

# REA Energy Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey



Chad Carrick  
President & CEO

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**Staff**

- Barry Baker**  
Indiana Operations Manager
- Erin Bauer**  
ACRE Coordinator
- Shane Cribbs**  
Network & Systems Manager
- Dave Daugherty**  
Safety & Right of Way Manager
- Jeff Dishong**  
Ebensburg Operations Supervisor
- Lisa Gardill**  
Accounting & Finance Supervisor
- Stacy Patterson-Hilliard, CCC**  
Communications & Marketing Supervisor
- Local Pages Editor**  
**Chris Masterson**  
Reliability Supervisor
- Patrick McAndrew**  
Manager of Engineering
- Bryon Roland**  
Purchasing & Facilities Supervisor
- Brendan Short**  
Right-of-Way/Forestry Supervisor
- Renee Spalla**  
Supervisor of Consumer Services
- Chris Weller**  
Load Management Supervisor
- Outages & Emergencies**  
1-800-332-7273  
724-463-7273
- Office Hours**  
Indiana Office: 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
Ebensburg Office:  
7 - 11 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
Monday - Friday

## Guest Column



### Directors make a difference for the members

By Stacy Patterson-Hilliard, CCC,  
*Communications & Marketing Supervisor*

MEMBERSHIP matters because you matter to your electric cooperative. A key reason for this is that cooperatives are guided by a board of directors made up of members of the cooperative, elected by the members of REA Energy. These board members are your friends, neighbors and fellow residents of our community, and they truly understand the needs of our area.

Being a member of the cooperative's board is an important position in our community. A director's decisions will impact issues such as service rates, rights-of-way and work plans. This position holds great responsibility and requires men and women who understand their community's needs and serve cooperative members' best interests. That's the essence of the seventh cooperative principle, "Concern for Community," one of seven guidelines that govern electric cooperative operations.

In addition to ensuring that REA Energy serves the best interests of its members, the board of directors is committed to providing solutions that maintain the vibrancy of our local communities. Being a cooperative board member requires a real commitment of time and effort, meaning board members want to engage to make a real contribution to the membership and community.

Board members must attend many meetings, make difficult business decisions, be a part of the community, represent their individual districts, and even receive phone calls at all hours of

the day. However, one of the most demanding parts of being a board member is staying current on electric industry issues, and ensuring that REA Energy is well represented at the statewide and national organizations. On average, REA Energy directors dedicate 20 hours per month to cooperative-related activities.

Some of the typical events board members are expected to attend include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ Annual membership meeting,
- ▶ Yearly area meetings, and
- ▶ Cooperative-sponsored events, including: open houses, committee meetings, strategic planning sessions, visits with elected officials.

Upon being elected, directors are expected to obtain the Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) certificate. The CCD consists of five courses designed to provide essential knowledge and skills required of a cooperative director. In addition, directors will then have the opportunity to earn the Board Leadership Certificate (BLC) and Director Gold credential.

Your co-op was formed locally, and it's still managed by your friends and neighbors. Throughout the last 80 years, the cooperative's board of directors has been there to make important decisions, listen to the members, and do their part to make REA Energy Cooperative the company it is today. Through active engagement and participation, the board can ensure it is leading the cooperative in a positive direction. 

## Thank a lineman on April 10

EVERY YEAR, we take the time to thank our extraordinary lineworkers who dedicate their lives to keeping the lights on in our local communities. Twenty-six linemen maintain 2,657 miles of line in REA Energy Cooperative's (REA) service territory; without them, our world would be dark.

We depend on all employees to keep REA running smoothly, but on April 10, 2017, we will honor our linemen who often find themselves in dangerous and challenging situations so our lives may be a little bit brighter and safer every day.

These brave men repair damaged lines and maintain critical infrastructure for our communities. Without their hard work and commitment to the job, our co-op would not thrive. No matter the time — day or night, weekday, or weekend — if the lights go out, so do they.

Perhaps you have seen them raising their bucket trucks in howling winds and torrential rains or in freezing, icy conditions. They work around the clock near high-voltage power lines until electricity is restored to every member in our cooperative community.

In addition to aiding members in our local service territory, linemen are always willing and eager to volunteer when a neighboring community, county, or state is in need after a major outage occurs.

Our linemen are brave, committed and critical to our success. This year, we celebrate them with the help of our members. REA asked members to share their personal experiences and say thank you to our linemen with compliments for their special day. The plan has been a success. Plenty of members have been eager to write what they are most thankful for, not just April 10, but every day they have power.

We hope you will join us in thanking the many lineworkers — both locally and around the world — who light our lives. Remember, your power works because they do. ☀



THANK YOU TO REA ENERGY LINEMEN: REA Energy Ebensburg Chief Lineman Craig Scott (on the pole), and Indiana Chief Lineman Matt Bumbarger work together to keep the lights on for our members.

