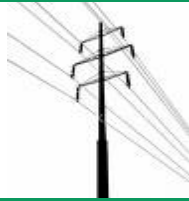




*This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*



# CATSKILL HI-LINE

Newsletter — July 2025

## SPECIAL EDITION: ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION

### *From the desk of CEO John Gasstrom*

Happy Summer, everyone! I think we just experienced our first weekend without rain in such a long time, I can't even remember the last one. I hope everyone has been enjoying their somewhat soggy summer so far, as we at the Coop look forward to continuing some big projects. We are excited to have recently received our new transformers for the Delhi substation, which improve our capacity from 5 MVA to 12 MVA out of that station. See announcement below for more information about two planned outages later in July as we put these two new transformers into service.

As we get closer to August, we are getting geared up for the 81<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of Members, **August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9AM at Delaware Academy**. Please register to attend before August 15<sup>th</sup> by emailing [AnnualMeeting@dce.coop](mailto:AnnualMeeting@dce.coop) or calling the office at 607-746-2341. Please include your full name as listed on your account, member number, and service address when registering. As our membership continues to evolve and advance, so too has the Annual Meeting. Please be aware of changes such as having more Member Q&A sessions throughout the year, so people can have more access to ask questions and receive answers. Our next Q&A session will be held on August 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:30PM (the Monday evening before the Annual Meeting). This Q&A session will be virtual, and we are asking for people to both register to attend by visiting <https://dce.coop/QnA> and also to send questions in advance to [QnA@dce.coop](mailto:QnA@dce.coop). We are planning another live session for sometime in August or September.

Also, we have a Member Advocacy Committee meeting scheduled for the end of July at the Coop office. We are excited to announce that this year, we are giving all three charities \$1,000 each (previously we gave \$1,000, \$600, and \$400). The Member Advocacy Committee will choose the three charities at their meeting, so if you would like to suggest a charity for consideration, please send an email to [MemberAdvocacy@dce.coop](mailto:MemberAdvocacy@dce.coop) by July 27<sup>th</sup> with a brief description of the charity's mission and accomplishments. If you are interested in joining the Member Advocacy Committee, you can also send an email to that same address.

As a reminder, all ballots are due back to the office by August 19<sup>th</sup>, either by mail or dropping them off at the Coop (our lobby is open 8am – 4pm M-F). Every Member who votes will receive a \$10 bill credit as thanks. You will also be entered in our drawing to win a \$250 bill credit. We are additionally giving a \$250 bill credit to one lucky Member who has signed up for autopay\*. You must be enrolled in autopay on or before August 19<sup>th</sup> to be eligible to win. Our election tellers are counting ballots on August 21<sup>st</sup>, and we will also be doing the drawings for the \$250 bill credit prize for voting and the \$250 bill credit prize for enrolling in autopay on that day. If you want to volunteer to be an election teller, witness the counting of ballots, or witness the prize drawings, please send an email to [AnnualMeeting@dce.coop](mailto:AnnualMeeting@dce.coop) or call the office at 607-746-2341 by August 15<sup>th</sup>. Here's to hoping that everyone has a safe and happy rest of your summer!

*Cooperatively Yours, John Gasstrom*

*\*Sign up for Autopay by August 19th to be eligible for the \$250 bill credit prize drawing*

### *From the Chief Operating Officer*

Hello! My name is Nick Frandsen and I'm thrilled to announce that I've moved into the COO role here at DCEC. I have been DCEC's general counsel for the last two years, and you may recognize my name as an attorney based out of Delhi. I'm looking forward to being part of an already stellar team here, and you can expect to see my name on more communications as time goes on. As I settle into the full-time position, feel free to drop me a line or just say hello. More updates will be forthcoming, but for now the most important is below.

#### **Delhi Substation Upgrade and Planned Outages**

In response to increased demand and anticipated growth, we are upgrading the Delhi substation with two new 12MVA transformers – more than doubling our 5MVA capacity. Our line crew safely received and prepared the transformers for installation, and absent any severe weather, the transformers will be swapped out late this month. If you are a Member in West Delhi, Fraser, Delancey, Fish Hollow, Meredith, or Andes, you will have received notification in your June bill. Please plan for two outages of 1-4 hours each, starting the following times:

- 1. Friday, July 25th 1pm**
- 2. Tuesday, July 29th 1pm**

Please contact our office at 607-746-2341 with any questions.

