

DISCOVERING SOUTH KENTUCKY

www.skrecc.com • JANUARY 2023

Controlling your power costs is our primary focus

National Cut Your Energy Costs Day is January 10, but at South Kentucky RECC this is our focus every single day.

South Kentucky RECC is among 16 electric cooperatives that own East Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC), which in turn owns and operates the power plants that make your electricity. Our top priority—and theirs—is providing energy that is as affordable and as reliable as possible.

Together, we are constantly looking for ways to save dollars on making and delivering your power. EKPC maintains a diversified portfolio of power plants using different fuel sources such as coal, natural gas and solar, as well as contracts to purchase hydroelectric power. Every hour of the day, EKPC determines the most efficient way to make the next increment of electricity, thereby keeping costs down.

EKPC is a member of PJM Interconnection, the world's largest wholesale power market. Sometimes, it is more affordable to buy power from the grid than generate it at our own power plants. Being a part of PJM also helps maintain reliable service, providing options should the demand for electricity ever exceed our locally-generated supply.

Closer to home, we're taking steps to ensure continued reliability as well as the lowest possible cost of electricity.



JEREMY LENDES/SHUTTERSTOCK

Our line technicians maintain existing lines, poles and electricity delivery infrastructure so they'll last decades, not just years. We keep vegetation trimmed away from power lines to prevent costly damage that falling trees can cause. In the office, we're adopting new practices and technologies that streamline work and reduce overhead.

We're also doing our part to help every owner-member save on energy costs. Whether it's a virtual energy audit, a

rebate on an insulation upgrade, or simply some common-sense tips to help you save money, we're here to help. Visit our website at www.skrecc.com to find tools and resources for better managing your energy usage to lower monthly bills.

Controlling costs is not just the focus of South Kentucky RECC on January 10 each year. We're committed to delivering your electricity at the lowest possible cost every single day. That's the co-op way. **DSK**

Visit togetherwesaveky.com
for energy-saving ideas.

Contact South Kentucky RECC to claim your primary residence sales tax exemption

As a result of the recent passage of House Bill 8 by the Kentucky legislature, beginning January 1, 2023, only a person's "domicile" (primary residence) will be exempt from Kentucky's sales tax on utility services, including electric bills. The Kentucky Department of Revenue is asking utility customers to declare whether the address listed on their electricity bill is their primary residence.

Members who have multiple meters in their name need to declare which meter or meters are associated with their primary residence. If you have a non-commercial building/barn on the same property as your primary home, this is part of your domicile and needs to be included on the declaration form.

This Kentucky Department of Revenue form allows utility customers to declare whether the address listed on their electric bill is their primary residence.

For more information, members are encouraged to contact South Kentucky RECC at (800) 264-5112 or visit www.skrecc.com to access the Department of Revenue forms.

For more information, scan this QR code or visit www.kyelectric.coop/taxanswers



domicile

[dŏm'ĩ-sĩl']

Noun: A residence, home



JACARTOON/ADOBE STOCK

51A380 (1-23)
Commonwealth of Kentucky
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

TEAM KENTUCKY

DECLARATION OF DOMICILE FOR PURCHASE OF RESIDENTIAL UTILITIES
(LANDLORDS OR OTHER ACCOUNTHOLDERS OF MULTI-UNIT DWELLINGS SERVED BY A SINGLE METER (MASTER METER) USE THE MULTI-UNIT DECLARATION OF DOMICILE)

In accordance with the provisions of KRS 139.470(7) this declaration may only be executed for the purchase of sewer services, water, and fuel by Kentucky residents for use in heating, water heating, cooking, lighting, and other residential uses. "Fuel" shall include but not be limited to natural gas, electricity, fuel oil, bottled gas, coal, coke, and wood.

Name of Accountholder is the accountholder for _____
Service Address

I, _____
Name of Individual Signing the Declaration (cannot be landlord), am the resident or _____
Relationship of the undersigned to the resident

I declare that the address listed is my place of domicile* or the place of domicile* of _____
Name of Resident

and the purchase of residential utilities for use at this address meets the qualifications for exemption from Kentucky sales and use tax under KRS 139.470(7).

