



## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CEO

# Fiber network benefits SRC subscribers and SRE outage system



Kendra Pittman from Perry County, first SRC subscriber.

Just over one year ago on Dec. 13, 2021, our fiber subsidiary, Singing River Connect, connected its first high-speed internet customer. The last 12 months have been exciting as we've seen subscriber growth emerge to more than 2,300 in this short timeframe. Singing River Connect is providing subscribers with the fastest, most reliable internet service being offered in the area. Like our electric business, customer service is a priority.

Seeing the reactions of Singing River Connect's first subscribers further indicates the importance of this vital service. For many, high-speed fiber internet brings significant change to subscriber families' lives as technology requirements become more of a necessity. As we move forward at a pace of building 25-30 miles

of fiber lines per week, we ask for your patience as we continue this journey. More than 1,250 miles of fiberoptic lines have been installed, and we are aggressively moving forward in an attempt to build more than 7,000 miles at the project's end.

In addition, Singing River Electric should have its first SCADA (supervisory control and data acquisition) project up and running by the end of this month. As mentioned in past articles, this SCADA system will allow for real-time monitoring and control of equipment located in our 45 substations and will aid in member outage response.

On behalf of our employees and our board, I wish you a safe and blessed new year.



*by Brian Hughey*

General Manager and CEO

## Energy Tips



**Gabe Robbins**  
Energy Services Representative  
robbsins@singingriver.com

## Start the new year with energy savings

Changing out your light bulbs and keeping heat inside your house for warmth are two great ways to start 2023 with energy savings in mind.

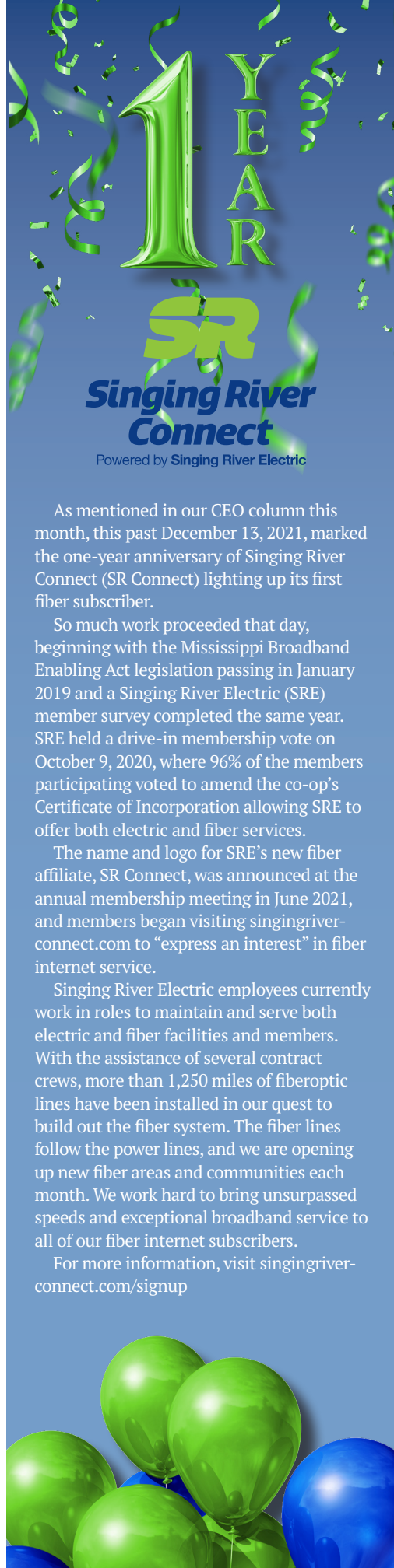
Light emitting diode or LED bulbs are the most energy-efficient choice for your home or business. Manufactured to replace traditional incandescent and compact florescent/CFL bulbs, LEDs last around 15 times longer and save \$80-\$100 in electricity costs during the bulb's lifespan. When choosing an LED bulb, look for an Energy Star certified bulb and consider the brightness, color and size that best fits your room's needs.

Keep your home warm with a few different energy saving efforts. Switch your ceiling fan to a clockwise rotation and run it at the lowest speed to bring down the warm air that has risen to the ceiling. Open your curtains and blinds during the day to let the sunshine in and add some extra warmth to your home – for free! An overlooked source of heat loss are exhaust fans, often used in bathrooms and over stovetops. Use exhaust fans sparingly and turn them off when their job is done to make sure warmth isn't being pulled out of your home needlessly.


## Notice of Singing River Electric Director Qualification Period

Candidates seeking election to the board of directors for Singing River Electric Cooperative must visit Singing River Electric's Lucedale office located at 11187 Old 63 South and obtain a director qualification packet. The forms and petitions included must be completed, and the packet returned by the close of business on the last business day of February (Tuesday, February 28, 2023).





# 1 YEAR



**Singing River Connect**  
Powered by Singing River Electric


As mentioned in our CEO column this month, this past December 13, 2021, marked the one-year anniversary of Singing River Connect (SR Connect) lighting up its first fiber subscriber.

