



Jason Bowling, CEO
Sulphur Springs Valley
Electric Cooperative

Embracing Independence & Operational Excellence

This July, as we reflect on Independence Day, let's celebrate our journey toward energy independence—a freedom that powers our homes, businesses, and the spirit of our community. At Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative (SSVEC), our independence is demonstrated through our commitment to providing safe, affordable, and reliable service, ensuring that our infrastructure supports both our community's needs and the environment.

A Milestone Achievement: Introducing the Fuel Adder Credit

This summer, we're delivering on our promise of affordability in a significant way. As of June 1, we have successfully eliminated the member fuel bank debt, removing the final \$0.02 per kWh adder from your bills—down from its peak of \$0.05 just 18 months ago. Dropping the adder to zero represents a roughly 20% reduction in the combined rate residential members pay. But that's not all—starting this summer, we are pleased to introduce a \$0.01 per kWh credit for the air conditioning season. This credit will help ensure you can stay cool without financial stress.

Addressing Our Challenges: The Cost-of-Service Study

While we celebrate the elimination of the fuel bank adder and the introduction of the fuel adder credit, it's important to acknowledge that our operating costs continue to rise. In response to these financial pressures, as mentioned in my previous column, we initiated a cost-of-service study. We anticipate adjusting our rates may be necessary—the first in over eight years. This process is expected to take about a year to complete. We are committed to transparency throughout this journey and will keep you updated as we make progress. Our aim is not just to adjust rates but also to optimize our services and streamline our processes in ways that continue to uphold our commitment to affordability and reliability.

Join Us: Shape Your Energy Future

We invite you to make your voice heard at our upcoming town hall meetings. These gatherings are your opportunity to learn more about our ongoing projects, including the cost-of-service study, provide feedback, and engage directly with the cooperative's management. Your input is invaluable—it shapes our path forward.

A Future Worthy of Fireworks

As we navigate challenges, our commitment to excellence in service and community support continues to shine brightly. The high ratings we received for member satisfaction this year are a beacon of your trust in us. Thank you for that. With your continued support we at SSVEC see our future as vibrant and promising as a Fourth of July fireworks display! ■

Cooperatively,
Jason Bowling

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