Current Conversations

November 2026

A Year of Progress, A Commitment to Reliability

Across Tri-County Electric's service area, work continues to strengthen the safety and reliability of the distribution electric system through tree trimming, pole replacements, and equipment upgrades. This work is essential to meeting the requirements of Texas wildfire mitigation law, reducing power outages, and improving the service our members depend on.

Some of this work requires planned outages. To keep the power on when members need it most, particularly during periods of high demand and extreme weather, necessary improvements must be made to a system facing historic reliability challenges and tremendous growth. Planned outages allow this work to be completed safely and efficiently, often preventing longer, unexpected outages in the future. The safety of employees, members, and the public remains our first priority, guided by our Commitment to Zero Contacts.

That work is possible because of the financial progress TCEC made in 2026. Improved financial health created the room to nearly double this year's right-of-way investment without raising rates. Good stewardship creates good options, and those options are now at work on the system. Financial strength was never the destination. It was the foundation for the reliability members expect.

Resources alone do not deliver results. People do. TCEC employees asked questions, took initiative, and worked across teams this year to move projects forward. Member Services answered the calls. Important work continued in the heat and the cold. The results are showing up on the lines.

That progress sets up 2027. Building on our established goals to Improve the Financial Health of the Cooperative and Enhance Member Service, the 2027 budget and first 5-Year Plan double the maintenance investment, plan another $22.8 million in debt reduction, and propose no rate increase.Addressing historic reliability challenges is expensive, and the necessary work will continue throughout 2027 without a proposed increase to your monthly bill.

Members have a part in this as well. TCEC communicates planned outages and tree-trimming work by email and phone, so please take a minute to confirm the contact information on your account.

This Thanksgiving, I am thankful for a team that does the work members depend on, and for members who trust us to power their homes, businesses, and communities.

Thank you for your partnership.



Scott Spence
President & CEO

INSIDE

- Texas House Bill 145
- Honoring Those Who Serve
- Round Up for Giving Tuesday
- Paw Power Pet Food Drive
- Scholarships and Youth Tour
- Rebates and Energy Tracking

IMPORTANT DATES

Nov. 9: Pet Food Drive Begins
Nov. 11: Veterans Day (Closed)
Nov. 26–27: Thanksgiving (Closed)
Dec. 1: Giving Tuesday
Dec. 7: Apply for 2027 Youth Tour
Dec. 11: Pet Food Drive Ends

JOIN ROUND UP

STAY CONNECTED

tcectexas.com

817.444.3201

tcectexas

REQUIRED BY TEXAS LAW: KEEP TREES OUT OF POWER LINES



#1 cause
Trees are the number one cause of outages on TCEC's system

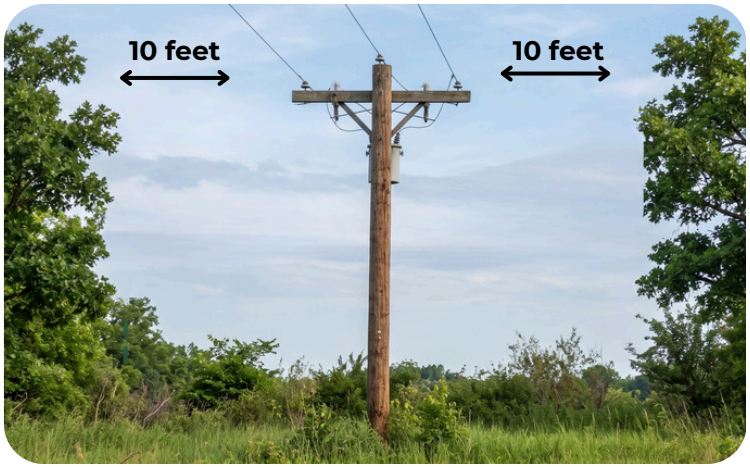
10 feet
Clearance on each side of the power line

Reliability & Safety
Fewer outages and reduced wildfire risk

What Texas House Bill 145 Requires

Texas House Bill 145 requires all electric utilities to maintain a wildfire mitigation plan. This includes tree trimming and removal to reduce wildfire risks and help keep the electric system safe and reliable.

