



OWEN ELECTRIC CONNECTION

October 2024 • Owen Electric • A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

Federal government regulations will drive up Kentucky's electricity costs

This spring, the Environmental Protection Agency introduced stringent regulations targeting coal and natural gas-powered electricity generation, promising substantial reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. However, the costs associated with these regulations have sparked significant concern.

If you recall, in last month's column, I addressed the concern about the effects of inflation on the price of electric infrastructure components—a cost that members ultimately shoulder. The regulations mandate on electric generating plants create the same concern, as advanced carbon capture and storage technology is still under development and not commercially available for large-scale use.

Considering this, the estimated cost to retrofit a coal plant in Kentucky is about \$10.7 billion, which could potentially double electricity rates not only for Owen Electric members, but for over one million fellow Kentuckians and numerous businesses. Given the existing financial strains on households and businesses, this prospect poses an additional severe financial burden.

While the recent political focus has



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It undermines electric reliability and poses grave consequences for an already stressed electric grid. The American economy can't succeed without reliable electricity. Smart energy policy recognizes that fundamental truth and works to help keep the lights on.”

NRECA CEO Jim Matheson

NRECA

shifted to regulating emissions from power plants, it's important to note that CO2 emissions from power generation have been on a decline for over a decade in the U.S. and Kentucky. While our power supplier, East Kentucky Power Cooperative, is committed to reducing its carbon footprint and incorporating more renewable energy sources in a balanced and cost-effective manner, the new EPA regulations demand more rapid and extreme measures, risking significant rate increases and potential power shortages.

Electric cooperatives across the United States, including EKPC, are challenging these regulations in court, arguing that they could lead to unaffordable electricity rates and reliability issues. While renewable energy sources


like solar and wind are growing, they are not always available when demand is highest, highlighting the ongoing need for reliable and more affordable energy sources.

Owen Electric remains committed to taking a reasonable approach of striving to maintain dependable electric service at an affordable cost, while fighting against regulations that could make energy less available and unaffordable for many of our members.

To learn more about these regulations, visit www.voicesforcooperativepower.com/epa-act-now.

President and CEO
Michael Cobb



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

OWENTON ROTARY AUCTION VEHICLES

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2024 | 10 A.M.
OWEN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS



894



895



921



874



898



914



928



940



16' Box Trailer

Vehicle Information

894 2012 GMC Canyon, 4x4, 111k miles

895 2012 GMC Canyon, 4x4, 157k miles

921 2015 Chevrolet Colorado, 4x4, 192k miles

874 2009 Chevrolet 2500, 4x4, 152k miles

898 2012 GMC 2500, 4x4, 261k miles

914 2014 Chevrolet 2500, 4x4, 228k miles

928 2016 Chevrolet 2500, 4x4, 270k miles

940 2018 Chevrolet 1500, 4x4, 221k miles

2006 16-foot box trailer

Note: Mileage will increase. Questions? (800) 372-7612, ext. 8337

Owen Electric believes in the power of reading

“Kids who read succeed”

A benefit of being a part of a Touchstone Energy Cooperative is our partnership with Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library, which provides high-quality books every single month to children in our communities, ages 0 to 5. Best of all, it’s completely free for your family. It’s easy to get started—just submit your child’s name, birthdate and your mailing address, and The Dollywood Foundation will mail an age-appropriate book to your child each month.

Dolly Parton believes in the power of reading. She started the Imagination Library to put books in the hands and hearts of children across the world so they’ll be able to do anything, dream anything and be anything.

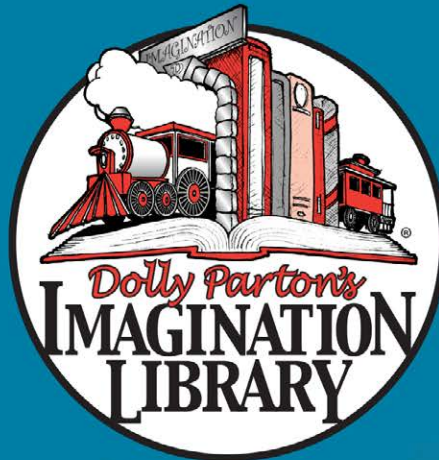
As Dolly says, “Kids who start behind stay behind. Kids who read succeed.”

