



Jason Bowling, CEO
Sulphur Springs Valley
Electric Cooperative

The power of preparation

As we prepare for summer, Benjamin Franklin's words echo through our efforts at Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative: 'By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail.' Preparation is integral to our operational ethos and underscores our commitment to the resilience of our community and services. We are poised and ready.

Summer Preparedness: The unique challenges of southern Arizona's summer—from soaring temperatures to monsoon storms—demand our unwavering attention. We've dedicated ourselves to maintaining our infrastructure, investing in the latest technology, and thorough training of our staff to ensure the delivery of reliable service when it's most crucial.

Cost Controls: In today's era, where effective cost management is paramount, SSVEC is actively implementing strategies to operate efficiently without compromising service quality. A testament to our innovative approach is the transformation of our annual report. This revised format, arriving in your mailboxes soon, features a concise printed summary alongside an extensive online version accessible through a QR code. This adjustment significantly reduces our traditional printing and mailing costs.

Moreover, we have undertaken substantial measures to control costs and bolster our sustainability efforts:

- **Solar Plus Battery Facility:** The launch of our solar plus battery installation marks a significant step towards reducing our average power cost. This project ensures our members benefit from more manageable energy costs.
- **Fuel Hedging Program:** To mitigate the unpredictability of natural gas prices, our fuel hedging strategy stabilizes generation costs, shielding our members from market volatility. This proactive approach emphasizes our dedication to financial stability and predictable billing.
- **Reinvestment of Operating Margin:** Demonstrating our unwavering commitment to our members' welfare, we allocated 100% of our 2022 operating margin towards reducing the member fuel bank debt. This strategic move, along with other initiatives, contributed to a 60% reduction in the power and fuel cost adjuster on your bills in less than a year.

Amidst all the changes and challenges we've seen lately, SSVEC's rates have remained unchanged for over eight years. We've launched a comprehensive cost of service study. This evaluation is crucial for ensuring the financial health of the cooperative, seeking ways to enhance efficiency and ascertain that our pricing accurately reflects the true cost of delivering reliable, high-quality service.

Learn More at Our Annual Meeting: Learn more about our preparation efforts and future plans at our Annual Meeting on June 27 at Willcox High School. This annual meeting is vital for direct engagement and transparency, offering a comprehensive overview of our achievements, challenges faced, and strategic direction. Your participation and feedback are invaluable, directly influencing our cooperative's path forward and helping to fortify our shared foundation.

Looking ahead with confidence, our preparations are always guided by our mission to provide safe, reliable, and affordable service. These initiatives are our promise to you, as we navigate the forthcoming challenges and opportunities with determination and optimism.

Thank you for your trust and support. Together, we're gearing up for a summer defined by excellence and reliability. ■

Cooperatively,
Jason Bowling

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