

# REA Energy Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey



Chad Carrick  
President & CEO

**REA Energy Cooperative, Inc.**  
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Ebensburg, PA 15931  
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Website: [www.reaenergy.com](http://www.reaenergy.com)  
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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 Manager

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

**Local Pages Editor**  
**Chris Masterson**  
Reliability Supervisor

**Patrick McAndrew**  
Manager of Engineering

**Bryon Roland**  
Purchasing & Facilities Manager

**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



### Do the 'Electric Shift' to save money

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

SUMMER for many is a time to take a break and enjoy vacations, picnics and spending time outdoors. For electric cooperatives like REA Energy, it's also a very busy time. We're clearing rights-of-way, inspecting poles and doing new construction.

This summer, we are asking members to be mindful of their use of electricity by shifting electric consumption to the morning or later evening hours. Take time this summer to help yourself, your cooperative and fellow members save money by doing the "Electric Shift." What exactly is the Electric Shift? Well, with some planning and practice, members can use electricity more wisely and help keep rates low.

By shifting your electric consumption to the morning or evening, you can help to keep wholesale power costs as low as possible, especially during the hottest days of summer. During hot and humid summer days, electric use tends to be exceptionally high, especially during the hours of 1 to 6 p.m. This makes the cost of generating electricity high to meet the increased demand for power. These costs will continue to increase as older coal plants go off the grid.

REA Energy's future power costs are partially based on the amount of electricity members use during the peaking days, because that is when we have to purchase expensive electricity that is not owned by our power supplier. On these days, listen to your radio or visit REA's website, Facebook or Twitter pages for reminders to shift electric

use. Our members already enjoy one of the lowest kilowatt-hour rates in the state and doing the Electric Shift will help continue to keep rates low.

#### Doing the Electric Shift is simple!

During the hot and humid weekdays, shift your electric consumption to before 1 p.m. and after 6 p.m. by doing these simple steps:

- ▶ Set your air conditioners at 78 degrees or use fans instead.
- ▶ Close your curtains and blinds to keep things cooler inside your home.
- ▶ Operate washers, dryers, dishwashers, stoves, and other major appliances in the early morning or evening, but not during the middle of the day.
- ▶ Limit the number of times you open your refrigerator and freezer, as well as your exterior doors.
- ▶ Instead of using your oven, fire up the grill or use your microwave.
- ▶ Turn off non-essential lights and appliances, such as DVD players and radios.
- ▶ Run pool pumps at night.
- ▶ Use energy-efficient lightbulbs, such as compact florescent or LED lights.

By working together, we can help keep power costs and consumer retail prices low now and into the future. So remember to do the Electric Shift during the hot days of summer. Another way you can help is by joining our load management water heater, duel fuel and ETS heater programs. Call today to join at 724-349-4800. 

# Visit the NEW [www.connections.coop](http://www.connections.coop)!!



Membership Provided by

REA Energy Cooperative, Inc.



Indiana, PA, 15701

Welcome to Co-op Connections!

This free program provides co-op members with discounts on everyday expenses.

Here are just some of the ways you can save money – Enjoy!

- Co-op local deals to save money in and around your community
- Healthy savings discounts for prescriptions, dental and more
- Cash Back online shopping at over 3,000 retailers
- Hotels savings at over 400,000 hotels
- Save 10% on all concerts, sports events, and theaters
- Insurance savings to protect your family
- National discounts to help you save money wherever you travel

We are excited to let all REA Energy Cooperative members know we've upgraded our current Co-op Connections platform to give you even more savings and discounts. Here are just some of the benefits you can enjoy with your free membership:

- ▶ Local deals – Save right in your neighborhood.
- ▶ Healthy savings – Save on prescriptions, dental, vision, chiropractic and more.
- ▶ Hotels – Save 20 percent on average bookings worldwide.
- ▶ Cash-back shopping – Earn up to 20 percent cash back at 2,000-plus online retailers.
- ▶ Event tickets – Save 10 percent on sports, concerts, theatrical performances and more.
- ▶ National discounts – Get access to great deals and discounts.
- ▶ Insurance savings – Save hundreds annually when you compare insurance rates on home, life, auto and more.

To learn more about Co-op Connections and to take advantage of the deals and savings, all you need to do is visit [Connections.coop](http://Connections.coop) and watch a quick overview video of the program, and then click “Sign Up.” We look forward to providing you an incredible membership program that will save you lots of money on your everyday purchases.

We are constantly striving to provide more value and savings for our members, while living the cooperative difference. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out. Go beyond the card and find all the ways to save!

