



LEAVENWORTH-JEFFERSON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

The Powerline

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Tip of the Month

Replacing your conventional power strips with advanced power strips (APS) can help reduce the electricity wasted when electronic devices are idle. These power strips are a convenient and low-cost way to save.

Holiday Office Closing

In observance of Independence Day the LJEC offices will be closed on Friday, July 4.

Have a Safe Holiday!

FROM THE MANAGER

Rules Drafted in Washington have Local Impact



Steve Foss

Cooperatives, like most local businesses, work through the highs and lows of a cyclical economy. So when a potential economic hazard arises and we have an opportunity to affect the outcome, you better believe we do whatever we can to prevent or mitigate it. That's why I am concerned about new rules coming out of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to limit greenhouse gases blamed for climate change.

Not-for-profit electric co-ops work every day to provide affordable, reliable electricity to the more than 42 million Americans we serve. At LJEC, we steadfastly focus on ways to slow the rising cost of electricity and find ways to help you save on your electricity bill.

Environmental regulations share part of the blame for rising electricity costs. Electric co-ops have invested billions of dollars in equipment to reduce air pollution already, but greenhouse gases pose a far more difficult challenge to capture, and the new technology just isn't ready for prime time.

Equally troubling to comprehend, the EPA readily admits that cutting these emissions would not have much global impact on overall greenhouse gas levels.

The bottom line is that these regulations unfairly and disproportionately affect members of electric co-ops. They target

regions of the U.S. most dependent on coal for electricity. And increasing electricity prices could endanger efforts to attract new businesses, let alone retain current employers.

By harnessing America's ingenuity, we can do better.

This debate should be about working together to develop a sustainable energy future. This debate should be about how the government supports utilities in a collective effort to develop technologies that can reduce greenhouse gases at a justifiable and reasonable pace.

That's why electric co-ops are pushing an XPRIZE initiative (www.xprize.org/prize/tri-state-carbon-xprize) to find technologies that actually can turn greenhouse gases into a useful resource with market value.

Creating a sustainable energy future requires us to make ambitious changes. A power plant that closes down will not emit greenhouse gases, it won't incubate a new technology, give a bright young engineer an opportunity, or ensure that its community continues to receive reliable, affordable electricity.

To help our communities thrive, we need Washington to recognize the potential harm of these regulations and find a different path to a better energy future. Let your voice be heard by visiting www.action.coop.

Understanding Demand & Electricity

When LJEC moved to cost-based rates in 2010, your bill became a simple pass through from our power supplier. What the cooperative is charged for electricity is what you are being billed. And since the price of electricity fluctuates from month to month, there is the Purchased Power Adjustment (PPA) on your bill that reflects that fluctuation.

One major component of LJEC's monthly bill are demand charges.

What is Demand?

The cost of electricity is not only calculated on consumption (how much total is used), but also what is known as "demand."

Demand is the maximum amount of electrical power that is being consumed at a given time, as opposed to energy, which is the amount of power used over a period of time.

For example, a typical hand iron requires, or demands, 1,000 watts of power. If that iron is used for one hour it consumes 1,000 watt-hours or 1 kilowatt-hour of energy.

Using multiple appliances at the same time increases your demand. A typical dishwasher has a demand of 1,200 watts. If you're using the dishwasher at the same time as the hand iron, the total demand for these two appliances would be 1,000 watts (for the iron) and 1,200 watts (for the dishwasher) for a total of 2,200 watts.

If instead you chose to operate these items at separate times, the maximum demand for these two appliances would only be 1,200 watts (the higher of the two appliances).

You can also think of demand in terms of filling a 5 gallon bucket of water. If you use an inexpensive hose connection to your sink that expels 1 gallon per minute, it will take 5 minutes to fill the bucket. Or you can get a more expensive connection that provides 5 gallons per minute and it would fill the same bucket in just one minute.

The flow rate (gallons per minute) is equivalent to demand, and the five gallons of water is equivalent to consumption. Filling both buckets has the same "consumption" but very different "demands."

How does your demand affect LJEC?

Currently, LJEC has 8,114 active meters (or connections) to cooperative's system. Each one of those connections has the potential to increase LJEC's demand or the amount of electricity the cooperative could need at any given moment.

