

Bringing power and energy services to local communities

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#### A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CEO

# Nearly \$5M in capital credits retired to SRE members

There are many benefits of being a member of an electric cooperative, and one of those benefits is the retirement of capital credits. Singing River Electric Cooperative's board of directors recently approved a retirement this year of more than \$3.4 million in SRE capital credits to the membership; this represents capital credits for the year 1997.

Our generation and transmission cooperative, Cooperative Energy, is also returning capital credits to SRE members. They are returning \$1.56 million in capital credits to the membership for the year 1993 and a partial return for the year 2009.

#### What does this mean for SRE members?

As a member, you have a share in the earnings of your not-for-profit electric cooperative. Singing River Electric's rate revenue is used to operate the cooperative, make payments on loans, and make improvements to the electric system. Any remaining revenue is allocated to the members in the form of capital credits. The amount of capital credits assigned to a member is based on the amount of electricity used during a particular year. When funding is available, Singing River Electric's board of directors can approve retiring a

portion of the member's capital credits in the form of a credit or check; the same goes for Cooperative Energy.

#### How do I get capital credits?

SRE members during the years 1993, 1997, and 2009, with an account that is still active and receiving a monthly billing statement, will automatically receive either a bill credit or check depending on the credit amount. These members do not have to fill out any paperwork.

Previous SRE members who had an account during the specified years, but no longer have an active account, can visit our website at singingriver.com or call any SRE office between November 1 and December 30 to receive instructions and download necessary paperwork to claim their capital credits. Completed documentation must be returned to SRE's Lucedale office by 5 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 29, 2023.

We hope these returned capital credits help you and your family during this holiday season. For more information on capital credits, please visit www.singingriver.com/my-membership/#capital.

On behalf of our board and employees, I wish you a Happy Thanksgiving.



by Brian Hughey

General Manager and CEO

## Energy/Tips



Gabe Robbins Energy Services Representative robbins@singingriver.com

#### **LED holiday lighting**

When the time comes to purchase new holiday lighting for your home or business, consider changing to LED lighting. LED Christmas lights consume 80-90 percent less energy than their incandescent counterparts, while lasting three times the lifespan of an incandescent strand. The amount of energy to power just one 7-watt incandescent holiday bulb can power 140 LED lights – enough to run two 25 ft. strands of LED decorative lights!



Many people like to keep their Christmas tree lights on throughout the night. You can really see energy and cost savings from LED string lights if you choose to do this.

Adding timers can also help save energy on your holiday lighting load. Setting outdoor timers so your lights come on at dusk and power off after you go to bed can help lower your holiday lighting costs. Adding timers to inflatable decorations, which are growing more popular every Christmas, can also help reduce unwanted run time for your holiday decorations.

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# Power Pole Clutter

Flyers, satellite dishes, posters, basketball hoops, decorative lights, even hunting stands. You name it, someone has tried to staple, nail or tie it to a power pole. Here's a quick look at the dangers and pitfalls associated with unauthorized pole attachments.

#### Illegal

Many state and local laws and the National Electrical Safety Code prohibit any unauthorized items on poles. Utilities can face fines if these attachments aren't removed.



#### **Pole Damage**

Even small holes can allow moisture and insects past the pole sealant, which can shorten the life of the pole or weaken it and cause it to fall in a storm



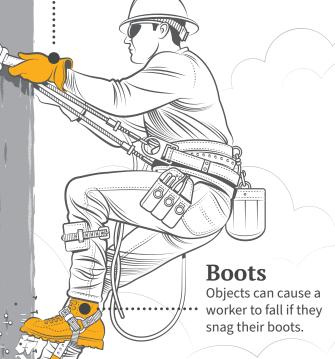
#### **Hinders Repairs**

Posters and flyers can hide identifying markers on poles and slow repair work.



#### **Gloves**

Staples, tacks and nails can puncture a lineworker's insulated rubber gloves and expose them to electric shock.