# New faces at REA Energy

Bill Lewis started in the position of journeyman lineman on June 4, 2018. Some of his duties will include: construction and maintenance of overhead and underground lines, and helping to continue to bring reliable service to the cooperative members safely.

Bill is a graduate of Glendale School District and Saint Francis College. He also is a graduate of the Northeast Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee.

In his free time, he enjoys camping, hunting and spending time with his family.



William Lewis, journeyman lineman

Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) student Zach Nedwreski started in the position of safety intern on May 14, 2018.

Some of his duties will include: hazard identification, evaluation and control; incident investigation; health and safety training and education; and compliance with federal, state and local law.

Zach is attending IUP majoring in safety, health and environmental applied sciences. His interests include playing hockey, working out and hiking.



Zach Nedwreski, safety intern

## What is the 'cooperative advantage?'

AS CO-OP employees, we know what makes our business model great! But explaining the cooperative difference to someone who's never heard of a co-op can be challenging — especially when time may be short. In a nutshell, the points below can quickly help to explain what makes co-ops special:

Electric co-ops are community-focused organizations that deliver safe, reliable and affordable energy to their consumer-members.

Our electric co-op is unique because we belong to the communities we serve. The co-op is led by its members, which gives us a unique understanding of the needs of our local communities. In fact, many of our leaders and employees live right here in the community and are members of the co-op — just like you!

Because we answer to local members (that's you!) rather than far-away shareholders, we're more nimble and able to respond quickly to the changing needs of our community. We even share any excess revenue with our members because we're not-for-profit.

Even though we're locally owned and operated, we cooperate with other electric cooperatives across the country to develop new technologies, invest in equipment and infrastructure that benefit multiple co-ops in a region, and assist with major outages. This type of collaboration allows us to address complex challenges while remaining true to our local roots.

Our electric co-op was built by the community, belongs to

the community and continues to be led by the community — that's the cooperative difference! ☀️



# Important annual meeting news

The 2018 REA Energy Cooperative Annual Meeting will be held at the Kovalchick Convention Complex located at 711 Pratt Drive, Indiana, Pa., on Thursday, Sept. 20, 2018. Come and learn more about your cooperative! All members who attend the meeting will receive a gift and will be eligible for door prizes. Doors open at 4:30 p.m., and entertainment begins at 5:30 p.m., followed by the business meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Please keep this annual meeting information in mind on Sept. 20:

- ▶ NO voting for directors will be held at the meeting.
- ▶ Only members residing in Districts 4, 7, 8 and 9 will receive election information for their district.
- ▶ Attendance gifts and door prizes for members will be given at the meeting; an admittance card will be mailed.
- ▶ Parking will be available in the lot behind the complex and in the lot to the left of the complex. REA employees will be present in each lot. A van will also be available for transportation to the building from the parking lots.

REA Energy Cooperative, Inc. Annual Meeting  
 Sept. 20, 2018  
 Kovalchick Convention Complex  
 711 Pratt Drive, Indiana, Pa.

## Preliminary agenda

- 5:30- 6:15 p.m.** Entertainment
- 6:30 p.m.** Call to Order and Determination of a Quorum
- Reading of Notices
- Action on 2017 Minutes
- Election Results
- Chairman's Report
- President & CEO Report
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Questions & Answers
- Adjournment
- Awarding of Prizes

**REA Energy offices will be closed on Monday, Sept. 3, in observance of Labor Day.**

**Power outages can be reported by calling 724-463-7273 or 800-332-7273.**

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

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

- ▶ Contractor crews from Asplundh Tree Expert Co. will be trimming the rights-of-way of the Kenwood and Indiana North substation areas, in addition to emergency maintenance areas. Crews from Penn Line Service will be trimming the right-of-way of the Uniontown Substation area. Notification of work will be made to members in the areas affected.

Contractors will perform all right-of-way work per REA Energy specifications. All contractor employees will carry employee identification cards and their vehicles will display their company name.

If you have any questions, call 724-349-4800, or you can view the specifications online at: [www.reaenergy.com](http://www.reaenergy.com).

# Your Board of Directors



**Michael J. Bertolino**  
 Chairman  
 District 3



**Wayne Farabaugh**  
 Vice Chairman  
 District 8



**Robert P. Neese**  
 Secretary/Treasurer  
 District 5



**Herman Blakley**  
 District 9



**Sam Eckenrod**  
 District 1



**Anthony Enciso**  
 District 7



**Howard Terndrup**  
 District 4



**John R. Learn**  
 District 6



**J.R. "Rick" Shope**  
 District 2

*REA Energy is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*