

DISCOVERING SOUTH KENTUCKY

www.skrecc.com • JANUARY 2025

EKPC announces new generation investments

East Kentucky Power Cooperative, the wholesale power provider for South Kentucky RECC, announced plans recently that will transform its power generation capabilities for decades to come.

Over the next several years, EKPC plans to construct nearly 1,000 megawatts of new power plant capacity fueled by natural gas, as well as to co-fire five of its six coal-fueled units at Spurlock and Cooper stations. The cooperative also has plans to add more than 750 megawatts of renewable energy, as well as a host of transmission upgrades.

“EKPC is blazing a bold path to ensure reliable, cost-competitive and sustainable electricity for rural Kentucky in coming decades,” says Anthony “Tony” Campbell, president and CEO of EKPC, which provides electricity to 16 electric cooperatives that serve 1.1 million Kentucky residents in 89 counties.

New gas-fueled generation

EKPC plans to add a new 745-megawatt natural gas combined cycle unit at Cooper Station in Pulaski County, effectively tripling the plant’s capacity to provide power and meet future energy demands. The new unit is expected to come online in 2030. Combined cycle units are the most cost-effective and energy efficient natural gas-powered generators available today.



CZ COMMUNICATIONS

In Casey County, EKPC plans to build a 214-megawatt natural gas power plant, featuring 12 quick-start units with flexibility to support renewables and provide capacity during periods of high electricity demand such as extreme temperatures.

Co-firing coal units

A new greenhouse gas rule finalized in April by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency threatened closure by 2031 for EKPC’s two coal-fueled plants. But EKPC’s plans to convert five of its six existing coal-fueled units at Cooper Station and at Spurlock Station in Mason County will enable them to use both coal and natural gas as fuel. With these converted facilities, EKPC will ensure continued compliance

with the EPA’s greenhouse gas rule and protect its most dependable electric-generating resources.

In addition, EKPC recently announced plans to add 757 megawatts of new renewable resources, including solar facilities in Fayette and Marion counties.

“Over the next few years, EKPC will take steps to meet Kentucky’s energy needs for decades to come,” says Don Mosier, chief operating officer and executive vice president at EKPC.

With the additions to its power plant fleet, EKPC remains on track to meet its target of reducing carbon dioxide emissions 35% by 2035.

The planned projects must be approved by the Kentucky Public Service Commission.

A Message from
Doug Hutton
Chief Membership Officer



JUSTIN MAYFIELD

WHAT IS A COOPERATIVE?

As a member of South Kentucky RECC, it is important for you to know the difference between a cooperative and investor-owned utilities. South Kentucky RECC is member-owned and not-for-profit. Our members have a voice through their elected district board members who ensure the company is financially responsible while supplying power at the lowest rate possible.

SOUTH KENTUCKY PROVIDES ELECTRIC SERVICE TO MEMBERS

- Owned and governed by members and not-for-profit
- Decisions made locally by members elected to the board of directors, ensuring members' voices are heard
- Accountability to the membership, fostering transparency and responsiveness
- Rates are designed to meet local needs and cover operating expenses and purchased power costs
- Profits are returned to members in the form of capital credits

INVESTOR-OWNED UTILITIES PROVIDE ELECTRIC SERVICE TO CUSTOMERS

- Privately owned and operated for profit, primarily focusing on maximizing shareholder returns
- Decisions are often centralized and made by corporate executives or distant shareholders
- Accountability to shareholders and financial targets take priority
- Rates are designed to generate profits for shareholders
- Profits are distributed to shareholders outside the local community

SKRECC 2024-2025 board election

This year, there are two South Kentucky RECC board of director positions on the ballot. The following four-year director terms are expiring this year:

- Pulaski County, District 1: Cathy Epperson
 - Clinton/Russell/Wayne counties, District 5: Tommy Nelson Jr.
- The South Kentucky RECC

Credentials and Elections Committee has candidate application packets now available to interested candidates.

If you are an interested candidate and have read and comply with the complete list of requirements (found at www.skrecc.com) to be considered for a board of director position, and/or wish to discuss the process further and obtain a candidate application

packet, contact Frank Phillips, board counsel, at (606) 348-5591, or by email at frank@phillipsattorneys.net, between 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

All sealed, completed application packets must be returned to the attention of Joy Turpin at the Somerset Headquarters Office of South Kentucky RECC by 4 p.m. (EST) on Friday, January 10, 2025.

The web address for the 2024-2025 South Kentucky RECC board of directors election is:
<https://skrecc.com/DirectorElection>

Find the SKRECC bylaws at www.skrecc.com/bylaws.

