



DAVID VONDRAN
CEO/GENERAL MANAGER

Whatever it Takes

Powering life from a lineworker's perspective

Lineworkers are ranked as having one of the 10 most dangerous jobs in the country. The lineworkers at C & L Electric Cooperative work rain or shine, in often challenging conditions, to ensure you have reliable electricity.

We're celebrating Lineworker Appreciation Day on April 8.

The Danger

A lot of people know linework is dangerous because the work is near high-voltage electricity. Move just the wrong way or lose focus for a split second, and it could be deadly. You have to be aware of your surroundings and the safety of the person next to you. Lineworkers work with an element of danger that requires concentration, and there is no margin for error. The environment compounds the pressure, because when you need power most is usually when the weather is worst. Our crews often work in storms with rain, wind, extreme heat and cold, in the dark or on the side of the road next to fast-moving traffic. Yes, it's dangerous, but that's what lineworkers are trained to do.

Many may not realize it, but lineworkers undergo years of training before they can officially be called a lineworker. New employees typically start as a groundperson, helping crews with tools and keeping job sites safe, then transition to apprentice status, which typically spans four years. After an apprenticeship, with thousands of hours of training under their belts, they transition to journeyman lineworker status — that's when they're considered officially trained.

But the education is ongoing. Lineworkers continuously receive training to stay mindful of safety requirements and up to date on the latest equipment and procedures.

The Physical Demand

The daily expectations of lineworkers are physically demanding, but you won't hear any of them complain about that. Loading heavy materials and climbing poles and in and out of buckets are just a few of the strenuous tasks. A lot of times, lineworkers go places the trucks can't, so they might be hiking through the woods loaded down with 40 pounds of personal protective equipment.

The Sacrifices

There are some sacrifices to being lineworkers. They are often first on the scene of an emergency, seeing things that are devastating like car accidents, structure fires and damage from severe storms. They don't know what type of situations they're going to face or when they're going to face them. They get outage calls all hours and in the middle of the night. Our lineworkers have missed a lot of school events, ballgames and family dinners. Our lineworkers make sure there is nothing standing in the way of helping our friends and neighbors get back to normal life.

It's Worth It

Our crews take a lot of pride in their work. Even when it's cold and wet, they know they're working to keep people warm. There's a lot of satisfaction in hearing someone yell, "Thank you" from the window after the lights come back on or seeing people flipping the light switches on their porches after an outage is restored. No matter how tired lineworkers are or how long they work, that feeling always makes it worth it.

Our employees are members of this community. We live in the same neighborhoods. We shop at the same stores. Our kids go to the same schools. If your lights are off, there is a good chance ours are off, too.

If you see our lineworkers out in the community, be sure to shake their hands and thank them for their hard work and dedication.



NRECA

Summary of the Bylaws of C & L Electric Cooperative Corporation



ARTICLE I – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Any individual or Entity will become a member of C & L Electric Cooperative Corporation (the "Cooperative") upon receipt of a Cooperative Service from the Cooperative, provided that he, she or it has first: (a) made a signed written application for membership therein; (b) agree to purchase energy from the Cooperative as hereinafter specified; (c) agreeing to comply with and be bound by the articles of incorporation, bylaws and rules and regulations of the cooperative; (d) paid the membership fee hereinafter specified; (e) provided or agrees to provide all information required by the Cooperative, which information and include photographic identification satisfactory to the Cooperative and his or her social security number or its federal tax identification number; and (f) agrees to complete any additional or supplemental documents, contrast or action required by the Cooperative.

Section 3. The term "member" shall be deemed to include married persons holding a joint membership.

Section 4. Upon the death of either spouse who is a party to a joint membership, such membership shall be held solely by the survivor.

ARTICLE II – RIGHTS & LIABILITIES OF MEMBERS

Section 2. Members are exempt from liability for the debts of the cooperative.

ARTICLE III – MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

Section 1. The Annual Meeting of members shall be held during the months of June, July or August at such place within a county served by the Cooperative as designated by the board of directors, for the purpose of electing directors, passing on reports, and transacting other business.