*Cooperatively Yours, Nick Frandsen*

### **81st Annual Meeting**

**MONDAY, August 18th**

**5:30pm – Virtual Member Q&A**

Register: <https://dce.coop/QnA>

**SATURDAY, August 23rd**

**Delaware Academy**

**9:00am – Annual Business Meeting**

Please register to attend before August 15<sup>th</sup> by emailing

[AnnualMeeting@dce.coop](mailto:AnnualMeeting@dce.coop)

or calling the office at 607-746-2341

BO 5-11-12

## *Powering Our Rural Communities*

5 North Depot Street  
PO Box 471  
Delhi, NY 13753

AUTOMATED LINE (payments & outage reporting): **(855) 939-3672**

Office Phone: (607) 746-2341

Fax: (607) 746-7548

**DELAWARE COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**  
**SUMMARY FINANCIAL REPORT \*\*\***

Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2024

<u>Assets</u>	
Electric plant and work in progress - at cost	\$ 42,501,035
Less accumulated provisions for depreciation	(16,601,109)
Investments in associated organizations	636,180
Cash	608,609
Accounts and notes receivable - Net	1,340,259
Materials and supplies (at average cost)	1,572,793
Prepaid expenses	1,124,852
Other current and accrued assets	471,634
Deferred charges	459,159
<b>Total Assets:</b>	<b>\$ 32,113,412</b>
<u>Liabilities</u>	
Long-term debt (current and non-current)	12,636,989
Line of Credit	1,500,000
Accounts payable	1,555,577
Accrued interest	13,028
Consumer deposits and prepayments	106,802
Other current and accrued liabilities	286,344
Deferred credits	4,425,532
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>20,524,272</b>
<u>Equities</u>	
Memberships	65,400
Patronage capital	9,655,665
Other equities	1,868,075
<b>Total equities</b>	<b>11,589,140</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Equities:</b>	<b>\$ 32,113,412</b>

<b>Income Statement for the years ended December 31,</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Operating revenues	\$ 10,198,677	\$ 9,535,374
Nonoperating margins, G&T and other capital credits	87,144	98,474
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>10,285,821</b>	<b>9,633,848</b>
Cost of power	2,463,174	2,139,379
Distribution expense	3,940,720	3,880,568
Consumer accounts and service	408,229	377,888
Administrative and general	1,733,331	1,419,810
Depreciation and amortization	1,191,011	1,159,078
Interest	411,191	419,727
Other deductions	4,085	4,145
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>10,151,741</b>	<b>9,400,595</b>
Net margins	134,080	233,253
Retirement of capital credits	-	(316,208)
<b>Net change</b>	<b>\$ 134,080</b>	<b>\$ (82,955)</b>

\*\*\* The above information was summarized from the Cooperative's audited financial statements which are available upon request.

## 81st Annual Meeting Agenda

### Monday August 18th

5:30pm – Virtual Member Q&amp;A

Register at and submit questions:

<https://dce.coop/QnA>

### Saturday August 23rd

8:30am – Registration

9:00am – Welcome/Call to Order

- Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance
- Introductions & Presidents Report
- Secretary's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- CEO's Report
- Service Awards
- Director Election and Prize Drawing Results
- Unfinished Business/New Business
- Wrap-up & Adjournment

Please register to attend before August 15<sup>th</sup> by  
 emailing [AnnualMeeting@dce.coop](mailto:AnnualMeeting@dce.coop)  
 or calling the office at 607-746-2341.



**DCEC**  
 Delaware County  
 Electric Cooperative

GI 2-48-19B

## 2025 Official Candidates & Voting Details

During this year's meeting, members will elect **one member of the Board of Directors**. This year, there are two ways to vote: In-Person at the Cooperative office, or by mail using an absentee ballot. All votes are due by August 19th and the ballot results will be announced at the annual meeting. Each membership shall be entitled to cast only one ballot; for example, a joint membership has one vote. All questions shall be decided by a vote of a majority of the members voting thereon in person or by absentee ballot. Questions resulting in a tie vote shall be decided by a second round of voting in like manner. If a second round of voting results in a tie, the question shall be decided by a flipping of a coin, which shall be administered by a duly elected officer of the Cooperative. In person, or by absentee ballot, eligible voters can vote for one (1) candidate. Members can vote for a candidate of any of Region, even if they do not reside in that Region. For example, if you live in Walton you are considered to be in the Southern Region, you may vote for a candidate in the Central Region.

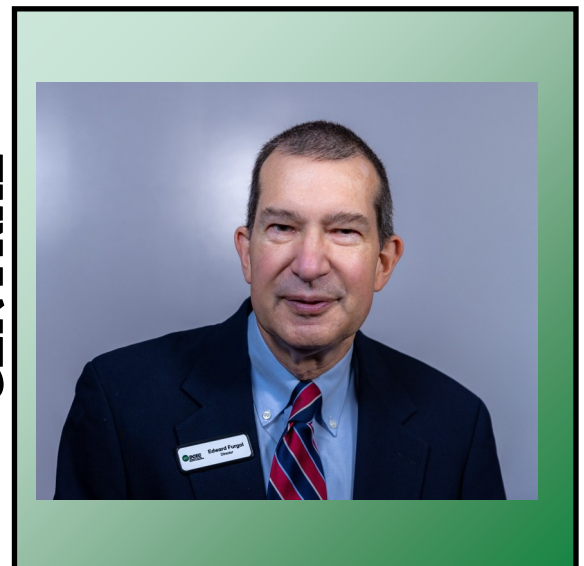
## 2025 Candidate for Central Region

In accordance with DCEC by-laws, a Nominating Committee of members has officially identified the following candidate for the office of director of the Cooperative: Edward Furgol.

