

NOTICE OF BOARD MEETING

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Delaware County Electric Cooperative, Inc. will be held **Tuesday, June 28, 2022, at 4:45 pm**
Location is room 109 at the Co-op's office, 5 North Depot Street, Delhi, New York to act on the following agenda.

AGENDA

- I. Opening Business:
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call - Determination of Quorum
 - c. Adoption of Agenda

[packet page 1]
- II. Executive Session
- III. Consent Agenda:
 - a. Minutes of June 2, 2022 Regular Meeting
 - b. New Memberships
 - c. Bad Debt Collection Report
 - d. Director Compensation
 - e. Corporate Calendar

[packet pages 2-6]
[packet page 7]
[packet pages 8]
[individual 9-10]
[packet page 11]
- IV. Committee Reports:
- V. Policy Discussion and Review:
 - a. Discussion:
 - i. Line Extension
 - ii. COVID-19 Update
 - iii. Public Access to Board Meetings
 - iv. Vehicle Use Policy
 - b. Review:

[packet pages 12-17/ presentation by Operations Manager Sullivan]
[packet pages 18-28]
[packet pages 29-31]
[packet pages 32-33]
- VI. CEO/ General Manager's Report:

[packet pages 34-39]
- VII. CFO's Monthly Report:
 - a. Monthly Financials (March/April 2022)

[hand out/ presentation by CFO Cannizzaro]
- VIII. Operations Manager's Monthly Report:
 - a. Quarterly Vegetation Management Department Report

[presentation by Operations Manager Sullivan]
- IX. Director/Staff Association Reports:
 - a. NEAEC
 - b. NYSRECA
 - c. NYAPP

[report from attendees]
[report from attendees]
[report from attendees]
- X. New Business:
- XI. Future Business:
 - a. Cost of Service Study (COSS) – Summer, Fall of 2022
 - b. NYAPP Monthly Meeting 07/15/22 @ 11am, virtual
 - c. Regular Board Meeting, Tuesday, 07/26/22 @ 5pm
 - i. Quarterly Fleet Department Update to Board
 - ii. Line Extension Policy Discussions
 - iii. Record Retention Policy Discussions
 - iv. Organization & Staffing Committee Policy Discussions
 - d. NYSRECA Annual Meeting (hosted by DCEC) 07/28/22 @ Legion
 - e. Finance Committee Meeting 08/02/22 @ 5pm
 - f. Annual Meetings
- XII. Executive Session:
- XIII. Adjournment:

The aim of Delaware County Electric Cooperative, Inc., is to make electric energy and related services available to members at the lowest cost consistent with sound economy and good management.

Cooperative Stakeholders

- Members
- Employees
- Community
- Business Partners
 - Suppliers
 - RUS
 - CFC
 - Federated
 - Other cooperatives
 - NYSERDA
- Government
- Regulators

**Delaware County Electric Cooperative
Board Meeting Minutes
June 2, 2022**

I. Opening Business:

After rescheduling twice, the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Delaware County Electric Cooperative, Inc. originally scheduled for May 24, 2022, was held June 2, 2022, at the Co-op's office, 5 North Depot Street, Delhi, New York.

A. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. by President Pick.

B. Roll Call - Determination of Quorum:

Edward Pick Jr.	P- Present
Jeffrey Russell	P- Present
Paul Menke	P- Present
Laurie Wehmeyer	P- Present
Stephen Oles	P- Present
Steve Burnett	P- Present
Kimberly Tosi	P- Present

Others Present:

Board Staff:

CEO Christopher Evans	P- Present
Attorney Jeff Clark	A- Absent

DCEC Staff:

CFO Mark Cannizzaro
Operations Manager Ryan Sullivan.

DCEC Members present for Observational purposes:

Mr. Steven Little	Peakes Brook Rd, Delhi
Mr. Michael Pietrantonio	Crowe Rd, Bloomville

DCEC Members present for Commenting Period:

None

C. Adoption of Agenda: CEO Evans reported the Members present were observing the proceedings and a comment period was not necessary. A motion was made by President Pick to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Director Tosi. The motion passed.

II. Executive Session:

A motion was made by Director Tosi to enter Executive Session at 5:06 pm. The motion was seconded by Director Burnett. The motion passed and Mr. Little, Mr. Pietrantonio, Mr. Cannizzaro and Mr. Sullivan were excused. At 5:16 pm, a motion was made by Director Burnett to come out of Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Vice President Russell. The motion passed. Staff and Members were invited to return to the meeting.

III. Consent Agenda:

Discussion was had regarding a potential typographical error in the April Minutes on page 4 (represented v. re-presented). A motion was made by Director Oles to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Secretary Wehmeyer. The motion passed.

IV. Committee Reports:

CFO Cannizzaro presented a synopsis of the Finance Committee proceedings held 28 April 2022. Mr. Cannizzaro distributed an updated spreadsheet of supplemental budget items as well as two Compass models with outlines of associated key assumptions for each. The first model was a base model and the second included additional personnel and AMI assumptions. Mr. Cannizzaro reported that a case study for Capital Credit distribution changes was still being prepared.

V. Resolution:

CEO Evans presented language for a Resolution on “Restatement of Retirement and Pension Plans” and explained the resolution was for continuing the programs and accepting revisions to the plans’ governing documents in matters including but not limited to rulings, operations, regulations and legislation effective 1 July 2022. Treasurer Menke made a motion to accept the Resolution as presented. Vice President Russell seconded the motion. The motion passed.

VI. Policy Discussion & Review:

A. Discussion

- a. COVID: CEO Evans gave a brief update stating there were no changes in guidance or the procedure from NYSDOH or CDC.
- b. Public Access to Board Meetings: CEO Evans present proposed changes to the procedures for members to attend meetings. Director Oles expressed concerns with the advanced notice requirement in cases of Candidates running for election not being able to observe a meeting prior to elections. The policy was tabled until the next regular meeting needing further refinements.
- c. Line Extension: In lieu of storm events and other matters, the continued presentation was postponed. Discussion was tabled until the next regular meeting.
- d. Vehicle Use Policy: CEO Evans present proposed changes to authorized users, reimbursement rates and introducing rentals as a recognized option. Vice President Russell indicated changes within the document were incomplete with some discrepancies as the intended changes relates to directors. The policy was tabled until the next regular meeting needing further refinements.

B. Review:

- a. Wiring- Members or Consumers: A motion was made by Treasurer Menke to approve the policy as reviewed. The motion was seconded by Secretary Wehmeyer. The motion passed.
- b. Overtime Work: A motion was made by Treasurer Menke to approve the policy as revised. The motion was seconded by Director Tosi. The motion passed.
- c. On-Call Lineman Response Time: A motion was made by Director Burnet to approve the policy as reviewed. The motion was seconded by President Pick. The motion passed.

- d. Disposition of Retired Electric Poles: A motion was made by Vice President Russell to approve the policy as reviewed. The motion was seconded by Secretary Wehmeyer. The motion passed.

VII. General Manager Report:

CEO Evans highlighted topics and fielded questions and comments regarding the report. There was discussion about disconnections, NYS/PSC law changes and NYSEDA grant submissions.

VIII. Monthly Financial Reports:

CFO Cannizzaro presented April 2022 monthly financial report. Discussion was had on revenues, power cost and Accounts Payable. Mr. Cannizzaro also reported on the results of an actuarial study conducted for medical insurance liability that found an additional \$150,000. Would need to be added. The amount could be spread out as much as ten (10) years. This amount was included in the Compass modeling.

IX. Quarterly Line Department Report:

Operations Manager Sullivan presented a report on the April snowstorm citing daily SAIDI and meter counts, daily work schedules, statistics including 16 broken poles and key issues raised by staff and support during event review/debrief.

Director Oles wished to formally express sincere appreciation to all employees on behalf of himself and the Board.

CEO Evans added that restoration went safely, went faster than others and may have been slightly faster being proactive instead of reactive with use of weather and outage forecast modeling.

Director Oles asked about having contract line crews and tree crews on 24/7/365 retainer or under contract for storm events. Operations Manager Sullivan replied that storm rates are part of contracts but, at the time of the event, the contractors were not on property. Mr. Sullivan further stated that the NYAPP mutual aid had not served us well and that management would be reaching out to other coops and build vetted relationships with some contractors.

Treasurer Menke commented that the response seemed appropriate for a “once every thirty years” event.

X. Director/Staff Association Reports by Attendees:

- A. NRECA: CEO Evans reported NRECA Consortium meeting on microgrids was well attended with presenters from Arizona State University and DOE. Mr. Evans remarked that all the case studies presented made use of diverse power sources including diesel, natural gas and other means now frowned upon in New York.
- B. NEAEC: President Pick and CEO Evans reported that the Annual Meeting via Zoom lasted about 37 minutes and that the newest member, Block Island (Rhode Island) yielded the new President, Jeffrey Wright. The general sense was looking forward to the in-person conference in June and hoping the Association could do more for the members, but the members should look to more regional synergies.
- C. NYSRECA: President Pick, Secretary Wehmeyer and CEO Evans reported on the Albany meeting highlights as well as the Albany Advocacy activities. Meetings with our legislators went well but there is a sense that we need to get access to and build relationships with the downstate politicians. Mr. Evans reminded everyone that DCEC was hosting the Annual Meeting at the Delhi Legion in July

- D. NYAPP: President Pick and CEO Evans reported highlights of the meeting was the large list of PSC regulations and pieces of legislation as well as recapping the submittals for NYSERDA grant applications of which DCEC submitted three in addition to the one submitted by OEC on behalf of NYSRECA.