Accordingly, I request the account associated with the above listed service address be classified as exempt from sales and use tax. I understand the exemption will begin on the date of the first full billing cycle after the date of receipt of this declaration by the utility provider or rural electric cooperative.

Under penalties of perjury, I swear or affirm that the information on this declaration is true and correct as to every material matter.

Signature of resident or representative

Date

* KRS 139.470(7) describes a place of domicile as "the place where an individual has his or her legal, true, fixed and permanent home and principal establishment, and to which, whenever the individual is absent, the individual has the intention of returning."

Instructions

- Submit the Declaration of Domicile to each applicable utility provider or rural electric cooperative, not to the Department of Revenue.
- Each resident may have only one place of domicile but may be listed as a responsible party for other service addresses.
- The change in taxability for accounts will be effective on the first day of the first full billing cycle after the date of receipt of this declaration by the utility provider or rural electric cooperative.

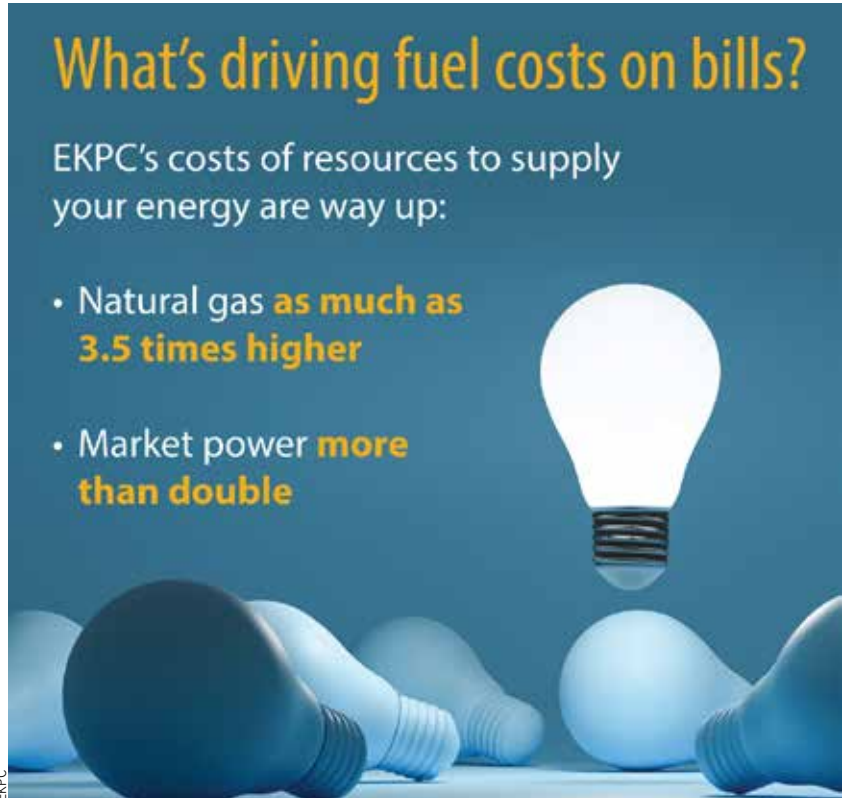
Department of Revenue Contact Information:
Phone: 502-564-5170
Email: DOR.Websponsesalestax@ky.gov

Fuel Adjustment Clause

The fuel adjustment charge* represents a direct pass-through charge from South Kentucky RECC's power supplier, East Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC). The charge recovers a portion of the cost of coal and natural gas needed to operate EKPC's power plants. As costs for coal and natural gas vary, the amount of the fuel adjustment charge will change from month to month and can be either a charge or a credit on your bill based upon EKPC's fuel costs from one period to the next.

The Kentucky Public Service Commission regularly reviews and audits the fuel adjustment charge process to ensure accuracy and compliance with state law.

**The fuel adjustment is calculated on monthly bills by multiplying kWh usage with the fuel adjustment.*



What's driving fuel costs on bills?

