

## THE HEAT IS ON...

### Above Normal Temps Expected to Continue

It appears that the above normal temperatures currently being felt, not only in Oklahoma and New Mexico, but in many parts of the country, will continue into the next few months.

A 90-day forecast released last week by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, indicated warmer than usual temperatures between September and November.

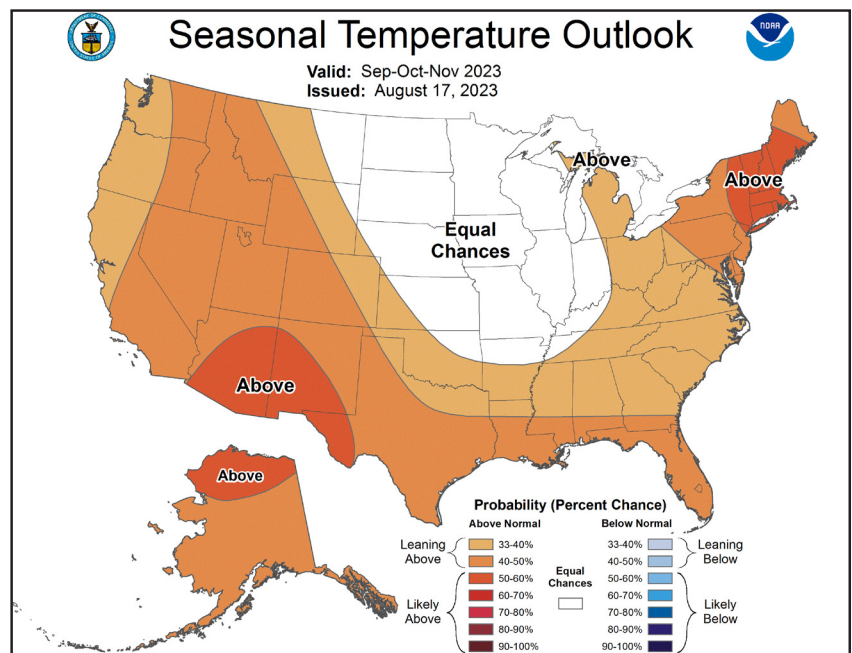
### *SPP Faced Challenging Week for Peak Demands*

High loads and tight supply conditions were watched closely this week, as Southwest Power Pool (SPP) faced high peak demands. This factor, combined with several unit outages, less wind, and fewer available imports due to increasing demand in neighboring areas, led to more challenges.

Temperatures are expected to drop slowly starting this weekend, however, margins will remain tight due to the continued scarcity of wind and imports.

SPP's Peak Loads this Week:

Monday - 56,184 MW  
Tuesday - 55,066 MW  
Wednesday - 54,731 MW  
Thursday - 55,085 MW



### WFEC's Peak Day Summary (to-date)

So far this summer, 18 peak days have been called. Currently, the three highest include:

- August 20 at 6 p.m. with a 2,207 MW peak
- August 4 at 5 p.m. with a 2,200 MW peak
- August 3 at 5 p.m. with a 2,190 MW peak

The three coincident peak average for 2023 of 2,199 MW is 57 MW higher than the 2,142 MW average for 2022.

So far, the highest generation planning peak for the 2023 summer is 2,212 MW, which is slightly higher than the 2,181 MW planning peak for the summer of 2022.

# CHANGING TIMES

## Cooperatives Host Annual Meetings

Several WFEC member cooperatives have been busy with their annual meetings in July and August, with more to continue in the next two months. Thirteen of WFEC's cooperatives host their meetings between July and October, with the other eight being hosted in March, April and May.

Some cooperatives have moved away from the typical annual meetings hosted in year's past, when they were a time for area rural residents to visit with their neighbors and renew old friendships. These meetings were once a large annual gathering for families, complete with a meal and lots of give-aways, with kids and grandkids all attending.

Times have changed – from generational differences to dealing with a pandemic. Cooperatives now have options for their members, from in-person meetings, to drive-thru registrations to a combination of both, referred to as hybrid. Some have registration throughout the day at their respective offices, while others simply have members drive-thru a line at various locations.

Whatever the method, they all have the same purpose of conducting business and interacting with their members.

### Summer Annual Meetings:

**East Central Electric Cooperative** hosted their hybrid annual meeting on Thursday, July 27, with both a drive-thru and an in-person option. Some 1,737 members registered for this year's meeting, with 1,300 required to have a quorum. Each registering member received a \$20 bill credit, an anniversary cookbook and a cap from EcoLink. Prize drawings included a grand prize of \$1,000 and two \$500 cash prizes, in addition to three members winning a free year of 1 GB of EcoLink broadband service, along with many other prizes.