So much work proceeded that day, beginning with the Mississippi Broadband Enabling Act legislation passing in January 2019 and a Singing River Electric (SRE) member survey completed the same year. SRE held a drive-in membership vote on October 9, 2020, where 96% of the members participating voted to amend the co-op's Certificate of Incorporation allowing SRE to offer both electric and fiber services.

The name and logo for SRE's new fiber affiliate, SR Connect, was announced at the annual membership meeting in June 2021, and members began visiting [singingriver-connect.com](http://singingriver-connect.com) to "express an interest" in fiber internet service.

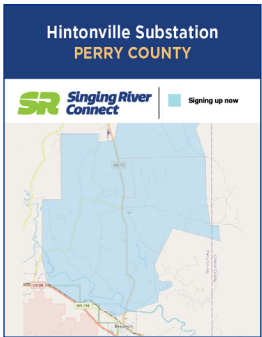
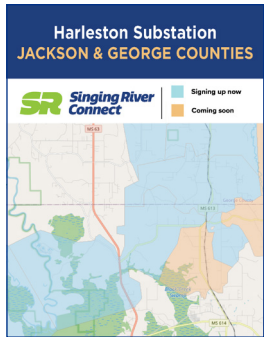
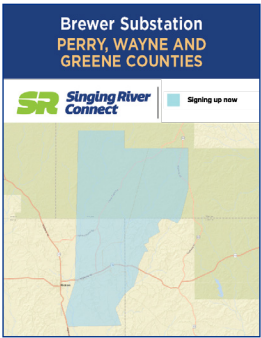
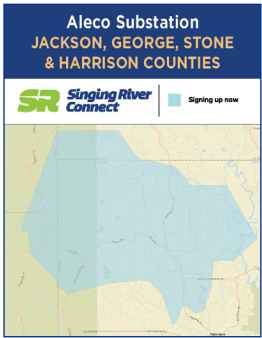
Singing River Electric employees currently work in roles to maintain and serve both electric and fiber facilities and members. With the assistance of several contract crews, more than 1,250 miles of fiberoptic lines have been installed in our quest to build out the fiber system. The fiber lines follow the power lines, and we are opening up new fiber areas and communities each month. We work hard to bring unsurpassed speeds and exceptional broadband service to all of our fiber internet subscribers.

For more information, visit [singingriver-connect.com/signup](http://singingriver-connect.com/signup)



## SR Connect fiber internet is available in five substation areas

If you live in one of these areas, call 877-272-6611 to sign up for lightning-fast fiber internet service. More Phase 2 areas will be announced soon!



Scan me!

## Start the New Year Off Right!

Get increased security and control and more peace of mind with the Ultimate Wi-Fi Experience.

Upgrade your My SR Connect app experience to access network-level security protection for all devices connected to your Wi-Fi and enhanced parental controls. The Ultimate Wi-Fi Experience includes:

### PROTECTIQ

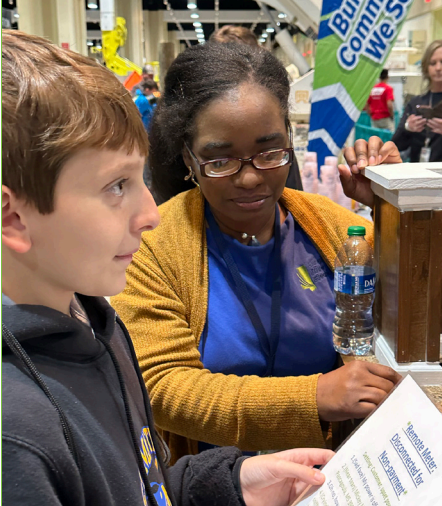
- Automatically block attempted visits to known harmful websites.
- Monitor incoming traffic and keep hackers out.
- Get notifications of blocked security threats

### EXPERIENCEIQ

- Block harmful and inappropriate content.
- Set screen time limits.
- View use on all devices.

Call 877-272-6611 to upgrade your internet experience!

Add the Ultimate Wi-Fi Experience bundle for only \$5/month!



## Pathways2Possibilities

*Interactive and hands-on career exploration for 8th graders*

Singing River Electric participated in the Pathways2Possibilities (P2P) Career Expo on November 16-17 at the Mississippi Coast Convention Center in Biloxi. P2P offers local 8th graders insight into many career opportunities and provides our employees a way to mentor and give back. Making up the Energy Pathway were Singing River Electric, Cooperative Energy, Coast Electric, Mississippi Power, and Chevron.

Students enjoyed a true hands-on experience where they performed tasks like climbing a power pole and framing a pole—all while wearing rubber lineman gloves. They also had the opportunity to role-play at the member service representative booth and learn about fiber internet from our engineers at the Singing River Connect booth.

"This is a unique opportunity for both the students and our employees. Our employees really enjoy interacting with the students and explaining the many career opportunities available in the Energy Pathway," said Public Relations Assistant Stephanie Chisholm, who coordinated the event for SRE.