Thank you to, Seth Blocker, Molly Oliver, Eddie Pick, Lindsey Gardepe, and Randy Tweedie for participating in this year's nominating committee!

**Edward Furgol** has developed a strong appreciation for the value of public utilities. Born in Utica, NY, his family has lived in upstate New York since 1748. Ed's work as Managing Director of the National Museum of the United States Navy gave him experience in workplace safety, budget processes, ethics, anti-discrimination, personnel management, and public service. Beginning in 2006, he spent part of each year in Delhi, retiring here just over a decade later. By teaching and researching online, Ed has a personal interest in the reliable delivery of electricity and understands the challenges that arise in ensuring that. He has completed his Certified Credentialed Director training. Since September 2023 he has served as treasurer of the board. He always looks for ways to make electricity more affordable to the members.

CENTRAL



# Official Absentee Ballot Request Form

**VOTE BY MAIL:** One method for a member to vote is by requesting a mail-in ballot, also known as an absentee ballot. Request an absentee ballot by completing the official form below and submit to DCEC by **August 3, 2025**. Once the Cooperative receives your form, we will provide you with an official absentee ballot which you can then complete and send back to the DCEC office. DCEC will count properly completed absentee ballots as long as they are received by **August 19, 2025** (four business days prior to the Annual Meeting). Once DCEC has received a member's absentee ballot, it cannot be revoked. A member voting by absentee ballot may still attend the Annual Meeting, however, can not vote again.

**IN-PERSON VOTING AT THE COOPERATIVE OFFICE:** Members can also complete their ballot in person at the Co-op office during regular lobby hours between **July 28 and August 19, 2025**. You must have a government issued photo ID with you to vote in the Cooperative office.

DE 4-6-17

Members can return the below form:

In person:

5 North Depot Street, Delhi

By mail:

DCEC

Attn: Absentee Ballot Request

P.O. Box 471

Delhi, NY 13753

**DCEC Lobby Hours:**

Monday-Friday 8am-4pm

Please vote, and receive a  
**\$10 bill credit**  
to be applied to your  
October 2025 bill.

Fax to: (607) 746-7548 Email to: [office@dce.coop](mailto:office@dce.coop)



The Delaware County Electric Cooperative (hereinafter "Cooperative") will hold its Annual Meeting on **August 23, 2025** for the transaction of all lawful business in accordance with its Bylaws and the New York State Rural Electric Cooperative Law. The Annual Meeting will be held at the Delaware Academy, located at 2 Sheldon Dr., Delhi, NY, and the business meeting shall begin at 9:00am.

All votes cast by mail or in-person must be received by the Cooperative no later than **August 19, 2025**.

To be eligible to vote by absentee ballot, members may request that an absentee ballot be sent to them by providing the following information and returning this completed form to the Cooperative.

**The Cooperative must receive this request no later than August 3, 2025.**

I HEREBY REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT FOR THE AUGUST 23, 2025 ANNUAL MEETING.

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Member's Address (where you'd like the ballot sent to): \_\_\_\_\_

By signing this ballot application, I certify that I am the member whose name appears herein, and that the information in this application is true and correct and that this application will be accepted for all purposes as the equivalent of an affidavit and, if it contains a material false statement, shall subject me to the same penalties as if I had been duly sworn.

Member's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions with respect to this form or the Annual Meeting, please contact DCEC at (607) 746-2341 or (866) 436-1223, or at Delaware County Electric Co-op, P.O. Box 471, 5 North Depot Street, Delhi, NY 13753.



## Enhancing our Commitment to Safety and Reliability

DCEC has been awarded a grant to cover the majority of the costs of a drone line inspection project. The grant will help pay the expenses of collecting critical data to help ensure the continued delivery of safe and reliable electricity to our members. We are pleased to partner with Zeitview for these inspections. They are vital for assessing the integrity of our poles, crossarms, wires, and vegetation that require attention.

As part of the inspection process, we will utilize drones to obtain comprehensive aerial views of our power lines that cannot be observed from the ground. These drones can cover many miles in a day; they are fast-moving and can collect a lot of data in a short time. This innovative approach allows

us to quickly analyze where our efforts are needed most, ultimately improving our reliability for you, our valued members. Trained technicians will also conduct ground inspections of the poles, ensuring a thorough evaluation of our infrastructure.

