

HIGHLINES

NEWS FOR THE MEMBERS OF PELLA COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC

PCEA Returning \$171,092.60 Back to Members

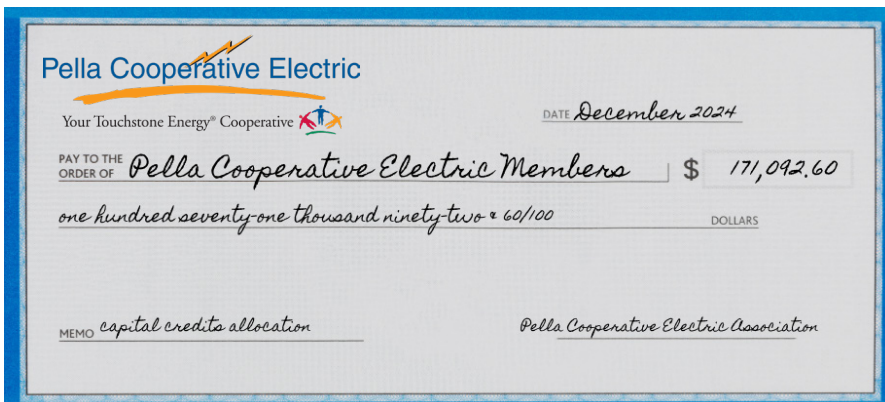
When you signed up for electric service from PCEA, you became a member-consumer of a not-for-profit business. At the same time, you became an owner of the cooperative. As a result, anytime the cooperative has margins, they are allocated to the member-consumers and eventually retired.

At the November board meeting, the PCEA Board of Directors approved the retirement of \$171,092.60 in capital credits to you, our members. The amount of credits you received is determined by the years you were a member, as well as the amount of energy you purchased during those years.

This month, current members during the years 2006 and 2023, will receive their capital credits on their December bill as credit. Former members who have built up at least \$25 worth of capital credits will receive their money as a check in the mail. So, you may have a smaller payment just in time for the holiday season!

To learn more about capital credits, visit www.pella-cea.org/capital-credits.

Thank you for being a PCEA member. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a joyful New Year!



Pella Cooperative Electric

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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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
Carroll Hoksbergen

Secretary
Bryce Arkema

Director
Jon Van Woerkom

Treasurer
Bob Van Soelen

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 > Non-discrimination Statement for more information.

Board Positions Up For 2025 Election

One of the cooperative business functions that sets Pella Cooperative apart from municipal or investor-owned utilities, is the Cooperative's Board of Directors. These men and women are elected by the membership, and guide and govern the co-op.

Two positions on Pella Cooperative Electric's Board of Directors are up for election at the 2025 Annual Meeting scheduled for April 8.

Any members who have ever considered serving on the board and would be interested in helping drive the direction of your cooperative should consider running for a director seat.

All PCEA board terms are three years. Currently, District 3 and an At-large position are the board positions expiring that will be on the ballot.

District 3 represents members in the western portion the service territory, and the At-large position represents the entire service territory. See page four for the map of the districts.

The current board has assembled a nominating committee that will help identify qualified candidates interested in putting their name on the ballot or any member who can get more than 50 signatures can petition their name to be on the ballot as described in the PCEA Bylaws, Article III, Section 3:

"Any fifty (50) or more member-consumers may make other nominations in writing over their signatures not less than thirty-five (35) days prior to the meeting at which the directors are to be elected, and the Secretary shall post the same at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted; such nominations made by such member-consumers to be subject to the same qualifications, district and residence requirements as nominations by the Nominating Committee heretofore prescribed."

The Board of Directors serves as a voice for the co-op membership, and each position is critical in governing and maintaining a stable and successful organization. Look for more information in the near future about voting in 2025.



Get Your Engery Savings in 2025

PCEA is kicking off another year of providing energy efficiency rebates for members. Full rebate requirements are listed online at pella-cea.org. Contact the Cooperative at (800) 619-1040 for questions.



