



# WHAT IS A PCA?

PCA is an acronym for Power Cost Adjustment.

The PCA is defined as follows in our rate structure –

## POWER COST ADJUSTMENT

The rate shall be increased per kilowatt hour by any Power Cost Adjustment or Rate Surcharge on the current month Cooperative wholesale power bill multiplied by a factor of 1.06 to adjust for line losses.

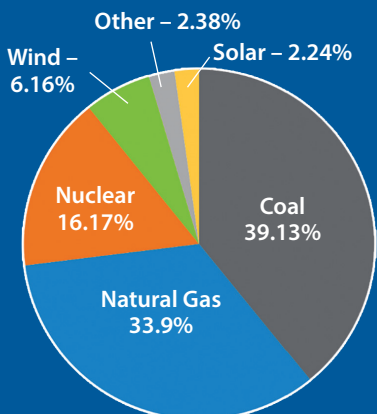
Our residential rates are comprised of a Facility Charge, an Energy Charge (kWh), PCA, and taxes.

The Facility Charge is the cost of the infrastructure, consisting of lines, poles, substations, etc, and the labor to maintain them. This is a fixed monthly charge.

The Energy Charge is the cost of energy and is based on usage measured in kilowatt-hours (kWh).

The Power Cost Adjustment, if any, is applied to the Energy Charge (per kWh). In general, the PCA is a direct reflection of the cost of fuel. CVEC is an "at cost" utility, meaning we pass PCA adjustments on to our members. Coal and natural gas are the primary fuels used for electricity generation in the United States for baseload power plants.

## Fuel Mix (Oct. 5, 2022)



ECONOMY  
Soaring electricity bills are the latest inflation flashpoint

Updated September 13, 2022 · 8:41 AM ET  
Heard on Morning Edition

BUSINESS

Electric Bills Soar Across the Country as Winter Looms  
Wall Street Journal – September 18, 2022

Record inflation causes rise in prices for food, energy and gas

MSNBC.com › jose-diaz-balart › watch › record-inflation-causes-rise-i...  
Nov 10, 2021 ... NBC's Stephanie Ruhle discusses how the recent rise in inflation has increased prices in the U.S. by 6.2 percent and how it will impact ...

The New York Times

Get Ready for Another Energy Price Spike: High Electric Bills  
May 3, 2022

# HAVE YOU SEEN THE HEADLINES ABOUT SKYROCKETING ELECTRICITY RATES?

There has been tremendous pressure from various groups to shutter coal plants. Increased fuel costs coupled with government regulations and Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) financing restrictions have resulted in construction delays and made gas-fired plants more costly to build and operate.

Quite simply this is a case of supply and demand. The demand for electricity is outpacing the (baseload) supply, resulting in higher energy costs and potential shortfalls. While renewable resources such as wind and solar are increasing, their variable nature cannot be relied upon to be available when needed. The increased energy costs appeared on the September usage bill you received in October, and in all likelihood, will appear on future Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative (CVEC) bills as a Power Cost Adjustment (PCA). Please see sidebar at left.

At the October 3, 2022 board meeting, the CVEC Board of Directors voted unanimously to not pass on the most recent 2.6¢/kWh PCA we received from our power supplier. On your October bill (the bill reflecting September usage) you will see the PCA, followed by a BOARD ACTION credit of an equal amount. The board used the margins from strong sales during the summer months to cover the PCA. Board members stated repeatedly that the margins are the members' money, and the best use of these funds was to cover the PCA.

The board carefully took into consideration the country's current economic conditions and increased financial strain on our members. In an effort to not add to potential financial hardships, the board unanimously decided to not charge the PCA to members for their September electricity usage.

It should be noted that another such credit from margins is unlikely, because as a cooperative CVEC operates at or near "cost." We had strong margins last quarter because of increased sales and careful management of our members' money.

Please remember, the PCA can flow both ways. This means that members have also seen a bill adjustment in the form of a credit to their account(s). In fact,

In an effort to not add to potential financial hardships, the board unanimously decided to not pass the PCA to members for their September electricity usage.

