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# CANADIAN VALLEY ELECTRALITE

## Understanding Your Capital Credits

Electric cooperatives, unlike traditional for-profit utility companies, operate under a unique financial model that benefits their members and the communities they serve. One of the key financial mechanisms in electric cooperatives is capital credits. In this article, we'll dive into what capital credits are within electric cooperatives, how they work, and why they matter.

### What Are Capital Credits?

Capital credits represent the electric cooperative's way of allocating ownership and sharing profits with its members, who are also its customers. In a for-profit corporation, profits are distributed to shareholders as dividends. In contrast, electric cooperatives allocate their profits to their members based on their usage of cooperative services, typically in the form of capital credits.

When you become a member of an electric cooperative, you essentially become a partial owner of the cooperative. As a member-owner, you are entitled to a share of the cooperative's margins, which are the revenues remaining after all expenses have been covered. Instead of immediately paying these profits to members, cooperatives retain them as capital credits, effectively investing the money in their members and the cooperative itself. Capital credits are distributed at the discretion of the board of directors.

### How Do Capital Credits Work?

The allocation of capital credits is typically based on the amount of electricity a member purchases from the cooperative over a specific period, often a year. The more electricity you buy, the larger your capital credit allocation. This allocation is expressed as a percentage of the total bill or as a dollar amount per unit of electricity consumed.

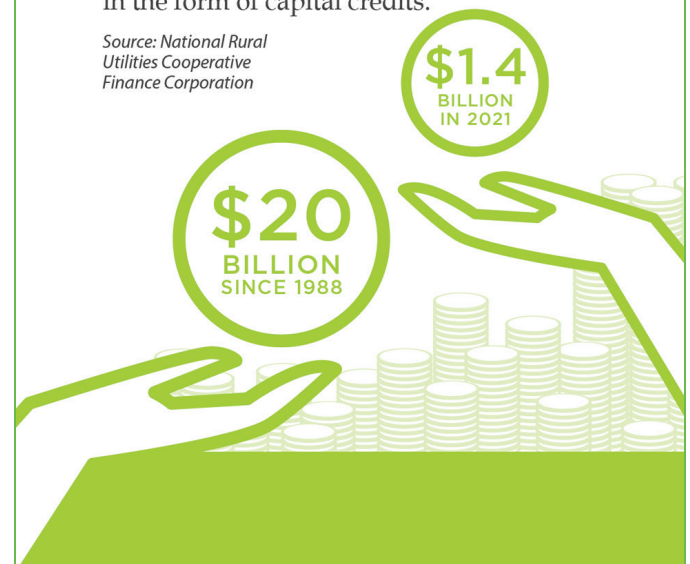
Once allocated, capital credits are recorded in individual member accounts, much like a savings account. The cooperative keeps track of these credits, and they are eventually returned to members.

### Did You Know?

Electric cooperatives have retired \$20 billion to members since 1988 - \$1.4 billion in 2021 alone.

Because electric co-ops operate at cost, any excess revenues (called margins) are allocated and retired to members in the form of capital credits.

*Source: National Rural  
Utilities Cooperative  
Finance Corporation*





A Message from

**Canadian Valley Electric CEO**

*Gary Highley*

## My First Experience in an Electric Vehicle - Part Three - Reality on the Road

In previous installments, we delved into electric vehicle performance and tackled the issue of range anxiety. Now, let's explore the practical aspects of daily EV usage. Once you've savored the power, smoothness, and silence of an electric vehicle and settled into your daily commute, perspectives shift. Most people charge their EVs at home overnight, like their smartphones. The benefit? You always start your day with a full 'tank,' eliminating those gas station detours. If you spend five minutes per week at a gas station, that's approximately 4.5 hours saved in a year. However, it's essential to note fast charging on the road can sometimes be pricier than gasoline. So, while EVs are ideal for commuters with home charging options, they aren't the solution for everyone. Challenges abound. Residents of apartment complexes, condos, mobile home parks, and rural areas need more access to dedicated charging stations, hindering EV adoption. Electrification of transportation is a noble cause, but it's still far from an ideal solution for many people. Hybrids, often overlooked, offer a middle ground. They come in various configurations, from small battery systems for power enhancement to plug-in hybrids with enough electric-only range for daily commutes. They provide the benefits of electric power when needed without sacrificing the convenience of a gasoline engine's range and refueling infrastructure.