EKPC's costs of resources to supply your energy are way up:

- Natural gas **as much as 3.5 times higher**
- Market power **more than double**

EKPC

AVOID DANGERS AFTER A STORM

STAY SAFE AROUND POWER LINES

- If you see a downed power line, move away from it and anything touching it. Keep a distance of 50 feet, as the ground around downed power lines may be energized. Assume ALL downed power lines are live.
- If you see someone in direct or indirect contact with a downed line, DO NOT touch him/her. You could become energized as well. **Call 911 for assistance.**
- Don't step in water near downed lines.
- NEVER attempt to move a downed power line or anything else in contact with it using an object such as a broom or stick.
- Never drive over a downed power line.
- If your vehicle comes in contact with a downed power line while you're in the vehicle, stay inside the car. Call 911 or honk your horn to get help, but tell those rendering aid to stay away from the vehicle.
- If you must exit the vehicle for life-threatening reasons, jump out and away from it, making sure to land with your feet together and touching. Then, shuffle away with your feet touching until you reach a safe distance. NEVER attempt to get back into a vehicle that is in contact with a power line.



Board of Directors

Cathy Crew Epperson, Chairperson
Billy Gene Hurd, Vice Chairperson
Boris Haynes, Secretary/Treasurer
Rick Halloran
Tommy Nelson, Jr.
Greg Redmon
Brent Tackett

President & CEO

Ken Simmons

SKRECC Offices:

Clinton County

715 Snow Rd., Albany, KY 42602
(606) 387-6476

McCreary County

51 Center Ave., Whitley City, KY 42653
(606) 376-5997

Pulaski County

200 Electric Ave., Somerset, KY 42501
(606) 678-4121

Russell County

2405 N. Main St., Jamestown, KY 42629
(270) 343-7500

Wayne County

780 N. Main St., Monticello, KY 42633
(606) 348-6771

Discovering South Kentucky is a newsletter insert to *Kentucky Living* magazine and is published by the Kentucky Electric Cooperatives, Louisville, KY, and by South Kentucky Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation, P.O. Box 910, Somerset, KY 42502, (606) 678-4121.

Address all correspondence to: Discovering South Kentucky, P.O. Box 910, Somerset, KY 42502.

Visit www.skrecc.com/career-opportunities to explore exciting career opportunities with the South Kentucky RECC Team.

South Kentucky RECC is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

Visit www.skrecc.com to pay your bill online, to visit our outage center, or for more information about the Co-op Connections Program.

To report an outage 24/7/365, please call your local office, (800) 264-5112, or set up your account to be able to text outages. Please do not report outages via social media.

Plug into South Kentucky RECC. Follow us on social media:



Don't get scorched by high heating bills

Turn down the thermostat, turn up the savings

January is typically the coldest month of the year here in Kentucky. To avoid getting scorched by heating bills, button up your home with easy, inexpensive fixes found at togetherwesaveky.com.

- **Hands off the thermostat.** The easiest way to control your heating bill is to resist the urge to push up the thermostat every time you feel cold. Even an adjustment of a degree or two can significantly drive up your electric bill. Set your thermostat to 68 degrees—and leave it there.
- **Ditch the space heater.** Space heaters are energy hogs. A typical portable electric space heater consumes anywhere from 1,000 to 1,500 watts per hour. Running one 1,000-watt space heater 12 hours per day (at a cost of 10 cents per hour) will add \$36 more to your monthly electric bill.

- **Stop the leaks.** Warm air can sneak out through small spaces found throughout your home, pushing your heating bill higher. Some common culprits: doors, windows, utility cutouts, electrical outlets, recessed lights, bathroom fans, vent pipes, chimneys and attic accesses. Use weatherstripping, caulk, spray foam and other sealants to insulate.
- **Doctor the ducts.** Inspect your HVAC system ductwork in attics, basements and crawl spaces while the system is running, looking for telltale signs of leaking air. Efficiency can be improved by as much as 30% by sealing discovered leaks.

Take measures now, so you won't receive a shock when wintertime electric bills arrive. Find do-it-yourself instructions for energy-saving projects and more at togetherwesaveky.com.



TIM WEBB