The P2P Gulf Coast event hosts 8th graders from 10 different lower Mississippi counties and introduces them to careers in energy, aerospace, agriculture, finance, hospitality, information technology, construction, and other industries.



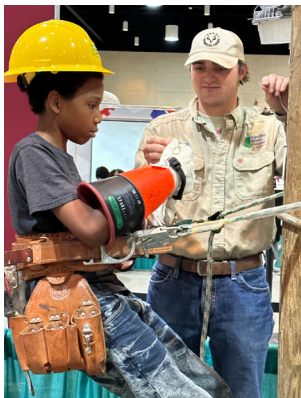
Inside the Energy Pathway, students learned about the importance of customer service through interactive role-play, had their picture made from inside a lineman's bucket, and experienced climbing a pole in lineman's gear.

## Background on P2P Gulf Coast

P2P now serves to educate eighth graders in Mississippi, Tennessee and South Carolina. It was started by members of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce Education Issues Manager Group. They attended a career expo in Alabama called Worlds of Opportunity (WOO) and decided to bring this career fair to the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

P2P debuted on November 13-14, 2013, covering the 133,000 square-feet of the Biloxi Coast Convention Center. Singing River Electric began its P2P participation at this event. It was attended by 6,000 8th graders and became an instant success expanding to the Tupelo, Delta and northwest Mississippi areas. This was followed by career fairs in Tennessee and North Carolina.

For more information, visit [pathways2possibilities.org](http://pathways2possibilities.org).





# Meet your 2023 Mississippi Elected Officials

Singing River Electric salutes Mississippi's senators and representatives who represent our state in Washington, D.C., and at our state capital in Jackson. We appreciate their dedication and willingness to serve in the spirit of public service to help shape the future of our state.



**TATE REEVES**  
Governor



**DELBERT HOSEMANN**  
Lieutenant Governor

## CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION



**ROGER WICKER**  
United States  
Senator



**CINDY  
HYDE-SMITH**  
United States  
Senator



**MIKE EZELL**  
United States  
Representative  
Fourth District



**MICHAEL WATSON**  
Secretary of State

## MISSISSIPPI SENATE



**Sen. Dennis DeBar, Jr.**  
District 43: George, Greene  
and Wayne counties  
Address: P.O. Box 1090  
Leakesville, MS 39451  
Years in Legislature: 12



**Sen. Chris Johnson**  
District 45: Forrest and  
Perry counties  
Address: P.O. Box 18247  
Hattiesburg, MS 39404  
Years in Legislature: 8



**Sen. Joseph M.  
"Mike" Seymour**  
District 47: Jackson, Pearl  
River and Stone counties  
Address: 15417 Indian Fork  
Rd. Vancleave, MS 39565  
Years in Legislature: 8



**Sen. Jeremy England**  
District 51: Jackson County  
Address: P.O. Box 6363  
Vancleave, MS 39565  
Years in Legislature: 4

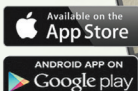


**Sen. Brice Wiggins**  
District 52: Jackson County  
Address: P.O. Box 922  
Pascagoula, MS 39568  
Years in Legislature: 12

## AVAILABLE!

A free, interactive  
legislative app for  
Mississippi

The Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi offers a free, easy-to-use mobile app, which provides information on Mississippi's state and federal elected officials. Look for "Mississippi Legislative Roster" in the Apple App Store. An Android version is also available through Google Play.



## MISSISSIPPI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



**Rep. Shane Barnett**  
District 86: Greene, Perry  
and Wayne counties  
Address: P.O. Box 621  
Waynesboro, MS 39367  
Years in Legislature: 8



**Rep. Dale Goodin**  
District 105: George,  
Greene and Perry counties  
Address: 72 Memorial  
Church Rd., Richton,  
MS 39476  
Years in Legislature: 4



**Rep. Douglas D.  
"Doug" McLeod**  
District 107: George and  
Stone counties  
Address: 1211 Bexley Church  
Rd., Lucedale, MS 39452  
Years in Legislature: 12



**Rep. Manly Barton**  
District 109: George and  
Jackson counties  
Address: 7905 Pecan Ridge  
Dr. Moss Point, MS 39562  
Years in Legislature: 12



**Rep. Jeramey D.  
Anderson**  
District 110: Jackson  
County  
Address: P.O. Box 311  
Escatawpa, MS 39562  
Years in Legislature: 11



**Rep. Charles Busby**  
District 111: Jackson County  
Address: 901 Beach Blvd.  
Pascagoula, MS 39567  
Years in Legislature: 12



**Rep. John O. Read**  
District 112: Jackson County  
Address: 2396 Robert Hiram  
Dr., Gautier, MS 39553  
Years in Legislature: 31



**Rep. Henry B.  
"Hank" Zuber III**  
District 113: Jackson County  
Address: 503 Minor Lane  
Ocean Springs, MS 39564  
Years in Legislature: 24



**Rep. Jeffrey S. Guice**  
District 114: Harrison and  
Jackson counties  
Address: 1208 Iola Rd.  
Ocean Springs, MS 39564  
Years in Legislature: 15

