



# OWEN ELECTRIC CONNECTION

March 2023 • Owen Electric • A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

## Owen Electric worked hard to keep power flowing during extreme cold

The 2022 Christmas cold snap was one for the record books.

During the early morning hours of December 23, Kentucky and much of the eastern United States saw temperatures plunge to near zero, even sub-zero, while winds howled past 20 miles per hour.

From Dec. 23 to mid-day Dec. 27, Kentucky was in a literal deep freeze. Most locations in the commonwealth experienced sustained sub-freezing temperatures for 108 consecutive hours. For most of the 23rd and 24th, the temperatures never got above single digits. Nearly three days were below 20 degrees, and for much of that time, winds made the temperature feel well below zero.

While some of our neighbors in areas served by other utilities had to endure rolling blackouts, Owen Electric was able to ask our members to conserve energy without any forced outages.

Of course, high winds and extreme temperatures take their toll on mechanical equipment. When outages happened, our crews worked hard in harsh conditions to restore power as quickly as possible.

Owen Electric worked nonstop. With most every home's heating system operating at near-maximum capacity, we

saw record demand for electricity. Our power supplier, East Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC), was able to use its wide array of electricity-generating assets and its membership in PJM, a regional transmission organization, to ensure that our members were able to have reliable power despite frigid temperatures and difficult conditions.

Like a car engine, the power grid can break down if too much demand is placed on it, causing serious damage that can take days or even weeks to fix. Nobody wants that to happen when temperatures are near zero. To prevent breakdowns, Owen Electric and EKPC closely watched energy usage minute by minute, monitoring how it was affecting our power plants and power lines. Our top priority was to maintain a stable grid so power would be available to maintain members' heat and lights.

During that bitter cold period, you may have seen appeals from Owen Electric asking you to take steps, if possible, to cut back on electric use by shutting off nonessential lights or delaying use of big appliances like dishwashers.

If electric usage had continued to rise, our next tool for protecting the grid would have been rolling outages, where electric service is shut off briefly to a group of homes to reduce strain on power plants and power lines. When power is restored to those homes, it is

shut off for another group of homes elsewhere. While other utilities in Kentucky had to take this drastic step to maintain grid stability, Owen Electric did not have to implement rolling outages.


During December's extreme cold, EKPC operated all of its available power plants, using coal, natural gas, fuel oil, hydro, solar and even landfill methane to keep the power flowing. Together with EKPC, Owen Electric used demand response tools, calling on some commercial and industrial members to cut back on power use. Through our interruptible service program, these members had agreed in advance to do this.

Along with EKPC, we are reviewing the Christmas 2022 cold snap and our performance to determine how we can continue to provide reliable service to all of our members.

Thank you and all Owen Electric members for your efforts to voluntarily conserve electricity and help us maintain a stable power grid through the cold snap. Your collective efforts helped ensure that we all benefited from reliable electricity during a historic December.

President and CEO  
Michael Cobb



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

# David Lilly wins statewide honor

David Lilly, an Owen Electric member, was named the 2022 Who Powers You contest winner. He'll receive a \$1,000 check for his win, which he says he'll donate to the Meeting the Needs Ministry, which he humbly oversees.

The Who Powers You contest recognizes people who go above and beyond to make their communities better places to live, work and play. Lilly, a retiree, spends most of his time caring for the less fortunate in his hometown of Owenton.

"David Lilly might just be the busiest guy there is," says Whitney Duvall, who nominated Lilly for the award.

Lilly is the board chairman for the Meeting the Needs Ministry, operated by the Owenton First Baptist Church, which collects food, hygiene products and commodities for people and families in need in the Owenton area, where the need is great. "The ultimate goal of the program is to make sure nobody goes hungry," Lilly says.

Meeting the Needs is part of several charitable organizations in Owenton that serve the community. The organization acts as a hub to distribute food to seniors 60 years and older who participate in the Commodity Supplemental Food Program through the Northern Kentucky Area Development District.

It also partners with Owen County Schools for the Power Pack program, which seeks to help alleviate childhood hunger by providing a pack of easy-to-prepare food for students to take home each Friday afternoon, to ensure they have food over the weekend.



KENTUCKY ROSE MEDIA

"God has blessed us with people who help out and donate food," Lilly says. While he likes to give credit to everyone who works with the program, it is Lilly's drive to help those in need that keeps Meeting the Needs running.

"We must be doing something right," he says.