Continued on page 18

Account Number: 1889 1 AV 0.455  
Billing Date: 10/05/2022  
Amount Due: 128.00

Account Activity	Amount
Electric Previous Balance	148.00
Payments	-148.00
PCA	18.31
PCA - BOARD ACTION	-18.31
Rounded Amt	-18.31
KWh Charge 701 KWH x 0.11020	77.25
MWh Charge 89 KWH x 0.06820	6.07
Facility Charge	4.99
Winter Header Credit	37.37
Wisconsin State Tax	4.29
Chippewa County Tax	-3.00
Non-Taxable Program Charge	6.00
Balance Forward	128.00
Current Charges	128.00
Amount Due	128.00
Amount Due After Due Date	129.80
Budget Accounts Receivable Amount	0.00

# 2022 VETERANS DAY

On November 11, we honor the men and women who have served this country to protect our freedoms by remembering Veterans Day. Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative would like to thank all military veterans and especially focus on the following cooperative family members who are near and dear to us. We are grateful for your service and bravery.

## Military Veterans

### Employee

**Keith Zimmerman, CVEC**  
lineman – 33 years  
U.S. Army  
Years of Service: 6  
(1977–1983)



### Directors

**Deone Goettl, CVEC District 5 Director:** 26 years  
U.S. Navy  
Years of Service: 4 (1960–1964)

**Dan Liske, CVEC District 1 Director:** 2 years  
U.S. Army, WI Army National Guard  
Years of Service: 22 (1971–1993)

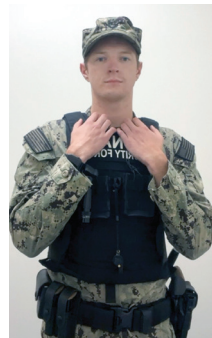
**John Petska, CVEC District 7 Director:** 25 years  
U.S. Army Reserves  
Years of Service: 6 (1964–1970)



Left to right: Dan Liske, Deone Goettl, John Petska.

## Veterans from our extended co-op family:

### Active Duty



**Tyler Scheidler**, son of Kevin, CVEC line superintendent, and Tonya Scheidler

U.S. Navy – Years of Service: 6  
(2016–current)

AS3 Third Class Petty Officer stationed at Naval Station Norfolk in Virginia specializing as a diesel technician with additional expertise in hydraulics and the

study and testing of liquid oxygen and nitrogen.

### Retired

**James Brandli**, husband of CVEC Operations Department assistant Janet Brandli  
Navy – JO2 (Journalist Second Class)  
Years of Service: 5 (1980–1985)



**James Brandli** (far right) served aboard the USS Guam (LPH-9).

**Terry Kent, Sr.**, husband of CVEC Accountant Della Kent  
Wisconsin Army National Guard SPC4  
Years of Service: 10 (1982–1992)





# ★ ★ ★ ★ 27<sup>TH</sup> FREEDOM HONOR FLIGHT ★ ★ ★ ★

**Mike Grosvold – Retired US Air Force, F4E Weapons Control System Technician**  
**Years of Service: 22 (1969–1991)**

The 27th Freedom Honor Flight left La Crosse early on a Saturday morning this past September. On board were six Korean War veterans and 93 Vietnam War vets, including Vietnam vet Mike Grosvold. Mike is an Air Force retiree with 22 years of service. His role in the Air Force was to maintain and eventually supervise and manage the maintenance of the radar and display systems on the F4E Phantom 2 fighter jet. The purpose of this system was to guide air-to-air missiles and air-to-ground missiles and bombs.

Mike, along with his wife Jane, has been a Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative (CVEC) member since 1991 and is also a former employee of the cooperative. Mike retired from CVEC's subsidiary corporation Chippewa Valley Satellite in 2012 after 18 years of providing DIRECTV sales and service to many of our members.

Freedom Honor Flight (FHF) is a La Crosse-based organization founded in 2008. It is a member of the 130+ affiliate National Honor Flight Network. FHF serves veterans in some Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa counties surrounding La Crosse. The goal of

the network is simply to fly as many veterans as possible for a day in Washington, D.C., visiting the memorials that stand in their honor. The flight, meals, and D.C. tour are all provided at no cost to the vets.

The organization is supported solely by donations. In addition, the entire staff and medical support team is made up of unpaid volunteers. Mike shared that the amount of preparation, coordination, execution, and postflight wrap-up work these volunteers provide is amazing.

“It was a long but gratifying day,” Mike said. “It began at 3:30 a.m. with a shuttle bus ride from my hotel to a hangar at the airport. The hangar was decorated with military displays, signs, flags, etc. All the TSA screening, preflight briefings, and coordination was done there with a goal of a 6 a.m. takeoff. There was a small contingent



Scouts, Civil Air Patrol cadets, local military members, and other well-wishers formed an honor guard as veterans embarked on the 27th Freedom Honor Flight to Washington, D.C.

of Scouts, Civil Air Patrol cadets, local military members, and other well-wishers forming an honor guard as we passed by on our walk out to the aircraft.”

