



Newsletter

February

2024

2024 OCEC BOARD ELECTION CALL FOR CANDIDATES

The OCEC Annual Meeting and election by members of the Board of Directors will be held on April 15, 2024 at The Winthrop Barn. The members will be electing two 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:

- Peter Mullen: peter@oncr.com
- Ray Peterson: pasayten@gmail.com
- Phil Millam: phil.millam@gmail.com

The deadline to have your name on the ballot is February 27th.

DECEMBER CAPITAL CREDIT CHECKS

If you received a capital credit check in December of 2023 and haven't yet cashed it, you have until April 15, 2024 to cash or deposit your check. Checks were issued on December 15, 2023 and are good for 120 days after issued. If you have an old check that is past 120 days of issue you can return it to OCEC and ask for it to be re-issued. Capital Credits are the margins – the money left after expenses are paid – that are to be refunded to our members, the December 2023 check paid back the margins from 2008-2009.

Board of Directors: **Alaina Burtenshaw** aburtenshaw@ocec.coop | **Alan Watson** awatson@ocec.coop
Dale Sekijima dsekijima@ocec.coop | **John Rogers** jrogers@ocec.coop |
Michael Murray mmurray@ocec.coop | **Rick Johnson** rjohnson@ocec.coop |
| **Travis Thornton** tthornton@ocec.coop

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Email: info@ocec.coop | Web: www.ocec.coop

RATE CHANGE MARCH 2024

With the recently approved 2024 budget by the OCEC Board, members will see a rate increase beginning in March 2024. The increase will be approximately 8% for all rate classifications and will show up on the April 2024 billing statements. The primary driver for the rate increase is a large increase in the cost of wholesale power and transmission the cooperative purchases from the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). In comparison to the 2023 budget, 2024 is forecasted to have an increase in wholesale power costs of nearly 25%. Wholesale power and transmission purchases from BPA account for roughly half of all of OCEC's expenses. OCEC always strives to find the balance of remaining a financially strong member-owned cooperative while providing reasonable rates to provide a high-level of reliable and Member-focused service.

How will the rate increase affect my monthly bill?

Example A (Rate 1)

Full Time Resident, General Service Rate 1
Average usage of under 1,200 kwh per month, maximum of 14,400 kwh per year.

Example A = \$7.33/mo

Rate 1	2023	2024
Base Fee	\$33.60	\$36.30
Per kwh charge	\$0.0851	\$0.0919
12 mo. Total kwh	8,164	8,164
12 mo. Bill Total	\$1,097.96	\$1,185.94

Example B (Rate 2)

Full Time Resident, General Service Rate 2
1,201 to 5,000 average monthly kwh usage, maximum of 60,000 kwh per year.

Example B = \$21.98/mo

Rate 2	2023	2024
Base Fee	\$52.50	\$56.70
Tier 1 kwh Up to 5,000 kwh	\$0.0712	\$0.0769
Tier 2 kwh 5,001 and over	\$0.0769	\$0.0860
12 mo. Total kwh	37,464	37,464
12 mo. Bill Total	\$3,297.44	\$3,561.23

To compare your current billing rate with the new rates, go to www.ocec.coop and use the Rate Calculator under Member Services on the homepage.

Rates as of March 1, 2024			
	Service Charge	kWh Rate	Demand Charge
Rate Class	(\$/mo)	(\$/kWh)	(\$/kW)
G1	\$36.30	\$0.0919	N/A
G2	\$56.70	1st 5,000 kWh: \$0.0769, 5,001 kWh and over \$0.0860	N/A
G3	\$68.05	\$0.0559	\$3.70
G4	\$164.50	\$0.0541	\$3.70
Second Meter	\$28.35	\$0.0919	N/A
Irrigation 1-Phase	\$52.20	\$0.0562	\$3.70
Irrigation 3-Phase	\$67.00	\$0.0562	\$3.70
Idle Service	\$19.50	N/A	N/A