XI. New Business:

President Pick expressed appreciation for the on-call crew that responded to the burnt pole near his house. Treasurer Menke expressed appreciation of the work being done by the ROW crews around Peakes Brook. Annual Meeting details were quickly confirmed that a \$10 bill credit for each member voting absentee, in-person or electronically would be applied to a November 2022 bill. Also, members attending or employees that sign up to assist with the meeting would be eligible for up to two (2) free chicken dinners provided they RSVP.

XVI. Future Business:

- A. NEAEC Director & Staff Education & Team Building Conference, 6/14/22-6/16/22, Essex, VT
- B. NYAPP Monthly Membership, 06/17/22 @ 11:00am, virtual
- C. NYS ACRE Donations (proposed collection at 06/28/22 Meeting)
- D. Regular Board Meeting, Tuesday, 06/28/22 @ 5pm
 - a. Quarterly Tree Crew Department Update to Board
 - b. Line Extension Policy Discussions
 - c. Record Retention Policy Discussions
 - d. Organization & Staffing Committee Policy Discussions
 - e. Strategic Plan Review
- E. NYRECA Government Relations, 07/01/22 @ 1:30pm, Virtual
- F. Regular Board Meeting, Tuesday, 07/26/22 @ 5pm
 - a. Quarterly Fleet Update to Board
 - b. Policies
 - c. Annual Meeting
- G. NYSRECA Annual Meeting (hosted by DCEC) 07/28/22 @ Legion
- H. Cost of Service Study (COSS) – 08/31/22 target
- I. DCEC Annual Meeting 09/09/22, TBD
- J. Construction Work Plan/Long Range Plan (CWP/LRP) – 09/31/22 target

XVIII. Executive Session:

None

XIX. Adjournment:

President Pick adjourned the meeting at 8:14pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Wehmeyer
Secretary

Delaware County Electric Cooperative, Inc.

5 North Depot Street, P. O. Box 471, Delhi, New York 13753-0471

NEW MEMBERSHIPS – June 28, 2022

ACCT #	LOCATION	NAME	ADDRESS	CITY, STATE, ZIP	FORMER/ RENTING/ NEW SERVICE
18940-001	DA-1-27-2C	JESSICA THOMPSON	26 MAIN ST. APT 1B	SCHENEVUS NY 12155	RYAN MATTICE
18621-001	DA 1-47-23A	GAETANO GRECO	21 EAST ST	CLAREMONT NH 03743	WO 7706
18721-001	GI 2-48-28A	ROGER ALLEN	55 N MAIN ST #9	BELCHERTOWN MA 01007	WO 22251008
18748-001	DA 1-28-3D	MICHAEL STERN	82 MOUNTAIN AVE	BAYVILLE NY 11709	WO 7704
18932-001	HF 2-14-44	KEEGHAN WEAVER	61 FUSCO DR. APT 4	HARPERSFIELD NY 13786	ANNA MCCOMBS
18935-001	KO 2-41-17A	DANIELLE CRAFT AND RYAN NAATZ	411 TURK RD	EAST MEREDITH NY 13757	DANIELLE CRAFT
18933-001	KO 2-71-3A	DANIEL ELLIS	200 NORTH END AVE APT 27D	NEW YORK NY 10282	ESTHER JEFREMOW
18938-001	ME 1-56-14A	NICOLE HALE	P.O. BOX 392	SOUTH JAMESPORT NY 11970	CHARLES W STAIGER
18941-001	BO 5-3-6	SYLVIA HARDEN	527 NEW RD	BOVINA CENTER NY 13740	SOLVEIG HARDEN
18939-001	AN 4-49-8A	EZEKIEL FUNDARO	P.O. BOX 434	ANDES NY 13731	ERZELIJA ANTANASKOVIC
18913-001	AN 5-93-33	UMBERTO VECCHIARELLI	18 VAN DUZER DR	POUGHKEEPSIE NY 12603	PAUL PECCHIA
18925-001	MA 3-34-13A	JEN ROSS	667 IVANHOE RD	SIDNEY CENTER NY 13839	SAMUEL RIVERA
18929-001	JE 2-37-9D	MARK MURSKI	335 VAN BUREN AVE	TEANECK NJ 07666	GERARD ARUTA
18942-001	KO 2-52-4B	EDWIN GOMEZ	126 2ND ST. 1ST FLOOR	NEW ROCHELLE NY 10801	GEORGE GOMEZ
18945-001	JE 2-27-14	RYAN SHEPLER AND CAROLINE SHEPLER	1020 STATE RT 10	JEFFERSON NY 12093	REBECCA BIVONA
18944-001	KO 2-61-12B	LAURA MURPHY	3437 S SILVER ROAD	CAMP VERDE AZ 86322	JERRY MURPHY
16645-001	WA 3-37-7A	ROSE BENEDETTO	954 ABE BOICE RD	SIDNEY CENTER NY 13839	MARK BENEDETTO
18930-001	KO 2-43-5C	ARTHUR HARVEY	2343 CAYUGA RD	NISKAYUNA NY 12309	ANTHONY KEEFE
18936-001	ME 1-69-22	FANNY TOBIN	67 UNION CORNERS RD.	WARWICK NY 10990	MICHAEL KWEDLO
18927-001	CO 4-78-12	MATTHEW PELAK	41 FLOOD DR	WILKES BARRE PA 18705	SARA AMRANI
18937-001	DA 2-11-24	CHRISTOPHER M BABST JR	133 LONG FELLOW DR.	MASTIC BEACH NY 11951	CATENA NOVELLO
18948-001	JE 2-37-25A	BARBARA ALDRICH	281 BLENHEIM HILL RD	STAMFORD NY 12167	HENRY ALDRICH
18943-001	SU 2-4-1	SAVANNAH DUFUR	345 CLAPPER HOLLOW RD	JEFFERSON NY 12093	JEAN SAVARESE
18923-001	HA 4-35-15A	ANTONIO CIANCIULLI	4 HENDERSON AVE	PORT WASHINGTON NY 11050	ALFONSO CANDELA
18949-001	SI 3-17-4	STEPHEN M FEE AND THEODORE J ROTH	500 SAINT MARKS AVE APT 106	BROOKLYN NY 11238	MARK LAMBRECHT
18946-001	HA 4-13-26	ANTON MAZURENKO	334 W 88TH ST APT 6	NEW YORK NY 10024	MICHAEL HONAN



June 28, 2022

BAD DEBT COLLECTION

* **PLEASE NOTE:** The amounts below were recovered through capital credit retirements,
Southern Tier Credit Center & DCEC through May 2022.
Total recovered: \$1,387.57.

Original Amount Turned Over For Collections	Name	**Amount Collected CC to UA	Amount Collected from So. Tier	Amount Collected from DCEC	Commission Paid this Month *	Balance Due
\$522.24	Mary B. Gillette	\$420.69				\$101.55
\$830.75	Sylvia Jorin	\$830.75				\$0.00
\$592.27	Karen McGovern	\$62.18				\$530.09
\$111.00	Jamie Harley	\$73.95				\$37.05

* Commission is 30% of the total amount collected last month. 50% if legal services are required. If payment is made directly to us, the commission will be the following month.

** Under \$30.00 does not get reported to Southern Tier Credit Center.

*** Billing department did a small balance write off for the balance due amount.

**** Capital credits are applied on a discounted basis towards outstanding debt per the Capital Credits Applied to Bad Debt Policy.

RESOLUTION**June 28, 2022**

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT WE, The Board of Directors of the Delaware County Electric Cooperative, Inc., 5 N. Depot St., Delhi, NY 13753, do hereby authorize the transfer of \$11,692.63 representing uncollectible accounts for utility customers per the following listing, to accumulated provision for uncollectible accounts.

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>SER. ADD.</u>	<u>CUSTOMER</u>	<u>SEASONAL</u>	<u>RESIDENTIAL</u>
7081001	GI 2-39-5B	Jeffrey R. Dent		\$14.13
12228001	HF 2-14-9F	Florence Mc Elroy		\$424.22
15898003	HF 2-33-13A	Gary Shader		\$2,296.30
17362001	HF 2-14-12D	Peter Panagiotou	\$615.80	
18268001	DA 1-39-5C	Joseph Navaas		\$844.76
18377001	HF 2-14-31A	Deanna MacIntyre	\$332.26	
15126002	HF 2-14-44	Kevin Meade		\$872.35
18483001	DA 1-39-14	Jessica Kelley		\$3,554.02
16923001	DA 1-27-3	Daniel Jean-Baptiste		\$79.53
13928001	DE 4-15-23	David Hook		\$1,254.61
13441002	HF 2-13-7B	David Fagan		\$188.00
18030001	DA 1-29-7N	Amanda Coss		\$132.37
8663003	KO 2-71-3B	Patricia Craft		\$239.02
18590001	BO 5-3-6	Solveig Harden	\$845.26	
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			\$ 1,793.32	\$ 9,899.31

