation by 2014. EPA also marches ahead on regulating carbon emissions under the Clean Air Act. EPA's Greenhouse Gas Rule was effective for utilities in 2011 and requires them to report and monitor carbon emissions before and after projects to determine whether significant increases in emissions are probable. The EPA has proposed a carbon emissions standard which forces a roughly 50 percent reduction in CO2 emissions on new coal plants. The rule could impact existing coal-fired plants if they undergo significant modification or the EPA decides to make the rule retroactive. There is no current technology to meet this standard on existing plants or on new pulverized coal units.

Until the last half decade, electric bills were primarily made up of fuel, overhead and maintenance of transmission and distribution wires and substations, and capital costs of generation. Regulatory cost increases are expected to escalate in the future. Natural gas prices have increased from the 2012 levels and will likely continue to increase if the economy recovers. Low natural gas prices in 2012 (\$2.75 per mmbtu) are expected to rise to \$3.70 per mmbtu by the end of 2013. As various coal and rail transportation contracts expire, we see increasing delivered coal prices. The United States has abundant coal reserves. One reason for this increasing cost is that the worldwide demand for U.S. coal is increasing.

We like most electric cooperatives use a variety of fuels and technologies to produce electric power for our customers. Some cost more than others. Coal, has historically been our lowest-cost fuel to meet the growing electrical demands of a growing economy. Now the risk of present and future regulations, have effectively taken our nation's most abundant least price volatile energy resource off the table to meet the future requirements of a growing economy. These potential regulatory threats create just too great a capital risk for most electric utilities to consider building new coal fired plants.

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Look Up, Stay Alert During Outdoor Work, Play

As the weather begins warm up, kids and adults alike will soon head outside to perform winter clean-up and play. Before they do, remind them to look up and be alert for power lines and other electrical hazards, the best way to stay safe from electrocution—and even death.

“Here at Canadian Valley, using proper procedures and safety measures is a matter of life and death,” explains CVEC Safety Coordinator Cordis Slaughter. “We take safety seriously at home, too. Accidents happen, but if we educate ourselves and our children, we can keep them to a minimum.”

For kids

- Never fly a kite on a rainy day or anywhere but an open space. A high point in the sky makes a kite a grounding point for lightning, and kites could easily become tangled in power lines.
- Don't climb trees that are near power lines and poles—evergreens can disguise dangers this time of year; leaves during the spring and summer.
- Stay far away from power lines lying on the ground. You can't tell if electricity is still flowing through them. If there's water nearby, don't go in it. Water is the best conductor of electricity.
- Obey signs that say “danger” and “keep out” around large electrical equipment, like substations. These signs aren't warnings; they're commands to keep you safe.
- Never climb a power pole.

For adults

- If power lines run through your trees, call CVEC – professional tree trimmers with proper protective equipment can trim branches safely.
- Remember that power lines and other utilities run underground, too. Call 811 to have utility lines marked before you start digging.
- Starting that winter clean-up yard work? Sweep 605041404 dried leaves and debris from outdoor receptacles.
- If they're not already, consider upgrading your outdoor receptacles – or any outlets that could come in contact with water – to ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs). GFCIs immediately interrupt power flow when a plugged-in device comes in contact with water. Regardless, keep your outlets and cords dry and covered outside.
- Use only weather-resistant, heavy-duty extension cords marked for outdoor use.
- Don't leave outdoor power tools unattended for curious children or animals to find.

By George

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As an electric cooperative we are keenly aware of the impact increasing costs for electricity has on our customers. For a residential consumer or a businessman or a globally competing industry, increasing electric rates have the same impact on the bottom line as a tax on the bottom line. Most electric consumers don't have any “credits” to offset this higher electric bill. Their standard of living suffers. For many of our residential customers, an affordable electric bill is a prerequisite to affordable health care.

Find Your Hidden Account Number and Win \$25

If you find your account number hidden in this issue of The Electralite, you could win \$25.

In order to win, the account number must be your own.

You need to report finding the number to us by the 15th of the month.

And you need to report finding it by phone, mail or in person. Good luck!

Clear Rights-of-Way

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annual budget and annually measure our success from maintenance cycle to maintenance cycle.