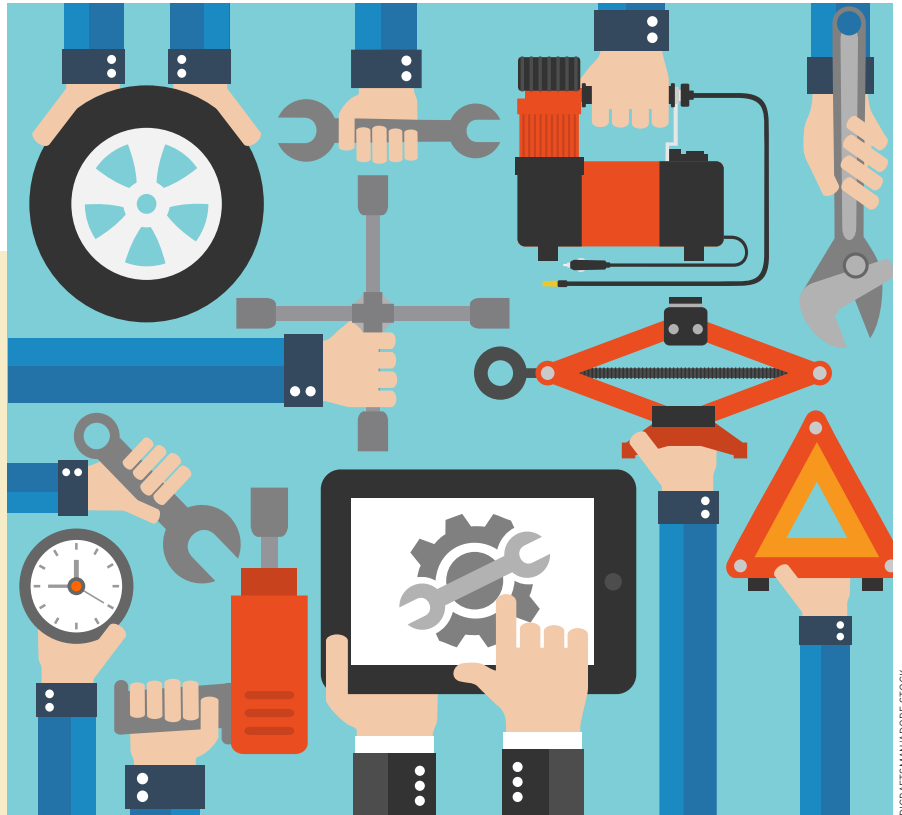
Be prepared for winter driving

Wintertime arrives in full force this month, making travel hazardous at times. A well-stocked vehicle emergency kit and knowing a few hacks can help you stay safe on Kentucky roads when snow and ice are in the forecast.

Safety checklist

Make sure your vehicle has weather-appropriate tires with good tread and fill your car with gas before driving in winter conditions. Never head out without a fully charged cellphone, too. The National Weather Service suggests storing these tools and supplies in your trunk:

- Cellphone charger
- Flashlight and extra batteries (or a hand-crank flashlight)
- Extra clothing (hat, gloves, hand warmers, boots)
- Blanket/sleeping bag
- Ice scraper with brush
- Compact shovel
- Booster cables
- First-aid kit
- Road flares/reflective warning triangles
- Sand/kitty litter (for traction)



Handy hacks

The Old Farmer's Almanac shares these tips for overcoming common winter driving challenges:

- If you don't have sand or cat litter for traction, use the floor mats from your car.
- Gently rub a small, moistened, cloth bag of iodized salt on your windshield to prevent ice and snow from sticking.
- Restore worn windshield wiper blades by smoothing with fine sandpaper to remove grit and pits.
- Fog-proof mirrors and the inside of windshield with shaving cream. Spray and wipe it off with paper towels.

Stay prepared for power outages

If you or a loved one relies on medical equipment like oxygen concentrators, ventilators or other life-sustaining devices, being prepared for unexpected power outages is essential. While our team works hard to maintain reliable service, weather

events and other situations can disrupt power temporarily. We encourage members with critical medical needs to have a plan in place, including back-up power options like a generator or battery supply and a way to contact emergency services if needed.



Board of Directors

Cathy Crew Epperson, Chairperson
Brent Tackett, Vice Chairman
Boris Haynes, Secretary/Treasurer
William Allen, Jr.
CV Hansford
Tommy Nelson, Jr.
Greg Redmon

President & CEO

Kevin Newton

Communications Administrator

Morghan Blevins

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Russell County
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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.applicantpro.com/jobs/ 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:



Reaching new heights

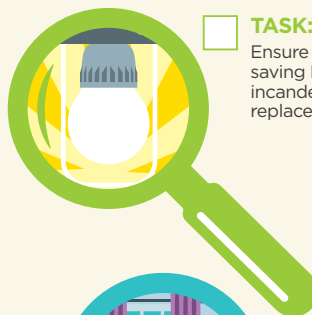
Students at Pulaski Elementary School's career day in Somerset got an up-close look at what it's like to be a lineman. SKRECC Construction Line Technician Jarrod Flynn and Construction Lead Line Technician Dakota Carter showed students the gear that keeps them safe and ready to restore power.



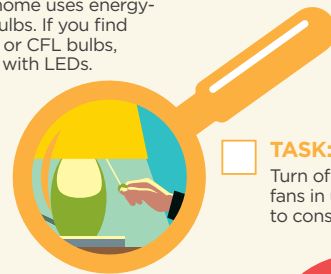
Photos: Morghan Blevins

ENERGY SAVINGS SCAVENGER HUNT

Saving energy at home is a great way to help the environment (and save money). With the help of an adult, look for ways you can save energy around your home. Use the tips below to get started, then check off the areas where you've identified ways to save!



TASK: Bright Ideas
Ensure your home uses energy-saving LED bulbs. If you find incandescent or CFL bulbs, replace them with LEDs.



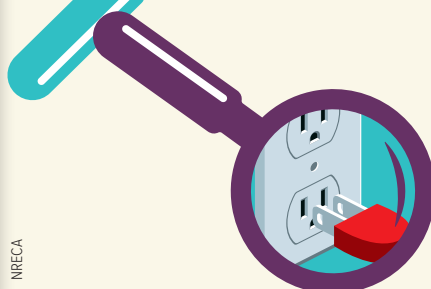
TASK: Empty Rooms
Turn off lights and ceiling fans in unoccupied rooms to conserve energy.



TASK: Sealed for Savings
Check windows to make sure they are closed and locked. Sealed windows help prevent air leaks, which saves energy.



TASK: Set to Save
Check the thermostat to see if it can be adjusted a few degrees (either lowered in winter or raised in summer) to conserve energy used for heating or cooling your home.



TASK: Slay Energy Vampires
Energy vampires are devices that consume energy even when they're not being used. Unplug these items, like phone chargers and tablets, when you're not using them.