

ALLOCATION NOTICES Members Take Note!

May is the month your Board of Directors notifies members of their deferred patronage dividends (2025 allocations of year-end margins). This notice is listed under the “Message from ECI REC” section of your May bill. (See the example to the right.) 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	05/08/2026
Account Number	1234000
Payment Due	06/01/2026

Service Summary	
Previous Balance	\$56.01
Payment Received	<i>Thank you!</i> -\$56.01
Balance Forward	\$0.00
Current Charges	\$54.28
Total Amount Due	\$54.28

Message from ECI REC	
Notice of 2025 Deferred Patronage Allocation	
2025 ECI REC Allocation	\$23.47
2025 G & T Allocation	\$13.35
Your allocation amount 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.

NOTE: To receive capital credit allocations and dividends, you must be a member of East-Central Iowa REC. Membership requires a signed application on file with the Cooperative.

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

Contest entries accepted during June at IowaShineTheLight.com



Virtual Annual Meeting of the Members

THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 2026 – 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?

On **June 1**, ballots will be mailed and online voting will open. There are three ways to vote (see below). All votes—online and mail-in—MUST be received by **June 26**.

- 1 MAIL** - A ballot will be mailed to every member with a self-addressed and stamped return envelope.*
- OR
- 2 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.
- OR
- 3 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 2026 Annual Meeting mailing and ballot validation processes. They will tabulate all the ballots, both paper and online.

Are There Prizes?

Of course! Twelve \$50 bill credits will be given to randomly selected members who vote. Two \$100 bill credits will be given away as grand prizes, with one winner randomly drawn from the members who attend the Annual Meeting and the other drawn from the members who vote.

7 Cooperative Principles

Putting the needs of our members first

1

Voluntary and Open Membership:
Accessible to all without discrimination.

2

Democratic Member Control:
One member, one vote.

3

Member Economic Participation:
Equitable contributions and benefit sharing.

4

Autonomy and Independence:
Self-help organizations controlled by members.

5

Education, Training, and Information:
Educating members and the public.

6

Cooperation Among Cooperatives:
Working together through local and international structures.

7

Concern for Community:
Working for sustainable community development.

Thank You to the 2026 Nominating Committee!

We extend our sincere thanks to the members of the 2026 Nominating Committee for their time and dedication in helping identify and nominate qualified candidates to serve on the East-Central Iowa REC Board of Directors.



Photo credit: Katie Stadheim

Pictured left to right: Carl Dodge, Brian Andrews, Peggy Bearbower, John Frazier (attending virtually), Joe Bahe, Clint Sandburg, and Bob Hanson.