Animal and storm-caused outages reflect that age old struggle between good (us) and evil (those pesky animals and storm outages.) Annually, animals and storms will cause hundreds of power outages. Consumers today, myself included, are increasingly less tolerant of a power outage or even a momentary blink. Our homes are filled with devices that rely on power to function, and we have grown to rely on those devices for us to function. Over the years your cooperative has implemented a variety of methods, programs, and devices to minimize outages and blinks where possible. Lightning arresters, sectionalizing schemes, animal guards, insulated jumper wires, increasing clearances, line patrol programs, pole inspection programs, real-time system monitoring, and improved maintenance programs are a few examples of what we do to accomplish one goal; improved reliability.

Annually we submit outage data to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission that they compile and include in an annual report. We consistently fair well against our peers. While I am proud of that, we are not in the business to impress our peers. We exist for the sole purpose of providing affordable and reliable service to our members, you and yes, me.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT



BEGINNING BALANCE 2/28/13.....	\$189,840.17
DEPOSITS.....	7,978.94
INTEREST INCOME	67.20
CHECKS ISSUED	-2,573.61
APPROVED, NOT YET PAID	-16,392.04
BALANCE 3/31/13.....	\$178,920.66

Trading Center Classifieds

Each CVEC member family is limited to ONE free classified ad per month. The form below must be used. The length of the ad cannot exceed three lines on the form. Ads run only one time. Area codes are not used unless outside the 405 area.

All INFORMATION BELOW MUST BE COMPLETED

Name _____

Address _____

Account # _____ Phone # _____

Classified must be received by the 5th of the month to appear in the following edition of The Electra-Lite.

Automobiles

2007 Dodge Dakota STX, new ATF tires, bedliner, running boards, 36K miles, EC, \$14,000, 356-2135.

Ranger XLT, s/c, \$1,785; '96 Dodge 1500 s/c, \$1,950, 598-0932.

1988 Dodge Dakota, 93,510 miles, \$2,200 OBO, 598-2948.

2001 Dodge Ram, ext. cab, 5.9 liter eng., auto, AC, power windows, good to excellent condition, \$3,600 OBO, 712-0648.

Farm

Loader w/bucket, hyd. controls, & mounting brackets that fit J.D. 4020 series farm tractor, \$1,950, 964-2031.

WANTED: fence post auger that fits on Bobcat bucket, 740-1790.

Heavy duty 32' gooseneck flatbed trailer, tandem duals, \$4,000, 556-1393.

Steel smoker on trailer, 4'x30", \$1,750 OBO; Craftsman 15.5 mower, \$300 OBO; 6" planer, new motor, \$150, 279-2330, 788-5754.

Ten-foot tandem disc plow, needs some repair, \$200, 401-4094.

500-gal., propane tank w/ regulators, \$450, 567-3749, 567-8907.

Two-foot flatbed gooseneck trailer, \$3,500, 657-8226.

10' J.D. wheel disc, \$900; 6', 3-pt., disc, \$200; 3-pt. dirt scoop, \$100, 964-3464.

500-gal. propane tank, \$500, 279-3897.

16' cattle trailer, \$975; 8' 12' & 16' utility trailers, 20' hay trailer for rd. bales, \$785, 598-0932.

2008 Mahindra tractor 4530, 4-WD, 365 hrs., w/loader, bucket, spike, manuals, EC., \$16,900, 240-2883.

6' 3-pt. brush hog, \$400; 3-pt. angle blade, \$125; 3-pt. 2 bottom plow, \$100, 640-9531.

Two-horse trailer, new tires, 1" rubber mat flooring, 273-7887.

7 Gang reel mower, 11" wide, zero-turn capability, goes in reverse, 380-6823.

Atwoods 4' brush hog, used once, like new, \$280 OBO, 275-8173.

Massey Ferguson M-12 sq. baler, \$1,500 OBO; John Deere 510 rd. baler, \$1,000 OBO, or trade for pickup, 273-2405.

Chain saw, \$80, 878-6697.

21" Cooper lawn mower, \$100; 14" electric weed eater, \$50; 18" gas Snapper string line \$100, 3-hp, 220/440 3-phase motor, \$15To 0, 598-5780.

Massey Ferguson 6', 3-pt. disc, \$250, 273-2405.

Portable welder, trailer, propane cutting torch, \$1,800; 5'x10' trailer w/ramp, new bed, \$600, 567-5241.

Aluminum checker-plate pickup toolbox \$50; 4'x2'x2' turtle trap, \$20, 454-0510.

DR Roto Hog power tiller w/36" till, pull behind, power 900 Briggs & Stratton used 1 season, \$1,800, 863-8138.

Miscellaneous

Two portable sewing machines, free; 395-2346.

