

HIGHLIGHTS

NEWS FOR THE MEMBERS OF PELLA COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC

APRIL 2026

Scholarship Applications Due April 24

One of Pella Cooperative Electric's principles is a concern for community. Through this principle, we believe in empowering our youth through scholarship opportunities to students looking to pursue a higher education.

PCEA awards \$1,000 scholarships in our service territory annually - one per school district - to encourage and recognize the achievements of area students.

These districts include:

- Grinnell
- Knoxville
- Lynnville-Sully
- Newton
- North Mahaska
- PCM
- Pella Christian
- Pella High
- Pleasantville
- Twin Cedars
- Home school student in any of the above districts
- **NEW THIS YEAR:** We're excited to offer an electrical lineworker scholarship this year to any student who has been accepted to a college or training program to pursue a career as an electrical lineworker!



To apply, visit pella-cea.org/scholarships and download the application to complete. Return all application materials by either mail or email to:

MAIL

Pella Cooperative Electric
Attn: Emma Henning
PO Box 106
Pella, IA 50219

EMAIL

ehenning@pella-cea.org

For students not in either of the Pella districts, applications are due to the PCEA office by April 24, 2026 by 4:30 p.m. Pella students should have applied through Dollars of Scholars by February 28.

Pella Cooperative Electric

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

2615 Washington St.
PO Box 106
Pella, IA 50219

1-800-619-1040
www.pella-cea.org
service@pella-cea.org



Open weekdays: 7:30 am - 4:30 pm;
excluding holidays



Board of Directors

President Duane Ver Ploeg	Asst. Secretary/Treasurer Darrell Boot
Vice President Steve Inskeep	Director Jon Van Woerkom
Secretary Bryce Arkema	Director Roy Jahner
Treasurer Carroll Hoksbergen	CEO Doug Stewart

Pella Cooperative Electric is a not-for-profit, member-owned electric cooperative, governed by an elected Board of Directors. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. See pella-cea.org > Nondiscrimination Statement for more information.

Celebrating Our Linemen on April 13

On April 13 if you see a lineman out and about, take a minute to thank him! America's electric cooperatives have designated the second Monday of April as National Lineman Appreciation Day.

Linemen serve on the frontlines of our nation's energy needs, and on April 13, Pella Cooperative Electric, along with other electric cooperatives across the country, will honor the brave men and women who work hard to keep our lights on.

Line crews work around the clock, sometimes in difficult and dangerous conditions, to keep power flowing to our local communities. Whether they're restoring power after a major storm or maintaining critical infrastructure to our electric system, linemen are at the heart of our co-op.

When a storm hits, they set aside their personal priorities because Mother Nature doesn't work around holidays, vacations, or birthdays. A service oriented mentality is one of the many admirable characteristics of an electric lineman. PCEA is proud to honor the linemen who maintain miles of power lines in our service territory.

We invite all co-op members to take a moment and thank a lineman for the important work they do to power our lives.



PCEA Lineman from left to right: Seth Fisher, Spencer Nagel, Shawn Williams, Randy Reineke, Matt Ainsworth and Owen Ellingson. Not pictured: Lance Fremel, and Rob Burton.

Pole Inspections To Start Soon

With the arrival of spring, SBS Inspections will be testing Cooperative poles in the Harvey, Tracey, and Bussey areas. These annual inspections are essential for ensuring the safety and reliability of the Cooperative for all members. Stay tuned - we'll be sharing the inspection dates on our Facebook page as time gets closer.

Board Briefs

The PCEA Board of Directors met on March 30, 2026 for the March board meeting and discussed the following:

- **Board Approves Capital Credit Allocation**
The board approved the retirement of \$378,029 in margins to be returned to members. As a member-owned cooperative, margins are periodically returned to members in accordance with board policy and the cooperative's overall financial position.
- **Annual Operations Reports Approved**
The board reviewed and approved the cooperative's annual operations reports, which are required to be filed with the Iowa Utilities Commission. These reports cover areas such as system reliability, maintenance practices, and operational planning, and help ensure transparency and accountability in how the cooperative serves its members.
- **Industry and Legislative Engagement**
Directors and staff participated in recent meetings, including the CIPCO Annual Meeting and REC Day on the Hill at the Iowa State Capitol. These events provide valuable opportunities to stay informed on industry trends, engage with policymakers, and advocate on issues that impact electric cooperatives and their members.
- **Operations Update: System Improvements and Growth**
Construction has been completed on the FEMA-funded line rebuild project northwest of Sully, strengthening system resilience in that area. At the same time, work is ongoing to extend electric service to new homes in the Prairie Ridge and Fountain Hills subdivisions, reflecting continued growth and the need for system expansion.



