

ROCK ENERGY NEWS

FOR ROCK ENERGY COOPERATIVE MEMBERS

www.rock.coop

June 2020

More Capital Credits Returned

Extra Credit on May Statements Aims to Help Members During Pandemic

In April, the Rock Energy Cooperative Board of Directors voted to distribute about \$2.1 million in capital credits to co-op members on their May statements.

Since it was founded 84 years ago, more than \$20 million has been paid back to past and current members.

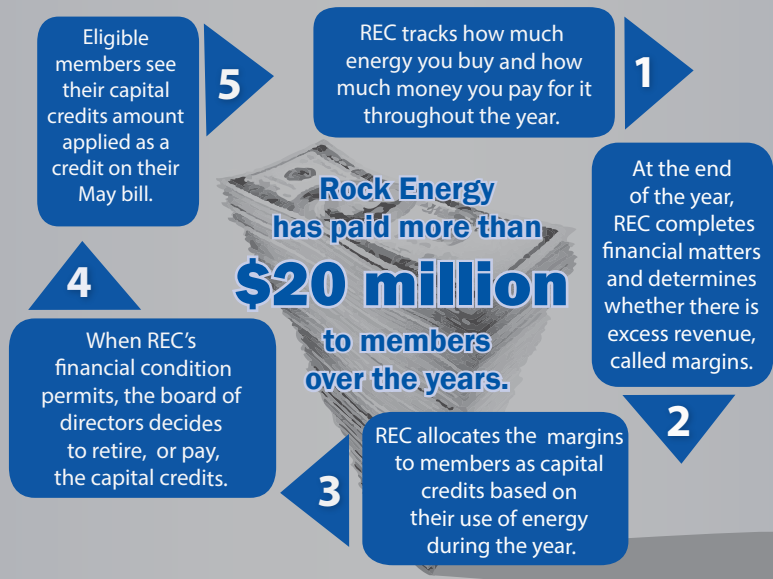
If you compare this year's May statement with last year's, you'll notice that the amount of returned capital credits most likely has increased.

The board recognized that many members were confronting financial difficulties during the coronavirus pandemic and wanted to help them through this unprecedented time.

Since 2002, the board has returned 3 percent of members' accumulated capi-

How Do Capital Credits Work?

Because Rock Energy Cooperative operates at cost, any excess revenues, called margins, are returned to members in the form of capital credits.



tal credits each year. That amount was increased to 5 percent this year, resulting in \$830,000 more being returned to members.

The board hopes that the extra amount will provide some financial help to mem-

bers during the pandemic.

Capital credits are just one of the many benefits of your co-op membership.

Unlike other utilities, your co-op exists to make sure your energy needs are always met, not to make a

profit. As a member, you share in the profits in the form of capital credits.

The co-op works hard every day to keep your rates as low as possible. But it's sure nice to know that when there are profits, they go back to you.

Capital credits are based on usage, so the more energy you purchase, the more capital credits are earned and eventually returned to you.

"Allocating and retiring margins to members helps distinguish energy cooperatives from investor-owned utilities," said Shane Larson, chief

executive officer for Rock Energy.

"We're proud to support our communities by putting money back into the local economy and into the pockets of those we serve."

Account Number	Cycle	Service Location	Location	Billing Date	District
00000000	09	1234 Any Street	1234567	05/07/2020	1

Serv Type	Rate	Meter #	Reading Dates Prev	Reading Dates Pres	Meter Readings Prev	Meter Readings Pres	Multiplier	BTU Factor	Usage	Code	Units
Electric	100	00000000	04/01/20	05/01/20	20,964	21,979	1		1,015	A	KWH

CURRENT ELECTRIC CHARGES	AMOUNT
Facilities Charge	\$ 19.00
Energy Charge 1,015 kwh @ .10890	110.53
Power Cost Adj. 1,015 kwh @ -.00100	1.02CR
Capital Credit Retirement	89.90CR
Non-Taxable Public Benefits	1.33
Total Current Electric Charges	\$ 39.94

In this sample bill, the member's share of 2019 earnings is \$126.33. The member's 2020 retirement amount of \$89.90 is applied to the current bill as a credit. The ending capital credits balance is the amount of equity the member has in the co-op and is used to help meet the co-op's ongoing operational needs.

Capital Credit Allocation and Retirement/Credit Activity is as follows:	
Beginning Capital Credit Balance	\$1671.60
2019 Allocation	\$126.33
2020 Retirement Amount	\$89.90
Ending Capital Credit Balance	\$1708.03

Your Proportional Share of 2019 Earnings	Portion of your Capital Credit applied to this Billing
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More About Capital Credits

To get a better understanding of capital credits and how they are distributed, visit www.rock.coop/capitalcredits.

Be Alert and Stay Safe in Work Zones

It might be a van with flashing lights parked in the street, a bucket truck with cones around it as a tree is trimmed, or maybe several trucks and trailers with barricades and lanes closed as a crew replaces a pole.

Whatever the case, sometimes energy companies must put trucks and personnel in roadways to make repairs or install new equipment to keep power on at your home and business.

Workers already must deal with the hazards of high voltage, and they increase their risk when working along roads. No matter how big the work zone, it requires drivers to pay attention to avoid a crash.

With distracted driving accidents on the rise, some energy companies say that their highest worker risk now is a distracted driver.

The National Work Zone Safety Information Clearing House has developed a list of tips to help drivers stay safe in work zones:

- Never use a cell phone or text while driving.
- Stay alert. Expect the unexpected.
- Slow down.
- Don't tailgate.
- Pay attention to the signs.
- Obey the flaggers or Stop and Go lights.
- Be patient and stay calm.
- Know the rules for driving in work zones.



Warning signs, orange cones, and flashing lights all indicate a work zone on the road ahead.

Keeping a safe distance between your vehicle and the workers and equipment, driving the posted work zone speed limit, and using your four-way

flashers when stopping or traveling slowly can help reduce accidents in work zones.

For more safety information, visit SafeElectricity.org.



Thinking About Going Solar? Start by Visiting Our Website

If you're thinking about installing a solar generation system on your property, make sure to learn all the facts before signing a contract.

Go to www.rock.coop/solar to get started. You'll find a brief video that gives you a general overview of solar power generation.

The website also includes our guidelines for technical requirements, our interconnection agreement, and details about our Small Distributed Generation Rate. This information can be provided to potential vendors so they are aware of Rock Energy's requirements.

We also have a checklist that provides members with step-by-step procedures to follow from start to finish.

If you have any questions after reviewing the information, please call us at 866-752-4550 or email DG@rock.coop.

Have a Safe, Happy Independence Day!

Rock Energy Cooperative offices will be closed on Friday, July 3, in observance of Independence Day.

Members can make payments in the drop boxes at both offices during the holiday weekend and at the kiosk outside our South Beloit office, 15229 Willowbrook Road.

Even though our offices are closed, standby crews are always available 24 hours a day. If you need to report a power outage, please call 866-752-4550.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Home cooling makes up a large portion of your energy bills. Try to keep the difference between the temperature of your thermostat setting and the outside temperature to a minimum. The smaller the difference, the more energy you will save.



Rock Energy News

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