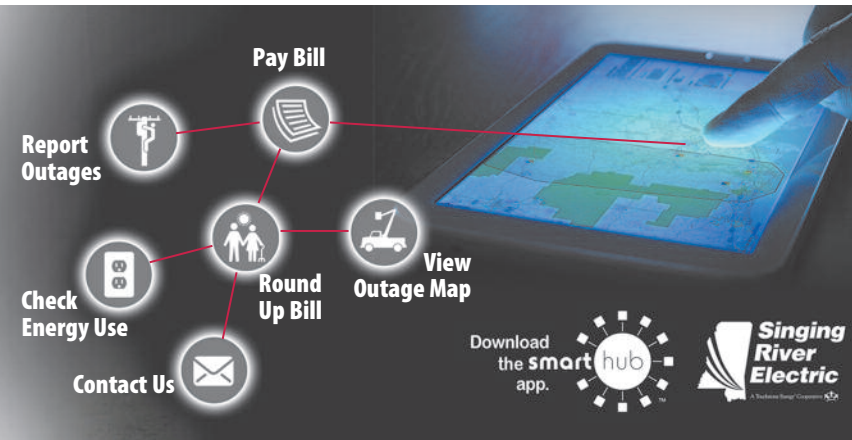


# Singing River Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Brian Hughey, General Manager & CEO  
 Lorri Freeman, APR, Manager of Public Relations  
 Amanda Parker, Public Relations Specialist  
 For more information, call 601-947-4211, 228-497-1313 or visit our website at [singingriver.com](http://singingriver.com). SRE is an equal opportunity employer and provider.



## CEO's Message

# Power cost reduction and \$1.2M credit passed through to members

Beginning in January 2019, Singing River Electric billing statements reflected a power cost adjustment decrease of 0.1 cent/kilowatt-hour (kWh) due in large part to natural gas prices continuing to be slightly lower than expected. This reduced all member bills by \$1.00 for every 1,000 kWh of energy used.



**Brian Hughey**  
 General Manager & CEO  
 Singing River Electric

The power cost adjustment is driven by the cost of generating and purchasing electricity. Cooperative Energy, our wholesale power provider, generates and purchases electricity using a diversified mix of fuel sources including natural gas, coal, nuclear, hydroelectric and solar. This allows Cooperative Energy to keep the cost of power as low as possible.

In addition, if you were a member during the months of November or December 2018, you will be receiving a one-

time bill credit based on your electricity use during this two-month period. The bill credit will be applied to February bills.

This \$1.2 million member credit was recently returned from Cooperative Energy, as a result of margins occurring during this time frame. Cooperative Energy worked with their power reliability coordinator, the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), to provide the required energy for its members and performed successfully in the market. The result was higher than expected margins that have now been returned to Singing River Electric and are being passed directly to our membership. For example, if a member used 2,000 kWh over the two-month period, the February bill credit would be \$11.50. Similarly, if a member used 5,000 kWh over the two-month period, the February bill credit would be \$28.75.

Singing River Electric's goal is to meet our members' energy needs while providing electric service at the lowest possible cost and enhancing the lives of the members and communities we serve. We strive to meet and exceed these goals daily.



**Nick DeAngelo**  
 Manager of Emergency Services  
[deangelo@singingriver.com](mailto:deangelo@singingriver.com)

## Well pump winter care

During times of freezing temperatures, if your well pump is not used daily, it is recommended to drain the pump to avoid damage. If you are not able to drain the pump, it is recommended to place a 100-watt incandescent bulb near the pump and connected lines to avoid damage. It is not recommended to use a space heater for protecting well pump and pipes during freezing temperatures due to the exorbitant cost of doing so, as well as the fire hazard it presents. A small space heater can range from 600-1500 watts of electricity to operate. Some have thermostats but because they are placed outside, they will rarely turn off. The result would be significantly more energy used and a higher power bill.

## Notice of Singing River Electric Director Qualification Period

Candidates seeking election to the board for directors for Singing River Electric Cooperative must visit Singing River Electric's Lucedale office (11187 Old 63 South) and obtain a Director Candidate Packet. The forms and petitions in the packet must be completed and returned by close of business on the last business day in February (Thursday, February 28).

