

CENTRAL TEXAS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE EDITION



YOU'RE ALREADY A MEMBER
OF YOUR **ELECTRIC CO-OP**



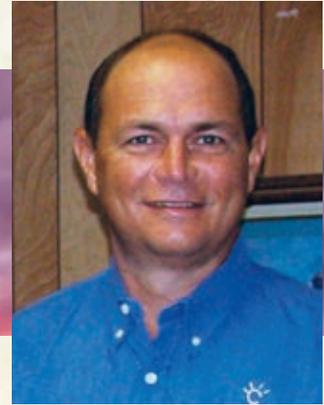
PLUG IN

TO YOUR **ACTION NETWORK**



TEXAS CO-OP POWER

— A NOTE FROM —
ROBERT A. LOTH III



Dear Friends,

We at Central Texas Electric Cooperative strive to meet your energy needs by providing you, a member-owner of the cooperative, with safe, reliable and affordable electricity.

Unlike other utility providers, our business is based here in our local community, where our board members, managers and employees, along with our families and friends, live and work. Your cooperative invests in the electrical and community infrastructure needed to provide you with a great quality of life.

Our approach to meeting your energy needs is an “all-of-the-above” strategy, where no option is taken off the table, to produce a cost-effective and reliable power supply that Central Texas EC member-owners can afford. Together, fossil fuels and renewable energy sources can produce a power supply that is safe, reliable, affordable and environmentally responsible.

Laws and regulations from Austin and Washington, D.C., directly affect our ability to meet your energy needs. Flawed mandates can be particularly harmful to member-owned cooperatives like ours.

We ask that you consider joining your Texas Cooperative Action Network. You can stay up to date on pressing state and federal issues affecting your electric bill by completing the information form and returning it with your monthly statement. You may also visit CTECAction.coop to sign up for the network online.

Signing up is free, and we won't send you any excess information. Most important, we'll never share your private information with a third party.

Like a good neighbor, Central Texas EC will keep you informed and suggest opportunities for you to take action through the Texas Cooperative Action Network, when needed, to help protect your quality of life.

Together, we're stronger.

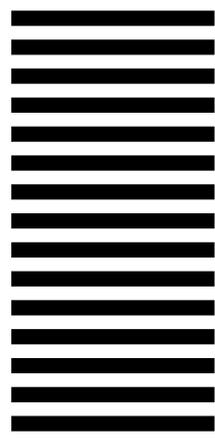
Robert A. Loth

ROBERT A. LOTH III

Chief Executive Officer
Central Texas Electric Cooperative



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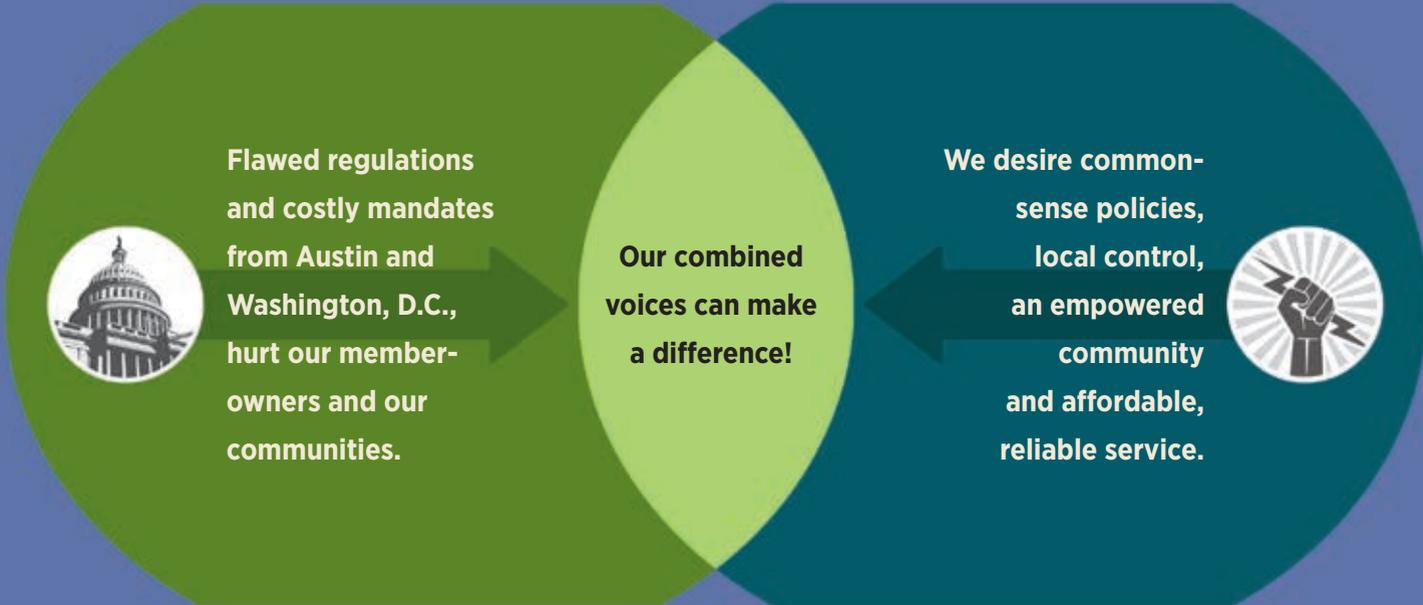
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C/O TEXAS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES
1122 COLORADO ST FL 24
AUSTIN TX 78701-9815



