



## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CEO

# Staying Focused on Safety

It is easy to get distracted during our daily routines. Our minds can wander while walking or driving somewhere, only to realize we do not remember where we were headed, or we lost track of the last two miles. Sometimes we take shortcuts on tasks that could possibly result in unintended risks to our safety and the safety of others.

Linemen do not have the luxury of these distractions. They must stay focused and keep their minds on their tasks at all times. Their lives and the lives of their coworkers depend on it. Linemen need to know the overall objective of their current job, as well as where their coworkers are located and what they are doing at all times. For this reason, there is nothing more important to our cooperative than safety education and training.

During May – Electric Safety Month – and every month of the year, Singing River Electric employees participate in monthly

safety meetings to review and discuss various safety topics and how our safety rules address these topics. We have employees who serve on safety committees, a two-person safety department, and a safety manual that is kept up-to-date and is distributed to all employees.

However, safety is a concern for all, and this month, we ask you to take time to discuss safety with your family. Consider electrical safety and all hazards around your home or business.

Singing River Electric is your source for power and information. We partner with local schools for safety education and provide online resources for you and your family.

Take advantage of all the safety resources on our websites at [singingriver.com/electric-safety](http://singingriver.com/electric-safety) and [beawareeverywhere.com](http://beawareeverywhere.com) as well as on the Electrical Safety Foundation International's website at [esfi.org](http://esfi.org).



*by Brian Hughey*

General Manager and CEO



**Gabe Robbins**  
Energy Services Representative  
[robbins@singingriver.com](mailto:robbins@singingriver.com)

## The importance of attic ventilation

The intense south Mississippi heat will be here soon, so make sure you have adequate attic ventilation. Attic temperatures should not be more than 10-20 degrees different than the outside temperature. When attic temperatures reach 130 degrees, you will have issues with your air conditioner being able to cool your home, which will increase your electric bill.

Hot air in the attic may infiltrate into your home, and having attic duct work can prevent conditioned air from staying cool – both cause your HVAC system to work harder and longer to maintain your desired temperature setting.



To maintain the attic temperature, some sort of ventilation is needed to remove unwanted heat. Some ways to do this include ridge vents and soffits. Gable vents are acceptable when ridge vents are present.

Power ventilators should only be used as a last resort. They add energy use to your bill and have the potential to not only pull conditioned air inside your home into your attic but also to bring even more hot, humid air into the attic. When forced ventilation is used, I suggest using a thermostat to moderate energy use and avoid the previously mentioned issues.



# ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR JUNE 29

*Watch for proxy/notice in the mail*

Singing River Electric’s 2023 Annual Membership Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 29. The meeting will be held at our headquarters office located at 11187 Old 63 South in Lucedale. Registration begins at 5 p.m., and the meeting will begin at 6 p.m. The meeting’s business section will include the cooperative’s financial, management, and board reports, as well as the board of directors election. SRE has a 10-person board of directors elected from the membership in three geographic districts. Each year, one director post from each district is up for election. Every three years, District 3 has two director posts open. Directors are elected for a three-year period. Directors are listed along with their geographic district descriptions at [singingriver.com/my-coop](https://singingriver.com/my-coop).

Nominations for election to the board of directors are made by petition. Interested members must acquire signatures of 25 SRE members on a form provided by the cooperative. Applicants must complete and return a director candidate packet to the Lucedale office and be certified by the Credentials and Election Committee before being placed on the ballot. The deadline for nomination by petition to be placed on the 2023 Annual Meeting Notice was February 28, 2023. This deadline and a notice for nominations was placed in the January and February 2023 issues of the Today in Mississippi magazine.

This year’s candidates include District 1, Post 2 - Robert Steele; District 2, Post 2 - Roy Grafe; and District 3, Post 2 - Kristal Sisson. The slate of nominees was approved by SRE members serving on the Credentials and Election Committee. According to the cooperative bylaws, the candidates’ names will be placed in the nomination for election to a three-year term beginning June 29 at the annual meeting.

**To conduct business at the annual meeting, a quorum of at least 10% of the membership is necessary. The quorum is derived by adding the number of members present at the meeting, the valid online votes, and the number of valid proxies received.**

Annual meeting notices and proxies will be mailed on Monday, May 15, to all members. The deadline for voting online and returned proxies is Tuesday, June 20, at the close of business. Your participation in the director election counts

toward the quorum needed to hold and conduct business at the meeting. It is crucially important that we receive your online vote or proxy in order to reach our quorum this year.

Any member may vote in person at the June 29 membership meeting. Members can also vote online or by proxy. Each member is entitled to one vote regardless of the number of accounts in the member’s name. A proxy may be assigned to the board as a whole. A member can vote up to 200 assigned proxies at the membership meeting. The presence of a member at the meeting or an online vote, or in the case of joint membership, the presence of a spouse shall revoke the proxy. All proxies must be received by SRE’s Lucedale office by close of business on June 20.

