



Cooperative Update

from

Bruce Bacon

Chief Executive Officer
Fairfield Electric Cooperative

Lineworkers are wired for service

In the quiet hours before dawn breaks, while many of us are still nestled in our beds, lineworkers begin their day. They are often clad in flame-resistant clothing, hard hats, safety glasses, rubber gloves and thick, heavy boots—gear they might still be wearing hours after the rest of us have returned home from our jobs.

They are the individuals who epitomize dedication to service in its purest form. It's no wonder that South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster recognized and thanked our state's electric cooperative linemen during his State of the State address earlier this year. This month also is an opportunity to reflect on the essential role they play in our daily lives as we celebrate **Lineworker Appreciation Day on April 14.**

Amid towering utility poles and power lines, lineworkers exhibit a strength that goes far beyond the physical. Whether battling inclement weather, troubleshooting technical problems or navigating treacherous heights, lineworkers demonstrate resilience and a quiet determination to keep our lights on, our homes comfortable and our communities connected.

Fairfield Electric Cooperative crews travel across our five-county service territory, building, maintaining and repairing parts of our local system. Their extraordinary skills ensure our homes remain connected to the grid, businesses stay operational, and emergency services remain accessible—a lifeline that connects us all.

In moments of crisis, when the lights go out and we find ourselves in the dark, lineworkers emerge as beacons of hope. Their swift response restores normalcy, offering reassurance in times of uncertainty. Whether repairing storm-ravaged power lines or ensuring continuity during emergencies, their unwavering commitment illuminates life when we need it most.

There is no better example of their dedication than how Fairfield Electric linemen responded in the wake of Hurricane Helene's devastation in our area. They worked long, exhausting days with little rest until the last outage was restored across our service territory.

Fairfield Electric lineworkers also answer the call beyond the boundaries of home. Our crews travel to fellow co-ops, near or far, when widespread outages occur and additional support is needed. Cooperation among cooperatives is one of our seven guiding principles, and no one embodies this core commitment better than lineworkers.

This month, as we celebrate the remarkable men and women who ensure reliable power, let's recognize their unwavering dedication to the local communities they serve.

The next time you flip a switch, please take a moment to remember those who make it possible—lineworkers, who are wired for service and dedicated to illuminating life.



In the aftermath of Hurricane Helene, Fairfield Electric's Dustin Duggins and Xan Johnson teamed up to change a crossarm on a three-phase pole. Our linemen worked diligently to restore power.



Capital Credits

Capital Credit Refunds are Coming Soon

The board of trustees recently authorized the distribution of capital credits totaling **\$2,366,191**. Your cooperative will retire the remainder of capital credits for 2009, 35% of 2010 and 25% of 2023.

The capital credit refunds will be issued in the form of a check or a credit on your electric bill. If your assigned capital credits total is less than \$75, you will receive your refund as a credit on your bill during late April (for billing cycles 3 and 4) or early May (for billing cycles 1 and 2). For those refunds over \$75, a check will be mailed in early May.

Capital credits are a benefit of membership in a member-owned utility. Each year we use the revenues that exceed costs as equity. These funds and borrowed capital allow your cooperative to serve a growing number of members while implementing the latest technology to provide the best service possible. The cooperative later returns these revenues to the members who originally paid them in their electric bills.

We are very proud that we are able to return capital credits. It is a reflection on the financial strength and stability of your cooperative and that's something in which we can all take pride.



SAVE THE DATES

Chester County—Mon., May 12, 2025 (7 a.m. to 7 p.m.)

Faith & Love Christian Center 540 Great Falls Hwy., Chester, SC 29706

Kershaw County—Tues., May 13, 2025 (7 a.m. to 7 p.m.)

Trinity Baptist Church 1062 Ridgeway Rd., Lugoff, SC 29078

Richland County—Wed., May 14, 2025 (7 a.m. to 7 p.m.)

FEC's Blythewood Office 701 Blythewood Rd., Blythewood, SC 29016

Fairfield County—Thurs., May 15, 2025 (7 a.m. to 7 p.m.)

FEC's Winnsboro Office 3129 Hwy. 321 North, Winnsboro, SC 29180

Fairfield County—Fri., May 16, 2025 (7 a.m. to 12 noon)

FEC's Winnsboro Office 3129 Hwy. 321 North, Winnsboro, SC 29180

Annual Meeting of Members Set for May 12-16, 2025

The 2025 Annual Meeting of Members of Fairfield Electric Cooperative, Inc. will be held as it was last year. There will be several days of early drive-thru registration and voting at these sites prior to our business meeting:

The business meeting will be livestreamed ONLY to the cooperative's website, **Fairfield.coop**, on Friday, May 16 at 6 p.m. A recording of the meeting will also be posted to the website for those unable to view it live.



Spring is also a great time for home and yard projects.

**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

However, if any of your plans include a shovel—like planting trees and shrubs or installing fences and mailboxes—you might want to make sure you won't run into any underground lines. **Call 811 or go to sc811.com** a few business days before digging to request that the approximate location of buried utilities be marked so that you don't unintentionally dig into an underground utility line.

For more information, visit fairfield.coop



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