Fill out this card, detach it and return it by mail, OR visit CTECAction.coop to join instantly!

Together, We're Stronger



STAY INFORMED AND STAY INVOLVED

Join thousands of electric cooperative members across the state in a grassroots effort to fight for safe, reliable and affordable electricity.

Fill out this card, detach it and return it by mail,
OR visit CTEAction.coop to join instantly!

FULL NAME _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

PREFERRED PHONE NUMBER _____

We respect your privacy. Your personal information will remain confidential and will never be used by or distributed to any third party.



**Central Texas
Electric Co-op**

A community of proud voices
deserves to be heard!

Join your **Action Network** and
start making a difference today.

Join Your Action Network



**MESSAGE FROM
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER ROBERT A. LOTH III**

CENTRAL TEXAS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE is based here in our local community, where our board members, managers and employees, along with our families and friends, live and work. Your cooperative invests in the electrical and community infrastructure needed to provide you with a great quality of life through safe, affordable and reliable electricity.

Our approach to meeting your energy needs is an “all-of-the-above” strategy, where no option is taken off the table. Together, fossil fuels and renewable energy sources can produce a power supply that is safe, reliable, affordable and environmentally responsible.

Like a good neighbor, CTEC strives to keep you informed about what is happening at your cooperative, in your community and in your nation. We want you to know that state and federal laws and regulations govern CTEC’s ability to provide safe, reliable and affordable electricity, which affects your quality of life. Flawed mandates, including attempts to narrow the “all-of-the-above” strategy, can be particularly harmful to member-owned cooperatives including ours.

We ask that you consider joining the Texas Cooperative Action Network. You can stay up to date on pressing issues affecting your electric bill by completing the information form and returning it with your monthly statement. You may also visit CTEAction.coop to sign up for the network online.

Signing up is free, and we won’t send you any excess information. Most important, we’ll never share your private information with a third party.

Like a good neighbor, CTEC will keep you informed and suggest opportunities for you to take action through the Texas Cooperative Action Network, when needed, to help protect your quality of life.



Join Operation Round-Up, Get a \$100 Bill Credit

INTERESTED IN HELPING FRIENDS and neighbors in need? Want \$100 off your next electric bill?

Central Texas Electric Cooperative’s Operation Round-Up program collects funds to help area individuals and families in times of crisis, as well as local nonprofit organizations. Operation Round-Up participants agree to have their monthly electricity bills rounded up to the next whole dollar each month.

As part of a sign-up effort, CTEC will offer \$100 bill credits to a few first-time enrollees in the Operation Round-Up program. CTEC members who haven’t signed up for Operation Round-Up yet can do so simply by picking up the phone and calling the nearest CTEC office to enroll one or all of their accounts. The average contribution comes to 50 cents per month, or just \$6 for an entire year.

Of course, one-time monetary contributions to Operation Round-Up are also accepted. Just call any of the member services representatives at a nearby CTEC office and tell them your preference. It’s all tax-deductible.

CTEC serves more than 36,000 meters. For less than the cost of a soda pop per month, co-op members can have their accounts “rounded up,” too. It’s an easy, inexpensive way to become part of a great community program through your co-op membership.



