

DISCOVERING SOUTH KENTUCKY

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Embracing change: Powering a stronger future

The 2020s have brought rapid change—transforming the way we live, work and plan for the future.

For us at South Kentucky RECC, these changes have meant adapting, innovating and staying focused on what matters most: delivering safe, reliable and affordable power to our members.

As a not-for-profit cooperative, we don't answer to shareholders—we answer to you, our members. And while the past five years have brought significant shifts in the energy landscape, we've taken bold steps to ensure your power remains dependable.

The cost of essential materials has increased dramatically since 2020:

- Steel poles—up 64%
- Transformers—up 44%
- Regulators—up 123%
- Wire for power lines—up 65%

These are everyday materials we use to power your homes and businesses. Rising costs mean we've had to evolve how we plan and invest—but we're doing so with long-term strength and resilience in mind.

We're also seeing growth in the demand for electricity. Kentucky has experienced three consecutive winters with record or near-record usage. East Kentucky Power Cooperative, our wholesale power provider, has responded with



a clear vision: more power generation for a growing Kentucky. To accomplish this, EKPC is:

- Building two new power plants
- Upgrading five coal-fired units for better cost control and emissions flexibility

In addition, EKPC has invested more than \$1 billion in emissions compliance over the past two decades, ensuring we meet environ-

mental standards while maintaining reliable service. These investments are forward-thinking and vital to powering our communities responsibly.

Change can be challenging—but it also brings opportunity. The steps we're taking today are building a stronger, more sustainable energy future. New generation resources will serve our members for decades, supporting local growth and helping communities across Kentucky thrive.

South Kentucky RECC celebrates remarkable workplace safety milestone

At South Kentucky RECC, safety is at the heart of everything we do. Highlighting our commitment to maintaining a secure work environment and prioritizing employee well-being, we're proud to announce a significant achievement: surpassing 500,000 work hours without a lost-time accident. This milestone underscores our steadfast dedication to workplace safety and employee health.

A lost-time accident refers to incidents resulting in an employee missing scheduled work due to injury. Achieving nearly two years without such incidents highlights the efficacy of our robust safety measures, extensive training programs and steadfast safety culture.

This accomplishment reflects the cooperative's proactive approach to identifying and eliminating potential hazards in the workplace, emphasizing teamwork and vigilance in ensuring a safe environment for all.

This milestone holds particular significance for South Kentucky RECC, marking only the second time in our history that such an achievement has been attained—the first occurring approximately two decades ago.



SKRECC crews in action: Restoring power with safety in mind. Photo: Brandon Wesley

Kevin Newton, president and CEO of South Kentucky RECC, expressed pride in the cooperative's employees.

"Reaching this safety milestone is a testament to our team's unwavering commitment to each other and to doing the job the right way—every time," Newton says. "Safety isn't just a priority at South Kentucky RECC; it's a core value that guides every decision we make."

In recognition of our exceptional safety record, South Kentucky RECC is now eligible for the prestigious Governor's 500,000 Hour Safety Award.

Looking ahead, South Kentucky RECC remains dedicated to fostering a culture of safety, continuous training and collaborative teamwork. We eagerly anticipate building on this success and achieving future milestones.

South Kentucky RECC Annual Membership Days

June 10, 2025

Wayne and Clinton county offices

June 11, 2025

McCreary and Russell county offices

June 12, 2025

Somerset office

7:30 a.m.–6 p.m. All times are local.



WADE HARRIS



PHOTOS: MORGAN BLEVINS



WADE HARRIS

2025 South Kentucky Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation Annual Membership Meeting Agenda – June 12, 2025

7 p.m. *Electronic public access open to view live meeting to be conducted by streaming video.*

Access to view meeting can be obtained three ways:

1. By pasting the following link into your web browser: <https://www.skrecc.com/annualmeeting>
2. By going to <https://skrecc.com> and clicking on the “Annual Meeting” link
3. By scanning this QR Code to your mobile device:



