



MESSAGE
FROM
PRESIDENT/
CEO

RYAN
BARTLETT

Coordinating Power Across the Grid

WHEN YOU FLIP a switch, electricity is there— instant, reliable and ready to power your day. But behind that simple act is a carefully coordinated system made up of many grid power players, all working together to keep the lights on.

At Taylor Electric Cooperative, we think it's important for our members to understand how this system works and who's involved in delivering the electricity you depend on every day.

It all starts with generation plants that actually produce electricity. Power plants convert energy from a variety of sources— such as natural gas, nuclear energy, wind and the sun—into electricity. A diverse mix of generation sources helps ensure reliability while also supporting affordability and sustainability goals.

Once electricity is generated, it has to be moved— often across long distances—to reach local communities. That's where transmission lines come in.

High-voltage transmission lines strung along massive towers move bulk electricity along highways or across open land. Because electricity can't easily be stored in large quantities, this system must constantly move power from where it's produced to where it's needed, all in real time.

Taylor EC is a member of Golden Spread Electric Cooperative, our local generation and transmission partner. Golden Spread is a private, not-for-profit wholesale power provider that generates and transmits electricity to Taylor EC and other electric cooperatives in our region.

Coordinating the flow of large amounts of power is a complex job, especially across multiple states or regions. Independent system operators, like the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, and regional transmission organizations, like the Southwest Power Pool, manage wholesale electricity markets.

These organizations don't own power plants or transmission lines. Instead, they act as a traffic controller for the grid— balancing supply and demand every

second of the day and directing which power plants should generate electricity at any given moment.

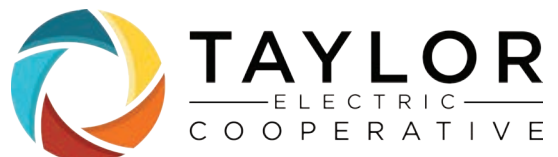
Then there's the part of the grid most people are familiar with—your local electric utility. That's where Taylor EC comes in. We take electricity from the high-voltage transmission system and deliver it directly to your home, farm or business through lower-voltage distribution lines. We maintain utility poles, power lines, electric substations and other essential equipment in our community to keep power flowing safely.

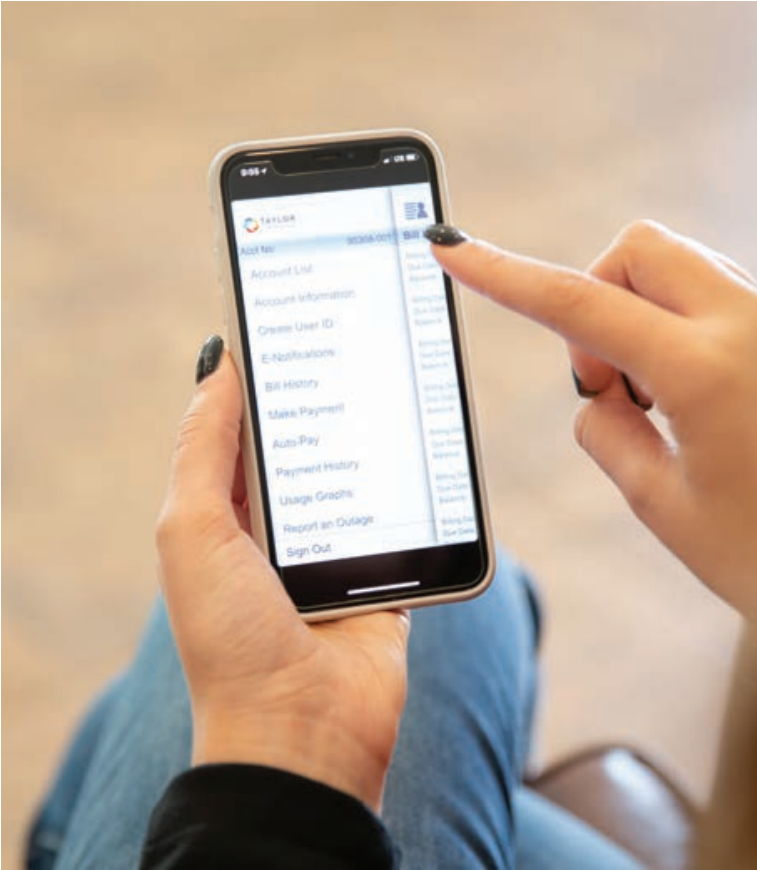
When storms roll through or outages occur, our crews are the ones working to restore power safely and as quickly as possible. We're proud to serve the members across our service area, and we're committed to providing reliable, affordable electricity you can count on.

Finally, there's you—the end user. Homes, businesses and industries all play a critical role in the grid. Your energy use directly influences how much electricity needs to be generated and delivered at any given time.

During periods of high demand— like hot summer afternoons or cold winter mornings— the grid must work harder to meet increased usage. Simple steps, like adjusting your thermostat or running appliances during off-peak hours, can make a meaningful difference.

From generation to transmission to your local utility, it takes a coordinated effort to power your everyday life. At Taylor EC, we're proud to be your trusted energy partner—and to play our part in keeping the grid strong for the communities we serve.





