

HIGHLINES

NEWS FOR THE MEMBERS OF PELLA COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC

Iowa's Largest Solar Project on Track to Energize for CIPCO Members in Early 2021

Two years ago, PCEA's power supplier, Central Iowa Power Cooperative (CIPCO) announced it would purchase 100 percent of the power from Wapello Solar, currently the largest solar project in Iowa.

Owned and developed by Clēnera, LLC, Wapello Solar is well underway and on schedule to produce low-cost energy to CIPCO members like PCEA in early 2021.



This photo represents the installation of the solar panel modules at the Wapello Solar Project in Wapello, IA. Crews have been staging the solar panel modules at each row, in preparation for installation on the solar panel racking system.

Located on approximately 650 acres in Louisa County, Wapello Solar incorporates cutting-edge solar panel technology with efficient solar inverters and a single-axis tracking system to maximize energy generation. CIPCO will purchase 100% of the energy and capacity output for 25 years from the 100-megawatt solar facility. As a CIPCO member, PCEA and its members will benefit from cost-effective generation resources.

Construction on the substation that will serve Wapello Solar began in May 2020 and is currently on track to receive backfeed power by the end of the year from CIPCO.

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



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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.

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Ways to Stay Cozy this Winter

Baby, it's cold outside! When you're feeling chilly at home, there are several budget-friendly ways you can keep comfortable without turning up the thermostat. These are just a few tips - don't forget the hot chocolate!

1 Whether you're experiencing extremely cold winter temps or you simply "run cold," an electric blanket can deliver quick warmth like a regular throw or blanket cannot. Electric blankets can include a variety of features, like timers and dual temperature settings (if your cuddle buddy prefers less heat). This winter, consider an electric blanket instead of turning up the heat, and your energy bill will thank you.

2 One of the easiest ways to stay cozy at home is to keep your feet warm. Our feet play a critical role in regulating body temperature, so when your feet are warm, your body automatically feels warmer. Try a pair of comfortable wool socks or house slippers to stay toasty.

3 On winter days when the sun is shining, take advantage and harness natural warmth from sunlight. Open all curtains, drapes and blinds in your home to let the sunshine in - you'll be able to feel the difference.

4 Another way to make your home cozier is to use a humidifier. Cold air doesn't hold water vapor like warm air, so by adding humidity inside your home, you can feel a little warmer. A favorable level of humidity inside your home can also help clear sinuses, soften skin and improve sleep.

5 Beyond adding visual appeal to your home, area rugs can also provide extra insulation and a warm surface for your feet on cold winter days. Use large area rugs in rooms where you spend the most time. You'll enjoy the new colors and textures of the rug, and the additional warmth will help keep your home comfortable.



2021 Rebates for Members

PCEA is kicking off another year of providing energy efficiency rebates for members. New this year is a rebate for electric forklifts and horticulture lighting. Full rebate requirements are listed online at pella-cea.org. If you have questions, contact Member Relations Manager Stan Eysink at (800) 619-1040.



RESIDENTIAL

Heating & Cooling
Appliances
Water Heaters
Construction

EV Chargers
Weatherization
Outdoor Lighting



COMMERCIAL

Heating & Cooling
Speed Drives
Lighting

Kitchen
EV Chargers & Forklifts
Custom Rebates



AGRICULTURE

Dairy Operations
Livestock Equipment

Lighting
Ventilation & Circulation

New Website Launched



PCEA just launched a new, enhanced website for its members. The new website has a few more bells and whistles:

- Account login located directly on the homepage
- Mobile friendly, responsive design
- Suite of articles and videos on energy saving advice
- Resources on electric vehicles
- Home energy adventure tool
- Outage Center
- Electrical safety tools & interactive quiz

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Replace standard power strips with advanced power strips to save energy. Advanced power strips look like ordinary power strips, but they have built-in features that are designed to reduce the amount of energy used by standby electronics that consume energy even when they're not in use (also known as phantom load).

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) estimates that the average home loses \$200 annually to energy wasted by phantom load.



Source: www.nrel.gov

Have a Complaint? Here's How to Report It

Pella Cooperative Electric strives to provide excellent customer service to each of our members. If a member has a problem with his/her service, please write Pella Cooperative Electric, P.O. Box 106, Pella, IA 50219, call toll free at (800) 619-1040, or email us at service@pella-cea.org. We will work to resolve any issues.