BEFORE YOU DIG IN

Dial 811 or visit 811beforeyoudig.com to mark buried utility lines.

TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS



Don't fall victim to power outage scams. When widespread outages occur, scammers may target affected utility customers. They can contact you via call, text or email, urging you to act quickly and provide personal information to restore service. Always communicate with your utility through official channels, such as their website, mobile app or phone number listed on your bill. Your safety and personal information are worth taking a moment to pause and verify unknown senders.

Source: ftc.org



Director Roy Jahner Receives CCD Certificate

Roy Jahner, PCEA At-Large Director recently received the Credentialed Cooperative Director Program certificate from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

An ever-changing business environment has imposed new demands on electric cooperative directors, requiring increased knowledge of changes in the electric utility business, new governance skills, and a solid knowledge of the cooperative principles and business model. Electric cooperatives in Iowa have a commitment to work through NRECA to sharpen this body of knowledge for the benefit of their electric cooperative consumer-owners.

The NRECA CCD program does not replace or change any of the existing Director Education credentials earned by directors, including the Director Gold Certificate (DGC) or the Board Leadership Certificate (BLC).

NRECA represents the nation's more than 900 private, consumer-owned electric cooperatives, which provide electric service to more than 42 million people in 47 states.

Jahner has been a Cooperative member since 200 and was elected as an At-Large Director in 2025.



Roy Jahner (middle) was honored at the February board meeting with his certificate presented by Board President Duane Ver Ploeg (left) and PCEA CEO Doug Stewart (right).

Making Plans for a New Grain Bin?

Make Sure You're Compliant

Thinking about building a new grain bin? Before you start planning, contact Pella Cooperative Electric and we'll help you with your plans to ensure compliance with Iowa State Code.

PCEA will provide assistance in planning for a safe environment for everyone working and living around grain bins. The State of Iowa requires specific clearances for electric lines around grain bins, with different standards for those filled by portable and permanent augers, conveyors and elevators, as well as permanent equipment.

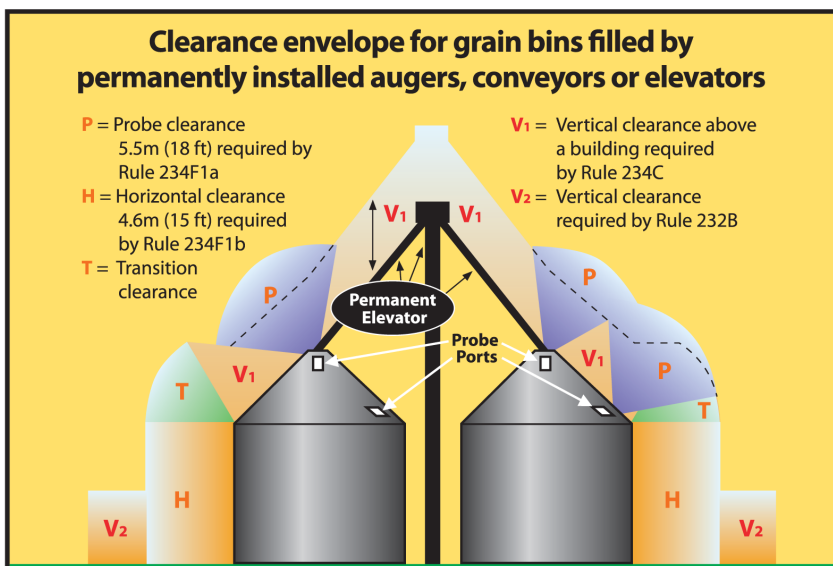
Electric wires should be at least 15 feet from the non-loading side of the grain bin; at least 18 feet from the highest filling or probing port on the bin; and a clearance of at least the bin height plus 18 feet from the loading side of the grain bin. Electric service cannot be provided to a grain bin installation that does not meet these clearances.