# SRE linemen participate in Cooperative Days of Service

Singing River Electric joined other Mississippi electric co-ops including Cooperative Energy, Dixie Electric, Coast Electric, and Yazoo Valley Electric to participate in Cooperative Days of Service, to be held annually in conjunction with Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday and holiday.

King stated, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'" Singing River Electric linemen answered the call for service by reading to local, future leaders. Linemen visited Central Elementary in Lucedale, Gautier Elementary and Sand Hill Attendance Center, where they donated books and read to kindergarten classrooms.

"Giving back to the communities where our member-consumers live is one of the founding cooperative principles. It's who we are and a big part of our 80-year history," said Singing River Electric General Manager and CEO Brian Hughey. "Joining together for Cooperative Days of Service allowed us the opportunity to participate in community service across the state."

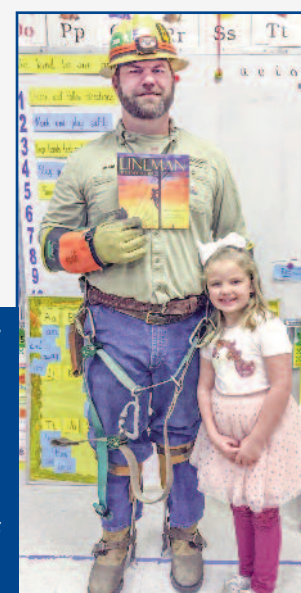
Ms. Jessica Coleman, principal of Gautier Elementary, stated, "I'm so glad y'all are here. We love to have people come and read to our students."

"It felt good to do something for the kids," said SRE Construction Foreman II Brian Goldman. "Hopefully they learned a bit about what linemen do." Journeyman Lineman Rodney Gibson added, "I enjoyed reading to the students and answering their questions about my job."

For more information about Cooperative Days of Service, visit [singingriver.com](http://singingriver.com) or visit any of Singing River Electric's social media channels including Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.



Above: SRE Journeyman Lineman Rodney Gibson participated in the Cooperative Days of Service by donating books and reading to all kindergarten classes at Central Elementary School in Lucedale. Go Tigers.



Right: Serviceman Brent Brewer donated books and read to the kindergarteners at Sand Hill Attendance Center as an act of service in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. He is pictured with one of the students and his daughter, Addie Brewer.



Above: Singing River Electric Construction Foreman II Brian Goldman reads to kindergarten classrooms at Gautier Elementary as part of the Cooperative Days of Service.

## Statement of nondiscrimination

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- 1 **mail:**  
 U.S. Department of Agriculture  
 Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
 1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
 Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- 2 **fax:**  
 (202) 690-7442; or
- 3 **email:**  
[program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

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## Upcoming Right-of-Way Clearing Projects



Singing River Electric Cooperative clears trees, limbs and underbrush from the area around and below the power lines, called the right-of-way. Right-of-way clearing helps decrease the number of outages and reduces the risk of someone coming in contact with the power lines.

Here are the substations and surrounding areas that are either currently being cleared, or clearing will begin soon:

- **State Line Substation**  
 Highway 42, Highway 57, KnobTown/ MLK Road, and surrounding areas.
- **Kittrell Substation**  
 Highway 42, Smithtown Chicora Road, Woolard Bend Road, and surrounding areas.
- **Gautier Substation**  
 Highway 90, Graveline Road, Ladnier Road, and surrounding areas.
- **Helena Substation**  
 Highway 613, Saracennia Road, Wildwood Road, and surrounding areas.

Clearing means safer and more reliable electric service for you.

## Broadband legislation in Mississippi

On Tuesday, Jan. 15, the State House of Representatives passed HB366, the "Mississippi Broadband Enabling Act," allowing cooperatives the opportunity to provide high-speed internet access to members. The Senate passed the legislation on Jan. 23. At the time of press, the bill was waiting to be signed in to law by the governor.

Singing River Electric recognizes there is a need for true high-speed internet access for all Mississippians. SRE would prefer the service to be offered by local communication companies; however, SRE supports changing the state law to allow electric cooperatives the opportunity to provide broadband.

SRE is currently studying the situation

to determine broadband availability in the service area and whether it is in the best interest of the entire membership to offer the additional service. SRE's board of directors will take the time to carefully consider this issue and its best solution. SRE's first responsibility as an electric cooperative is to continue to provide quality electric service to the membership.