If a member's complaint is related to service disconnection,

safety or engineering standards, or renewable energy and Pella Cooperative Electric does not resolve your complaint, you may request assistance from the Iowa Utilities Board by:

- Calling (515) 725-7321 or toll-free (877) 565-4450;
- Writing to 1375 E. Court Ave., Des Moines, IA 50319-0069; or
- Sending an email to customer@iub.iowa.gov

2021 Annual Meeting to be Held Virtually

After a lengthy discussion about planning the 2021 Annual Meeting, the PCEA Board of Directors and staff decided to move the meeting on April 6 to virtual only as opposed to the dinner and business meeting typically held at Pella Christian High School. The decision was made due to the unknown factors of how COVID-19 will affect the ability to hold large gatherings in April. Look for more information from the co-op about the Annual Meeting and voting in the director elections by mail in upcoming issues of the *HighLines*.





The Annual Meeting of the Members of Pella Cooperative Electric Association was held virtually from the Cooperative's headquarters' office in Pella, Iowa, at 8:00 a.m. on the 6th day of July 2020. (The Annual Meeting was video recorded on this date and will be available electronically to all who wish to view it in that manner. A print version of the meeting minutes will also be available on the Cooperative's webpage, as well as available to member's requesting them from the Cooperative's headquarters office Pella, Iowa.)

Duane Ver Ploeg, President of the Cooperative, presided and called the meeting to order. Bryce Arkema, Secretary of the Cooperative, acted as Secretary of the meeting and kept the minutes thereof.

An invocation was offered by Director Bryce Arkema. The pledge of allegiance, led by Pella Cooperative's Lance Freml, was next recited by all in attendance.

It was reported by the Secretary that an adequate number of member ballots had been received to satisfy the Cooperative's Bylaws quorum requirement (10% or more of members of the Cooperative represented by mail ballots.)

President Ver Ploeg announced that the members' ballots received (10% or more of the total Cooperative members) constituted a quorum of the members of the Cooperative.

Board Secretary Bryce Arkema next offered to have the Notice of the Annual Meeting of Members, together with proof of mailing thereof to all members of the Cooperative, as well as the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Members held April 2, 2019, read by him. The meeting notice and proof of mailing were then read. A motion was duly made, seconded and carried, to waive the reading of the Minutes. The foregoing was thereupon declared to be approved and was directed to be filed in the records of the Cooperative.

The Chairman announced that the report of the Nominating Committee would be read at this time. Fred Dorr, attorney for the Cooperative, then presented the report of the Nominating Committee, nominating the following members for directors:

THREE-YEAR TERM

District 1:
Brad Flory
Brian Hauser
Dale Lensing
Mike Lubberden
Jon Van Woerkom

District 4: Duane Ver Ploeg
At-Large: Bryce Arkema

The report of the committee of nominations was ordered to be identified by the Secretary and annexed to the minutes of the meeting.

The Chairman then appointed Inspectors of Election. The attorney for the Cooperative, Fred L. Dorr, then addressed the meeting to explain the election process after first reviewing the ballot for election of directors. A copy of the ballot is attached to the minutes of this meeting.

A vote for directors was then had by ballot, and the mail ballots were delivered to the Inspectors who proceeded to count the same.

Thereafter, Board President Duane Ver Ploeg and the Cooperative's Assistant Manager Doug Stewart reported on operations of the Cooperative.

Retiring Director Norman Van Zante was next recognized and thanked for his many years of service to the Cooperative as a Pella Cooperative Board Member. Best wishes were extended for a long and enjoyable retirement.

The Certificate of Inspectors of Election was then presented and read by the Cooperative's legal counsel, Fred Dorr, certifying that the following members receiving the highest number of votes cast, had been duly elected Directors of the Cooperative to hold office for the term specified and until their successors shall have been elected and qualified:

THREE-YEAR TERM

District 1: Jon Van Woerkom
District 4: Duane Ver Ploeg
At-Large: Bryce Arkema

The Chairman directed the Secretary to annex the Certificate of Inspectors of Election to the minutes of this meeting and thereupon declared such members duly elected Directors of the Cooperative to hold office for the term specified and until their successors shall have been elected and qualified.

(Following adjournment of the meeting door prizes were awarded by lot.) There being no further business, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.



- Directors decided to hold the 2021 Annual Meeting virtually. Members will vote for directors by mail.
- The 2021 Nominating Committee names were finalized.
- Capital credit retirements were approved for the years 2002 and 2019.