



OWEN ELECTRIC CONNECTION

April 2023 • Owen Electric • A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

National Lineman Appreciation Day

April 10 is National Lineman Appreciation Day, so it's only appropriate that we take a moment to recognize the people who must often work in brutal weather conditions to ensure that our members are able to have safe and reliable power. Our lineworkers are the first responders during storms and other catastrophic events and work to make the scene safe for other public safety officers.

However, while lineworkers are usually working on the highly-visible frontlines, let's not forget that there are many who work behind the scenes to help keep the lights on.

While our lineworkers are in the field, working with thousands of volts of electricity and maintaining our electricity-delivering infrastructure, one of my focuses is to ensure that all employees have the necessary training and tools to perform at top level. I liken my role to that of a facilitator—it's my responsibility to make sure our members receive the best possible service and to recruit and maintain the talent to make that happen.

A key area of focus is safety. Working with electricity is an inherently hazardous task, and creating a culture of safety for all of our employees is a top priority. Our safety manager and human resources staff are responsible for all personnel

associated with our cooperative. Continuous learning and training for our employees is essential to having a skilled workforce that helps keep the cooperative operating at an optimal level.

Our operations and engineering departments ensure that our overall system is well-maintained. This team plans ahead for our future needs and continually monitors our existing equipment and resources. Construction managers' and engineers' oversight of our system not only ensures the quality of our members' electric service, but helps provide our lineworkers with a safer system to work on through regular cycles of equipment inspections and maintenance.

Member services representatives are also on the front lines for our members. They answer calls regarding everything from questions about billing to energy use, working with members to identify high-use periods and discuss ways to save on their monthly bill. Our member services team is responsible for making sure you are treated appropriately, beginning at the moment you sign up for membership. This department is also responsible for planning the annual membership meeting and special outreach programs in our communities and schools.

The accounting department is responsible for the financial wellbeing of Owen Electric. While we are a member-owned, not-for-profit cooperative and operate differently than investor-owned utilities, we are still a business. The accounting

department ensures that revenue and expenses are properly accounted for. Typical expenses include the money we pay for electric power, equipment, new technology and upgrades to our infrastructure, employee payroll and other expenditures.

Our information technology (IT) department works diligently to keep our members' information secure and all of our systems safe from compromise. The use of technology plays a role in practically every function throughout the cooperative, and IT uses the latest technology to keep lines of communication and business functions running smoothly.

Many different people and departments work closely together to serve you, because you—the member—are at the heart of what we do. As a cooperative, our concern for community is one principle that sets us apart from other businesses. From sending high school students to Washington, D.C., each summer to providing scholarships and supporting new jobs and industry through our economic development efforts, we are committed to being a driving force in the communities we serve. The electricity we provide literally powers our communities, and it takes every single person in the cooperative to deliver it.

President and CEO
Michael Cobb



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

2021 CHEVROLET BOLT ALL-ELECTRIC VEHICLE



In 2021, we added a Chevrolet Bolt to our fleet—our first all-electric vehicle (EV).

The Bolt serves as an educational opportunity for both Owen Electric and our members.

As electric vehicles become more prevalent in the automobile market, the Bolt is a tool to help us educate our members on the advantages (and limitations) of EVs while also reducing our carbon footprint.

QUICK FACTS



259
Miles on full charge
(EPA estimated)



200
Horsepower



7
Seconds from
0-60 MPH

There are a lot of things to consider when determining if an EV is right for you.

Go to owenelectric.com, or scan the QR code to learn more about EVs, potential tax credits that come with their purchase, and to access our online EV Calculator.



Choose sun-powered electricity

Owen Electric members who want to help the environment and future generations by powering their home or business with renewable energy can tap into the sun using the no-hassle option of licensing solar panels from Cooperative Solar Farm One.

Our cooperative offers owner-members sun-powered electricity generated at Cooperative Solar Farm One, a 60-acre facility in Clark County. The solar array features more than 32,000 panels that can produce 8.5 megawatts of electricity. That's enough to supply the power needs of about 1,000 typical Kentucky homes.

Cooperative Solar provides an easy, affordable way for Owen Electric members to benefit from sun power without the hassle, maintenance and expense of owning your own solar electricity generation. The program is ideal for those who rent, have shaded property or don't want to put solar panels on their roof.

Interested members pay a one-time fee of \$460 to license a single solar panel for 25 years. Every month, the energy



output of your licensed panel will be calculated and credited to your bill.

Each panel produces between 23 and 50 kilowatt-hours of solar energy monthly. Energy output varies due to

the sun's angle, the time of year, the number of cloudy days in the month and other factors.

Panel leases are now available. To learn more, visit www.cooperativesolar.com.

Considering a home solar array?

Are solar panel installation and net metering on your list this summer? Don't go it alone—Owen Electric wants to be your resource for energy information. Our energy expert can help you determine the investment you'll likely make to meet your energy production goals, as well as discuss what is feasible using local weather data, your energy usage and comparisons to similar home solar arrays on our system.

For more information on net metering and home solar installation, call Owen Electric at (800) 372-7612, option 4, or go online to www.owenelectric.com/net-metering-home-solar-array-info.



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ENERGY EFFICIENCY & REBATE PROGRAMS

Make your home more efficient and comfortable

TOUCHSTONE ENERGY HOME

A Touchstone Energy Home has the potential for a 30% reduction in heating and cooling costs. Receive a rebate of up to \$750 for a new home that meets Touchstone Energy Home requirements.



ELECTRIC RESISTANCE TO HEAT PUMP REBATE

Replace your home's electric resistance heat source with a heat pump and qualify for a rebate of up to \$750, per program requirements.

BUTTON-UP

Two of the best improvements you can make to your home to lower heating and cooling costs are to add insulation and stop outside air from getting in. Receive \$40 for every 1,000 BTUs your heating load is lowered, up to \$750.



SIMPLESAVER BRING YOUR OWN THERMOSTAT/CENTRAL AIR

Connected thermostats or a central air conditioner can earn you credits on your bill, while helping us keep your electricity affordable and the environment healthy.

FOR PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS, CALL (800) 372-7612, OPTION 4, OR LOG ON TO OWNELECTRIC.COM/ENERGY-EFFICIENCY-INFO-PROGRAMS-REBATES