June 28, 2022

Laurie Wehmeyer
SECRETARY

DIV	ACTIVITY	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	PROCESS	PERSONNEL
BOARD	Nominating (Director Search) Committee Meeting										1			MEETING	CEO
BOARD	Annual Meeting Kick-off Planning (incl consideration of Bylaw changes)										1			MEETING	Board/CEO
BOARD	Legislative Youth Tour Interviews/Selection										1			MEETING	Board/CEO
BOARD	Board decision/approval of proposed bylaw changes (for Annual Meeting)										1			ACTION	Board
BOARD	NYSRECA Legislative Conference (tbd)										1			MEETING	???
BOARD	Finance Committee Meeting		1			1						1		MEETING	Board/CEO/CFO
BOARD	Organization & Staffing Committee Meeting			1				1					1	MEETING	Board/CEO
BOARD	NEAEC Annual Meeting											1		MEETING	CEO/CFO
BOARD	Board Self-Evaluation Survey (odd years only, next 2023)		1											COMPLY	CEO
BOARD	NYSRECA Annual Meeting		1											MEETING	Board/CEO
BOARD	OEC Annual Meeting			1										MEETING	CEO
BOARD	CEO Goals & Objectives Mid-Year Review			1										REPORT	Board/CEO
BOARD	NRECA Survey - Directors, Attorneys, Auditors				1									PROCESS	CEO
BOARD	Cooperative Officers Job Descriptions Review				1									COMPLY	Board/CEO
BOARD	Organizational Meeting of Board (incl. Committee appointments)				1									COMPLY	Board/CEO
BOARD	NRECA Region 1 Annual Meeting				1									MEETING	Board/CEO
BOARD	Kick-off Budgeting Process (prelim capital budget)					1								BUDGET	CEO
BOARD	Annual Sexual Harassment Training					1								COMPLY	Board/MGMT
BOARD	Capital Credit retirement - decision by Board					1								ACTION	Board/CEO
BOARD	Re-instatement of Accounting/Audit Firm (resolution)					1								AUDIT	Board/CEO
BOARD	Oneida-Madison EC Annual Meeting					1								MEETING	Board
BOARD	Steuben REC Annual Meeting					1								MEETING	Board
BOARD	CEO Performance Review – kick off & plan Jan O&S Committee Mtg					1								PROCESS	Board
BOARD	Approve Holiday Gift for Board/Staff/Employees							1						PROCESS	Board
BOARD	NRECA Annual Meeting									1				MEETING	Board/CEO
BOARD	Board appoints Nominating Committee (Directors identify members)								1					ACTION	Board
BOARD	Consider GM contract renewal/update							1						PROCESS	Board/CEO
MGMT	Line Extension Policy Rate Review											1		PROCESS	OPS MGR/ENG MGR
MGMT	DEC Pesticide Business/Agency Registration (April/May, tri-annual, next in 2022)											1		COMPLY	OPS MGR
MGMT	Update Standard Costs											1		PROCESS	OPS MGR
MGMT	NYS ORPS Equalization & Assessment report (4/15)											1		COMPLY	CFO/OPS MGR
MGMT	Strategic Plan Review				1			1		1			1	COMPLY	Board/CEO
MGMT	ROW & Line-Inspection contracting Bid												1	PROCESS	CEO/OPS MGR
MGMT	Semi-annual review of Corporate Calendar	1						1						PROCESS	CEO
MGMT	Renew Purchase of TCCs with NYISO/NYPA	1												PROCESS	CEO
MGMT	CFC Annual Forum		1											MEETING	CFO
MGMT	ROW & Line-Inspection contracting Awards/ Contract Bid Report to Board for Budget			1										BUDGET	CEO/OPS MGR
MGMT	Self-Eval to Board			1										REPORT	CEO
MGMT	DCEC Annual Meeting				1									MEETING	???
MGMT	Year-End Financial Projection (Capital Credit Retirement Assessment)					1								REPORT	CFO/CEO
MGMT	Review DPS Data for Annual Member Deposit Rate Effective 1/1					1								COMPLY	CEO/CFO/BILLSPEC
MGMT	All-Employee Meeting (last week October)					1								PROCESS	CEO/CFO
MGMT	Order Holiday Gift Cards for Board/Staff/Employees					1								PROCESS	CEO
MGMT	Year-end Financial Projection (Formulary Rate Planning)						1							BUDGET	CEO
MGMT	Operating Plan/Budget Presented						1							BUDGET	Board/CEO/CFO
MGMT	Capital Credit Retirement (if applicable)						1							PROCESS	BILLSPEC
MGMT	Employee Performance Reviews – prep							1						STAFFING	Management Team
MGMT	Operating Plan/Budget Approved							1						BUDGET	Board/CEO/CFO
MGMT	Christmas Party							1						STAFFING	??
MGMT	Update PPAC “System Loss Factor” based on prior year analysis								1					PROCESS	CEO/ENG MGR
MGMT	Exempt Employee Salary Action								1					PROCESS	CEO
MGMT	Employee Performance Reviews								1					REPORT	CEO
MGMT	NYSRECA Meeting								1					MEETING	Board/CEO
MGMT	Year-End Accomplishments Review / Goals & Objectives Approval								1					REPORT	Board/CEO

POLICY

SUBJECT: Line Extensions for New Services

POLICY: It shall be the policy of the Cooperative to have descriptive and specific procedures and practices relating to the treatment of new service requests, including associated fees the Cooperative will charge for various services.

PROCEDURE: The following is a summary of the requirements and costs associated with line extensions to new services. The Cooperative may have additional requirements.

- I. Pre-Design: Pertains to when DCEC is contacted to provide an estimate for the cost of providing electric service to a new service location.
Applicant required to:
 - a. Complete new service request
 - b. Pay in advance a non-refundable application/site visit fee of \$150.00

Upon the applicant completing the above requirements, a meeting at the site will be scheduled with the applicant and Cooperative personnel to assess the site and gather necessary information to allow the Cooperative to develop a plan for providing service and determine the cost to the applicant.

- II. Pre-Construction: Pertains to when an applicant has notified the Cooperative of their desire to have the Cooperative proceed with the construction to the new service location.
Applicant required to:
 - a. Sign the Cooperative's standard right-of-way easement agreement
 - b. Complete and sign a membership agreement or connect contract
 - c. Pay all fees and charges (as noted herein). The Cooperative shall estimate charges for the line extension based, in part, on information provided by the member, and provide that estimate to the member for approval. If new information becomes available to the Cooperative or the member prior to construction of the line extension and that new information would likely impact the estimated cost of construction, then the party with the new information must provide the information to the other party as soon as reasonably practical. The Cooperative, at its sole discretion, may decide to re-estimate the cost of construction based on such new information. The member may elect to pay the newly estimated cost of construction or stop work on the project and receive a refund of any aid to construction that they have paid already (refund excludes non-refundable fees such as site visit fees). Wire

lengths used in estimated costs shall be based on field measurements performed by the Cooperative's staff and shall include the length of secondary wires running from the Cooperative's transformer to a weatherhead above a pole-mounted meter (often referred to as a "secondary loop") or the weatherhead above a meter on a home or other structure.

- d. Provide wiring inspection on service entrance – refer to specification for type of secondary service installation - meter base to be purchased at the Cooperative or at a third party vendor.
- e. Pay for other related permit and acquisition costs related to project.

If a return design trip is required, there will be an additional charge of \$150.00. Upon completion of the above requirements, the Operations Department shall schedule the construction of the new service.

III. General Construction Requirements

The Cooperative shall have the exclusive right to determine route and method of construction. The Cooperative will determine whether primary underground installations are possible after November 1st. Underground trench excavation and/or conduits are provided by Member. Electric service lines and equipment installed by the Cooperative will remain the property of the Cooperative.

In most cases, new electric service to a member location requires a distribution transformer, which steps the voltage down from primary distribution voltage (either 7,200 Volts or 14,400 Volts) to house voltage (120/240 Volts). The transformer may be pole mounted in the case of overhead service to the home or pad mounted within a small vault at ground level in the case of underground service to the home. In either case, accessibility to the transformer by Cooperative crews with their equipment aids in safe and reliable service to the member.

The applicant shall agree to accommodate a distribution transformer pole or distribution transformer vault location that, in the judgement of the Cooperative's System Coordinator, Operations Manager or their assign, is reasonably accessible to Cooperative equipment including bucket trucks. Recognizing that transformer poles and transformer vault locations that are accessible to bucket trucks add to the safety and reliability of the electric system, the applicant shall pay the reasonable cost of placing the transformer pole or transformer vault in such a location or shall otherwise pay for the cost to make the location accessible by means such as extending a driveway, removing trees, etc. The Cooperative's System Coordinator shall have the responsibility and authority to determine what

steps are reasonable and practical, on a case by case basis, in an effort to make the transformer pole or transformer vault accessible.

Applicant required to:

- a. Pay additional fees such as \$55.00 easement recording fees
- b. Pay incremental costs if applicant requests and the Cooperative approves an alternate method or route of construction.
- c. Pay relocation costs if applicant requests relocation of existing facilities
- d. Sign security light agreement, if applicable
- e. Reapply if the project does not proceed within 24 months. The Cooperative reserves the right to re-evaluate costs upon reapplication.

IV. Single Phase Primary Overhead Line extension charges (applicable to all rate classes)

Per Fee Schedule

V. Multi-Phase Primary Overhead Line extension charges (applicable to all rate classes)

Per Fee Schedule

VI. Single Phase Primary Underground Line extension charges (applies to all rate classes)

Per Fee Schedule

VII. Multi-Phase Primary Underground Line extension charges (applies to all classes)

Per Fee Schedule

Line Extension Fee Schedule

Application / Site Visit	\$150
Easement	\$55
Single Phase Overhead	\$14 / ft
Multi Phase Overhead	\$22/ ft
Tree Clearing, Rock Blasting, Extraordinary costs	Per Estimate
Single Phase Underground	
Extension from DCEC pole	\$20/ ft
Vault	\$400
Terminations	\$1,000
Conduit	Per Estimate
Trenching and Setting Vaults	Per Estimate
Multi Phase Underground	
Extension from DCEC pole	\$30/ ft
Vault	\$400
Terminations	\$2,000
Conduit	Per Estimate
Trenching and Setting Vaults	Per Estimate
Inspections for Member Performed Tasks	
ROW Inspection for Extension	\$500
Trench Inspection for Primary Underground	\$500

VIII. Miscellaneous

Line extensions and new services shall carry the stipulation that the member shall be responsible for a 2-year minimum charge from the date service was made available.

