

Celebrating 80 Years of Service



MESSAGE FROM
PRESIDENT/CEO RYAN BARTLETT

IN 1939, EFFORTS BEGAN TO PROVIDE ELECTRIFICATION to rural Taylor, Nolan, Jones and Callahan counties. Our original electric cooperative board of directors organized this great endeavor to provide underserved areas a much-needed service. Move forward 80 years and our vision remains the same: to provide necessary services to our members. As we celebrate our 80th year, we are proud to say our dedication to our members hasn't changed. We continue to stand by the first board's mission to be an innovative cooperative that will meet our members' needs and serve our community.

It is a unique position to once again be on the forefront of progress and innovation with our fiber internet project. The

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board saw an opportunity to bring a much-needed service to our membership and knew that Taylor Electric Cooperative was the one to provide it. Today, we are more than a year into our internet project, which is continuing to grow every single day. We are proud that our board continues to have the same foresight and tenacity to care for our cooperative's communities as it did 80 years ago.

The mission of providing quality services and resources to our membership is the driving force of our business. We continue to review our processes and products and question how we can improve. One area where we saw room for improvement was our website, which we recently renovated to better represent our cooperative vision. The updated website allows us to offer a more user-friendly experience, present information to potential members and provide an avenue for our cur-

rent members to find the resources they need and explore our new services.

Another area we deemed in need of improvement was our billing process, and in February, members noticed a new bill remittance address on their monthly bills. Allowing members to mail monthly payments directly to our Merkel headquarters was of utmost importance. So we updated our in-house billing procedures and added the necessary equipment and software to make this happen. These exciting developments have allowed us to reinforce that we are still your only *local* choice for power.

We noted an additional milestone in cooperative history this year when Rocky Bryan retired from Taylor EC after 40 years of service—nearly half of the cooperative's history. When he began, meters were read individually by employees visiting members' homes, and women who worked at the co-op wore uniforms much like flight attendants. Computers were just beginning to enter the business world and become part of our operations. Bryan has seen our cooperative transition from manual operation to digital meters, substations, transformers and so much more.

And now we are offering fiber internet to our members—a service that wasn't even imaginable when Bryan began his career. It is striking the amount of progress that can happen over the course of just one employee's tenure with Taylor EC. We are honored he spent his career with us, and we wish him the best in retirement.

Taylor EC has maintained our pioneering spirit by continuing to stay at the vanguard of new technologies. It is a great honor to be the president and CEO during this innovative time in our cooperative's history. The board's vision to bring internet to our members continues the cooperative's legacy of providing much-needed services to our members. We are committed to improving the quality of life for our membership through innovative services and the provision of safe, reliable power.

We are proud to have been your cooperative for these 80 years, and we are excited about the years to come as we continue to demonstrate the true cooperative difference through our commitment to our communities and unparalleled service.



Join Us!

Come celebrate our 80th annual meeting **April 18, 2019 at the Abilene Convention Center.**

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Educational booths, health fair

11:00 AM - Noon
Prize drawings, business meeting, lunch

Members will have the chance to vote for their representative on the Taylor Electric Board of Directors.

taylorelectric.com | 793-8500



TAYLOR ELECTRIC SCHOLARSHIP

As a result of Taylor Electric's dedication and commitment to the community, the Taylor Electric scholarship program provides \$1,000 scholarships to member students.

Eligibility:

- enrolled high school senior
- live in a home powered by Taylor Electric

Applications due April 5

apply at TaylorElectric.com



80
YEARS



80 years of dedication.
Thank you Rocky for 40 years.



BI200_N | ISTOCK.COM

Notice is Hereby Given of a Proposition on the Ballot

To modify Article II of Taylor Electric Cooperative's Articles of Incorporation

Mail-In Ballot Notice

Members who cannot attend Taylor Electric Cooperative's annual meeting, April 18, can cast their ballots on this proposition through mail. Each cooperative member is entitled to one vote. Absentee ballots are available upon request. Call (325) 793-8500 to have a ballot sent to your home or business. You will receive a prepaid envelope for the ballot return. Absentee ballots must be postmarked by 5 p.m. April 12 to Taylor EC headquarters and will be deposited into a secure ballot box, which will be opened by election administrators.

Ballot Item Content and Proposed Change

Amend original 1939 purpose clause in Article II of the Articles of Incorporation to accommodate technological advances and competitive considerations so that it tracks the purposes permitted by the Electric Cooperative Corporation Act.

The Proposed Purpose Clause

The purpose or purposes for which the Corporation is organized are the provision of electric energy and other goods and services, without regard to geographic location, to any person, without restriction, and, except as otherwise expressly excluded by the Electric Cooperative Corporation Act, the transaction of any or all lawful business.