Keeping trees clear of power lines also helps crews restore power when outages do occur. Trees are the number one cause of power outages on this system. Without regular trimming, members would experience more frequent and longer outages.



UTILITY CLEARANCE STANDARD

Crews will clear 10 feet on both sides of the power line, where applicable, to reduce the risk of branches contacting energized equipment.

What Tri-County Will Do

Maintain 10 feet of clearance on each side of the power line.

Trim or remove trees within the right-of-way and adjacent, as needed.

Remove debris generated by planned trimming operations.

What Members Can Expect

Advance notice

Members along scheduled maintenance routes will receive notice by email, phone, or door hanger, when possible.

Emergency work

May occur without advance notice after a storm, or when a safety hazard is identified.

Our commitment

TCEC's responsibility is the safety and reliability of the electric system that serves members.

IMPROVING FINANCIAL HEALTH

Investing in Long-Term Reliability

Financial discipline is paying for work to address historic reliability challenges now, and the 5-Year Plan keeps it going.

What We've Done

$8M → $15M

Right-of-way investment nearly doubled,

WITH NO RATE INCREASE



2027: What's Next

2X MAINTENANCE INVESTMENT →

$22.8M ADDITIONAL DEBT REDUCTION ↓

$0 RATE INCREASE

What It Means for Members

Fewer outages caused by trees and equipment, safer restoration when storms hit, and a system that is paid for with discipline instead of higher bills.

> *"The challenges are significant, and so is my confidence in the people who will solve them. **We are creating a future worth being excited about**, a credible plan to get there, and a team that is essential to making it happen."*
>
> - Scott Spence, President & CEO

The People Behind the Service

During Customer Service Week in October, TCEC recognized the Member Services teams who answer questions, assist members in person, and handle accounts and payments. Their dependable service puts members first, not just one week in October, but all year long.

















Service to Country, Commitment to Community

This Veterans Day, TCEC honors the veterans among our employees and throughout the communities we serve.



Together, the veterans on our team represent more than 150 years of combined service to our country. They have served in the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army, U.S. Army Reserve, Army National Guard, Texas Army National Guard, U.S. Marine Corps, and U.S. Navy. We are grateful for their service, sacrifice, and dedication.

The commitment and teamwork they demonstrated in uniform are values we share as an electric cooperative. Service in the military and service in a cooperative have much in common. Both ask people to put the mission ahead of themselves, look out for the person next to them, and show up when conditions are at their worst.

When a storm knocks out the lights, it is a crew, not an individual, that gets the power back on. The veterans on our team bring that same sense of duty to work every day for their neighbors.

TCEC exists because people in these communities came together to do what no one could do alone, and we still answer to the members we serve. That is a kind of accountability our veterans know well.

Every day, TCEC employees work together to serve members and look out for the communities we call home. To the veterans on our team and across our communities: thank you.

Cooperative Giving: Neighbors Helping Neighbors

554 →
HOUSEHOLDS
have received help paying their electric bill

MORE THAN 1,400
PEOPLE HELPED →
through Cooperative Giving since June 2025.

That help starts with members who round up. When you enroll, your monthly bill rounds to the next whole dollar, never more than 99 cents, and the change goes to the Cooperative Giving program.

The program is funded by donations from employees, board members and local businesses and pays it out to members who are struggling to keep the lights on. Most members never notice the change, but the families who receive it do.

Your bill rounds up → A neighbor keeps their lights on

Throughout November, TCEC is inviting members to enroll ahead of Giving Tuesday on Dec. 1. Join through the MyTriCountyTX app, at tcectexas.com/cooperative-giving, or by calling 817.444.3201.

cooperative giving

GIVING TUESDAY

Paw Power Pet Food Drive: Nov. 9–Dec. 11

TCEC employees and members are teaming up to help local shelters keep animals fed this winter. From Nov. 9 through Dec. 11, drop off unopened pet food and treats at any TCEC office during regular business hours.