\$150.00 non-refundable application/site visit fee will be applied toward project cost at the time the line extension is constructed. Lengthy or complicated line extensions may require more than one application/site visit fee.

In certain circumstances, the Cooperative may include incremental facilities in the project design that will benefit future projects. The costs for these added facilities will not be the responsibility of the applicant.

Any member or landowner requesting changes to existing Cooperative facilities, i.e., line relocations, will pay the full estimated costs of construction as CIAC (Contribution in Aid-to-Construction) prior to the start of construction. The estimated cost will be calculated using line extension prices as described in the Line Extension Policy effective at

the time the estimate is performed plus the estimated cost of retirements. After completion of construction and a complete accounting of the job costs, the actual costs will be trued up against the aid payment. If actual construction costs of a line relocation are higher or lower than the Cooperative's estimated costs, then additional payments by the member/landowner or refunds to the member/landowner are required.

Service and transformer upgrades will be subject to site visit fees and applicable line extension charges, which will be determined by Cooperative personnel in accordance with this policy on a case-by-case basis.

The Cooperative will install a new security light free of charge if the light can be installed on an existing Cooperative pole and the member signs a security light agreement with a 2-year minimum charge from the date of the security light installation. Security lights requiring a line extension will follow the provisions herein.

Developers requesting a primary extension for a development or subdivision will be required to pay the full cost of installing the required facility labor, overhead, and material. The Cooperative will determine and design the facilities that are required for the line extension.

The Cooperative may decide to waive certain line extension construction fees if, in management's sole discretion, that line extension may result in general benefit to the Cooperative and its members. Factors to be considered in making that determination shall include whether the line extension may permit new services within, or expansion without, the Cooperative's service territory.

The Cooperative shall dig and supply all trenches for the Cooperative owned primary underground facilities. The cost of which will be billed on a pass-through basis. With consideration of best cost by utilizing contractors working in the area or for the member on existing site work. If a member chooses to dig their own trenches for primary underground inspections by Cooperative personnel will be assessed per the above table.

The Cooperative may decide to defer certain jobs that have specific material needs or reassess costs based on the current price and availability of materials.

IX. Self-Clearing of New ROW by Members and Their Contractors

Members may elect to perform tree clearing of new right-of-way themselves or may hire a contractor to perform the same. In such cases, the Member shall have the ROW cleared to the Cooperative's specification, which is available on the Cooperative's website and shall be made available to the member upon request. The member shall pay a \$500 nonrefundable fee to the Cooperative to have the Cooperative's Tree Crew Foreman, or his representative inspect the cleared ROW prior to the installation of conductor. If the ROW clearing does not meet the Cooperative's ROW specification, then the member can bring the ROW into compliance with the specification and have the ROW inspected again at an additional cost of \$500 to the member. Alternatively, the member may elect to have the Cooperative bring the ROW into compliance with the specification, in which case the cost of such work will be added to the line extension cost to be paid by the member.

RESPONSIBILITY: Operations Manager

DELAWARE COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Approved by Board of Directors	April 26, 2011
Revised by Board of Directors	July 23, 2013
Revised by Board of Directors	April 22, 2014
Revised by Board of Directors	August 25, 2015
Revised by Board of Directors	October 24, 2017
Revised by Board of Directors	February 20, 2018
Revised by Board of Directors	November 27, 2018
Revised by Board of Directors	August 27, 2019
Revised by Board of Directors	August 25, 2020
Revised by Board of Directors	October 26, 2021
Revised by Board of Directors	June 28, 2022

Employee Plan in Response to COVID-19 Virus

Last updated **06/08/2022**

On **8 June 2022**, the CEO reviewed for any changes to **10 May 2022** guidance to identify any modifications for compliance. No changes on the NYS or CDC guidance were identified although NYS strongly recommends first and second booster doses.

March 30, 2022 is the latest guidance from CDC and NYSDOH which supersedes the February 8, 2022 guidance noted as, “A minor clarification was made regarding activities after isolation ends, and the section for schools and childcare programs has been substantially updated”.

On February 10, 2022, The DOL weighed in stating **employees will wear appropriate face coverings in accordance with guidance from State Department of Health or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as applicable.** Consistent with the guidance from the State Department of Health, if indoor areas do not have a mask or vaccine requirement as a condition of entry, **appropriate face coverings are recommended, but not required.** It is also **recommended that face coverings be worn by unvaccinated individuals, including those with medical exemptions, in accordance with federal CDC guidance.** Further, the State’s masking requirements continue to be in effect for pre-K to grade 12 schools, public transit, homeless shelters, domestic violence shelters, prisons, nursing homes, health care, childcare, group homes, and other sensitive settings in accordance with CDC guidelines. New York State and the State Department of Health continue to strongly recommend face coverings in all public indoor settings as an added layer of protection, even when not required.



People with Known Exposure to COVID-19 Who Do Not Have Symptoms¹

“Quarantine”									
	Under age 2 years or unable to wear a well-fitting mask	Age 2 – 4 years	Age 5 - 11 years		Age 12 years - Adult				All ages
			Up-to-Date Fully Vaccinated	Not yet Fully Vaccinated	Up-to-Date Fully Vaccinated and Boosted	Up-to-Date Fully Vaccinated, not yet eligible for booster	Fully Vaccinated, eligible for booster but not yet boosted	Not yet Fully Vaccinated	Tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 3 months (regardless of vaccination status)
Quarantine, Duration	Yes, 10 days (masks not recommended for children under age 2)	Yes, 5 days	No	Yes, 5 days	No	No	Yes, 5 days	Yes, 5 days	No
Attend/ work at school and eligible child care programs, (includes transportation)	N/A	Yes, if undergoing recommended testing.	Yes	Yes, if undergoing recommended testing.	Yes	Yes	Yes, if undergoing recommended testing.	Yes, if undergoing recommended testing.	Yes
Testing	Test on whichever comes first: at least 5 days after last exposure (testing recommended but optional if unable to test) or if Symptoms develop If positive, isolate for at least 5 days from symptom onset or (if no symptoms) date test was collected								No test needed. Test if Symptoms develop.

1. See specific guidance for individuals in congregate settings and for furlough for healthcare workers.

March 1, 2022

Isolation for the General Public²

“Isolation” is for people who have a positive COVID-19 test or who have symptoms and are waiting for the results of a COVID-19 test.

Isolation is the same for everyone, regardless of whether they are unvaccinated, vaccinated, or boosted.

	Symptoms, Waiting for Test Result	No Symptoms, Positive Test	Symptoms, Positive Test	Hospitalized for COVID-19 or Immunocompromised
Duration of Isolation	Until test result is received or 5 days, whichever is first. If test result is negative, isolation can end. If test result is positive, see “Symptoms, Positive Test” column.	5 days (day 0 is the day the test was collected; isolation ends <u>after</u> day 5). 10 days if unable to wear a well-fitting mask If symptoms develop after testing positive, start 5-day count again with day 0 being the day symptoms started.	Minimum of 5 days (day 0 is the day symptoms start; isolation ends <u>after</u> day 5). <u>and</u> when fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication <u>and</u> symptoms have improved 10 days if unable to wear a well-fitting mask	10 - 20 days, consult healthcare provider
Antigen Test Timing at the End of Isolation	N/A	Optional. If testing is done, it should be on at least day 5 of isolation. If positive, isolate through day 10. If negative, isolation can end but continue to wear a mask through day 10.	Optional. If testing is done, it should be on at least day 5 of isolation (when fever free for 24 hours and symptoms have improved). If positive, isolate through day 10. If negative, isolation can end but continue to wear a mask through day 10.	Consult healthcare provider

2. See specific guidance for individuals in congregate settings and for furlough for healthcare workers.

March 1, 2022

The revised guidance in full written (non-tabular) form can be found at https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2022/03/quarantine-and-isolation-guidance_03.01.22.pdf

Self-attestation forms, can be found here: <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/new-york-state-contact-tracing>

As of February 11, 2022, an employee is limited receiving NY COVID-19 up to 40 hours.

Purpose of the Employee Plans

These plans will be reviewed again on April 7, 2022, or sooner as warranted.

These plans are intended to minimize transmission of the COVID-19 virus between employees, so that employees and those they come into contact with outside the workplace are safer. The plans have been updated as part of the AIDEPP. The Cooperative is obligated to uphold any and all NYS and Federal laws and follow current CDC guidelines. As more is learned about the virus, these guidelines are subject to change.

This plan allows us to continue to serve the most critical needs of members, including answering the phone and responding to outages. Also, critical office functions like payroll processing will be maintained under this plan.

This plan also outlines procedures in the event that employees have extended time away from the office due to a COVID related illness.

Furlough



There is no plan to utilize employee furlough based on the current region's ranking put forth by the Governor's office. If there is a new executive order or state of emergency, then employee furlough will be reconsidered. Individual Furlough (Quarantine) is considered in the event that an employee may have been exposed to the virus. In such cases, employees may be entitled to paid leave.

Maintaining Social Distance

Social distancing is absolutely required to limit possible exposure and subsequent contamination, in the event another employee may be a-symptomatic and be positive for the virus.

Required Precautions

Before Work:

Effective September 10, all employees must perform screening prior to start of any shift.