**YOU’RE ALREADY A MEMBER
OF YOUR ELECTRIC CO-OP**

PLUG IN

TO YOUR ACTION NETWORK

STAY INFORMED AND STAY INVOLVED

**SIGN UP TODAY BY VISITING
CTEAction.coop**

**TEXAS
COOPERATIVE ACTION NETWORK**
The Voice of Texas’ Electric Cooperatives

Weatherization for Savings

WEATHERIZATION—THE PROCESS OF SEALING air leaks and properly insulating a home—can produce an average energy savings of \$358 per household per year, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. Here are a few improvements and tips that can help make your home more energy efficient:

Air Infiltration

Air that leaks into and out of homes through cracks, crevices and holes can increase energy consumption. Here are some helpful tips to avoid air infiltration:

- ▶ Seal around pipes coming through walls.
- ▶ During hot and cold weather, ensure that windows are closed tightly and locked.
- ▶ Be sure weatherstripping around doors and windows is tight and doesn't have any cracks.
- ▶ When your fireplace is not operating, its damper should be closed tightly, with a sign hanging from the damper handle warning that it is closed.
- ▶ Drop-down, disappearing stairways should fit tightly into the ceiling and be carefully weatherstripped.
- ▶ Make sure your outside dryer vent door closes when the dryer is not in use. This requires cleaning away lint accumulation periodically.

Windows

If you have single-pane windows, replace them with new, more efficient double-pane windows. If that's not an option, consider the following:

- ▶ Tighten and weatherstrip your old windows and add storm windows.
- ▶ In colder climates, low-emissivity coatings on glass can help reduce heat loss through windows.
- ▶ In hot climates, add solar screening to any west-facing windows that catch a lot of sun late in the day.

Heating and Air Conditioning

Heating and air conditioning use the largest chunk of your home energy dollar. Keep them running "lean and mean."

- ▶ Heat pumps and air-conditioning systems should be checked annually to verify that they are moving the correct amount of air and properly charged, strictly in accordance with manufacturers' guidelines.
- ▶ The inside and outside coils should be kept clean and free of debris.
- ▶ Return filters should be changed monthly.
- ▶ Have an HVAC technician check carefully for and seal any duct leaks.

Insulation

Different insulation requires different installation techniques—follow what is recommended by the manufacturer.

- ▶ Ceiling insulation is the most important for overall energy efficiency. If you have insulation rated R-19 or less insulation in your attic, consider bringing it up to R-38 in moderate climates and R-49 in cold climates.
- ▶ In cold climates, if you have floor insulation rated R-11 or less, consider bringing it up to R-25.
- ▶ Blown-in wet cellulose or high-density foam insulation can stop infiltration better than fiberglass.
- ▶ Proper installation of insulation should prevent moisture in your walls.
- ▶ During construction, seal all openings, plates and walls with foam or caulk.
- ▶ Insulate and seal ducts in attics, crawl spaces, garages and other unheated areas.



Central Texas Electric Cooperative

Fredericksburg (headquarters)

386 Friendship Lane
Fredericksburg, TX 78624

Llano

1410 E. State Hwy. 29, Llano

Kingsland

Nob Hill Subdivision
706 Cottonwood St., Kingsland

Mason

983 N. U.S. Hwy. 87, Mason

Office Hours

8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday

Website

ctec.coop

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Robert A. Loth III

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Riley Kothmann, President, *Mason County*
James Low, Vice President, *San Saba County*
Jack Asbill, Secretary, *Mason County*
Allen Goodwin, Treasurer, *Kendall County*
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Charles E. Pearson, *Gillespie County*
W.C. "Dub" Stewart, *Llano County*

Emergency Contact

To report electric service interruptions, please call the Central Texas Electric Cooperative office in your area at the numbers listed below:

FREDERICKSBURG AREA

(830) 997-2126

1-800-900-CTEC (2832)

including Gillespie, Kendall, Kerr, Blanco, Real and Kimble counties

LLANO AND SAN SABA AREAS

(325) 247-4191

THE LAKES AREA

(325) 388-4542

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

(325) 247-4191

after business hours

MASON AREA

(325) 347-6314

including McCulloch, Menard and Kimble counties

Local Student Wins Co-op Trip to DC



Editor's note: This essay earned Matthew Torres, a student at Harper High School, a trip to Washington, D.C., in Central Texas Electric Cooperative's Government-in-Action Youth Tour Contest. His is the third and final essay in a series of winning compositions printed in *Texas Co-op Power*. The views expressed in this essay are not necessarily those of Central Texas Electric Cooperative. The essay was required to answer the question: "How would you advise CTEC to communicate to members like you to be more involved in their cooperative and learn more about their cooperative?"

Inspiring the Leaders of Tomorrow

Since its conception, electricity has revolutionized the way humans live. From the invention of the light bulb to the advent

of large supercomputers that can model the universe, electricity has been at the core of human progress. You use electricity every day, and it is the job of Central Texas Electric Co-op to reliably provide this fundamental amenity to its customers. It is essential for CTEC to interact and educate the community about their mission.