**Canadian Valley Electric Cooperative** hosted their 84th annual meeting on Saturday, Aug. 4 at Firelake Arena in Shawnee. There were 905 members who registered, with a total attendance of 1,633. The grand prizes included a \$1,500 and \$2,500 bill credit. Other prizes included a \$500 gift card for one member in each of the eight districts, a Blackstone grill and a smart TV, along with many other prizes.

**Southeastern Electric Cooperative** held their annual meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 8, with drive-thrus offered at SEC's headquarters building, as well as their solar pavilion. This is their third year to offer a drive-thru option to members, however, this year marked the first drive-thru only event. There were 853 members registering, with 596 necessary for a quorum. An American Cutlery Knife Gift Set was given to members as a registration gift, with over 50 door prizes, including kitchen, shop and lawn items, plus energy credits, given away in drawings. The grand prize was a John Deere zero-turn lawn mower w/trailer. All drawings and a business meeting were conducted on Facebook Live.



Southwest Rural Electric Association (SWRE) had a unique visitor, of the equine variety, in the registration line during their recent annual meeting. Chris Schreiner (right), apprentice lineman, registers a member who came on horseback to the Wilbarger County Event Center, located in Vernon, Texas, as part of the cooperative's drive-thru event. (SWRE photo)

(continued)



# POWERFUL STORMS ... AGAIN

## Substation damaged in recent storm

Heavy thunderstorms that passed through the area, starting Friday, Aug. 11 and continuing off and on until Monday, Aug. 14, not only downed 38 structures across WFEC's service area, but also caused extensive damage to a substation in southwest Oklahoma.

On Friday night (Aug. 11), the Navajo substation, located northeast of Altus in Southwest Rural Electric Association's (SWRE) service territory, was found to have been struck by lightning, resulting in a transformer being heavily damaged. When crews arrived at the substation, blown high-side fuses and a bad bushing on the transformer, were reported.

SWRE was able to backfeed the substation, in order to return service. A mobile substation was taken to the Navajo Substation and put into service early Saturday morning (Aug. 12).

WFEC crews have since removed the damaged transformer and installed a new one, plus replaced equipment that was also damaged.



WFEC crews removing damaged transformer from Navajo Substation.



Mobile substation delivered to Navajo Substation site, until repairs could be made.



Lightning damage to transformer bushing

(WFEC & SWRE photos)

# NRECA Moving into Litigation Phase of Ozone Transport Rule; Stay Filed

**T**he Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in March 2023, released a final regulation, known as the “Transport Rule,” that requires deep nitrogen oxide (NOx) reductions during summer ozone season from power plants in 22 states under the auspices of meeting Clean Air Act “good neighbor” obligations for ozone pollution. The final rule was officially published in June and became effective August 4, 2023.

The Ozone Transport Rule, also known as the Good Neighbor Federal Implementation Plan (FIP), is aimed at reducing ozone-forming emissions of nitrogen oxides (NOx) that cross state boundaries from power plants and industrial facilities. The final rule requires additional emission control by 2026 for electric utilities in 22 “upwind states,” to help assure “downwind states” can meet the EPA limits for ozone concentrations in ambient air. Oklahoma is one of the 22 states.

Cooperatives in these 22 states must install a selective catalytic reduction (SCR) or take equivalent measures to reduce NOx emissions in order to attain thresholds set by EPA-mandated state emission budgets.

NRECA is moving into the litigation phase of EPA’s Ozone Transport Rule, with an administrative stay to be filed in litigation soon. This administrative stay request briefly lays out why the stay is appropriate following the showing of immediate harm.

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## Annual Meetings —————

**CKenergy Electric Cooperative’s** annual meeting was held Friday, Aug. 11, at the Pioneer Cellular Events Center in Weatherford on the campus of Southwestern Oklahoma State University. Some 319 members registered for the event, with around 650 being fed. Registration gifts, including a \$20 bill credit, an insulated bag and hat, a notebook, and other items were given to members in attendance. Drawings for \$100 cash prizes in each district, plus numerous other gift items, were also held during the meeting. An electric golf cart was the grand prize.

**Southwest Rural Electric Association** hosted two drive- thru annual meeting venues on Monday, Aug. 21 – one in Altus and the other in Vernon, Texas. This marks the third year they have hosted the drive-thru option only. Some 626 members registered for their 86th Annual Meeting, with a quorum consisting of 191 members, representing 5% of their membership. Each member registering received a \$25 energy credit, plus a door prize bag, consisting of a backpack and flashlight, along with other miscellaneous items. This year’s grand prizes included an electric zero-turn lawn mower and a 65” television. Other donated items, plus prizes for each district, were also given away during Facebook Live drawings, hosted a few days following the drive-thru events.



Past cooperative annual meetings were considered a big event, with families and neighbors gathering together to visit, eat a meal and win prizes. Shown above is a 1966 annual meeting, hosted by WFEC.

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