## Our members 'Thank You' to our linemen

*"They have been out on some of the coldest nights to restore power and fix a downed line so I could stay warm. Thank you! God bless you! Blessings to your safety." — Trina*

*"They are on call 24/7 and get our electricity restored as fast as they can. Thank you for climbing poles in all kinds of weather conditions." — Karen*

*"I am thankful for the linemen at REA every day for keeping the lights on, one in particular and that's my brother, Wayne. They all take time away from their own families to make sure complete strangers are taken care of. They brave all the elements of Pennsylvania weather so we all are warm or cool depending on which of the four seasons we have that day. Thank you all for all you do." — Steph*

*"There was a time when our electric service was undependable, but for the last 30 years, we haven't experienced outages for any prolonged period. It is great to have a dependable source of energy. Thank you!"*

*"Because they put their lives on the line every day!"*

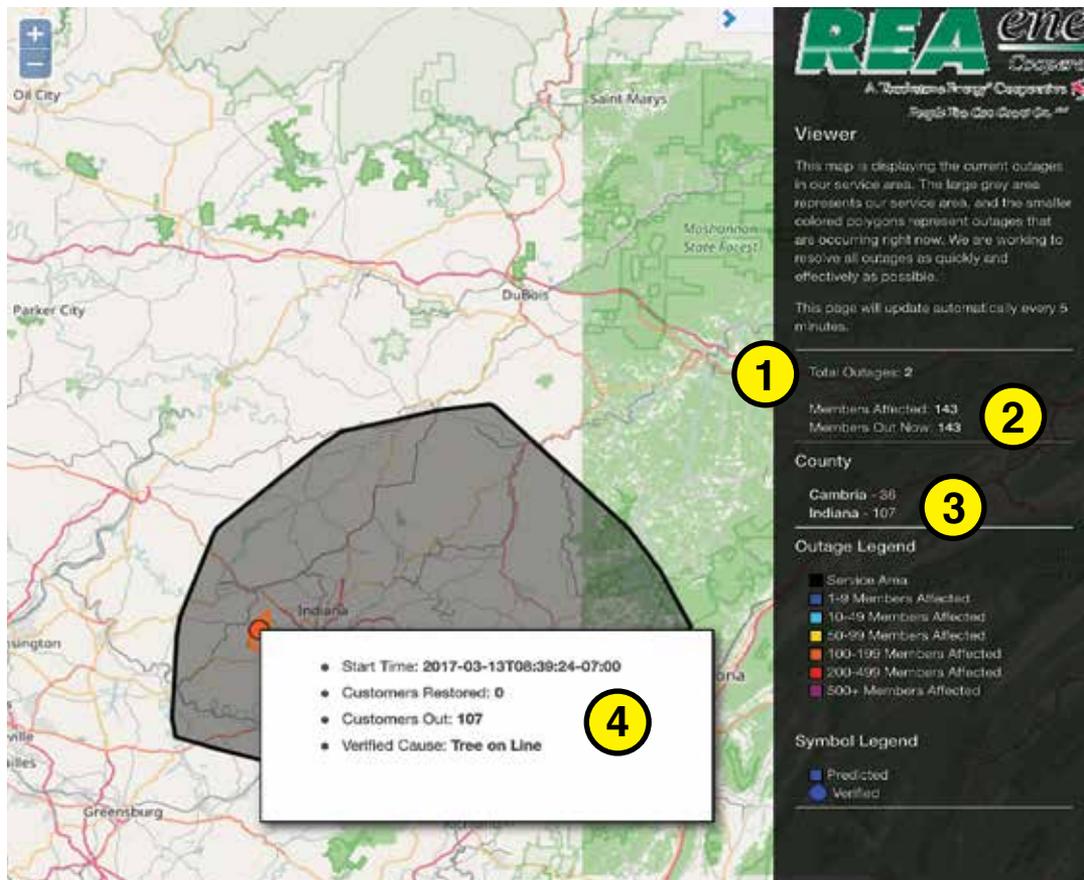
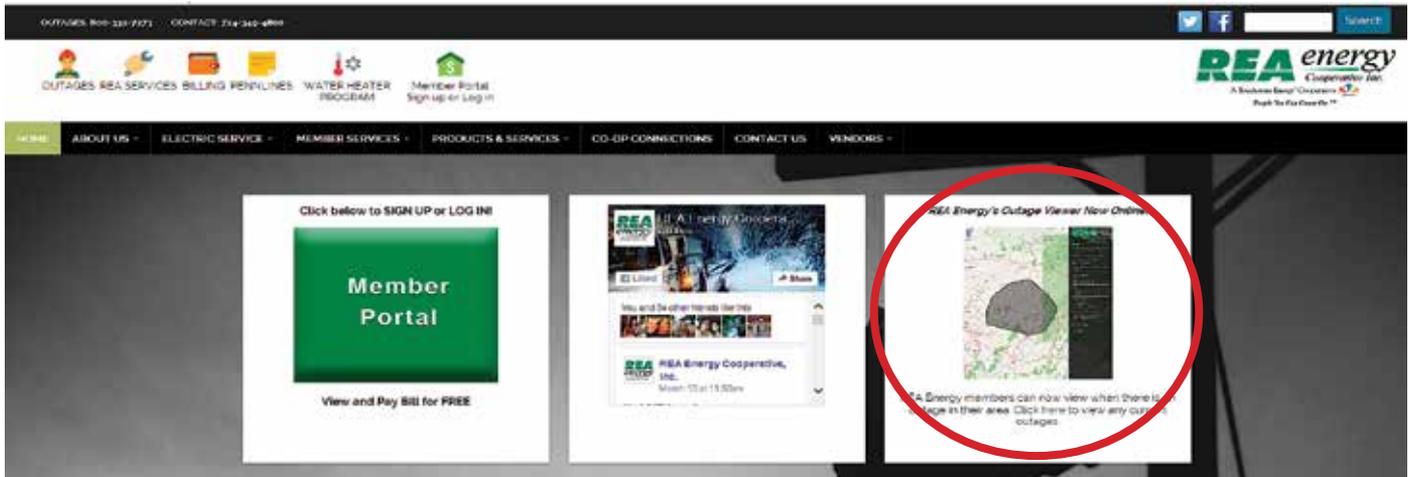
*"They have to work in the worst weather to provide us service. Thank you!"*

