



# OWEN ELECTRIC CONNECTION

July 2023 • Owen Electric • A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

## Understanding energy demand

Energy demand may not be at the top of your mind as a member of Owen Electric, but have you ever wondered how Owen Electric ensures you have reliable electricity whenever you use an appliance or flip the switch?

Let's start with how electricity is made and delivered to your home.

Before Owen Electric can send electricity to your home, it must be generated by a generation and transmission cooperative—in our case, East Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC), headquartered in Winchester. EKPC operates and maintains power plants across Kentucky using a variety of generation resources. Owen Electric is one of 16 owner-members of EKPC. Once the electricity has been generated, it travels through high-voltage power lines to substations, where the voltage is reduced and fed onto distribution power lines, where it finds its way to your home.

While Owen Electric doesn't actually generate the power coming into your home, we do play a critical role in helping EKPC determine the power it needs to create in order to keep the lights on in your community. That's where consumption and demand comes into play.

Demand is measured in kilowatts (kW). Consumption is measured in kilowatt hours (kWh), a measure of kW over time.



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Demand is important to measure because it gives us an indication of how much load is required in order to serve homes and businesses. Let's assume you run all your home appliances at the same time. Doing so consumes the same amount of kWh compared to running them one after the other. But running them altogether simultaneously requires more load at that point in time. This requires EKPC to produce more power in less time to meet your demand.

Owen Electric purchases energy from EKPC based on the average demand of our members—or the amount of energy you typically use. Peak demand refers to the time of day when the demand for electricity is the highest—typically first thing in the morning, when everyone is getting ready for

work and school and in the evening, when everyone is returning home to prepare dinner, wash dishes and clothes, etc. Using electricity during these peak times often costs more to Owen Electric and to our members.

Demand is the reason your electricity bill fluctuates season to season—and even year to year. Generating and distributing power can be a complicated business, but rest assured that Owen Electric will always meet the necessary demand to provide safe, reliable and affordable electricity to your family.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

President and CEO  
Michael Cobb



# “If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is...”

We’ve all heard it, and buyer beware. If ads are flooding your social media feed and popping up in your internet browser, make sure you’re an informed consumer before you click or commit.

Unfortunately, less-than-reputable contractors are using growing interest in home solar arrays to take advantage of unsuspecting homeowners. All too often, we hear from members who have been promised unrealistic solar energy production and only realize this after they’ve invested a sizeable amount of money into a system that fails to perform to their expectations—as promised by a solar company or contractor’s salesperson.

Additionally, not all solar companies fully understand Kentucky’s net metering tariff, which includes rules everyone must follow when installing a solar array.

Owen Electric is happy to help guide you through questions regarding the net metering tariff and the home solar array installation process by answering any questions you have. We’ll gladly help you determine realistic expectations with regard to the investment you want to make.



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The best place to start is our website, [www.owenelectric.com/net-metering-home-solar-array-info](http://www.owenelectric.com/net-metering-home-solar-array-info). There, you’ll find a copy of the net metering tariff and our Solar 101 publication. For more information and to speak to someone further, give our residential services manager a call at (800) 372-7612, ext. 3532.

## A scammer will...

- **Demand immediate payment with threat of disconnection**
- **Request a prepaid debit card or payment service**
- **Give a time limit to complete payment.**



LISTART FROM ITS TARRR VIA CANVA



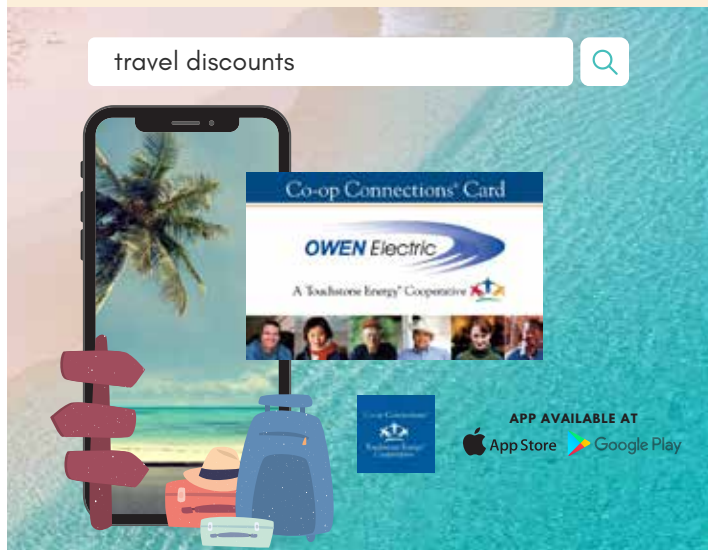
# Out and about in our communities



Residential Services Manager Jude Canchola speaks to the John Guill-Polly Hawkins Craig chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution about energy conservation and efficiency. Photo: Whitney Duvall



We had so much fun participating in Taylor Mill Elementary School's Touch a Truck program! Thanks to Dan Tekulve and Bryan Veirs for taking their bucket truck and safety gear to share with the students. Photo: Amanda Munich



GETTY IMAGES PRO VIA CANVA

## Co-op Connections program

Summer is here, and as a member of Owen Electric, you can take advantage of thousands of exclusive deals through the Co-op Connections program!

Co-op Connections is a free discount program that helps our members save money on everyday purchases. There are not only discounts to national retailers, but local businesses right in our own communities.

One of the most popular features of the Co-op Connections program is the Healthy Savings feature, which offers savings on prescriptions, vision, dental and lab services.

We know how important it is to keep as much of your hard-earned money in your pocket as possible. Whether you're planning a vacation or looking for a more affordable way to fill your monthly prescription, Co-op Connections is an easy and free benefit of being an Owen Electric member.

Need a replacement card? No problem—call us at (800) 372-7612, option 4, or download the app, and carry it on your phone. Learn more at [connections.coop](https://connections.coop).



**All Owen Electric offices will be closed in observance of Independence Day, Tuesday, July 4.**

**All online services will be available. Report power outages using the OEC Mobile app or by calling (800) 372-7612.**

ROMOLO TAVANI/ADOBE STOCK

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## Office Hours:

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

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

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Florence, KY 41042

## Grant County Office

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Dry Ridge, KY 41035

## Pendleton County Office

10599 Hwy 27 N.  
Butler, KY 41006

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# Swimming safely

## WATER & ELECTRICITY DON'T MIX

- Locate and label the power switches to your pool, hot tub and spa equipment and lighting.
- Make sure your pool/hot tub/spa equipment is located at least 25 feet from power lines.
- Pools, hot tubs and spas should be inspected annually. Inspections and any wiring or repairs should be performed by a licensed electrician.
- Install GFCI outlets on all receptacles within 20 feet of the water's edge. These can help prevent electrocution.

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