The drawing at right shows the specific clearances required for both scenarios. If you have any questions concerning the drawings, please contact PCEA.

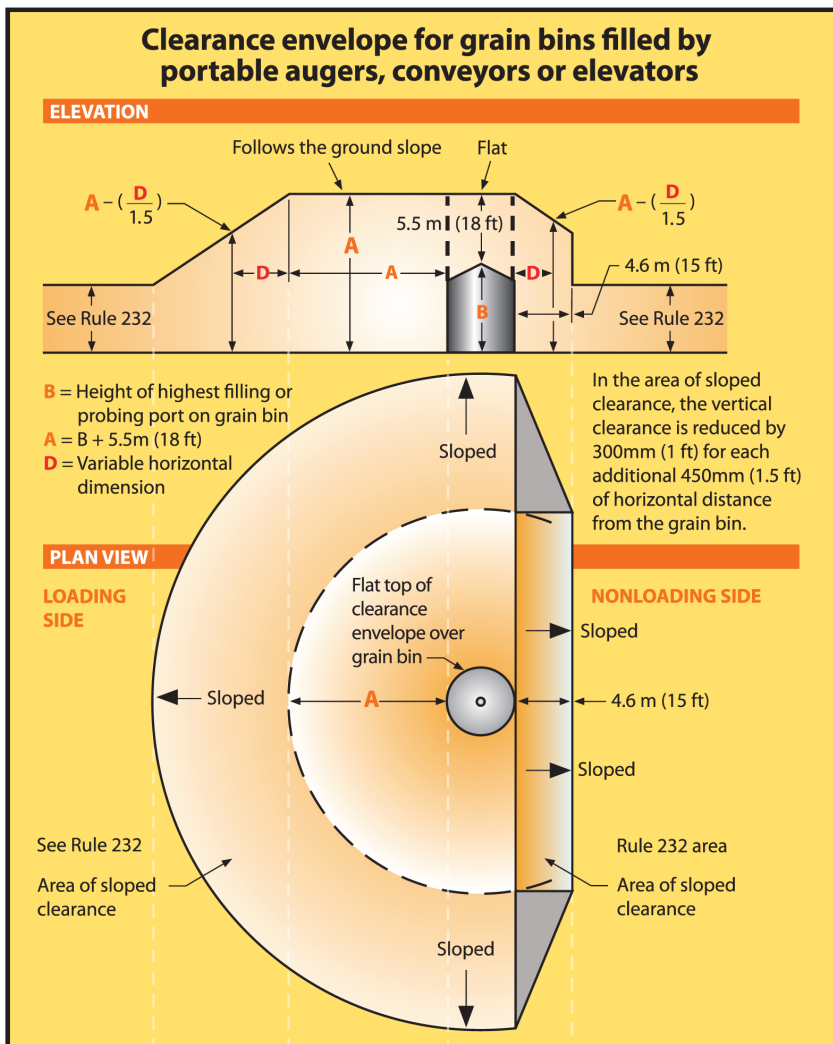
According to the Iowa Electric Safety Code found in Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 199 – 25.2(3) b. *An electric utility may refuse to provide electric service to any grain bin built near an existing electric line which does not provide the clearances required by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) C2-2017 "National Electrical Safety Code," Rule 234F. This paragraph "b" shall apply only to grain bins loaded by portable augers, conveyors or elevators and built after September 9, 1992, or to grain bins loaded by permanently installed augers, conveyors, or elevator systems installed after December 24, 1997. (As adopted by the Iowa Utilities Board).*

If the electric wires around your existing or proposed grain bin do not meet the requirements shown in the diagrams, or if you have any questions, please contact our office at (800) 619-1040.

Disclaimer for Artwork: These drawings are provided as part of Iowa electric cooperatives' annual public information campaign and are based on the 2017 Edition of the National Electrical Safety Code. To view the actual drawings, refer to that publication. Every care has been taken for the correctness of the contents for these drawings. However, the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives and its member cooperatives accept no liability whatsoever for omissions or errors, technical inaccuracies, typographical mistakes or damages of any kind arising from the use of the contents of these drawings, whether textual or graphical.



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