This project is scheduled to start in mid-July. We ask that as this work occurs, our members refrain from interfering with the drone's operations. By allowing us to carry out these inspections, you contribute to our mission of better serving you and ensuring reliable service.

We appreciate your cooperation throughout this project. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at 607-746-2341 or via email at [memberservices@dce.coop](mailto:memberservices@dce.coop). Your understanding and support are invaluable to us. Thank you!



AN 7-6-12



## Helpful Tips:

- **Meters** Can't get to your meter? Maybe we can't either! Know where your meter is located, keep it clear and accessible. If you're the first person calling in to report an outage, we may ask you to verify your meter is blank. This information allows us to more quickly diagnose the size of the outage and restore power.
- **Phone Numbers** Make sure your contact information is up to date. There are times we need to contact you – confirming your power is restored, billing purposes, and alerts are a few reasons.
- **Security Cameras** If you call to report an outage because your cameras are not working we will need someone to check that the meter is blank. Cameras can be out due to other factors than power outages

## DCEC Recipe Corner:

### Slow Cooker Chicken Tacos

#### Ingredients

- 1 (15-ounce) can tomato sauce
- 2 Tbsp. chili powder
- 1 Tbsp. cumin
- 1 Tbsp. kosher salt
- 2 tsp. paprika
- 1 tsp. black pepper
- 3 garlic cloves, finely chopped
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 6 large boneless, skinless chicken breasts (about 4 ½ pounds)
- Flour tortillas, shredded iceberg lettuce, chopped tomato, shredded cheddar cheese, sour cream, salsa, for serving



#### Directions

- In a 6- to 8-quart slow cooker, stir together the tomato sauce, chili powder, cumin, salt, paprika, pepper, garlic, and onion until well combined. Add the chicken, stirring to ensure it is fully coated with the sauce.
- Cover and cook until the chicken is cooked through and the internal temperature of the chicken is 165°F, on low for 4 to 6 hours or on high for 2 to 3 hours.
- Remove the chicken to a large cutting board. When it is cool enough to handle, cut it into bite-sized pieces. Return the chicken to the sauce and stir very well.
- Cover and cook on low for 15 minutes more.
- Serve on tortillas topped with lettuce, tomatoes, cheese, sour cream, and salsa.

Each Newsletter, DCEC would love to share member's favorite recipes. If you'd like to submit a recipe, please email it to: [memberservices@dce.coop](mailto:memberservices@dce.coop)

Ree Drummond, the Pioneer Woman

Like our page on Facebook to follow our news:



Follow us on  
Instagram:

dce.coop

Create your SmartHub account today! You can click straight to SmartHub through our website:  
**www.dce.coop**



HA 4-13-11

### Member Advocacy Committee:

DCEC is excited to host a meeting in July with our Member Advocacy Committee, and invites any members interested in participating. The July meeting agenda will be discussing charities in our communities, and choose three to support. We are looking to our communities to help us find the awesome charities in need of support, as they work so hard to support others!

If interested please email:  
[memberadvocacy@dce.coop](mailto:memberadvocacy@dce.coop)

### Is Your Location Number in This Issue?

Your service location number begins with two letters and is located on your bill next to your account number. Keep your eyes peeled for the “hidden location number” in this newsletter! If you find the number, and it is your service location, call us at (607)746-2341 and you will receive a \$10 bill credit!  
*Good luck!*

### DCEC's UPDATED NUMBERS:

**AUTOMATED LINE**  
for payments & outage reporting:  
**(855) 939-3672**

**LIVE Representative 24/7/365:**  
**(607) 746-2341**

### HEAP Benefits

The New York State Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) provides payment assistance for income eligible residents to use towards the 2024-2025 heating season. This year's regular HEAP benefits opened November 1, 2024. For eligibility, income guidelines, and how to apply contact your local Department of Social Services or the NYS OTDA Hotline at 1-800-342-3009. Additional information is provided on:  
<https://otda.ny.gov/programs/heap>

CATSKILL HI-LINE is a Publication of the Delaware County Electric Cooperative, Inc. and is published bi-monthly for the membership. This newsletter has articles submitted by CEO/General Manager John Gasstrom, Cooperative Relations Manager Stacey Young, Project Manager Janelle Linehan, and Chief Operating Officer Nick Frandsen.

The information contained herein is designed to promote action and discussion among members. Statements published do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Cooperative. The information has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, and the editor has exercised reasonable care to assure its accuracy.

### Board of Directors

President.....Edward Pick Jr.  
Vice President.....Jeffrey Russell  
Secretary.....Laurie Wehmeyer  
Treasurer.....Edward Furgol  
Director.....Ross Gill  
Director.....David Krzyston  
Director.....Patrick O'Brien  
CEO.....John Gasstrom