Here are my closing thoughts:

Consider full electric if:

- *You primarily use the vehicle for commuting to work or school.*
- *You have access to affordable overnight or workplace charging.*
- *You're part of a multi-driver household with access to a gasoline-powered vehicle.*

- *You manage fleet vehicles on a defined route and schedule.*

Consider mild-hybrid if:

- *You prioritize power and torque over fuel efficiency.*
- *You frequently drive in the city with stop-and-go traffic.*

Consider Plug-in Hybrid Electric if:

- *It's your only vehicle.*
- *You drive mainly in the city with short trips.*
- *You still require occasional longer trips beyond the battery range.*

As a utility, we encourage our members to embrace electric transportation where it makes sense and benefits individuals and the community. Our concern is preventing a surge in electric vehicle charging during peak hours, significantly impacting our costs and rates. Finding ways to spread out the demand, especially during peak usage times (typically 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. on most days and 6 a.m. – 9 a.m. on cold winter mornings), is essential to our sustainability efforts.

### Canadian Valley Electric Cooperative

11277 N. Hwy. 99, Seminole, OK 74868  
35 W. JC Watts Ave. Eufaula, OK 74432  
(405) 382-3680

Website: [www.mycvec.coop](http://www.mycvec.coop)



### Business Hours

Seminole Office -

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday

Eufaula Office -

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday

Seminole Warehouse -

7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Monday - Friday

### Board of Trustees

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re Jesse Snyder - District 3

Clayton Eads - District 4

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Matt Goodson - District 5

Gary Highley

*Chief Executive Officer*

### Did You Know?

Electric co-ops returned more than \$1.4 billion in capital credits to their member-consumers in 2021.



*Improve Life,  
Serve Community*

# Connecting with the Future: Meet the CVEC Fiber Team

In an era where high-speed internet is no longer a luxury but a necessity, the dedicated professionals behind CVEC Fiber are at the forefront of transforming rural communities. As a provider of cutting-edge fiber-optic technology, CVEC Fiber is more than just an internet service; it's a bridge to the future. Meeting the team behind CVEC Fiber is an opportunity to understand not just the technology they provide but also the passion and commitment they bring to every connection they make.



## The Connectivity Enablers

At the heart of CVEC Fiber is a team of innovators constantly pushing the boundaries of what's possible. These innovators, including the outside plant supervisor and home installers, are the region's digital transformation architects. Their commitment to innovation has led to the deployment of high-speed internet that's not only reliable but also future-proof.



## The Problem Solvers

One of the unique qualities of the CVEC Fiber team is its ability to solve complex challenges. Whether navigating the complex fiber-optic network, troubleshooting connectivity issues, or working on legal projects, this team takes pride in finding solutions that benefit the entire community.



## The Community Connectors

For CVEC Fiber, it's not just about technology; it's about connecting people. The marketing and sales team works tirelessly to ensure everyone understands the benefits of high-speed internet and has access to it. They visit local schools, community centers, and town halls to educate residents about the opportunities broadband connectivity can bring.



## The Customer Care Champions

Customer satisfaction is at the core of CVEC Fiber's mission. The customer care team is dedicated to providing top-notch support to users, ensuring issues are addressed promptly and effectively. They're not just solving technical problems; they're building relationships and are ready to answer your call.



## The Visionaries

CVEC Fiber isn't just focused on the present; they're looking toward the future. The leadership team has a clear vision of how high-speed internet can transform communities. They're leading the charge in making that vision a reality, driving innovation, and expanding access.