The following three screening questions are required daily:

- 1. Are you presently running a fever (100.4 F)?**
- 2. Are you currently experiencing, or recently experienced (in the last 48 hours), any new or worsening COVID-19 symptoms?**
- 3. Have you had close contact (being within six feet for at least 15 minutes over a 24-hour period) or proximate contact (as determined by health authorities) in the past 10 days with any person confirmed by diagnostic test, or suspected based on symptoms, to have COVID-19?**
- 4. Have you tested positive through a diagnostic test for COVID-19 in the past 10 days?**

Updated forward guidance no longer makes exceptions for vaccination or recovery status regarding close contact and exposure. Exposure is defined as 15 cumulative minutes of mask-less close proximity (less than 6' proper social distancing) to an individual during a rolling 24-hour period.

While at work, the following precautions shall be taken by all employees:

- 1) Attempt to maintain a distance of 6 feet between employees whenever practical.
- 2) If practical, utilize your badge rather than your finger/thumb print to punch in and out with the time clock.
- 3) Whenever practical, clean and disinfect shared surfaces by utilizing disinfect wipes and cleaners provided by the Cooperative. Shared surfaces include time clocks, bathroom fixtures, door handles, steering wheels of shared vehicles, gas pumps, etc.
- 4) Wash hands thoroughly as often as possible and after contact with surfaces that may not be sanitized. Avoid touching your face with your hands.
- 5) Utilize hand sanitizer when unable to wash hands after touching surfaces that may not be disinfected. The Cooperative has provided sanitizers in all areas of the office, and disposable sanitizing wipes and liquid are available for all trucks and offices.
- 6) Sanitize all trucks before and after using.
- 7) When vehicles are shared, employees not fully vaccinated within the shared vehicle must wear face coverings.

Face Masks

Facemasks are recommended in certain situations as outlined in the tables on page 2 of this document.

For this reason, the Cooperative has provided all employees and guests with disposable face masks. FR face masks have been supplied to those who work in and near the energized space. Please let us know if you need FR masks or any other PPE.

Suspected COVID-19 Exposure Procedure

All employees are required to notify their immediate supervisor and departmental manager if they suspect or are notified that there was a possible exposure to the virus. In some cases, the possible exposure to the virus may be remote, but it still needs to be reported as soon as you have knowledge of the possible exposure.

Who does Not Have to Quarantine After Close Contact with Someone With COVID-19?

- Anyone who is up to date on their COVID-19 vaccinations:
 - o Anyone ages 12 or older and who has received all CDC recommended COVID19 vaccine doses, including boosters if eligible and additional primary shots for some immunocompromised people.
 - o Anyone ages 5-11 years old who has completed the primary series of COVID19 vaccines, including additional primary shots for some immunocompromised people.
- Anyone who has had confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days (tested positive using a viral test, e.g. antigen or PCR).

What To Do if Not Subject to Quarantine:

- Wear a well-fitting mask around others for 10 days from the date of last close contact with someone with COVID-19 (the date of last close contact is considered day 0).
- Get tested at least 5 days after the date of last close contact with someone with COVID 19. If test is positive or COVID-19 symptoms develop, isolate from other people and follow recommendations in the Isolation section of this guidance document.
- Anyone who had COVID-19 within the last 90 days and has since recovered and remained symptom free, does not need to get tested after close contact with someone with COVID-19.
- If an exposed person who does not have to quarantine cannot separate from one or more individuals with COVID-19 who are in isolation (e.g., because the exposed person lives in the same household with a sick individual who needs care), then the exposed person will have ongoing exposure until the infected person is no longer contagious. See detailed testing and mask recommendations in the “Ongoing COVID-19 Exposure FAQs” section of CDC's quarantine and isolation page.
- If an exposed person who does not have to quarantine travels during the 10 days after last close contact, the person should wear a well-fitting mask when around others for the entire duration of travel during the 10 days. Anyone unable to wear a mask should not travel during the 10 days. Travelers should get tested at least 5 days after the date of the last close contact, receive a negative test result before travel or further travel, and be

symptom free.

Who Must Quarantine After Close Contact with Someone with COVID-19?

- Anyone who is not up to date on their COVID-19 vaccinations.
 - o Anyone who is not vaccinated or has not completed a primary vaccine series.
- See exceptions for school and childcare below.
- o Anyone ages 12 or older who has completed the primary series of recommended vaccine, and is eligible for a CDC recommended booster shot, but has not received it.
- See exceptions for school and childcare below.

How to Quarantine

- Stay home and away from other people for at least 5 days (day 0 through day 5) after the date of the last contact with a person who has COVID-19. The date of contact (exposure) is considered day 0.
- Wear a well-fitting mask when around others at home, if possible.
- For 10 days after the date of the last close contact with someone with COVID-19, watch for fever (100.4°F or greater), cough, shortness of breath, or other COVID-19 symptoms
- If symptoms develop, get tested immediately and isolate until test results arrive. If test result is positive, follow recommendations in the Isolation section of this guidance document.
- If symptoms do not develop, get tested at least 5 days after the date of last close contact with someone with COVID-19.
 - o If test results are negative, quarantine can end, but continue to wear a well-fitting mask when around others at home and in public until 10 days after the date of the last close contact with someone with COVID-19.
 - o If test results are positive, isolate for at least 5 days from the date of the positive test (date of test, not date results received).
 - o Quarantined individuals should make every effort to get tested at least 5 days after exposure, even if asymptomatic. If it is not possible to get a test 5 days after the last close contact with someone with COVID-19, quarantine can end after day 5 if there have been NO COVID-19 symptoms throughout the 5-day period. Continue to wear a well-fitting mask when around others at home and in public until 10 days after the date of the last close contact with someone with COVID19.
 - o Avoid people who are immunocompromised or at high risk for severe disease, and nursing homes and other high-risk settings, until after at least 10 days.
- If possible, stay away from people in the home, especially people who are at higher risk for getting very sick from COVID-19, as well as others outside the home throughout the full 10 days after the date of the last close contact with someone with COVID-19.
- If a quarantined person cannot separate from one or more individuals with COVID-19 who are in isolation (e.g., because the quarantined person lives in the same household with a sick individual who needs care), then the quarantined person will have ongoing exposure until the infected person is no longer contagious. In this situation, quarantine for the uninfected person continues throughout the isolation period of the individual(s) with COVID-19 and 5 days beyond the last day the infected individual(s) are on isolation. See detailed recommendations in the “Ongoing COVID-19 Exposure FAQs” section of CDC's quarantine and isolation page.
- All children under the age of 2 years, who are not recommended to wear masks, as well as others who cannot wear a well-fitting mask for any reason should continue to quarantine for 10

days. During this time, avoid people who are immunocompromised or at high risk for severe disease, or living in nursing homes and other high-risk settings.

- Do not travel during the 5-day quarantine period. Before resuming travel, get tested at least 5 days after the date of the last close contact with someone with COVID-19, receive a negative test result, and be symptom free for all 5 days of quarantine. If it is not possible to get a test, delay travel until 10 days after the date of the last close contact with a person with COVID-19. It is best to avoid travel for 10 days after last date of close contact. If travel must occur before the 10 days are completed, continue to wear a well-fitting mask when around others for the entire duration of travel during the 10 days. Anyone unable to wear a mask should not travel during the 10 days.
- Do not go to places where activities prevent mask-wearing, such as restaurants, and avoid eating around others at home and at work until after 10 days after the date of the last close contact with someone with COVID-19. After Quarantine
- Watch for symptoms until 10 days after the date of the last close contact with someone with COVID-19. • If symptoms develop, isolate immediately and get tested.

COVID-19 Infection Procedure

All employees are required to notify their immediate supervisor and department manager if they exhibit symptoms of having contracted the COVID-19 virus after a known exposure.

Isolation is used to separate people with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 from those without COVID-19.

Who Has to Isolate?

People who are confirmed to have COVID-19 or are showing symptoms of COVID-19 need to isolate regardless of their vaccination status. This includes:

- People who have a positive viral test (e.g. antigen or PCR) for COVID-19, regardless of whether or not they have symptoms.
- People with symptoms of COVID-19, including people who are awaiting test results or have not been tested. People with symptoms should isolate even if they do not know if they have been in close contact with someone with COVID-19.

How to Isolate

- Stay home, in a separate room from other household members, if possible, for at least 5 full days (day 0 is the first day of symptoms or the date of the day of the positive test for asymptomatic persons).
- Use a separate bathroom if available.
- Wear a well-fitting mask when it is not possible to be separate from others in the home.
- Monitor your symptoms. If you have an emergency warning sign (including trouble breathing), seek emergency medical care immediately.
- Take steps to improve ventilation at home, if possible.
- Avoid contact with other members of the household and pets.
- Don't share personal household items, like cups, towels, and utensils.

Ending Isolation

For people who had symptoms but were not hospitalized for COVID-19

- Isolation ends after 5 full days if the individual is fever-free for 24 hours without the use

of fever-reducing medication and other symptoms have improved (Loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation).

- Continue to wear a well-fitting mask around others at home and in public for 5 additional days (day 6 through day 10) after the end of the 5-day isolation period.
- All children under the age of 2 years, who are not recommended to wear masks, as well as others who cannot wear a well-fitting mask for any reason, must isolate for a full 10 days. Avoid people who are immunocompromised or at high risk for severe disease, and nursing homes and other high-risk settings, until after at least 10 days.
- If fever continues or other symptoms have not improved after 5 days of isolation, continue to isolate until there is no fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and other symptoms have improved. Continue to wear a well-fitting mask when around others in the home. Consider contacting a healthcare provider.
- Do not travel during the 10 days after the first day of symptoms.
- Do not go to places where wear a mask cannot be worn, such as restaurants, and avoid eating around others at home and at work until after 10 days after the date of the last close contact with someone with COVID-19.

Testing to end isolation is not required. If an individual has access to a test and wants to test, the best approach is to use an antigen test towards the end of the 5-day isolation period if fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and other symptoms have improved (loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation).

