

ALLOCATION NOTICES Members Take Note!

May is the month your Board of Directors notifies you about your deferred patronage dividends (or the 2024 allocations of year-end margins). This notice is listed under the "Message from ECI REC" section of your May bill. This year, you will see your allocation broken out by your distribution cooperative (ECI REC) and our generation and transmission power supplier, Central Iowa Power Cooperative (G&T).

WHAT ARE DEFERRED PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS?

As a nonprofit electric cooperative, East-Central Iowa REC is owned by you and our other member-consumers. At the end of the year, we allocate our annual margins—or profits—from the past year to those of you who received electric service during that year. These profits are called "deferred patronage dividends." These dividends are allocated to you based on the amount you paid for electricity during that time and represent your ownership in East-Central Iowa REC.

As an owner, you provide equity to the Cooperative by allowing us to use this money for a period of time. We use it to repay our long-term debt, finance additions and upgrades to the

distribution system, repair storm damage, and cover other contingencies. This amount is not cash sitting in an account, and it is not payable at this time. It will be refunded to you at some point in the future as the Cooperative's financial condition allows.

Please notify us of any changes in your address. This will allow us to forward any patronage dividends to you, even if you are no longer a member. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call **877-850-4343** or email ecirec@ecirec.coop.

Statement Date	05/09/2025
Account Number	TBD
Payment Due	06/01/2025

Service Summary	
Previous Balance	\$62.25
No Payments Received	\$0.00
Balance Forward	\$62.25
Current Charges	\$62.25
Total Amount Due	\$124.50

Message from ECI REC	
Notice of 2024 Deferred Patronage Allocation	
ECI Allocation	\$33.15
CIPCO Allocation	\$19.55
Current Balance	\$501.35
Your current balance represents your equity in the cooperative and will be refunded to you over time as determined by the Board of Directors.	

Deferred patronage dividends shown on this bill message from ECI REC cannot be applied to your energy bill.

• • • • • Virtual Annual Meeting of the Members • • • • •

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, 2025 – 11:00 A.M.

How Do I Attend?

Visit ecirec.coop and look for the yellow button at the top of the home page, which will take you to the Annual Meeting of the Members page. Look for the green JOIN NOW button. The virtual meeting room will open at 10:30 a.m.

How Do I Vote?

Ballots will be mailed mid-May and online voting will open May 23. All votes—online and mail-in—MUST be received by June 23.

- MAIL** - A ballot will be mailed to every member with a self-addressed and stamped return envelope.*
- SMART HUB** - Log in to SmartHub at ecirec.smarthub.coop and click VOTE NOW. Please note: SmartHub voting must be done in a web browser, not the SmartHub mobile app.
- ONLINE** - Click the **VOTE NOW** button located on the home page at ecirec.coop. Enter your voter number and election passcode, which will be listed at the bottom of your mailed ballot. Follow online voting instructions.

*ECI REC partnered with Survey & Ballot Systems to administer the 2025 Annual Meeting mailing and ballot validation processes. They will tabulate all the ballots, both paper and online.

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Email: ecirec@ecirec.coop | Web: www.ecirec.coop | facebook.com/eastcentraliowarec

East-Central Iowa Rural Electric Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

ELECTRICITY 101

To stay safe around electricity, start with these **SEVEN** basic tips:

- **1. DON'T OVERLOAD OUTLETS OR CIRCUITS**
Plugging in too many items or drawing too much power on a circuit can cause overheating, fire, and damage to devices.
- **2. DON'T USE FAULTY ELECTRICAL CORDS OR PLUGS**
Do not use cords that look frayed, worn or cracked. Do not use broken plugs. Never remove the grounding pin from a three-pronged plug.
- **3. HAVE YOUR ELECTRICIAN'S NUMBER IN YOUR PHONE**
Most electrical repairs or installations are not DIY projects. Hire an expert to avoid serious injury or wiring problems.
- **4. BE CAREFUL AROUND H₂O**
Never use electricity while standing in damp or wet conditions. Keep all electrical devices away from water, including cell phones that are charging.
- **5. EVALUATE YOUR APPLIANCES**
Do not use appliances in disrepair. Older or broken appliances can overheat, start a fire, and cause serious injuries.
- **6. TEST YOUR GFCIs**
Outlets near a water source should be equipped with GFCIs, which help prevent shock and electrocution caused by ground faults. Test monthly to make sure they are working.
- **7. MAKE SURE YOUR HOME IS UP TO CODE**
Your home should be properly wired and electrically sound. Contact a reputable electrician to evaluate your home.

 Safe
Electricity.org

Nominate a
local volunteer
and they could
win \$3,000 for
their charity!

Contest entries accepted at
IowaShineTheLight.com
during the month of June



Guided by our commitment to community, ECI REC is encouraging our members to participate in the statewide Shine the Light contest to celebrate local volunteers! Sponsored by the Touchstone® Energy Cooperatives of Iowa, the contest will accept nominations in June and select three winners, who will each receive a \$3,000 donation to their local charity or nonprofit.

"We've been truly inspired by the growth of this contest," remarked Erin Campbell, director of communications for the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives. "We're excited to once again give out three donations of \$3,000 each this year to recognize local volunteer efforts across the state."

Member-consumers and employees of Iowa's electric cooperatives are eligible to nominate local volunteers during the month of June. If you receive electricity from ECI REC, we invite you to nominate someone who is making a positive impact in the community. The volunteer being nominated does not need to be a cooperative member-consumer. Minors may be nominated with consent from their parents or legal guardians. Nominees from previous years can be nominated again for another chance to win.

Contest entries will be accepted online starting June 1. The three winners will be announced in September and featured in *Iowa Electric Cooperative Living* magazine and on social media.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS



Your Co-op Connections® Card offers you Healthy Savings and local and national deals. Use your card to start saving today! Questions? Email coopconnections@ecirec.coop.



Use SmartHub to pay for FREE online! Visa, Discover, American Express, and MasterCard accepted. While you're there, view your monthly usage data in helpful chart formats.