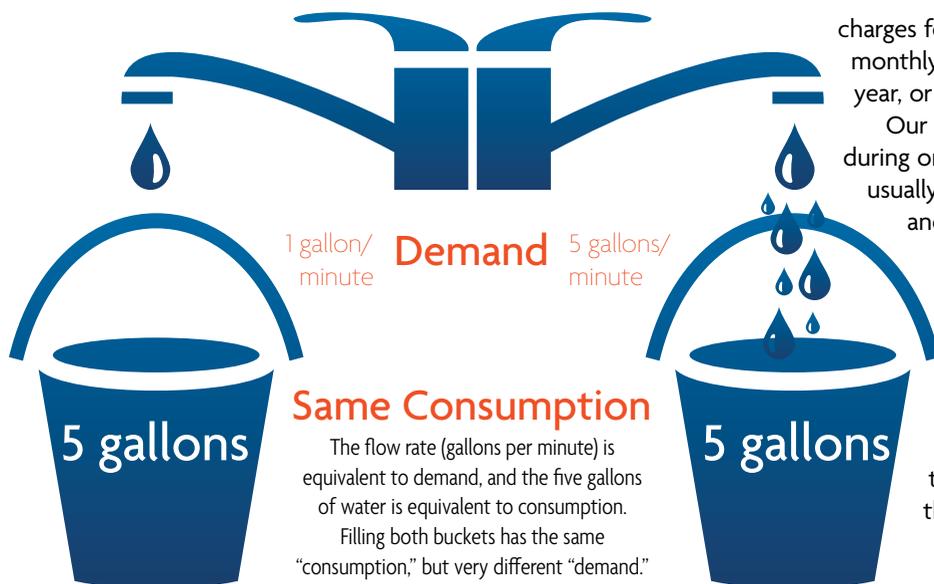
Each month, LJEC sets a demand peak, that being the highest amount of energy needed for a one hour period during a given month. That peak demand is set when LJEC members are using the most electricity at once (as a collective group). That is called our monthly coincidental peak. LJEC is billed from our power supplier each month for the peak demand we reach each month.

Not only does LJEC pay demand charges for our monthly peak, we also pay a monthly charge for the peak we reach for the year, or our annual coincidental peak.

Our annual demand peak is typically set during one of the hottest days of the year and usually occurs in the late afternoon between 3 and 8 p.m. This is when our members, as a whole, are "demanding" more from the system to keep their homes cool and keep other power needs fulfilled.

Because our annual peak is considered the highest level LJEC members will ever "demand" from the system, our power supplier has to be prepared at any time during the year to be able to provide that "demand" for LJEC.

Demand is More than a Drop in a Bucket



Saving with LJEC's Time of Use Rate

One of the ways you can save on your bill, as well as the cooperative's total bill, is by utilizing the cooperative's Time of Use Rate.

Anything that you can do to adjust your consumption habits outside of peak hours (3 p.m. to 8 p.m., Monday-Friday) can help lower your bill and also help the cooperative as a whole.

LJEC is charged a premium from our power supplier, Kansas Electric Power Cooperative, Inc., for power consumed between the peak hours of 3 p.m. to 8 p.m., Monday-Friday.

By utilizing LJEC's Time of Use Rate, your bill reflects that premium, but it also reflects a substantial discount for power consumed outside peak hours.

This rate has been designed so that, if you are an average LJEC member and consume energy as you have in the past, your bill should remain the same whether on LJEC's regular rate versus the Time of Use Rate.

Any effort on your part to curtail consumption between the hours of 3 p.m. and 8 p.m., Monday-Friday, will result in savings on your bill.

If you can, wait until 8 p.m. to run your dishwasher, do laundry, adjust your thermostat a few degrees, all of these simple things will help you save!



Sign up for "Wait 'til 8" and you could save on your electric bill.

► **LJEC Regular Rate:**

10.81¢ per kWh (24 hours a day, seven days a week)

► **LJEC Time of Use Rate:**

17.89¢ per kWh (Peak hours: 3 p.m. to 8 p.m., Monday-Friday)

► 8.45¢ per kWh (All other hours, major holidays)

You must contact the LJEC office at 888-796-6111 to be switched to the time of use rate, otherwise, you will remain on LJEC's regular rate.

It's Simple Math Reduce Demand = Lower Power Costs for LJEC

Since LJEC implemented cost based rates, the cooperative's power bill is a straight pass-through to members. What LJEC is charged for power is what our members pay for power.

If we can reduce our demand as a whole, we can lower our power costs. We're asking every LJEC member to be conscious of not only how much total energy they consume, but also **how** they consume it.