Everything collected goes to shelters in the communities we serve, where it helps stretch tight budgets through the busiest season of the year.



Every can or bag counts, and every donation stays local!

Exciting 2027 Opportunities for Students: Scholarships and Youth Tour

Imagine what a $5,000 educational scholarship or a trip to Washington, D.C., could mean for your high school student. TCEC's Youth Programs give eligible students the chance to further their education and gain meaningful experiences. This year, both programs use a new online application platform that lets students save their progress and return later to finish before submitting.



2027 Youth Scholarships

Apply: Oct. 15, 2026–Jan. 15, 2027

In 2027, TCEC will award 40 scholarships of $5,000 each to high school seniors graduating in 2027 who plan to pursue a degree or certification at an accredited university, college, junior college, or technical school.

More information about eligibility and applications is available at tcectexas.com/scholarships.

2027 D.C. Youth Tour

Apply: Dec. 7, 2026–Feb. 19, 2027

The D.C. Youth Tour gives four 10th- and 11th-grade students an unforgettable week in Washington, D.C., learning about government and electric cooperatives and meeting students from across the country. Full eligibility details, online application, and insights from 2026 recipients are available at tcectexas.com/youthtour.



"It was truly a trip of a lifetime! I made so many great memories with the places I visited and people I met."

Kobie Torgeson, Azle



"This trip will allow you to meet many people that will be lifelong connections."

Whit Parkey Archer City

ENHANCING MEMBER SERVICE

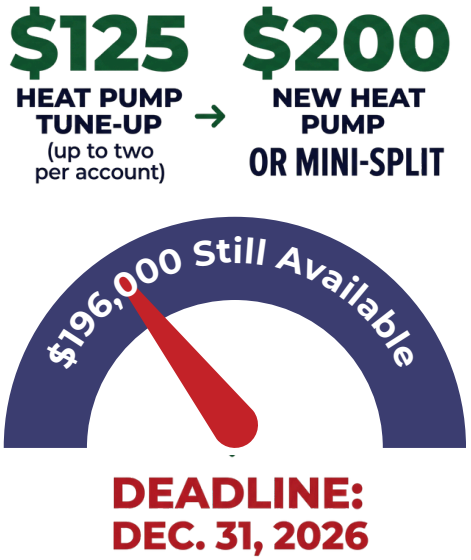
Earn Rebate Bill Credits Before December 31

Cold weather makes your heating system work harder. A tune-up before winter helps it run efficiently, and TCEC will credit your bill for it.

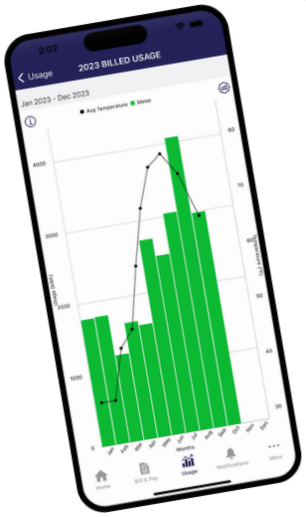
Rebates are paid from unclaimed energy efficiency program funds, so they do not add to member rates. Funds are limited and go to the first members who apply.

To claim yours:

1. Have a qualifying tune-up or installation done.
2. Apply at tcectexas.com/energy-efficiency-rebates or call 817.444.3201.
3. Watch for the credit on your bill.



See a Spike Before the Bill Does



The MyTriCountyTX app breaks down your energy use by day, hour, and 15-minute interval, so you can see exactly when your home uses the most power. If a space heater gets left running or a water heater starts to fail, you will see the jump in the chart days before it shows up on your statement.

Open the app, tap Usage, and look for days that stand out.

The app is also where you update the email and phone number on your account. **TCEC uses this information to notify you about planned outages and vegetation work.**

Download it at tcectexas.com/mytricountytx or call 817.444.3201.

HELPFUL CONTACTS

- **Outage Center**
- **Cooperative Giving**
- **Power Cost Recovery Tracker**
- **Ways to Pay**
- **Office Locations**
- **Member Information Center**