Mint-condition stamps, below face value, beautiful commemoratives of all demonations & ages; Proform treadmill, pacer circuit, quarter-mile track, speed & distance settings, used very little, \$85 OBO, 382-2520.

Seven-foot Provincial couch, re-upholstered biege, \$75 OBO, 279-3221

2012 sm. squares of good hay, \$4-\$7, 488-8629.

Early 1960s Bassett dining set, table w/5'8" leaves, china cabinet w/curved glass, 6 chairs, 2 captain chairs, EC, \$1,500 OBO, 964-2477.

Swimming pool water-lubricated slide, \$1,200; diving board, \$100; 38'x24' pool cover, \$75, 245-6810.

Buy, sell and repair clocks, 513-2986.

Four cemetery plots in the Garden of Love at Resthaven Cemetery in Shawnee, \$2,295 ea., 650-4415.

Old upright piano, \$500 OBO, 598-2948.

Beautiful wedding dress, size 12-14, worn once, selling at \$200 OBO, a fraction of original cost, 802-4126, 706-5233.

New stylus pens, work on most touchscreen devices, \$2 ea., 487-0116.

Six Michelin tires size LT225/75 R16, only 6,500 miles, \$50 ea., 382-1444.

Over 900 shot glasses, \$1 ea., or \$600 for all, 382-1873.

1950 Oklahoma car tag, \$25; 1957 Oklahoma farm truck tag, \$25, 273-1845.

Over-sized brown couch, loveseat, chair & 2 ottomans, like new, \$1,500 OBO, 382-4864.

Windmill, 17" tall, galvanized metal, assembled 36 yrs ago, 454-2408.

Carlise fireplace glass screen, NIB, (CL-3001), fits 30"-37" wide & 25.5"-32.5" high, \$125, 918-866-2440.

FREE: pine trees, you dig up, 878-6697.

New domestic RV toilet, \$100; 22k 5th wheel hitch \$200, 249-0909.

Toshiba 19" TV, \$35, 454-0510.

This year's paper shell pecans, \$1.50/lb., 221-0511, 918-232-8887.

New AR-15 Windham Weaponry (Bushmaster), never fired, chrome-lined barrel, all parts made in the USA, lifetime transferable warranty, w/manual clip, sling, and case, 500 rounds, .223 REM included, \$2,395, 408-2720.

Glass shelves, \$20, 598-6711.

Pets/Livestock

Llewelin Setter puppies, both parents good hunters, great family pets, IPDBA, \$250, 760-6249.

Miniature donkeys, gentle, \$100-\$400, 382-1173, 664-4278.

Angus bulls/reg. Limousin bulls & heifers, blk. polled, gentle, 474-2018, 279-3398.

Reg. Limousin bulls & heifers, blk. polled, gentle Limflex - Homozygous top genetics, 517-3824.

Bantam chickens, 598-6711.

50 acres, 3 BDR, 2 BA brick house, barn, shop, play

Real Estate

house, fenced, great well, S. Pottawatomie Co., close to amenities, great hunting, stocked ponds, 580-925-2140.

3 BDR, 2 BA home, 1,340 sq. ft. 1 & 1/3 acre lot, Dale schools. 519-1666.

15 acres north of Harrah, Harrah schools, telephone, electric & septic, some wood-ed, pond & creek, \$45,000, 733-2115.

WANTED: Inexpensive travel trailer, 640-4850.

RV/Marine

2006 Cougar 26' 5th wheel travel trailer w/slideout, & new awning cover, GC, \$8,500, 585-1504.

2004 Dutchman 28' 5th wheel w/super slide, hitch included, new tires, 918-656-3459.

1992 5th wheel travel trailer, \$5,000 OBO, 401-4094.

Fourteen-foot fiberglass boat/trailer, \$300, 382-1444.

2007 blue VTX Honda, 1 owner, new tires, Mustang seat, Kuryakyn grips levers, hyper-charger, chrome fork covers, sissy bar, luggage rack, cobra pipes, saddlebag brace, quick-disconnect windshield, 14,000 miles, \$7,000, 567-9294.

1976 Mercury 85 hp boat motor & controls, \$750, 567-4562.

We're Protecting Your Identity from Theft

CVEC is constantly working to protect members from identity theft.

All utilities must comply with the Federal Trade Commission 'Red Flag' rule. **A red flag is a pattern, practice or activity that indicates the possible existence of identity theft.**

This means we are taking more time to authenticate your identification, possibly by asking for photo ID or additional information when you call.