The impact of CVEC Fiber extends far beyond internet speeds. It's about economic growth, educational opportunities, improved healthcare access, and serving under-served areas. It's about creating a level playing field where every member of the community has a chance to thrive. In meeting the CVEC Fiber team members, it's clear they're not just in the business of providing internet; they're in the business of connecting people, bridging gaps, and creating a brighter future for everyone. Their work is a testament to their mission statement to Improve Life and Serve Communities.

# November

## Dates to Remember

Sunday, Nov. 5 - Daylight Saving Time ends  
 Friday, Nov. 10 - Office closed for Veterans Day  
 Thursday, Nov. 23 - Thanksgiving Holiday  
 & Friday, Nov. 24

## Thanksgiving Rush no Reason to Waste Energy

When your house is full of dinner guests and overnight company, you're bound to use more energy than you do on almost every other day of the year. To keep your electric bill from skyrocketing:

Lower the heat a couple of degrees before company arrives. You'll be using the stove and oven all day, so the house will be warmer than usual anyway. Plus, people generate heat, so a cooler house will feel more comfortable.

Keep an eye on the refrigerator and freezer so you'll know the doors at snugly closed. Doors that aren't tightly sealed will send cold air into the kitchen.

Wait until the leftovers cool off a bit before placing them in the refrigerator. The appliance has to work harder to cool hot food than to keep cool food cold.

Place lids on pots and pans as you use them for cooking. The lids keep heat in, so food cooks quicker.

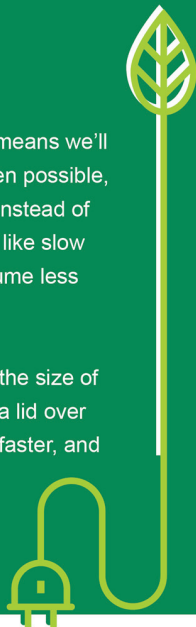
Heat up whatever you can in the microwave instead of on the stovetop or oven. Microwaves use about half the energy as your oven.

### Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

The holiday season is upon us, and that means we'll be using more energy in the kitchen. When possible, cook with smaller countertop appliances instead of the stovetop or oven. Smaller appliances like slow cookers, air fryers and Instant Pots consume less energy.

When using the oven or stovetop, match the size of the pot to the heating element and place a lid over the pot while cooking. The food will cook faster, and you'll use less energy.

Source: Dept. of Energy



## ELECTRALITE CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified Ads Must be Submitted to

<https://www.mycvec.coop/submit-an-ad>

Ads must be received by the first of each month



### AUTOMOBILES & BIKES

### FARM & RANCH

Small square bales of good, clean prairie hay, good for horses, located west of Tecumseh, \$7/bale, 405-598-5860.

### HOME & LAND

### MISCELLANEOUS

2005 Mckenzie LAKOTA 5th wheel, 32' with three slides, queen-size bed, new fridge, text 405-306-2130.

2017 Keystone Springdale 2020 QB travel trailer, 24' 10", weight 4,279, no

slides, kept in carport, smoke-free, great condition inside and out, \$12,950, text or call 405-245-6945, leave message.

Wood-burning stove, 405-380-6129.

16' aluminum extension ladder, \$60; Black & Decker Grasshog cordless 18V string trimmer with two batteries, charger, and manual, \$60; Craftsman 1&3/4-HP router with manual, \$50; new 36" hickory handle for 6-16-lb. sledge, \$7.50; two small Weed Eater corded string trimmers, old but working, \$5 each; 20" bow saw \$5; 16-piece set of cold chisels and punches, \$5; new circular saw blade, 7&1/4"-24T, \$5; pair of hay hooks, \$5, 405-273-8198.



A PODCAST POWERED BY  
 Canadian Valley Electric Cooperative

Listen in on Tuesday, November 28 when Communications Coordinator Kaci Dennis discusses "What are Capital Credits?".

Energize Oklahoma can be found on our Facebook page or at <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1906989> the last Tuesday of each month. It is also available on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and iHeart Radio apps.