CTEC already interacts with the community. One way they do this is with the CTEC Scholarship Program. For nearly 20 years, CTEC has been providing students with scholarships. This is just one of the great ways that CTEC gives back to the community.

Another great program is Operation Round-Up. Members will have the choice to opt into the program. If they participate, CTEC will "round up" the electric bill to the nearest dollar. The extra money is placed into a Community Caring Fund, where the money is then further distributed to places such as food banks and rescue programs.

CTEC also gives back with the Youth Tour. Students from the area compete to participate in [a contest to win] a tour of Washington, D.C. Former participants say the experience is life-changing and that it has propelled them to make a change in the world. These are just a few ways that CTEC is involved with the community.

Educating people about the cooperative, especially young adults, is a great way to potentially interact with the community. For example, visiting a local school and speaking to students about the importance of energy conservation would make an impression. Another way to interact and teach people about the cooperative would be to set up events at a local library where young kids could get a hands-on feel for the work CTEC does.

Furthermore, camps for kids would be the greatest way to reach children. All of these ideas would teach students the importance of electricity and the science behind it. It could potentially open their eyes to new occupations and inspire them to work harder in school. After all, the children of today are the leaders of tomorrow, so it is important to educate them at an early age.

Member interaction with the cooperative is essential. The members of the cooperative are at the foundation of the framework, so it is important to have an active interaction in the community. After all, we all need electricity every day and in many ways in our personal and professional lives.



Attend Your Co-op District Meeting

BE A RESPONSIBLE MEMBER. Attend and participate in your district's meeting held during the first two weeks of June. Meetings start promptly at 6:30 p.m. Here's the schedule:

MONDAY, JUNE 6—DISTRICT 6
(San Saba County area)
Cherokee High School Cafeteria

MONDAY, JUNE 13—DISTRICT 4
(Llano County area)
Llano High School Auditorium
DIRECTOR NOMINEE ELECTION

TUESDAY, JUNE 7—DISTRICT 3
(Mason/McCulloch/Menard/
Northern Kimble counties area)
Cafeteria at the Mason Junior High campus
DIRECTOR NOMINEE ELECTION

TUESDAY, JUNE 14—DISTRICT 1
(Kendall County area)
Comfort High School Cafeteria

THURSDAY, JUNE 9—DISTRICT 2
(Kerr/Real/southern Kimble
counties area)
Ingram Elementary School Cafetorium
DIRECTOR NOMINEE ELECTION

THURSDAY, JUNE 16—DISTRICT 5
(Gillespie/Blanco County area)
Fredericksburg High School Auditorium
DIRECTOR NOMINEE ELECTION

Member meetings will be held in each district, but only Districts 2, 3, 4 and 5 will elect a candidate for the board of directors. Districts 1 and 6 will still meet to exchange information between co-op management and members. An important video will be presented that explains current issues affecting CTEC members.

Please remember to check *Texas Co-op Power* to see what district you're in, and bring the registration card from that issue to your meeting to expedite registration. Each member attending will receive a \$10 bill credit. See you at the meeting!

CTEC Warns of Collections Scam Calls

CENTRAL TEXAS ELECTRIC Cooperative is aware of a recent attempt to scam local utility customers.

On April 7, CTEC was contacted by a manager from a restaurant in our service territory who reported a call from a person claiming to be with Central Texas Electric Cooperative.

The caller demanded that a wire transfer be made immediately for late utility payments, advising the business to make transfer payments at the strip center near Walmart.

Central Texas Electric Cooperative does NOT call members regarding delinquent bill payments or disconnection of service. Members who receive calls from individuals purporting to be collecting late payments on behalf of CTEC should contact the cooperative and local law enforcement immediately.

"Scams do happen," Central Texas EC CEO Bob Loth warns. "More commonly, though, it's a member turning over personal information to a person they believe to be from CTEC."

People receiving these type of calls should be aware: CTEC never uses a third party for payments or collections. It accepts payments via its SmartHub website, bank draft, online banking, pay-by-phone (toll-free), checks by mail, or on-site at any CTEC office. All other forms of payment are not accepted.

Falling for a scam can prove to be very expensive, possibly resulting in stolen identity, and bank or credit card fraud. Members should only use the methods authorized by CTEC to pay their electric bills.

Before disconnecting a customer's service for nonpayment, CTEC either will mail or personally deliver a written notice of termination at least 10 days prior to the date of disconnection.

WOODSY0071/ISTOCK.COM