Stymie Scammers with Multifactor Authentication

SCAMMERS ARE GETTING more sophisticated. Some can hack into your personal information and access your email accounts, shopping carts, bank information and identity details. Beware of phishing communications like texts, emails or phone calls pretending to be a trustworthy source to obtain your personal information.

Identity theft could have serious repercussions for your credit score, your bank account or even the function of your devices.

One way you can protect your accounts is by enabling multifactor authentication wherever possible. MFA adds an extra layer of security by requiring a second step—like a code sent to your phone or an authentication app—beyond just your password.

That way, even if a scammer steals your login information through phishing or data breaches, MFA can stop them from actually accessing your account.

Choose app-based authentication over text messages when available, as it's more secure. Taking a few minutes to turn on multifactor for email, banking and other online accounts can significantly reduce your risk of identity theft and financial loss.

Taylor Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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PERSONNEL



Kyle Sloan, 20 years
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THE SEVEN COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES



DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL



THE SECOND COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLE, “Democratic Member Control,” states that cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions. Members elect representatives who are accountable to the membership, and each member has an equal vote—one member, one vote. At Taylor Electric, this principle is demonstrated through the election of the Board of Directors, who are chosen by the membership during the cooperative’s Annual Meeting.

Taylor Electric’s seven-member Board of Directors is made up of local members who live and work within the cooperative’s service area. The current board includes Chairman Cecil Davis, Vice-Chairman Kathryn Rainey, Secretary/Treasurer David McFall, Craig Bessent, Garland Carter, Gay Simmons, and At-Large Director Richard Petree. These directors work closely with the CEO and leadership team to provide oversight, establish policies, and ensure the cooperative remains focused on serving its members. Directors are elected by the membership and serve staggered three-year terms, giving members a direct voice in the cooperative’s leadership and future.

Whether voting in director elections, attending the Annual Meeting, or participating in cooperative programs, Taylor Electric members play an important role in guiding the future of their cooperative. By giving every member an equal vote and maintaining a board elected from within the communities it serves, Taylor Electric continues to uphold the cooperative principle of Democratic Member Control and the belief that the cooperative is truly owned and governed by its members. To learn more about the Seven Cooperative Principles and how Taylor Electric puts them into action, visit the cooperative’s website at TaylorElectric.com.



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Why Vegetation Management Matters

THERE'S SOMETHING MAJESTIC about trees. They ground us. They remind us of where we've been, and they stretch toward what's ahead. In our community, we take pride in the natural beauty that surrounds us—the shade on a summer afternoon, the colors that mark the changing seasons, the quiet strength of something that grows slowly but endures.

Here at Taylor Electric Cooperative, we share a responsibility that's just as essential to our daily lives. That responsibility is to keep the lights on, to power homes and businesses, and to make sure that the energy you depend on is there when you flip a switch.

That's why we work every day to strike a careful balance between preserving the beauty we cherish and delivering the reliable electricity you expect. One of the most important ways we do that is through regular tree trimming.

Now, it may not always be obvious, but keeping lines clear of overgrown vegetation plays a major role in preventing power outages. We've all seen what can happen when severe weather rolls in—strong winds, heavy ice or sudden storms can bring down branches and, with them, power lines and poles. In fact, nearly half of all power outages can be traced back to trees and vegetation coming into contact with electrical infrastructure.

That's why you may notice crews from Taylor EC or our trusted contractors working in neighborhoods throughout the year. Our crews are highly trained and certified, following the latest industry standards to ensure the job is done safely and effectively. Their work might seem routine, but it's a proactive step that helps prevent problems before they start.

And it's not just a good practice—it's required. Electric utilities across the country are obligated to manage vegetation near power lines. Scheduled trimming helps remove dead or weakened limbs and keeps fast-growing trees from becoming hazards. It's about staying one step ahead, especially as we prepare for the increasing frequency and intensity of severe weather events.

But beyond reliability, there's another reason this work matters: safety. Electricity is a powerful force, and when trees grow too close to power lines, that power can become dangerous. Branches that touch lines—or even come close—can carry electrical current. Children climbing trees in their own yards may not realize the risk. And during storms, fallen trees can create

hazardous conditions not only for families but also for our lineworkers working to restore service.

There's also a financial reality we can't ignore. Preventative maintenance—like tree trimming—is far more cost-effective than repairing widespread damage after an outage. Left unchecked, overgrown vegetation can lead to more frequent disruptions and higher costs for everyone. A thoughtful, strategic vegetation management program helps keep those costs down for our members.

You can help, too. When planting new trees, consider their mature height and distance from nearby power lines. Trees that grow up to 40 feet should be planted at least 25 feet away from overhead lines. Trees that exceed 40 feet should be planted at least 50 feet away.

If you're landscaping near padmounted transformers, keep shrubs at least 10 feet from the front and 4 feet **from** the sides to allow safe access.

At the end of the day, we all want the same thing: a community that's safe, resilient and beautiful. At Taylor EC, we're proud to be part of that effort. Our roots run deep here, just like the trees we work to care for.