Mike's D.C. experience started before he even got parked at the gate. He was greeted by a traditional fire department water cannon salute. The airport ground crew were all waving flags. When Mike and the other honorees departed the airplane, with an interior that had been patriotically decorated in red, white, and blue, they continued up a jetway and into the gate area both decorated with flags, streamers, and handmade posters. There

(Continued on following page)



Among the memorials Mike Grosvold saw as part of the 27th Freedom Honor Flight to Washington, D.C., were (left to right) the Vietnam Memorial, the Marine Corps Memorial, and the World War II Memorial.

## Honor Flight Continued from previous page

were small groups of greeters welcoming them and cheering them on in the gated area, on their walk through the airport, and near their buses.

After arriving in D.C., the honorees visited the WWII, Korean, and Vietnam War memorials. They also visited the Air Force Memorial, the Marine Corps Memorial, better known as the Iwo Jima Memorial, and the Lincoln Memorial. They saw the Changing of the Guard and two wreath-laying ceremonies at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers. Of course, they passed by many other D.C. landmarks and points of interest.

Mike said, "After a long and sometimes emotional day, it was time to head back to La Crosse. Our 10:30 p.m. reception at the La Crosse airport was a bit overwhelming. Walking down the ramp, we were greeted by a huge crowd. The hangar was packed, overflowing with friends, family, and community members cheering, holding up signs, shaking our hands, welcoming us home, and thanking us for our service. There were high school cheerleaders along with their marching band playing patriotic music. It was a special way to end a special day. I was honored and grateful for having been a part of it."

*To learn more about Freedom Honor Flight, to apply for a seat on a future flight, or to donate visit [www.freedomhonorflight.org](http://www.freedomhonorflight.org).*

## PCA Continued from page 15

*last year in January and September, CVEC members saw a \$20 fixed cost adjustment credit plus a PCA credit based on account usage, resulting in an average credit of \$32 and \$36 respectively.*

Going forward we will have little choice but to pass a PCA (charge) on to our members. Until fuel costs decrease, environmental and ESG regulations are relaxed, and baseload capacity increases this trend will continue. The cooperative board and management will continue to work together in the best interests of the members of Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative as they strive to keep the cooperative in strong financial standing while providing safe reliable power to you. We work for YOU!

Watch for articles in future issues to expand on the following topics: Demand, Capacity, Transmission, and MISO.

## *Spirit of Christmas*

### **Come see the CVEC Spirit of Christmas Tree**

Beginning November 4, you can find Spirit of Christmas tags hanging from the CVEC Lobby Christmas Tree. Please stop in and select a tag from our tree to help bring a smile to a child's face this Christmas. It's quite simple: The gift ideas requested by the child are listed on the tag. Next, it's the fun part—you generously shop for the items, and you don't even need to wrap the gifts! Please simply return the unwrapped gifts to CVEC by **November 30**. It's a beautiful gesture of the true Christmas spirit.



## **ATTENTION DUAL FUEL CUSTOMERS:** *Dual fuel heating systems to be tested on November 16*

As the heating season fast approaches, we are preparing for another Wisconsin winter. This includes a test of our load management system.

If you currently participate in our dual fuel or off-peak heating program, the load management system will be tested on Wednesday, November 16.

Your electric heating system will be shut off at 5 p.m. and will remain off throughout most of the evening. Heating systems will be randomly turned back on beginning at 8:30 p.m. and all systems should be back on by 10:15 p.m.

During the time the electric heat is off, customers will rely on their backup heating system. If you experience any problems with your heating system during this test, please contact your heating contractor. If you experience any problem with our load management receiver, contact Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative at 715.239.6800 or 800.300.6800.

This test is a benefit for you as well as the cooperative. We want to make sure your backup heating system and the load control device work properly before we get into extremely cold weather. If you have any questions regarding this test, please call the office.



Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative

317 S. 8th St., P.O. Box 575, Cornell, WI 54732

715.239.6800 • 1.800.300.6800

[www.cvecoop.com](http://www.cvecoop.com) • email: [cvec@cve.coop](mailto:cvec@cve.coop)

Follow us on Facebook

Office Hours: Monday–Friday, 7:30–4 p.m.

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*

## **Board of Directors**

District 1 – Dan Liske

District 2 – Steve Johnson

District 3 – Frank Draxler

District 4 – Kevin Meistad

District 5 – Deone Goettl

District 6 – Steve Wall

District 7 – John Petska

**Dean Ortmann, President/CEO**

**Nicole Whipp Sime, Editor**