How Do I Reduce Demand?

- Wait until after 8 p.m. to run large appliances such as washing machines, clothes dryers and dishwashers.
- Use the microwave oven or convection oven instead of the oven or range whenever possible.
- Turn off all the unnecessary lights around your home.
- Use compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs)—they use 75 percent less energy and last 10 times longer.
- When properly set, a programmable thermostat can help reduce your heating and cooling cost by up to 10 percent.
- Use ceiling fans to help circulate cool air in a room. In the summer, the blades should rotate to move the air down to help produce a cooling breeze.
- Replace your outdated refrigerator with an energy efficient model. If you keep the old model, avoid keeping in on, especially in the garage or other locations that are hot and humid where the refrigerator has to work harder.
- Use fewer appliances (large or small) at the same time.
- Consider utilizing LJEC's Time of Use Rate, also known as our "Wait 'til 8" program.

How Can I Help My Co-op Control Summer Costs?

- Move your laundry time to earlier in the day or late at night.
- Use a slow cooker instead of the electric stove for cooking dinner.
- Save the ironing for later.
- Shut the grain dryer off for a few hours.
- Stop the irrigation pumps during this time of the day.
- Switch to another source of power such as a generator from 3 to 8 p.m.

Plan Ahead for Outages Your Life May Depend on It



If someone in your home depends on life support, let LJEC know.

For members who rely on life-support equipment at home, an outage could be a matter of life and death.

If someone in your home depends on an electrically-operated health aid, take these steps to prepare for power outages.

- ▶ Plug electronic devices into surge protectors and consider using uninterruptible power supplies on important devices.
- ▶ Consider investing in a portable generator that can power vital equipment in the event of an extended outage. Consult with a qualified electrician before installing the device, as improperly rigged generators can back feed electricity into electric cooperative power lines and injure or even kill electrical workers.
- ▶ Recharge cell phones frequently so you're not caught with a dead battery when the power goes out. Keep a corded land line operating in your home, as cordless phones need power and will not work without electricity.
- ▶ Let LJEC know that someone in your home relies on electrically powered medical equipment so your home will receive priority treatment during a weather emergency.
- ▶ Report all outages quickly.
- ▶ Ask LJEC to notify you in advance of planned outages.

LJEC Mourns the Loss of Larry Kitterman

We regret to inform the membership of LJEC that the cooperative and our entire community has suffered a tremendous loss. On Sunday, June 15, 2014, LJEC's Technology Manager, **LARRY KITTERMAN**, passed away suddenly.

Kitterman started his career at LJEC in July 1976 as a lineman, serving in that capacity for almost 20 years, until 1996 when he moved into the office, serving as LJEC's Purchasing and Work Order Representative until 2000. He then took on a different role of Engineering Manager until 2008 when he made the transition to his position of Technology Manager for the cooperative.

"Larry's contributions to the cooperative during his almost 38 years of service were extensive," said Steve Foss, LJEC's General Manager. "His early years with the cooperative were spent in the field building the infrastructure



Larry Kitterman, LJEC's Technology Manager, will be missed by many in the co-op and community.

that many of our members enjoy to this day. More recently, he has been the driving force behind the technological growth and development of LJEC. Our deepest sympathies go his wife, Reta, and his entire family."

Memorial donations can be sent to Barnett Family Funeral Home, PO Box 602, Oskaloosa, KS 66066 (Memo Line: Larry Kitterman). Donations will be deposited into an educational fund for his grandchildren.

Summer Energy Efficiency: *Myth vs. Fact*

Myth: When I'm not home, keeping my air conditioner at a lower temperature throughout the day means it doesn't have to run harder to cool my home when I return.

Fact: To save energy, set your thermostat to a higher temperature during the day, and lower it when you return home.

Myth: Closing vents on my central air conditioning system will

boost efficiency.

Fact: Closing vents can cause the compressor to cycle too frequently and the heat pump to overload. You'll also use more energy.

Myth: Bigger is always better when it comes to cooling equipment.

Fact: Too often, cooling equipment isn't sized properly and leads to higher electric bills. A unit that's too large for your home will not cool evenly and might produce higher humidity indoors.

Myth: Time of day doesn't matter when it comes to running my appliances.

Fact: Time of day does matter when running electrical loads. For example, take advantage of the delay setting and run your dishwasher at night to avoid peak times of use and save energy.



To save energy set your thermostat to a higher temperature during the day and lower it when you return home.