If test result is positive, continue to isolate until day 10.

If test result is negative, isolation can end, but continue to wear a well-fitting mask around others at home and in public until day 10. Follow additional recommendations for masking and restricting travel as described above.

For people who did not have symptoms

- Isolate for at least 5 days. Day 0 is the day of the positive test and day 1 is the first full day after the specimen was collected for your positive test.
- Isolation ends after 5 full days if no symptoms develop.
- Continue to wear a well-fitting mask around others at home and in public until day 10 (day 6 through day 10).
- All children under the age of 2 years, who are not recommended to wear masks, as well as others who cannot wear a well-fitting mask for any reason, must isolate for a full 10 days. Avoid people who are immunocompromised or at high risk for severe disease, and nursing homes and other high-risk settings, until after at least 10 days.
- If symptoms develop after testing positive, the 5-day isolation period should start over. Day 0 is the first day of symptoms. Follow the recommendations above for ending isolation for people who had COVID-19 and had symptoms.
- Do not travel during the 10 days after the positive test.
- Do not go to places where activities prevent mask-wear, such as restaurants, and avoid eating around others at home and at work until after 10 days after the date of the last close contact with someone with COVID-19.

Testing to end isolation is not required. If an individual has access to a test and wants to test, the best approach is to use an antigen test towards the end of the 5-day isolation period. If test result is positive, continue to isolate until day 10. If test result is negative, isolation can end, but continue to wear a well-fitting mask around others at home and in public until day 10. Follow additional recommendations for masking and restricting travel as described above.

For people who are hospitalized for COVID-19 or are immunocompromised

People who are hospitalized for COVID-19 and people with compromised immune systems might need to isolate longer. They may also require testing with a viral test (e.g. antigen or PCR) to determine when they can be around others. CDC recommends an isolation period of at least 10 and up to 20 days for people who were severely ill with COVID-19 and for people with weakened immune systems. Consult with a healthcare provider about ending isolation.

People who are immunocompromised should talk to their healthcare provider about the potential for reduced immune responses to COVID-19 vaccines and the need to continue to follow current prevention measures (including wearing a well-fitting mask, staying 6 feet apart from others they don't live with, and avoiding crowds and poorly ventilated indoor spaces) to protect themselves against COVID-19 until advised otherwise by their healthcare provider. Close contacts of immunocompromised people – including household members – should also be encouraged to receive all recommended COVID-19 vaccine doses to help protect these people.

As a utility, DCEC is classified as essential services. The original 12/23/21 CDC and 12/24/21 NYSDOH guidance has also been modified as of 1/21/22 CDC new guidance for dealing with varying degrees of labor shortage.

Work Restrictions for HCP With SARS-CoV-2 Infection and Exposures

"Up to Date" with all recommended COVID-19 vaccine doses is defined in [Stay Up to Date with Your Vaccines | CDC](#)

For more details, including recommendations for healthcare personnel who are immunocompromised, have severe to critical illness, or are within 90 days of prior infection, refer to [Interim Guidance for Managing Healthcare Personnel with SARS-CoV-2 Infection or Exposure to SARS-CoV-2](#) (conventional standards) and [Strategies to Mitigate Healthcare Personnel Staffing Shortages](#) (contingency and crisis standards).

Work Restrictions for HCP With SARS-CoV-2 Infection

Vaccination Status	Conventional	Contingency	Crisis
Up to Date and Not Up to Date	10 days OR 7 days with negative test [†] , if asymptomatic or mild to moderate illness (with improving symptoms)	5 days with/without negative test, if asymptomatic or mild to moderate illness (with improving symptoms)	No work restriction, with prioritization considerations (e.g., types of patients they care for)

Work Restrictions for Asymptomatic HCP with SARS-CoV-2 Exposures

Vaccination Status	Conventional	Contingency	Crisis
Up to Date	No work restrictions, with negative test on days 1 [‡] and 5–7	No work restriction	No work restriction
Not Up to Date	10 days OR 7 days with negative test [†]	No work restriction with negative tests on days 1 [‡] , 2, 3, & 5–7 (if shortage of tests prioritize Day 1 to 2 and 5-7)	No work restrictions (test if possible)

[†]Negative test result within 48 hours before returning to work

[‡]For calculating day of test: 1) for those with infection consider day of symptom onset (or first positive test if asymptomatic) as day 0; 2) for those with exposure consider day of exposure as day 0



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cdc.gov/coronavirus



Employers may allow a person to return to work after day 5 of their isolation period (where day zero is defined as either date of symptom onset if symptomatic, or date of collection of first positive test if asymptomatic) if they meet all the following criteria:

- The individual is a healthcare worker or other critical workforce member
- The individual is fully vaccinated at least 2 weeks before the day they become symptomatic or, if asymptomatic, the day of collection of the first positive specimen).
- The individual is asymptomatic, or, if they had mild symptoms, when they return to work they must:

Not have a fever for at least 72 hours without fever-reducing medication

Have resolution of symptoms or, if still with residual symptoms, then all are improving

Not have rhinorrhea (runny nose)

Have no more than minimal, non-productive cough (i.e., not disruptive to work and does not stop the person from wearing their mask continuously, not coughing up phlegm)

- The individual is able to wear a well-fitting face mask consistently and correctly, a higher-level mask such as a KN95, or a fit-tested N95 respirator while at work. The mask should fit with no air gaps around the edges.

In other settings, face masks should be well-fitting, disposable, non-woven masks.

Other face coverings including cloth masks are not allowed except as part of double masking with a disposable mask underneath

Individuals who are moderately to severely immunocompromised are not eligible to return to work under this guidance.

Individuals working under this policy must continue to stay at home, take precautions to avoid household transmission, and observe other required elements of isolation while not at work until the end of the 10-day period.

Testing is not required.

Workers participating in this program should be instructed that:

- They should practice social distancing from coworkers at all times except when job duties do not permit such distancing.

- If they must remove their respirator or well-fitting facemask, for example, in order to eat or drink, they should separate themselves from others.

They should self-monitor for symptoms and seek re-evaluation from occupational health or their personal healthcare provider if symptoms recur or worsen.

Contingency Designation:

Infected:

All employees who are fully vaccinated, regardless of booster status, may follow the NYSDOH Shortened Isolation protocol described in the “General Population” section (five days of isolation, may return after day five if asymptomatic/mildly symptomatic, and wear a well-fitting mask for another five days when around others).

All employees who are not fully vaccinated must follow the CDC Conventional Guidelines for Quarantine (10 days, or seven days with a negative test).

Exposed:



Employees who are fully vaccinated and fully boosted have no work restrictions after an exposure.

Employees who are fully vaccinated but not boosted, or are not fully vaccinated, also have no work restrictions after an exposure, but must test on days one, two, three and between days five and seven.

Crisis Designation:

Infected:

Facilities which designate a crisis strategy plan must contact the NYSDOH and follow the CDC Crisis Strategies, which allow infected healthcare workers to still return to work during their quarantine period dependent on a variety of factors, as a last resort.

Exposed:

Employees who are fully vaccinated and fully boosted have no work restrictions after an exposure.

Employees who are fully vaccinated but not fully boosted, or employees who are not fully vaccinated also do not have any work restrictions, but are expected to test whenever possible, and follow all other standard protocols such as mask wearing and reporting any symptoms prior to starting work. If a healthcare entity who is in crisis designation is unable to test this group of employees, it must report such to the NYSDOH.

Leave Program:

Employees will receive up to an additional 40 hours of paid leave during 2022 with portions thereof applied to restore sick/PTO hours taken between symptom onset and positive test results. Unused COVID hours are not paid out at year-end nor are they donatable or carry over into future years.

To qualify for additional COVID time, an employee must submit verification of a laboratory-tested positive result to their department manager (Ryan or Mark)

Employees must comply with the Cooperative's existing leave policies.

If an employee does not have or exhausts all sick time, they may utilize the sick leave donation program outlined in the union contract, if eligible.

Employees wishing to apply for PFL/DBL should contact Human Resources or Guardian insurance as soon as possible to receive appropriate forms. This same procedure and leave would apply if the same individual tests positive for COVID-19 subsequent times.

Employees can also apply for NYS DBL/PFLA through our insurance carrier, Guardian, for an additional paid leave by the insurance carrier per positive test.

If the employee is still unable to return to work after having exhausted all sick time then other PTO, the employee will be transitioned to short term disability for a maximum of 26 weeks. If the employee cannot return to work after 26 weeks being on short term disability and is still unable to return to work, the employee will be transitioned to long term disability.



Employees that are in their probationary period and therefore, do not have any PTO, are eligible to apply for NYS statutory short-term disability but not the enhanced short term disability benefits provided by the Cooperative. Any days beyond the NYS statutory short-term disability, will be taken as unpaid leave.

The Cooperative is considered to employ essential employees, and as such, reserves the right to evaluate and consult with each individual employee on a case-by-case basis to arrive at a mutual course of action for each scenario.

Collective Bargaining Agreements

It is not the intention of the Cooperative's management to violate any collective bargaining agreement in implementing these emergency measures. If an issue arises with respect to contractual terms or conditions of employment, management is committed to sitting down with union representatives as soon as practical to work in good faith to address any issues.

This plan is being sent to IBEW Local 10 for their informational purposes. Management will be open to discuss any issues that may be identified by the Union. In the meantime, the plan will be implemented out of concern for our employees and members of the public.

