

# REA Energy Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



Website: [www.reaenergy.com](http://www.reaenergy.com)  
Email: [reaenergy@reaenergy.com](mailto:reaenergy@reaenergy.com)

**Chad Carrick**  
President and CEO

#### STAFF

**Barry Baker**  
Indiana Operations Manager

**Erin Bauer**  
PAC Coordinator

**Shane Cribbs**  
Network & Systems Manager

**Dave Daugherty**  
Safety & Right of Way Manager

**Steve Malesky**  
Ebensburg Operations Supervisor

**Lisa Gardill**  
Director of Finance &  
Accounting Services

**Nick Hartman**  
Manager of Engineering

**Stacy Hilliard, CCC, CKAE**  
Communications & Marketing Manager  
Local Pages Editor

**Renee Spalla**  
Supervisor of Consumer Services

**Chris Weller**  
Load Management Supervisor

**OUTAGES & EMERGENCIES**  
844-920-3395

**OFFICE HOURS**  
Indiana Office: 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Ebensburg Office: 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**  
Monday, Wednesday and Friday  
Closed Tuesday and Thursday

# COOPERATIVE CONNECTION

## Rising Costs on the PJM Grid: What It Means for Members



**CHAD  
CARRICK**

**YOU MAY HAVE HEARD A LOT** in the news recently about PJM Interconnection (PJM) and the electric grid. It's no secret that over the past several years, wholesale power costs have been steadily climbing. During the 2026-2027 PJM capacity auction, those costs increased more than 22% compared with what they were in 2024.

This trend is driven by two major factors: the growing demand for electricity and the retirement of power plants, which reduces available capacity. As electricity supply tightens and demand for electricity rises, higher costs are inevitable, and wholesale rate increases become necessary. Also contributing to the increases in wholesale rates are the rising costs of electric transmission.

### How this affects our members

Starting with members' January 2026 bills, the wholesale generation and transmission kilowatt-hour (kWh) rate will increase by approximately 13%. For residential members, this translates into an estimated \$10 per month increase in their electric bills. It is important to note that this market-driven cost is a direct pass through expense that REA Energy Cooperative cannot control.

Recognizing the impact on members, REA Energy has committed to absorbing \$1.7 million in costs. While this decision will reduce margins for 2026, it demonstrates the cooperative's dedication to protecting members from the full weight of rising wholesale prices.

REA Energy currently has no plans to raise its distribution kWh rate or access fee. While wholesale generation and transmission costs are increasing, REA Energy will continue to work on reducing the need for any additional distribution-related rate hikes.

### Cooperatives' commitment to affordability

Even in these challenging times, Pennsylvania and New Jersey electric cooperatives continue to work diligently to maintain the lowest possible costs. In fact, our generation and transmission rates are currently among the lowest in Pennsylvania. This achievement reflects the cooperative model's commitment to serving members first, ensuring affordability and navigating market volatility with resilience.

As the energy landscape evolves, REA Energy remains focused on balancing financial responsibility with member support. While wholesale market conditions may be beyond our control, our cooperative values — community, fairness and transparency — guide every decision we make. ☺

**CHAD CARRICK, MBA, CFPC**  
PRESIDENT & CEO

# CO-OP CONNECTIONS PROGRAM

**Bringing businesses and the community together!**

The Co-op Connections program, offered in partnership with Touchstone Energy, provides REA members with online, national and local discounts at participating businesses.

Use your card or the Co-op Connections app!

## Local discounts include:

700 Shop	Frazier Brothers	Moreau Sign Company
Aztec Travel Service	Gaboda Building and Remodeling	Music Mart
B & M Lawncare	Gingerbread Running Company	Paul Weston Notary Service
Bassett Auto Repair	Gone for a Day Sports	Penn Glass and Fender
Bender Auto Repair	Hair Color Experience	Petite Pet Grooming
Benjamin's Restaurant	Henigin's Small Engine Repairs	Plant-It Earth Greenhouse
Blessings Photography	High Street Emporium	Portage Florals
Britta's Cuts and Styles	Horses and Hounds	Precious Pups Dog Grooming
Byrne Millwork	Hubcap's Pizza	REA Energy Services, Inc.
Cole's Auto Repair	Indian Springs Eye Associates	Rik-N-Nik's, LLC
Creative Fabrics and Quilt Shop	Indiana Eye Care	Riverview Homes, Inc.
D. Edward Leasing Co., Inc.	Indiana Floral	Safe Buy Home Inspections
D.C. Sales and Services, Inc.	Italian Village Pizza - Ebensburg	Shear Perfection Hair Styling
Daniel J. Carney, Inc.	K & D Auto and Tire Treatment Systems	Shear Stylin
Darlene's Flower and Gift Shop	Keith's Industrial Welding	SimCloud Corporation
DD's Unique Boutique	Luxenberg's Jewelers	Speedy Furniture
Dr. William Fetchko	Mainline Pharmacy - Ebensburg	Super 8 - Johnstown
Dynamark of Western Pa.	M & J Cycles	The Coney
Fleming's Tax Service	Marsh Contracting, LLC	The Vernon Co.
Flower Gallery and Balloons of Indiana	Mary's DeJaVu	This, That, and More Resale Shoppe
Fore Golf Driving Range	McAdoo's Motorcycle Shop	Tire Express
Fox's Pizza Den - Shelocta	Meadow Lane Golf Course	Tracy's Consignment Shop
Frank' Slavinski State Farm	Mihalkos General Contracting	Tri County ATV
	Minich's Sales and Service	Tri Star Motors
	Mint Capital Advisors, LLC	Warren Peter Construction, Inc.
		William and Mary Gift Shoppe

**Contact us for more information at  
724-349-4800 or view local discount listings  
at [reaenergy.com/co-op-connections-card](http://reaenergy.com/co-op-connections-card).**

Co-op Connections® Card

**REA** *energy*  
Cooperative Inc.  
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



# How will you MAKE YOUR MARK?



A week of building memories, skills, leadership and friendships that will last a lifetime!

June 15-20, 2026

- Explore Washington, D.C., through historic monuments, world-class museums and visits with elected officials.
- Build leadership skills and discover how you can make your mark on the future.
- Connect with students from across the country and form friendships that last a lifetime, all sponsored by your local electric cooperative.

Yes! I am interested in participating in REA Energy's 2026 Youth Tour. Please send me an application and information packet.

Return this slip by Jan. 9.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

REA Energy Cooperative, Inc.

Communications Department

P.O. Box 70

Indiana, PA, 15701

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

High School: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

REA Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**REA** *energy*  
Cooperative Inc.

MAKE YOUR MARK!



## REA ENERGY SERVICES

We offer complete electrical solutions for residential and commercial clients, meeting your needs efficiently and excellently.

CONTACT US



724-349-4800

[WWW.REASERVICES.COM](http://WWW.REASERVICES.COM)

# REA Services



ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING



ENERGY EFFICIENT HVAC



BACKUP GENERATORS



### Right-of-Way Management/Facility Construction News

REA Energy contractors will complete tree-trimming work in January.

Contractor crews from Penn Line Tree Service will be trimming the rights of way of the Amsbry substation areas in addition to emergency maintenance areas.

Members in the affected areas will be notified. 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 view the specifications at [reaenergy.com](http://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



Sandra Dill  
District 9



Tom Beresnyak  
District 1



Anthony Enciso  
District 7



Thomas Aurandt  
District 4



John R. Learn  
District 6



J.R. "Rick" Shope  
District 2

REA Energy is an equal opportunity provider and employer.