The Existing Purpose Clause

The purpose or purposes for which the Corporation is organized are to engage in rural electrification and

1. to generate, manufacture, purchase, acquire and accumulate electric energy and to transmit, distribute, furnish, sell and dispose of such electric energy to its members only;

2. to assist its members only to wire their premises and install therein, and to acquire and supply electrical and plumbing appliances, fixtures, machinery, supplies, apparatus and equipment of any and all kinds and character.



Taylor Electric Cooperative

226 County Road 287 • P.O. Box 250
Merkel, TX 79536

PRESIDENT/CEO

Ryan Bartlett

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cecil Davis, Board Chairman, Zone 1

Leland Robinson, Board Vice Chairman, Zone 1

David McFall, Secretary-Treasurer, Zone 2

Garland Carter, Zone 2

Richard Petree, At-Large

Kathy Rainey, Zone 3

Gayla Simons, Zone 3

HANDY WAYS TO PAY YOUR BILL

Online

taylorelectric.com

Taylor Electric App

Available on your Apple or Android device

By Phone

(325) 793-8500

Visa, Mastercard, checks accepted.

Payments credited immediately.

In Person

Main office hours:

7:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m., Monday–Friday

226 CR 287, off I-20, west of Abilene Wells
Lane exit 274 between Tye and Merkel

Abilene office hours:

7:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m. Monday–Friday

7966 Highway 83, Abilene 79602

Visa, Mastercard, checks, cash and money
orders accepted.

Payments credited immediately.

Drop Box

Main office drop box at front gate: 24/7

Abilene office drop box (next to first
door on the left): 24/7

Checks and money orders accepted.

Payments credited next business day.

Pay Stations

• **United Supermarket**, 521 S. Access
Road, Clyde

• **Food Plaza #4**, 109 S.E. Fifth St., Cross
Plains

• **Cash Saver**, 155 Sayles Blvd., Abilene

• **United Supermarket**, 2160 Pine St.,
Abilene

• **Check Express**, 906 E. Broadway Ave.,
Sweetwater

Cash, checks, money orders and debit
cards accepted.

Payments credited next business day.



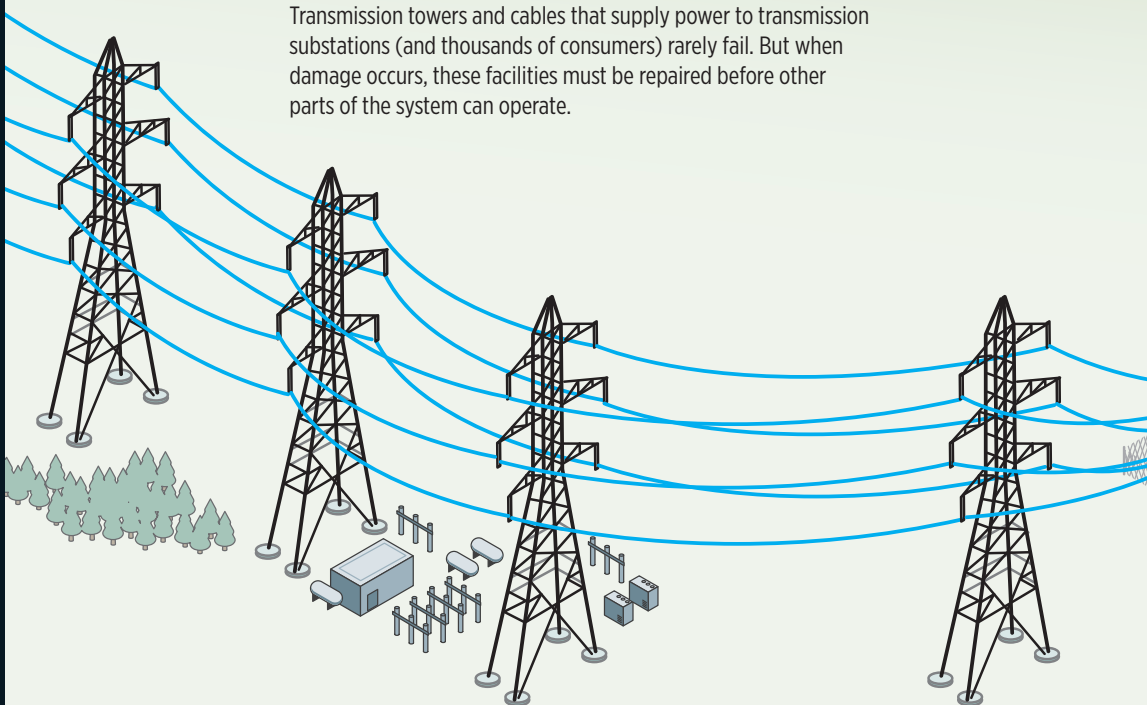
Powering Up After an Outage

When electricity goes out, most of us expect power will be restored within a few hours. But when a major storm causes widespread damage, longer outages may result.

