



HOT WATTS



Orme Named General Manager

The CHEC Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that Juli Orme, CHEC's Chief Financial Officer, has been chosen to fill the position of General Manager.

"I am honored to have been selected to follow in the footsteps of Mr. Beck, and to serve our members in this capacity," says Orme.

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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STAFF

Juli Orme, General Manager
Eric Johnson, Assistant General Manager
Mark Blaylock, Director of Operations
Kristie Cash, Manager of Office Services

Russell V. Barber, *General Counsel*

Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc. welcomes members to submit photos, and articles which will be subject to editing. Cookson Hills reserves the right to publish or modify any article. Companies and individuals featured in the Hot Watts newsletter do not necessarily reflect the official policy, position, or view of Cookson Hills.

Felicia Wixom, *Editor*
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Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc. is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



If you find your account number hidden in this issue of the *Hot Watts*, you'll receive a \$25 credit on your electric bill.

Upcoming District Meetings



Theron Croisant, *Trustee*

District 2

August 15 at 4:30 p.m.

Vian Schools Cafetorium



William T. Mills, *President*

District 4

August 8 at 4:30 p.m.

Keota Schools Cafeteria



Joe Ogle, *Trustee*

District 6

August 8 at 5:30 p.m.

Kinta Schools Cafeteria

CHEC will send notices to members in each of these districts. Please read your district meeting notification carefully. If you have questions about the district meetings, please feel free to call 800-328-2368 or 918-775-2211.

Statement of Non-Discrimination

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs).

Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Person with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202)720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800)877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov

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Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Look for LED products and fixtures for outdoor use, such as pathway lights, step lights and porches. Many include features like automatic daylight shut-off and motion sensors. You can also find solar-powered lighting for outdoor spaces.

Source: energy.gov

What is Grid Resiliency?

Resiliency of the grid is one of the most popular concepts being talked about in the electric industry today. This concept recently made headlines in the wake of Hurricanes Irma and Maria, which caused extraordinary damage to Puerto Rico's electric grid resulting in the longest sustained outage in U.S. history. Lack of resilience became the go-to phrase to describe Puerto Rico's grid. Here in Oklahoma, what does grid resiliency mean for you?

Resiliency is many things – it's reliability in your electric service; it's our ability to efficiently restore your power; it's being able to meet the demands of new technology; and it's how we serve you with various generation sources without skipping a beat. Ultimately, resilience is how we deliver on our promise to improve the quality of life for our member-owners. [20102]

When it comes to having a resilient electric grid, it begins with a system that is designed and built to withstand high winds, powerful storms, cybersecurity threats and other disruptions that could result in outages. A resilient grid is also flexible and adaptable by allowing different types of generation – such as wind, solar, coal and hydro – to seamlessly work together to provide you with safe and reliable power. The way our systems react to advancements in technology – from demand response investments to serving the needs of electric vehicles – all factor into the resilience of our grid.

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Juli has been employed at CHEC for 22 ½ years, beginning her career in the accounting department doing payroll and accounts payable. She completed her management and accounting degrees while working full time, graduating first in her class at John Brown University. Juli was promoted to Manager of Accounting in 2003, and then became Chief Financial Officer in 2012.

Juli was a 1991 graduate and co-valedictorian of Stigler High School. She resides in Stigler with her husband Brett and their daughter Elizabeth, who will be entering the 8th grade at Stigler Middle School. They have two other children – Hailey Gourley and husband Logan of Grapevine, Texas, and Lane Stanfield of Stillwater, who is a senior at Oklahoma State University.

“It has been a privilege through all of these years to work with Mr. Beck, our Board of Trustees, and with our co-op family of employees and members,” says Orme. “I believe with the Lord’s leading and with our great team at CHEC, the ‘cooperative’ spirit will continue on as it has since 1945, as we will strive to always provide safe, affordable, and reliable service to our members.”

News & Notes

- Save the Date: The 70th Annual Meeting will be held on October 6. More information will be available in the September newsletter.
- Did you know that CHEC is on Facebook? By clicking on the “like” icon on our Facebook page, you will receive notice of large power outages, announcements of youth-related programs, and current and important information regarding CHEC and the surrounding community.
- The next Operation Round UP meeting will be held on September 4. The deadline for applications is August 8.

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Resiliency is a 24/7, 365-days-a-year task. Whether it’s the power lines, substations or generation facilities on our grid, it takes proactive maintenance and investment to keep them running smoothly. With thousands of consumers without power for months, the lack of resiliency in Puerto Rico’s power grid wasn’t solely caused by hurricane damage; it was the result of years of neglect in taking care of their system and preparing for a worst-case scenario.

In a similar way to how we maintain our vehicles with regular oil changes, inspections and tire rotations, a grid must also be properly maintained. Throughout the year, we regularly conduct pole and line inspections. Our goal is to find a problem before it becomes one. For example, if we find a weak pole that has damage from termites, we replace that pole. Doing so ensures that pole is as strong – or as resilient – as it can be.

Living in Oklahoma, we know that significant power outages can occur, especially during spring and summer storm season. Whether we’re at the mercy of severe storms and tornadoes, we have confidence in the resiliency of our system to recover from the situation with as little disruption as possible.

In the dictionary, resilience is defined as “the ability to bounce back, recover quickly and go back into shape or position after being stretched.” When it comes to providing our member-owners with resilient service, this is what we work toward – day in and day out!

5 STEPS FOR SAFE DIGGING

Working on an outdoor project? Careless digging poses a threat to people, pipelines and underground facilities. Always call 8-1-1 first. Here are five easy steps for safe digging:



1. NOTIFY

Call 8-1-1 or make a request online two to three days before your work begins. The operator will notify the utilities affected by your project.

2. WAIT

Wait two to three days for affected utilities to respond to your request. They will send a locator to mark any underground utility lines.



3. CONFIRM

Confirm that all affected utilities have responded to your request by comparing the marks to the list of utilities the 8-1-1 call center notified.



4. RESPECT

Respect the markers provided by the affected utilities. The markers are your guide for the duration of your project.



5. DIG CAREFULLY

If you can't avoid digging near the markers (within 18-24 inches on all sides, depending on state laws), consider moving your project location.



Source: call811.com