

# HOT LINES



Midwest Electric, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

**AUGUST 2024**

News about your community and cooperative

419.394.4110 | 1.800.962.3830  
www.midwestrec.com

## IMPORTANT MEMBER INFO



America's Electric  
Cooperatives | PAC

# MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

## Political Action Dinner

Join us August 19, 5:30 p.m.  
at Lincoln Ridge Farm

6430 Pollock Rd, Convoy, OH

★ This will be a joint event with neighboring  
Paulding Putnam Electric Co-op and their members

Join us at Lincoln Ridge Farm for our America's Electric Cooperatives PAC Dinner. This new adults only event replaces our traditional PAC breakfast. Dinner will be at 5:30 pm, followed by elected officials addressing members and discussing current industry topics.

To attend the dinner, you must be a member of PAC. If you aren't already a PAC member, or wish to RSVP, call us at 800-962-3830 by August 12.

For just \$2.08/month, you can defend your way of life through America's Electric Cooperatives PAC.

**Tell lawmakers to keep your power affordable AND reliable!**

**YES!** I want to help keep the voice of rural electric cooperatives heard in the political process by participating in America's Electric Cooperatives PAC.

### Monthly Bill Addition

- REGULAR: \$2.08 PER MONTH (\$25/YEAR)       PRESIDENT'S CLUB: \$41.66 PER MONTH (\$500/YEAR)  
 CENTURY CLUB: \$8.33 PER MONTH (\$100/YEAR)       OTHER \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I affirm that my contribution has been made with non-corporate funds

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ COOPERATIVE: \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Federal Election Law requires the following information for contribution exceeding \$200:

Contributions to the America's Electric Cooperatives PAC are not tax deductible for federal income tax purposes. Contributions to the PAC are voluntary and will be used for political purposes. You have the right to refuse to contribute without reprisal. Federal law prohibits contributions from foreign nationals who lack permanent resident status. Any contribution guidelines presented are merely suggestions. You are free to contribute more or less than the suggested amounts, or not at all. NRECA will not favor or disadvantage anyone by reason of the amount contributed or a decision not to contribute.



# THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BASELOAD AND INTERMITTENT POWER *and why it matters*



MATT BERRY, CEO  
mberry@midwestrec.com

As summer temperatures soar, our first instinct upon returning home is often to crank up the air conditioning. This response isn't unique—it's mirrored across our entire region, putting a strain on North America's power grid. Every evening, as the workday ends, a surge in electricity demand ensues, challenging grid operators to ensure an ample supply to keep everyone comfortable.

The demand for electricity fluctuates throughout the day, peaking in the morning as households wake up and begin their daily routines. Our electric grid draws power from a variety of sources: traditional fossil fuel plants like coal and natural gas, nuclear facilities, and increasingly, renewable sources such as wind and solar. Each source serves a specific role categorized as baseload, peaking, or intermediate power.

**Baseload power**, primarily provided by nuclear and fossil fuel plants, ensures a constant and reliable supply of electricity. However, these plants aren't designed for rapid adjustments to sudden changes in demand. In such cases, **peaking and intermediate power plants** step in—they can start up quickly to meet spikes in demand or provide more gradual adjustments as needed.

While **renewable energy** sources like solar and wind farms are on the rise, they present challenges due to their intermittent nature. Solar panels only generate power when the sun shines, and wind

turbines require specific wind speeds to operate effectively. Consequently, they can't yet replace baseload sources for delivering consistent electricity.

Relying solely on intermittent sources would compromise the grid's ability to provide reliable power. To bridge this gap, promising technologies like **energy storage systems** are being developed. These systems aim to store excess energy generated during optimal conditions, such as sunny or windy days, for use during less favorable weather periods.

However, the widespread adoption of these technologies is still in its infancy, facing challenges such as technological advancement and environmental impact from the materials used, such as lithium in batteries. For now, maintaining a diverse mix of energy sources—including energy-efficient practices at the consumer level—is crucial. Simple steps like upgrading to more efficient appliances and reducing overall energy consumption not only cut down on utility bills but also alleviate the strain on our energy infrastructure.

As we navigate the complexities of energy management, understanding these dynamics can empower us to make informed choices. By embracing energy efficiency and supporting advancements in sustainable energy solutions, we contribute to a more resilient and environmentally conscious future. Reach out to learn more about how you can play a role in shaping our energy landscape sustainably. Together, we can reduce our collective energy footprint and ensure a reliable power supply for all.

## Community Calendar

- ◆ Aug 1-4 **127 Yard Sale**, [www.127yardsale.com](http://www.127yardsale.com)
- ◆ Aug 1-4 **Coldwater Community Picnic**, [www.coldwaterpicnic.com](http://www.coldwaterpicnic.com)
- ◆ Aug 9-12 **St. Marys Summerfest**, [www.stmaryssummerfest.com](http://www.stmaryssummerfest.com)
- ◆ Aug 11 **Kewpee/Lima YMCA Triathlon & Duathlon**, [www.limaymca.net](http://www.limaymca.net)
- ◆ Aug 16-18 **Bremenfest**, [www.bremenfest.com](http://www.bremenfest.com)
- ◆ Aug 23-24 **Win on the Wabash WOW Super Raffle**, [www.wowaffle.com](http://www.wowaffle.com)
- ◆ Aug 30-Sept 1 **Max's Trader Days & Water Dog Races**, [www.allencofair.com](http://www.allencofair.com)

## COUNTY FAIRS



- ◆ Jul 28-Aug 3 **Auglaize County**, [www.auglaizecountyfair.org](http://www.auglaizecountyfair.org)
- ◆ Aug 8-14 **Mercer County**, [www.mercercountyohiofair.com](http://www.mercercountyohiofair.com)
- ◆ Aug 16-24 **Allen County**, [www.allencofair.com](http://www.allencofair.com)
- ◆ Aug 27-Sept 2 **Van Wert County**, [www.vanwertcountyfair.com](http://www.vanwertcountyfair.com)



## TRUSTEES NEEDED

Join us in providing funding to charitable causes!

**JOIN US!**

We are looking for three trustees one from Auglaize County and two from Mercer County.



The CCF board meets four times a year to review grant applications and decide where funds can make the most impact. If you are interested, contact Joel Johns at [jjohns@midwestrec.com](mailto:jjohns@midwestrec.com) or call 800-962-3830.