At Owen Electric, we share Dolly’s passion and enthusiasm for giving children the tools they need to succeed. That’s why we’ve partnered

with The Dollywood Foundation for a national initiative we call the Touchstone Energy X Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library Collaboration.

We hope your family will take advantage of this incredible, no-cost opportunity. Your kids will have so much fun receiving and reading a new book each month, and you’ll be glad you signed up. To register, scan the QR code below or visit ImaginationLibrary.com.

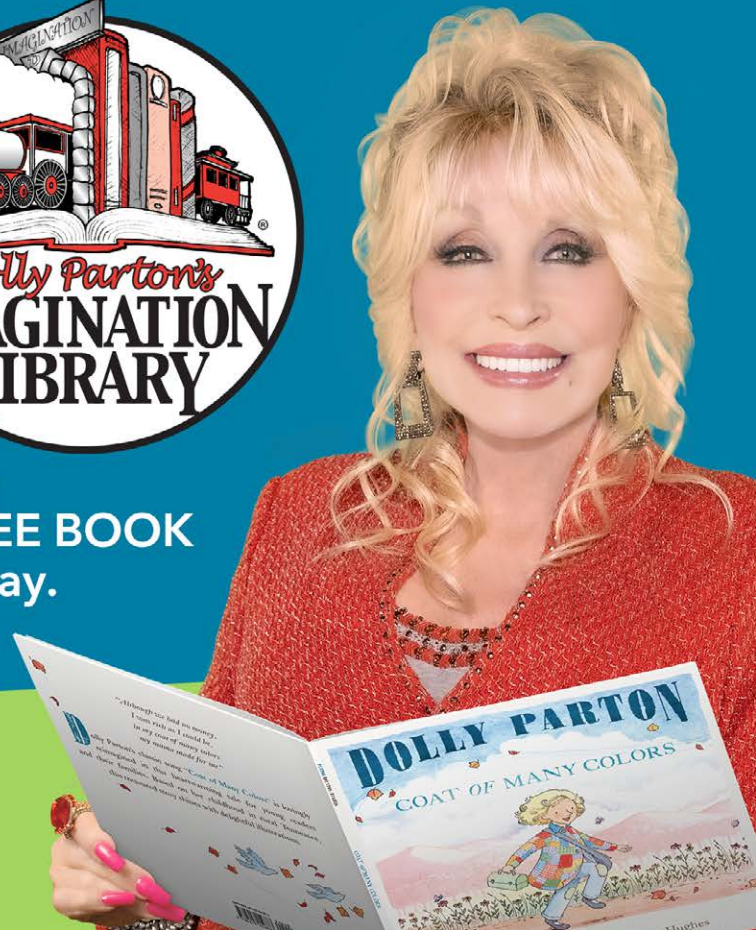
Inspire a **Love** of **Reading**



Enroll your child in Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library and get a **FREE BOOK** every month until their 5th birthday.



Register Your Child
Scan the QR code or visit
ImaginationLibrary.com



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www.owenelectric.com

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Continuing education and training



Charlie Lewis and Kevin McCarty with Kentucky Electric Cooperatives conduct transformer bank training with Owen Electric construction crews. Photo: Trevor Evans

Out and about in our communities



Member Services Representative William Hammond marks donated food items with expiration dates before they are placed in the pantry at Ronald McDonald House of the Bluegrass on Aug. 7. Hammond delivered items collected by Owen Electric employees for the Ronald McDonald House Wish List Drive. Photo: Whitney Duvall



Residential Services Manager Jude Canchola and Manager of Communications and Marketing Whitney Duvall represent Owen Electric at the Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperative booth during the Kentucky State Fair. Photo: Sha Phillips