REVISION DATES:

01/20/21, 03/17/21, 04/20/21, 05/24/21, 06/11/21, 07/06/21, 08/04/21 09/06/21, 10/08/21, 10/29/21, 11/29/21, 12/10/21, 01/03/22, 01/18/22, 02/09/22, 02/10/22, 02/11/22, 03/14/22, 04/11/22, 05/10/22, 06/08/22

POLICY

SUBJECT: Public Access to Board Meetings

POLICY: It shall be the policy of the Cooperative for the CEO management, staff and directors to be open and reasonably available to the public to entertain and discuss comments, concerns and/or questions regarding the Cooperative ~~and its operations.~~

In situations where there is a request or inquiry by members or non-members to attend a Board meeting, the request shall be referred to the CEO General Manager, who shall then discuss the topic and reason with the individual making the request.

If the member's request for attendance at a Board meeting is for informational or observational purposes only, and there is no specific topic the member wants to discuss, they may be allowed to attend the next regularly scheduled meeting, subject to a minimum five (5) day notice to confirm available seating and any room limitations set by law with proper notice to be granted after-hours access to the building.

If the issue is not addressed through discussion with the ~~General Manager~~ CEO, a member may make application ~~be allowed to attend~~ address the Board at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting, provided the written request form is received and stamped in the Office no later than ten (10) calendar days prior to meeting, where the member shall be granted 5-minutes to address the Board specifically on the topic submitted on the written request form. The Board may respond to the inquiry at that time, ~~or may~~ take the matter under advisement and/or provide a formal response to the member at a later date ~~through the General Manager.~~

~~If the member's request for attendance at a Board meeting is for informational purposes only, and there is no specific topic the member wants to discuss, they shall be allowed to attend the meeting for observational purposes, subject to available seating and any room limitations set by law.~~

In no cases, will the public (either members or non-members) be allowed to attend an Executive Session of the Board unless specifically invited by a majority the Board in consultation with ~~or the CEO and Attorney General Manager.~~ In cases where an individual is invited into an Executive Session, a Non-Disclosure Agreement may be required.

Non-Members of the Cooperative shall have no rights to attend Board meetings unless otherwise approved by both the CEO ~~General Manager~~ and



the Board President in consultation with the Attorney prior to the Board meeting.

PROCEDURE: As outlined in the Policy- Written requests to address the Board must be received and stamped by the office and presented to the CEO within ten (10) business days of the next regularly scheduled meeting to be considered. Requests received less than ten (10) prior may be considered for a meeting subsequent to the next regularly scheduled meeting. The five minutes of allotted time will be strictly for the purpose of verbalizing the statements or addressing the specific topic indicated upon the request form.

RESPONSIBILITY: ~~General Manager~~ CEO and Board President

DELAWARE COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Approved by Board of Directors	Jun 21, 1961
Reviewed by Board of Directors	Dec 19, 1973
Reviewed by Board of Directors	Apr 24, 1990
Renumbered (was #63)	Apr 25, 1990
Reviewed by Board of Directors	Oct 24, 1995
Revised by Board of Directors	Aug 3, 2004
Reviewed by the Board of Directors	Feb 25, 2014
Reviewed by the Board of Directors	Jun 28, 2016
Revised by Board of Directors	May 28, 2019
Revised by Board of Directors	Jun 28, 2022



Forms received less than ten (10) days prior to meeting will be considered for addition to the agenda for the following month.

PURPOSE OF REQUEST (select one): ☐ **SPEAKER** ☐ **OBSERVER**

NAME: _____

ACCOUNT#:

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

SERVICE LOCATION ADDRESS:

IF SPEAKING, ON WHAT TOPIC WILL YOU COMMENT?

ALL SPEAKERS IN ATTENDANCE WILL BE GRANTED 5 MINUTES TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS DURING MEMBER COMMENT PERIOD ON THE SPECIFIC TOPIC LISTED.

OBERVERS MAY NOT INTERRUPT THE PROCEEDINGS.

SPEAKERS AND OBSERVERS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO ATTEND EXECUTIVE SESSIONS CALLED DURING THE MEETING

SIGNATURE: _____

OFFICE USE:

POLICY

SUBJECT: Vehicle Use for Cooperative Business

BACKGROUND:

Employees and directors are at times required to travel by automobile to meetings, conferences, and training events on behalf of the Cooperative. This policy is intended to encourage employees and directors to utilize the lowest cost form of vehicular transportation while offering flexibility to the traveler. In most some instances for employees, when compared to rentals and personal vehicles, a the vehicle provided by the Cooperative is may be the lowest cost option. However, in special circumstances such as when spouses are traveling with the Cooperative representative or conducting personal business concurrently, there may be a preference to use of a personal or rental vehicle instead of the Cooperative provided vehicle is required.

POLICY:

It is the policy of the Delaware County Electric Cooperative, Inc. (the Cooperative) that authorized employees (part of drug testing and/or driver record reporting) and directors shall be encouraged to utilize the Cooperative provided vehicle whenever practical determined by managment. In instances where a Cooperative vehicle is not available, then the employee or director shall be reimbursed for use of a personal vehicle at the current rate recommended by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and/or for a rental. If more than one employee/director/consultant are traveling together in one personal vehicle, only the employee/director providing the personal vehicle will receive reimbursement. ~~In instances where a Cooperative vehicle is available, but the employee/director elects to use a personal vehicle, then the employee/director shall be reimbursed at one half the current rate recommended by the IRS.~~

It is the responsibility of the employee/director to acquire and maintain applicable auto insurance coverage if the employee/director uses a personal vehicle for Cooperative business travel.

It is the responsibility of the employee/~~director~~ to request a Cooperative vehicle. ~~Failure to request a Cooperative vehicle prior to using a personal vehicle for Cooperative travel will result in reimbursement at one half of the IRS recommended rate.~~

Persons who are not employees/directors of the Cooperative are not permitted to ride in Cooperative vehicles unless doing so meets a business need of the Cooperative. For example, a Cooperative employee may take a Department of Energy employee, an NRECA employee, a contractor hired by the Cooperative, ~~a Cooperative member~~, a Rural Utilities Service employee, or a Cooperative Finance Corporation employee in a Cooperative vehicle if doing so serves a business need of the Cooperative. Examples of impermissible passengers in Cooperative vehicles include family members or friends or others not serving a business need of the Cooperative.



~~Spouses of employees may ride in Cooperative owned vehicles to and from Cooperative meetings or events with prior permission from the General Manager. Spouses of directors may ride in Cooperative owned vehicles to and from Cooperative meetings and events with prior permission from the Board of Directors.~~

Prior to driving a Cooperative-provided vehicle, an employee ~~or director~~ must demonstrate possession of a current valid driver's license to the Cooperative. A copy of the license will be kept on file at the Cooperative's office. The license must be of the appropriate class and must include the appropriate endorsements (e.g., air brake endorsement as required). If the status of an employee's ~~or director's~~ license changes in such a way that limits that employee ~~or director~~ in legally carrying out their ~~his~~ responsibilities to the Cooperative, then the employee ~~or director~~ must report the status change to the Cooperative before using a Cooperative vehicle again. It is the responsibility of each employee ~~or director~~ to understand and comply with any restrictions or limitations placed on ~~his~~ their own driver's license by the issuing authority or court order.

Only employees are authorized to operate Cooperative vehicles except in certain cases of emergency or vehicle maintenance.

RESPONSIBILITY: CEO

DELAWARE COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC

Approved by Board of Directors	September 24, 2013
Reviewed by Board of Directors	September 22, 2015
Revised by Board of Directors	March 28, 2017
Reviewed by Board of Directors	June 23, 2020
Revised by Board of Directors	June 28, 2022

CEO REPORT
16 MAY 2022 – 15 JUNE 2022

SAFETY/COMPLIANCE

Safety Committee Activity:

Office Safety Meeting was conducted on 26 May 2022. Topic covered was “Fundamentals of Electricity” which explained electricity as well as the components of the power system.

Injury Report:

No injuries reported this period although one employee was out on short term disability for non-work-related matters.

COVID/AIDEPP:

Updated on 6/8/22 to reflect no changes since 5/10/22 version.

Pole Inspections / Line Inspections / Stray Voltage Testing:

Bob Coager has commenced work in Jefferson and Gilboa.

FINANCE, ACCOUNTING & HR

Staffing:

A potential internal applicant from the line department has inquired for the original System Coordinator role (staking/safety) and is job shadowing with Mike P., Jimmy G. and Ryan S. In the event this scenario runs the course, the two individuals that interviewed for Staking Technician should be considered for Apprenticeship given both are recent line school graduates.

CFC

The Cost-of-Service Study (CoSS) is underway. At this time, Kerry Rollins will be the assigned rate analyst. Tentative schedule as follows:

- 31 August 2022: CFC Completion Target.

Form 990:

The official filing is being completed by Mike Roseberry.

Actuary Study:

The results of the actuary study are complete. There is a call scheduled to review the results on 6/24. As mentioned in May’s board meeting, the results indicated a significant increase for 2022. We are reviewing the implementing the required changes and the implications on the financials.

RUS Audit: RUS has reached out to perform their Loan Fund Accounting Review that generally happens every few years. The audit is schedule to occur in July.

MEMBER SERVICES & PUBLIC RELATIONS

Annual Meeting:

9/9/22 – Details to be determined.

- Meetings with Jessica Vecchione for recording and providing support for electronic voting initiative
- Venue finalized.... Will be at Delaware Academy
- Chicken dinners... up to two free RSVP dinners per registered membership attending served after meeting.
- \$10 November 2022 bill credits for each electronic, in-person or absentee ballot
- Ten \$50 bill credits as door prizes
- Pen and pocket calendar giveaways as well drop-shipped home efficiency kit per vote

Billing Rate Programming:

In parallel to the Cost of Service, NISC custom programming is to be reviewed for functionality to batch change rates based on usage (SC-1 to SC-2, etc.).

