



# February 2023

## Newsletter

### OCEC RATE INCREASE EFFECTIVE APRIL 2023

With the recently approved 2023 budget by the OCEC Board, members will see a rate increase beginning in April 2023. The increase will be approximately 5% for all rate classifications and will show up on the May 2023 billing statements. One primary driver for this needed increase is the rising cost of wholesale power above our Bonneville Power allocation for our growing system. The additional power purchased above that allocation has increased by nearly 100%. Also, OCEC has experienced significant cost increases for necessary specialized equipment to maintain a reliable and resilient electric distribution system. Certain materials have increased over 200% in an 18-month period. OCEC has not had a rate increase since 2018 and we will always strive to keep rates affordable.

#### ***How will the rate increase affect my monthly bill?***

##### **Example A (Rate 1)**

*Full Time Resident, General Service Rate 1*

Average usage of under 1200 kwh per month, maximum of 14,400 kwh per year.

Rate 1	2022	2023
Base Fee	\$32.00	\$33.60
Per kWH charge	\$0.0810	\$0.0851
12 mo. Total kWH	8164	8164
12 mo. Bill Total	\$1,045.28	\$1,097.96

##### **Example B (Rate 2)**

*Full Time Resident, General Service Rate 2*

1201 to 5000 average monthly kwh usage, maximum of 60,000 kwh per year.

Rate 2	2022	2023
Base Fee	\$50.00	\$52.50
Tier 1 kWH Up to 5,000 kWH	\$0.0678	\$0.0712
Tier 2 kWH 5,001 and over	\$0.0758	\$0.0796
12 mo. Total kWH	37464	37464
12 mo. Bill Total	\$3,140.06	\$3,297.44

### **‘Round Up’ to help your neighbors**

Did you know that you can “Round Up” your electric bill to help fellow OCEC members in need? OCEC supports The Cove food bank by offering a “Round Up” program. Sign up and we’ll round up your electric bill to the next dollar. This means that each member who signs up will never contribute more than \$12 per year. While this might not seem like much money, the pooling effect every month from coop members who join the program provides a significant impact. The Cove uses these funds to assist local OCEC families who need help paying their electric bills.

Call the office during business hours to sign up for the Round Up program.

---

**Our mailing address is:** PO Box 69, Winthrop, WA 98862  
**Winter Hours of operation:** Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
**Contact us:** Toll Free: (888) 710-2228 | Local: (509) 996-2228  
Email: [info@ocec.coop](mailto:info@ocec.coop) | Web: [www.ocec.coop](http://www.ocec.coop)

# UNCLAIMED CAPITAL CREDITS

Okanogan County Electric Cooperative, Inc. (OCEC) is refunding capital credits to active and inactive members. Capital credits are the margins - the money left after expenses are paid - that are to be refunded to our members.

Listed below are members for whom we have no current address. If you are on this list, or know the address of anyone on the list, please contact:

Okanogan County Electric Cooperative, Inc  
PO Box 69, Winthrop, WA 98862  
(509) 996-2228 or info@oceec.coop

BARR, STEVE	KAMMERER, ROGER
BLACKBURN, CHARLIE	MITCHELL, MARTHA V
BLAIR, BRANDON	MYERS, SHANE
BRANDT, ANNABELLE	NEWBOLD, JOHN
CRACE, NATALIE S.	NORTHCOTT-TUFTE, PAMELA
ELDER, CAMERON C.	OLIVERSON, JEFFERY
FARQUHRA, JOY	ORLEMAN, PATRICK
GENS, DAVID & DEXTER, HEIDI	POPPE, MICHAEL
GILBERT, SHARON & BRIAN	POWERS, SUZANNE
GOAT GROUP LLC C/O WILLIAMS TIMOTHY	REPP, ALEX
GREEN, LARRY	RUTTAN, GORDAN & LAURIE
HERZ, MARGUERITE	SLETTEN, KEN
JABLONSKI, PAM	STEPHENSON, KYLE
JONES, JANETTA LENE	STUBENRAUCH, WENDY
KADLEC, MITCHELL	

---

## CALL FOR CANDIDATES FOR 2023 OCEC BOARD ELECTION

The OCEC Annual Meeting and election by members of the Board of Directors will be held on April 17, 2023 at The Winthrop Barn. The members will be electing three Directors for 3-year terms. Per the OCEC Bylaws, the Board appointed "Nominating Committee shall nominate at least one (1) Member for each position open for election. The incumbent shall automatically be one of the Director candidates nominated if that Director desires to run for re-election." Two of the three incumbents are running for re-election. It is desirable for OCEC members to have choices for consideration for the Director positions.

If you are interested in running for election, you are encouraged by the Board to submit your name to one of the members of the OCEC Nominating Committee for inclusion on the ballot.

Nominating Committee Members:

- Curtis Edwards: calanedwards@icloud.com
- Julie Muyllaert: jmuyllaert@gmail.com
- Ray Peterson: pasayten@gmail.com
- Phil Millam: phil.millam@gmail.com

**The deadline to have your name on the ballot is February 21st.**

---

**Board of Directors:** Alan Watson awatson@oceec.coop | Dale Sekijima dsekijima@oceec.coop  
John Rogers jrogers@oceec.coop | Michael Murray mmurray@oceec.coop  
Rick Johnson rjohnson@oceec.coop | Sara Carlberg scarlberg@oceec.coop  
| Travis Thornton tthornton@oceec.coop