Members returning their proxy, voting online as well as those who attend the meeting, will qualify to win up to \$500 cash. Those attending the annual meeting will be eligible for attendance prizes.



**Singing River Electric Cooperative**  
A Southern Power Company  
P.O. Box 767, Lucedale, Mississippi, 39452

**WE NEED YOUR VOTE**

**IMPORTANT: OPEN IMMEDIATELY AND RETURN**

Vote or return your proxy for a chance to win...

**\$500 CASH!**

**SRE Member**  
Five-Hundred & No/100  
DOLLARS 0000

DATE: June 29  
NAME: 123789456789  
ID: 0025

## 2023 Annual Membership Meeting Notice

**Thursday, June 29**

11187 Old 63 South, Lucedale

Registration opens at 5 p.m.  
Meeting begins at 6 p.m.

**THERE ARE THREE WAYS TO PARTICIPATE:  
IN PERSON, BY PROXY, & ONLINE**

Six members who vote online or return their proxies by the June 20 deadline will be selected to receive a **\$250 CASH** prize.

One member who votes online or returns the proxy by the deadline will receive a special grand prize of **\$500 CASH!**

# COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES

## SRE assists EMEPA following severe weather

On March 27, Singing River Electric sent 17 linemen to Meridian to assist East Mississippi Electric Power Association (EMEPA) with power restoration following severe weather on March 26.

EMEPA’s service area sustained significant damage from the storm’s high winds, including more than 60 broken poles. EMEPA had nearly 8,000 meters out with the majority in Lauderdale and Newton counties.

Crew members included Field Representative and crew leader James Daughtery, Construction Foreman Andrew Brown, Lineman Edgar Bryant, Serviceman Matt Davis, Journeyman Brandon Fairley, Lineman McKay Hamilton, Construction Foreman Russell Hardison, Serviceman Mason Hasse, Lineman Codey Holliman, Apprentice Lineman Kotye Hyatt, Journeyman George Kremer, Apprentice Lineman Josh Mixon, Journeyman Colby Pilkington, Journeyman Steven Smith, Construction Foreman Doug Spidahl, Construction Foreman Zeb Wilson, and Lineman Brandon Ziska.



Photos taken by EMEPA’s Jeremy Sollie.



## Want to know what happens #BehindTheBroadband?

### **STEP 1:** Make-ready engineering

*Examine. Design.*

Vancleave substation



### **STEP 2:** Make-ready construction

*Planning the most efficient approach to fiber deployment.*

Lucedale North, Big Point, Joe Batt and Sand Hill substations



### **STEP 3:** Construction

*Building a network from the ground up.*

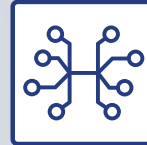
McLain, Kittrell, State Line and Sawmill substations



### **STEP 4:** Splicing

*Connecting the dots.*

Basin substation (Highway 63 feeder)



### **STEP 5:** Service drop & drop splicing

*The last outdoor step. Almost there...*

Lucedale South substation and any previously opened areas



### **STEP 6:** Installation

*The speed of light, right to your home.*

Lucedale South substation and any previously opened areas



**SR Connect is delivering lightning-fast, fiber internet.**

New fiber areas are announced by electric substation and feeder. You can search open fiber areas and your address for service at [singingriverconnect.com/signup](https://singingriverconnect.com/signup).

To find out which SRE substation and feeder serves your home, text a SRE MSR during business hours at 228-591-9166.

**Scan here!** →



## **SRE now offers Outage and MSR Texting**

**Don't like to  
wait on hold?**

**Neither do we.**

Text a Singing River Electric member service representative (MSR) at 228-591-9166. We will return your text and help resolve your issue or answer your inquiry. You can also **text OUT** to 601-947-1744 to report a power outage.

As of Nov. 2022, SRE members were automatically enrolled in outage texting with the cell phone number listed on their account. Members must have a mobile number on file to use outage texting because the system locates their account information with the number. Phone numbers and other contact information can be updated using the SmartHub mobile app, by texting a MSR, or by calling 601-947-4211 or any SRE office.



**EVERY CHILD ONLINE IS AT RISK OF BEING CONTACTED BY A POTENTIAL PREDATOR.**

**STAY IN CONTROL WITH EXPERIENCEIQ.**

**BLOCK HARMFUL OR INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT, APPS  
AND SITES ON ALL CONNECTED DEVICES.**

**GET THE ULTIMATE WI-FI PROTECTION BUNDLE INCLUDING  
EXPERIENCEIQ AND PROTECTIQ FOR ONLY \$5 PER MONTH.**

**SIGN UP TODAY AT 877-272-6611.**