Disconnections:

Third month of back to business went well. Disconnections performed on 6/6, 6/8, 6/9, 6/13 and 6/14.

Website/Social Media:

Migration of website from Touchstone's Coop Web Builder 2.0 to CWB 3.0 platform proceeding with a July timeframe.

OPERATIONS:

Notable Outages and Occurrences:

5/19/22 Feeder outage Dryden Sub ~2 hours cause tree,

Pole Inspections / Line Inspections / Stray Voltage Testing:

Work proceeding in Jefferson. Targeting ~1400 poles for 2022 inspections as well as get back on track with stray voltage measurements. Contractor has completed 357 stray voltage measurements in Jefferson, and Gilboa.

Right of Way Crew:

Asplundh is on property.

Full ROW report at meeting.

Headquarters:

Maintenance Annex awaiting electrician, materials and garage doors.

ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY:

In the interim period without a staking technician or engineering manager:

I will provide pre-construction design review of WOs, IR inspections and system monitoring.

Ryan S., Mike P. and James G. will do staking functions.

Paul DeAndrea is preparing a services contract for “as needed” for special projects, power quality, PV and other work.

Special Projects:

Cat Hollow TS-1 metering – waiting on additional materials to migrate metering system.

Power Quality Review:

Met with BOCES on 3 June to discuss ongoing power quality concerns on the site. Working with Operations to perform maintenance and patrol as well as reached out to NYSEG on voltage to Dryden station

WO Inspection:

Waiting for new Engineering Manager

Work Plan:

Internally, Engineering and Operations are reviewing project list from last work plan to re-evaluate and re-prioritize.

Cybersecurity:

ISD has provided guidance while Microsoft works on patches for the Word Zero Day Vulnerability and will also be administering the employee cyber training in future.

LEGAL, GOVERNANCE & LEGISLATIVE/INDUSTRY AFFAIRS

DCEC Policies/Procedures Development:

Continuing three-year rotation of all DCEC policies.

NYPA:

Anticipates no reduction in firm hydro sales next month.

DCEC Member Robert Dee is continuing to complain to NYPA in regard to compensation for his DG output

I am working with NYPA to have DCEC included in a heat pump study where members with qualifying homes could get systems for ‘demonstration’ purposes. The Electric Power Research Institute, Inc. (EPRI) and the New York Power Authority (NYPA) are seeking participants for a field demonstration project to provide new insight and data on the operation of advanced heat pumps in typical space conditioning applications. Data and analysis will be used to provide information to the electric customer base as well as HVAC manufacturing and installation industries.

Research is expected to address questions related to peak load reduction, efficiency improvement, improved demand response capability, efficient electrification, environmental improvement, and economic opportunities.

Project objectives include the following:

- Define and verify applicability of use-cases for Next-gen HPs in various climates and applications
- Provide a demonstration of Next-gen HPs to show customer value
- Demonstrate functional capabilities of Next-Gen HPs
- Recognize barriers to adoption
- Quantify benefits (energy, demand, GHG, comfort, productivity, business opportunities)

The purpose of this initial outreach effort is to determine the level of interest and suitability from potential eligible host sites. Site selection will be dependent upon criteria such as:

1. Residential or small commercial building site is representative of typical construction in service territory.
2. Site includes existing central air system.
3. Residence has only 1 source of heating/cooling (i.e., does not have multiple HVAC systems or window units or other sources) and does not have existing “zoned” systems (e.g., single central air handler with dampers in the ductwork).
4. Floor area typical for service territory (e.g., 1,200 – 2,500 sq ft).
5. Minimum electrical panel service in range (e.g., 100-200 amp).

6. End-use customer internet connectivity to be used for data monitoring communications through existing (reliable) Wi-Fi connection.
7. Historically disadvantaged communities will be considered.

Candidate buildings will be identified through expressed interest followed by a site information checklist and/or scheduled meeting to discuss site criteria in detail. Final selection of the identified project buildings (candidate homes) will require a site audit (e.g., pictures of outdoors-4 sides of home, indoor photos with thermostat location, indoor air handler, ductwork, electrical panel).

NYAPP:

NYAPP has filed papers against the latest CLCPA actions whereby transmission upgrades for renewables would be paid by all load serving entities on a load basis rather than having the benefitting parties pay.

Bill Acee reported that April snowstorm was tough and that group did not do well with mutual aid. He reported that NEPPA helped Otsego and that NYAPP should become members of NEPPA again now that they will be expanding their mutual aid program.

It makes more sense for DCEC to become a NEPPA member for training, mutual aid and job board access than to subsidize a blanket membership through NYAPP.

PSC:

Legislature continuing to push for allowing NYPA to directly compete with National Grid, Central Hudson and Con Ed. At its 6/16 meeting, the PSC approved an order on the Covid-related arrears situation for the period March 2022 through March 2022. The PSC approved the distribution of the \$250 million in federal funds (\$564,652 for Municipalities and Small Gas subtotal). That leaves \$286 million remaining related to low-income customer arrears. To address the balance, the Joint Utilities (IOUs) are required to provide a one-time credit to their low-income customers for arrears through May 1, 2022 for their respective shares of the balance. Participation by the jurisdictional municipals is voluntary. The participating utilities shall recover the costs of the credit, plus carrying charges, but not administrative costs, through a surcharge allocated according to each utility's uncollectible costs recovery mechanism, starting August 1, 2022. After further review, the forgiveness only applies to customers already making use of HEAP or RAS funds previously

The PSC received its reports on "Electric Reliability, Gas and Electric Safety, Customer Service of the State's Large Public Utilities". NYSEG, RG&E and Central Hudson revenues Cut \$17.2 Million due to poor electric reliability performance.

CFC:

Natural gas prices have jumped recently due to several factors, pushing up wholesale power prices, and by extension, electric cooperative operating costs. This situation is expected to continue through the year, according to Jan Ahlen, CFC's vice president of utility research and policy.

"Except in California, wholesale power prices in each region of the country still have a good amount of room to go higher before reaching the U.S. Energy Information Administration's (EIA) forecasted average price for this year," Ahlen said. "Cooperatives should prepare to pay higher prices for wholesale power for the rest of 2022 and may need to adjust their rates accordingly."

Wholesale Power Prices

The jump in the price of natural gas is the main reason for increasing power prices.

"Given that natural gas is the largest electric generation source, power prices are strongly influenced by natural gas prices," Ahlen said. "Natural gas prices edged higher toward the end of 2021, and has continued through this year." In May, the Henry Hub day-ahead natural gas price averaged \$8.07 per million British thermal units (MMBtu), which was nearly 2.8 times the May 2021 average of \$2.91/MMBtu. EIA expects spot prices to continue rising, averaging \$8.59/MMBtu in the second half of this year. NYMEX futures contracts for Henry Hub Natural Gas are currently trading in the \$8-\$9/MMBtu range until March 2023.

“Natural gas prices could rise significantly above forecast levels if summer temperatures are hotter than assumed in EIA’s forecast and electricity demand is higher,” Ahlen added.

The jump in natural gas prices is caused by several factors, including higher U.S. electricity demand as consumption patterns continue to return to pre-pandemic levels, as well as the war in Ukraine.

Higher U.S. Electricity Consumption

This summer, EIA expects total U.S. retail sales of electricity to end-use customers to be 0.4 percent higher than last summer. Lower forecast residential usage resulting from milder expected temperatures is more than offset by increasing consumption in the commercial and industrial sectors.

In 2023, U.S. power consumption is expected to continue to increase due to general economic growth, as well as increased electrification of the economy—especially in buildings and transportation (i.e., electric vehicles). EIA is forecasting a consumption increase of 0.7 percent in the residential sector and 0.2 percent in the commercial sector compared with 2022 levels, and a jump of 2 percent in industrial electricity consumption.

Ukraine War

Perhaps the biggest impact on natural gas prices recently has been the war in Ukraine. In response to the war, Europe Union countries have been trying to replace Russian natural gas, which makes up more than 40 percent of their natural gas consumption, with liquefied natural gas (LNG) imports from other countries. The United States is seeing the bulk of that demand, with EIA forecasting U.S. LNG exports to average an equivalent of 12 billion cubic feet per day (Bcf/d) this year, a 23 percent increase from 2021.

That demand has caused a strong, upward swing on swap prices for LNG, and has led to higher U.S. exports of natural gas, which has boosted both spot and futures prices in the United States and around the world.

For example, LNG cargoes in East Asia sold for an average of \$23.51/MMBtu in the week ending May 19. At the Title Transfer Facility (TTF) in the Netherlands, the LNG spot market in Europe, the average was \$28.11/MMBtu. Those prices were nearly three times the level in the same week last year, when East Asia was at \$9.48/MMBtu and TTF was at \$9.17/MMBtu.

“U.S. natural gas prices have been responding very aggressively to increased demand pressures for U.S. exports, and to the general uncertainty as to how long the U.S. will need to be exporting LNG at historically high levels,” Ahlen said. The increased demand is, however, pushing up U.S. gas production, with EIA forecasting dry natural gas production to average 96.7 Bcf/d this year, which would be 3.2 Bcf/d more than in 2021. Production is expected to jump to an average of 101.7 Bcf/d in 2023.

“The increased production is expected to eventually push down gas costs, with EIA forecasting that prices of domestic natural gas will start moving to more historically normal levels of \$3 to \$4 per MMBtu toward the middle of 2023,” Ahlen said. “This is also shown by the NYMEX futures curve.”

Ahlen concluded, “In the meantime, electric cooperatives should prepare to pay higher prices for natural gas generation and perhaps should explore fuel switching options, if possible.”

Delaware Cooperative TCC Performance Report for the period: May 2022