Co-op line crews work long, hard hours to restore service safely to the greatest number of consumers in the shortest time possible. Here's what's going on if you find yourself in the dark.

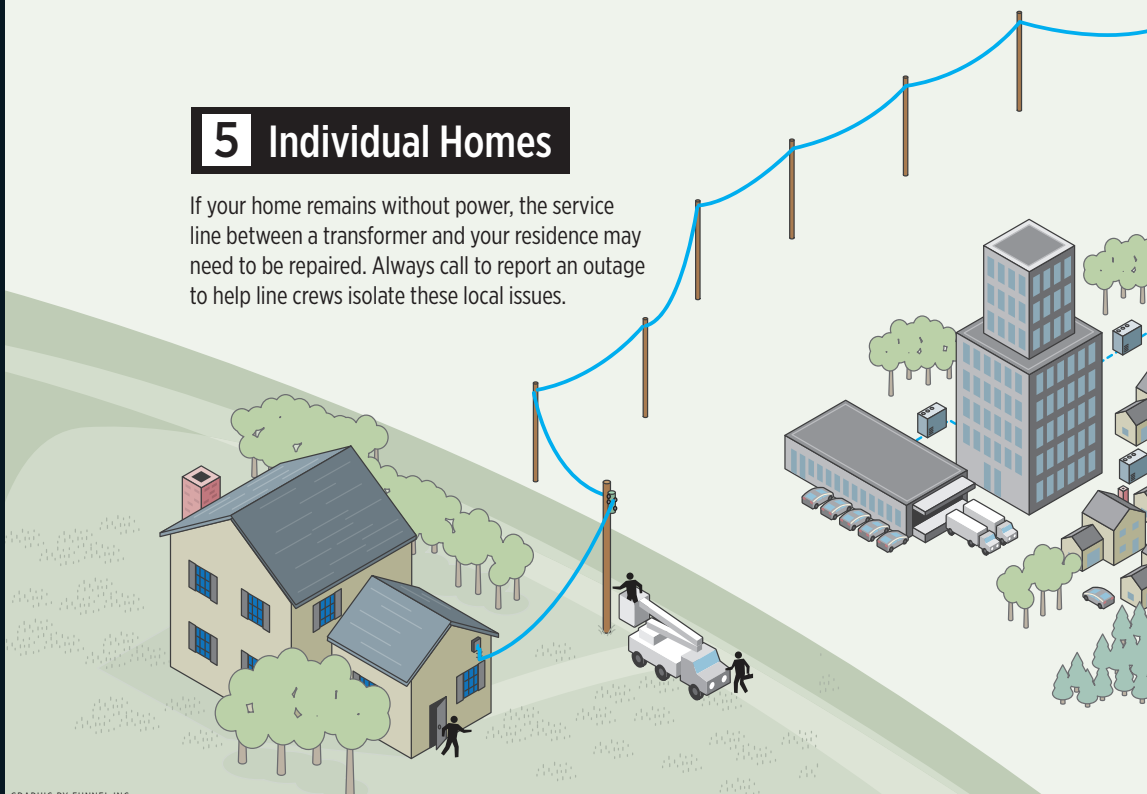
1 High-Voltage Transmission Lines

Transmission towers and cables that supply power to transmission substations (and thousands of consumers) rarely fail. But when damage occurs, these facilities must be repaired before other parts of the system can operate.



5 Individual Homes

If your home remains without power, the service line between a transformer and your residence may need to be repaired. Always call to report an outage to help line crews isolate these local issues.



GRAPHIC BY FUNNEL INC.

2 Distribution Substation

Each substation serves hundreds or thousands of consumers. When a major outage occurs, line crews inspect substations to determine if problems stem from transmission lines feeding into the substation or the substation itself, or if problems exist down the line.

3 Main Distribution Lines

If the problem cannot be isolated at a distribution substation, distribution lines are checked. These lines carry power to large groups of consumers in communities or housing developments.

4 Tap Lines

If local outages persist, supply lines, called tap lines, are inspected. These lines deliver power to transformers, either mounted on poles or placed on pads for underground service, outside businesses, schools and homes.