Upon learning he had won, he made sure to tell the volunteers at the small home that has become the storage center for the program. "I said, 'You have done this. We'll be getting an award, getting some money, and the money will be coming to Meeting the Needs. You all made me look good. It's about you, not about me. I'm just the leader.' It made me get a little teary," he says.

"Lilly is there Monday through Friday, boxing up food and preparing for the more than 300 individuals who

cycle in on a regular basis, for senior commodity pickup or a supplemental food box," Duvall says.

"He is one of the most selfless people. He is retired, but he spends every day making a difference," she adds.

Lilly is also a part of the volunteer fire department, the Gideons, the Jaycees, Rotary Club, emergency medical services, search and rescue teams and more.

Lilly says the volunteers are what make the programs successful, and they're his inspiration many times. "They give me the energy to come out and do the things I do."

As to why he gives so much of his time, effort and thought: "My kids are all out and about. There is nothing on TV I really want to watch," Lilly chuckles.



# ARE YOU PREPARED FOR A POWER OUTAGE?

**1**

## CHARGE YOUR CELLPHONE

Charge portable power banks, if you have them.

**2**

## HAVE A FLASHLIGHT AVAILABLE

Keep additional, fresh batteries on-hand.

**3**

## PACK AN EMERGENCY KIT

It should contain food, water and supplies for a minimum of 72 hours; make sure items are not expired.

**4**

## STAY INFORMED

Follow local stations on your phone or using a weather radio to stay up to date on alerts.



## REPORT OUTAGES:

(800) 372-7612 OR OEC MOBILE APP

## Board of Directors

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### Office Hours:

**Monday – Friday**  
**8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

**Toll-free 1-800-372-7612**

### Owenton Office

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P.O. Box 400  
Owenton, KY 40359-0400  
(502) 484-3471

### Boone County Office

Florence Government Center  
8100 Ewing Blvd.  
Florence, KY 41042

### Grant County Office

300 Arbor Drive, Suite 1  
Dry Ridge, KY 41035

### Pendleton County Office

10599 Hwy 27 N.  
Butler, KY 41006

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# Notice of Filing

Owen Electric Cooperative, Inc. (“Owen Electric”) gives notice that it is requesting to amend its Underground Electric Service tariff on file with the Kentucky Public Service Commission (“Commission”).

Owen Electric will submit the proposed Underground Electric Service tariff to the Commission March 1, 2023. If approved by the Commission, the tariff will become effective April 1, 2023.

The Underground Electric Service tariff is applicable to the construction of new underground electrical supply facilities used in connection with electric distribution as defined within the tariff; therefore, it is not applicable to a specific customer classification. The proposed changes are outlined below.

### Current:

- Underground primary (and secondary to pedestal if applicable) cost differential per trench foot for subdivision: \$7.14  
Cooperative responsible for trenching, conduit placement, and backfill except where specified in agreement.
- Underground primary cost differential per trench foot for non-subdivision: \$1.36  
Member responsible for all trenching, conduit placement, and backfill.
- Underground service cost differential: \$0.00  
Member responsible for all trenching, conduit placement, and backfill from transformer or pedestal to meter base.

### Proposed:

- Underground primary (and secondary to pedestal if applicable) cost differential per trench foot for subdivision: **\$4.54 plus the cost of trenching, conduit placement and backfill which will be determined at the time of agreement with subdivision developers.**  
Cooperative responsible for trenching, conduit placement, and backfill except where specified in agreement.
- Underground primary cost differential per trench foot for non-subdivision: **\$3.17**  
Member responsible for all trenching, conduit placement, and backfill.
- Underground service cost differential: \$0.00  
Member responsible for all trenching, conduit placement, and backfill from transformer or pedestal to meter base.

You may examine this tariff filing at the offices of Owen Electric located at 8205 Highway 127 N., Owenton, Kentucky. This tariff filing may also be examined at the offices of the Public Service Commission located at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or through the Commission’s website at <http://psc.ky.gov>. Any comments regarding this tariff filing may be submitted to the Public Service Commission through its website or by mail to Public Service Commission, P. O. Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602.

The proposals contained in this notice are the rates/charges being proposed by Owen Electric. However, the Public Service Commission may order rates/charges that differ from the proposed rates/charges contained in this notice.

A person may submit a timely written request for intervention to the Public Service Commission, P. O. Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602, establishing the grounds for the request including the status and interest of the party. If the Commission does not receive a written request for intervention within thirty (30) days of the initial publication or mailing of the notice, the Commission may take final action on the tariff filing.