7:30 p.m. *Convene live annual membership meeting by streaming video*

Welcome and introduction of meeting format

Invocation

Introduction of SKRECC’s board of directors and other meeting participants

Business meeting

Introduction of business meeting moderator—Board Chairperson Cathy Epperson

Call of meeting to order by moderator—Board Counsel Frank Phillips

Report on quorum for meeting/inapplicability of quorum requirement

- Reading of the notice of the meeting and proof of mailing
- Consideration and approval of 2024 annual meeting minutes
- Presentation of reports of officers, directors and committees
- Unfinished business
- New business as proposed in Section 3.08 of the bylaws (if any)
- President and chief executive officer’s report—President/CEO Kevin Newton
- Announcement of vehicle drawing winner
- Adjournment of business meeting— Board Counsel Frank Phillips

Keep your cool

The longer, warmer days of summer officially arrive this month. Though temperatures will be rising, your electricity costs don’t have to. South Kentucky RECC energy experts suggest looking at these areas for easy savings.

- **Air conditioner.** Inspect the unit for visible leaks, loose connections or damaged insulation on refrigerant lines. Inside, routinely replacing or cleaning air filters can save up to 15% in energy use.
- **Ceiling fans.** A fan uses about 99% less electricity than an air conditioner. Running a fan in conjunction with air conditioning lets you raise your thermostat a few degrees and remain comfortable.
- **Shower.** Who needs a scalding hot shower in the summer? Lowering the temperature of your water heater can help save energy.
- **Laundry room.** Wash clothes in cold water, and for an extra savings boost,

hang them outside to dry instead of running your dryer.

- **Windows.** Close blinds, curtains or shades to block direct sunlight, reducing the heat in living spaces.
- **Kitchen.** Avoid using the oven, which generates a lot of heat. Instead, grill outdoors or use low-heat options like the microwave or slow cooker.

Enroll in South Kentucky RECC’s SimpleSaver program to save more. Help us manage electricity use during peak demand periods and earn up to \$20 in bill credits annually for each central air conditioner you register. Plus, you may be eligible for a \$100 rebate if purchasing a qualifying smart thermostat.

For more energy-saving ideas, visit togetherwesaveky.com.



Board of Directors

Cathy Crew Epperson, Chairperson
Brent Tackett, Vice Chairman
Boris Haynes, Secretary/Treasurer
William Allen, Jr.
CV Hansford
Tommy Nelson, Jr.
Greg Redmon

President & CEO

Kevin Newton

Communications Administrator

Morgan Blevins

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Visit www.skrecc.applicantpro.com/jobs/ to explore exciting career opportunities with the South Kentucky RECC Team.

South Kentucky RECC is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

Visit www.skrecc.com to pay your bill online, to visit our outage center, or for more information about the Co-op Connections Program.

To report an outage 24/7/365, please call your local office, (800) 264-5112, or set up your account to be able to text outages. Please do not report outages via social media.

Plug into South Kentucky RECC. Follow us on social media:



Summer water safety: Stay safe on the lake

As summer kicks off, many of us are eager to enjoy the pleasures of Kentucky's lakes and waterways, whether through swimming, boating or fishing. However, it's important to remember that water and electricity don't mix. There are various electrical hazards around boats, marinas and launch ramps that can pose serious risks to your safety.

To help ensure you have a safe and enjoyable time on the water, follow these guidelines:

- Avoid swimming near boats connected to shore power or docks with electrical service. Stay at least 100 yards away from any marina, dock or boatyard, as the location of electrical currents in the water may be unknown.
- Don't enter the water when launching or loading a boat. Electrical currents can leak from docks or boats, electrifying the water.
- Be aware of power lines when fishing. Ensure you cast your line well

away from power lines to prevent accidental contact.

- Maintain a safe distance of at least 10 feet between your boat and power lines. This reduces the risk of dangerous electrical encounters.
- If your boat touches a power line, don't jump into the water. The water could be electrified. Stay inside the boat and avoid touching metal parts until help arrives or until the boat is no longer in contact with the line.
- Have a qualified marine technician inspect your boat's electrical system and private dock wiring annually. Make sure to test the boat's ground fault circuit interrupters and equipment leakage circuit interrupters every month.

As you enjoy the beautiful waters of Lake Cumberland and other popular Kentucky lakes, keep safety in mind. By taking a few precautions, you can ensure a fun and secure experience on the water all summer long.



Summer Water Safety