# REA Energy's outage viewer now online!

REA Energy members can now see when there is an outage in their area. Members can access the link to the outage viewer by visiting [www.reaenergy.com](http://www.reaenergy.com) and clicking the icon (circled in red below).

Once you reach the outage view, you will be able to see:

1. The total number of outages (the viewer will update every five minutes).
2. The number of members affected by outages.
3. Outage totals per county.
4. You will also be able to click on a specific outage and see how many members are affected, and the cause of the outage (if known).



**Want to learn about our subsidiary? Visit [reaservices.com](http://reaservices.com)**

REA Energy Services, Inc. (REA ES) is pleased to announce a new website for you to visit to learn more about the subsidiary. The new site is up and available for you to access. The home page, shown to the right, is what you will see when you visit [www.reaservices.com](http://www.reaservices.com).

From the home page you can explore the different products and services that are offered. You can also send emails directly to the subsidiary with your questions by clicking on the link or sending it to [reaservices@reaservices.com](mailto:reaservices@reaservices.com).

We will continue to make the site more user-friendly and add information on REA Energy Services. Check back often!

REA Energy Cooperative, Inc., has a wholly owned subsidiary called REA Energy Services.

In 1999, we started the subsidiary to offer our membership a growing number of innovative new products and services available to both members and non-members. This name helps to keep alive the spirit of improving the living standards among rural residents as first embodied in the original Rural Electrification Administration established on May 11, 1935. REA Energy Services will continue to expand as additional products and services are sought by our members. Visit this website regularly to find out about these new products and services.



Earth Day Network's mission is to broaden and diversify the environmental movement worldwide and to mobilize it as the most effective vehicle to build a healthy, sustainable environment, address climate change, and protect the Earth for future generations. On April 22, 2017, you can celebrate Earth Day by practicing the tips below.

**Five Easy Ways to CELEBRATE EARTH DAY Every Day**

1. Conserve water by taking showers instead of baths.
2. Turn off all lights when you leave a room.
3. Bring your reusable bags to the market and other stores when shopping.
4. Go paperless. Pay as many bills as possible online.
5. Ditch the car and walk when possible.

**Right-of-way management/facility construction news**

REA Energy contractors will be completing tree-trimming work in the following areas in April:

- ▶ Contractor crews from Asplundh Tree Expert Co. will be trimming the rights-of-way of the Birtle Metering Point and Strongstown Substations areas, in addition to emergency maintenance areas. Crews from Penn Line Service will be trimming the right-of-way of the St. Augustine Substation area. Notification of work will be made using our automated phone system to members in the areas affected.

Contractors will perform all right-of-way work per REA Energy specifications. If you have any questions, call 724-349-4800, or you can view the specifications online at: [www.reaenergy.com](http://www.reaenergy.com). All crews will carry cards and have magnets on their vehicles identifying them as REA Energy contractors.

**REA Energy offices will be closed on Friday, April 14, 2017, in observance of Good Friday. Power outages can be reported by calling 724-463-7273 or 800-332-7273.**

**Your Board of Directors**