Section 3. Written notice of meetings of members stating the place, day and hour of the meeting shall be delivered or mailed to each member not less than 10 days before the date of the meeting.

Section 4. One thousand (1,000) members present in person or represented by ballot shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at all meetings of the members.

Section 5. Each member shall be entitled to only one (1) vote upon each matter submitted to a vote of the members in good standing. All matters which are necessary to be voted on by the membership shall only be by mail as herein provided. The record date for determining the total membership and the members entitled to receive a ballot will be May 1, 2024.

ARTICLE IV – BOARD MEMBERS

Section 1. The business and affairs of the cooperative shall be managed by a board of nine (9) members.

Section 2. Directors may be elected by a plurality vote of the members voting in the election. Each director

is elected for a term of five (5) years. The term of two directors will expire in 2024, and each five (5) years thereafter. The cooperative area allocated to and served by the cooperative is divided into eight areas, with one (1) area represented by two (2) directors, and each of the other seven (7) areas represented by one (1) director.

Section 3. No person shall be eligible to become or remain a Board member of the Cooperative who: (a) is not a member in good standing, a bona fide resident of, and physically occupying his/her primary residence within the district of the service area of the Cooperative from which he/she shall have been or shall be elected during the six (6) consecutive months prior to the election; (b) is in any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling electric energy or supplies to the Cooperative; (c) is a current employee, or is a former employee of the Cooperative whose employment with the Cooperative terminated within six (6) years of the date for determining eligibility to become a Board member, or the spouse or child of such current or former employees; (d) is a second-degree or closer relative of an incumbent director of the Cooperative, unless the incumbent director's term will expire prior to the person becoming a Board member, or (e) in the case of an incumbent director, shall have failed to attend at least seven (7) regular or special meetings of the Board during a period of twelve (12) consecutive months without extenuating circumstances.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Membership Meeting of the C & L Electric Cooperative Corporation will be held on Thursday, June 20, at the C & L Electric headquarters building in Star City, Lincoln County, beginning at 4 p.m. for the following purposes:

1. To pass on reports for the previous fiscal year;
2. To elect two directors to serve a term of five (5) years each;
3. To transact such other business as may come before the meeting.

John Ed Ashcraft
Secretary-Treasurer

Positions to be filled at the June 20, Annual Meeting:
District 5 – That portion of Drew County served by the cooperative;
District 2 – Lincoln County

The final date for submission of petitions nominating candidates for the positions to be filled is May 20.

Instructions for preparing nomination petitions may be obtained at the C & L Electric Cooperative headquarters in Star City on or after April 19.

STAR CITY OFFICE

900 Church St.
(870) 628-4221

Hours:

Monday-Friday
8 a.m.-5 p.m.

SHERIDAN OFFICE

1586 S. Rock St.
(870) 942-2732

Hours:

Monday-Friday
8 a.m.-11 a.m.,
12:30 p.m.-5 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS

Frank Wilson
John Ed Ashcraft
Lawrence "Bubba"
Hudson, Jr.
Charles S. Searcy
Philip C. "Phil" Wilson
William "Bubba"
Humphrey
Robert Wilson Floyd
Keith Griffin
Tony Cathey

SCAN TO PAY BILL



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COOPERATIVE
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Electricity supplier seeks rate adjustment

C & L Electric Cooperative's wholesale electricity supplier, Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation (AECC), is seeking adjustments to the wholesale power rates.

AECC is seeking a rate adjustment to recover the increased cost of providing wholesale generation and transmission service to C & L Electric and the 16 other electric distribution co-ops. This includes expenses related to operation and maintenance as well as investment credit compensation AECC provides to the co-ops. Additionally, the rate adjustment seeks to recover increased costs resulting from economic inflation.

The request for the rate adjustment was filed in December with the Arkansas Public Service Commission (ASPC). The adjustment will raise the average monthly bill for C & L residential members using 1,000 kWh by \$4.82 beginning with the bill members receive in May.

C & L is also facing higher local distribution costs but is not seeking any adjustments or operational changes at this time. C & L is committed to keeping rates low while providing safe, reliable and affordable electricity to our members.