

# ENVIRONMENTAL SURCHARGE

**Q. *What is the environmental surcharge?***

**A.** The surcharge reflects the cost of equipment and other expenses our power supplier incurs to comply with EPA regulations on power plant emissions.

**Q. *What equipment is needed to comply with EPA rules?***

**A.** Our power supplier has had to install expensive equipment like scrubbers to meet government regulations. The surcharge covers operation and maintenance of this equipment, and other environmental costs.

**Q. *Why does it change from month to month?***

**A.** It changes as environmental costs fluctuate. It also changes because there is a “true up” to account for monthly over- or under-collections of these costs.

**Q. *How is the surcharge amount calculated?***

**A.** It is based on a formula approved by state regulators. Our power supplier bills our co-op for these costs and then those are passed to members. State regulators regularly check to ensure that only proper expenses are included.

**Q. *Does the co-op get revenue from the surcharge?***

**A.** No. The charge is a pass-through from our wholesale energy supplier, East Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC). Every penny goes directly to EKPC.

**Q. *Is the Cooperative Solar farm causing the surcharge to increase?***

**A.** No. Cooperative Solar has no impact on the environmental surcharge.

**Q. *Can the co-op help me at all?***

**A.** Our co-op understands that the economic downturn makes it difficult to pay for utilities, food and medicine. We can help members with programs like Prepay, levelized billing, bill payment plans.