RESIDENTIAL

- Electric vehicle chargers
- Ground source heat-pump
- Air source heat-pump
- Outdoor lighting
- Air conditioners
- Water heaters



AGRICULTURAL/COMMERCIAL

- Horticulture LED lighting
- Electric vehicle chargers
- Electric forklifts
- Heating and cooling ventilation



The PCEA Board of Directors met on November 21 for the November board meeting and discussed the following:

- The PCEA Board of Directors reviewed the operating and capital expenditures budgets for 2025.
- The Cooperative staff reported on the October financial statements, and the Cooperative remains in a strong financial position for 2024.
- Directors Duane Ver Ploeg and Steve Inskeep represented the Cooperative at recent CIPCO and IAEC board meetings.

Defined Electric Service Areas Protect Rural Iowans

At the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives, we are constantly monitoring issues that could impact the people and rural communities served by Iowa's electric cooperatives. Our state's 2025 Legislative Session will begin on January 13 and IAEC will prioritize efforts to ensure Iowa's law regarding defined service areas is not undermined. I'd like to explain why this law has been so crucial to our mission to serve co-op member-consumers.

What are defined service areas?

In Iowa, your location determines which electric utility will serve you. This regulatory protection is called defined electric service territory and the State of Iowa wrote Senate File 1258 into law almost 50 years ago to efficiently ensure that every square foot of our state has an electric utility obligated to provide service upon request.

Why do Iowa's electric cooperatives support defined service areas?

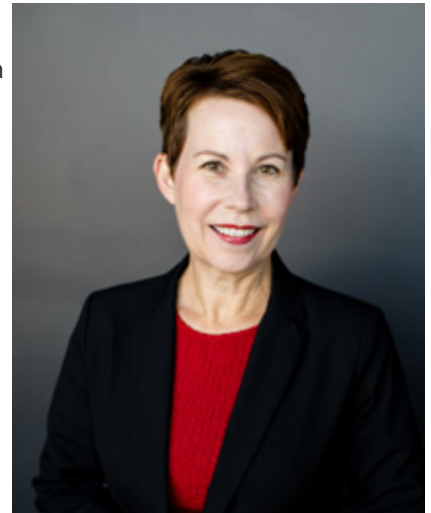
Electric co-ops are committed to safeguarding defined service areas because they protect rural Iowans by supporting affordable electric rates, fostering a resilient electric grid and encouraging economic development.

Defined service areas provide a high degree of certainty to Iowa's electric cooperatives which allows us to confidently make long-term investments in power generation to maintain affordable rates, finance major grid upgrades to ensure resiliency and utilize new technologies to enhance service. Electric co-ops can also be proactive in maintenance and vegetation management to improve reliability for the homes, farms and businesses we power every day. Additionally, defined service areas allow electric co-ops to robustly support economic development efforts in the communities we serve, which retain and create local jobs and provide needed services and tax revenue.

Any efforts to remove or weaken Iowa's defined service areas could result in higher electric bills and decreased reliability for Iowans. This issue is non-negotiable for Iowa's not-for-profit electric cooperatives, which are mission driven to power lives and empower communities by providing electricity that is safe, reliable and affordable.

Since the 1990s, several states have deregulated their electric utilities, but the hopes that competition would result in lower rates and improved reliability have not materialized. In fact, according to a 2023 New York Times investigation, "Deregulation has resulted in increased rates/fees in every state where it has been introduced." The report goes on to conclude that "On average, residents living in a deregulated market pay \$40 more per month for electricity..." This outcome is unacceptable for the Iowans we serve.

We invite you to learn more about this issue at www.ProtectRuralIowa.com where you will also find links to research and studies on deregulation. Your locally owned electric cooperatives are working hard to safeguard defined service area protections that have benefitted Iowans since 1976.



*Leslie Kaufman
Executive VP & General Manager
Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives*

*Scan the QR to the right to learn more
about defined electric service areas at
iowarec.org.*