#### **Climbing Hooks**

Nails and tacks can impede climbing hooks from sinking into the wood.



#### **Dangerous**

A person who gets too close to energized lines while attaching an object can be electrocuted.



#### Distraction

Some materials posted on poles, like mirrors or holiday decorations, can be a distraction to drivers.

### Singing River Fiber Construction Timeline

**STEP 1:** Make-ready engineering

Examine. Design.

Wade substation area



**STEP 2:** Make-ready construction

Planning the most efficient approach to fiber deployment.

Benndale, Rocky Creek and Vancleave substation areas



STEP 3: Construction

Building a network from the ground up.

Lucedale North, Leakesville and Joe Batt substation areas



STEP 4: Splicing

Connecting the dots.

Sand Hill, Big Point, Frank Snell, and McLain (Leaf feeder) substation areas



STEP 5: Service drop & drop splicing

The last outdoor step. Almost there...

State Line, Kittrell, and McLain (Buffalo and Neely feeders) substation areas and all previously opened areas



**STEP 6:** Installation

The speed of light, right to your home.

State Line, Kittrell, and McLain (Buffalo and Neely feeders) substation areas and



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.

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



When it comes to the internet and streaming for TVs, do you have QUESTIONS? **WEHAVE ANSWERS!** 

SR Connect fiber will be hosting four FREE Internet and Streaming TV LEARNING LABS on November 10 and 14. Each location will have two 2-hour sessions.

Reserve your time slot today as spots are limited. The event is FREE for all SR Connect internet subscribers and SRE electric consumer/members. The deadline to sign up is Tuesday, November 7.

FREE INTERNET AND STREAMING TV **LEARNING LAB** 

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10** 

SRE Sand Hill Office 39276 Hwy 63N, Richton 9:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. session

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14** G.C. Fairgrounds Jaycees Bldg. 9162 Old Hwy 63S, Lucedale 9:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. session

SPACES ARE LIMITED!

Sign up today at bit.ly/SRCLearningLab

singingriverconnect.com

THIS HOLIDAY STAY CONNECTED





Sign up TODAY at singingriverconnect.com



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# Backpack Buddies help feed hungry children in Moss Point

Singing River Electric Neighbors Helping Neighbors Grant benefits Backpack Buddies program

#### **Concern for Community**

Neighbors Helping Neighbors (NHN) Community Grants help Singing River Electric merge efforts with the hard work of those within our communities.

Since the program's inception in 2001, \$356,568.55 has been awarded to local non-profits in local communities.

A group of volunteers gathers weekly to assemble 'buddy bags' for hungry children in the Moss Point area. The kid-friendly bags of food are placed in students' backpacks each Friday. "We attempt to supplement nutrition for those children who do not have access to adequate food over the weekend," explains Philomena Broussard, Backpack Buddies chair. "These 'buddy bags' fill the gap in nutrition from Friday through Sunday. We select food based on protein and vitamin content and the ability for the child to handle independently."

The group of six volunteers purchases, stocks, assembles, and distributes 100 bags of food each week. Thanks to a \$1,885 SRE Neighbors Helping Neighbors Community Grant, the program purchased an aluminum hand cart, a heavy-duty utility cart, and an electric work positioner which makes it easier to lift and move the heavy cases of food.

For more information on SRE NHN Community Grants and how to apply, visit singingriver.com/my-community. Grants for up to \$2,500 are awarded to nonprofits in SRE's service area three times a year in January, May, and September.

# GIVE JOY



### this holiday season

Round up your electric bill and help a neighbor in need this holiday season and year round. It's easy! Simply check the NHN Energy Assistance box on bill payment stub, sign up using the SmartHub app on any mobile device, go online and visit singingriver.com/give-joy or call any SRE office and request to be enrolled in Neighbors Helping Neighbors Energy Assistance giving.

Donations average only \$6 per year and yet bridge the gap for the elderly and those needing a helping hand.

singingriver.com/give-joy



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