

THE OUTLET

The Official Member Newsletter of CORE Electric Cooperative

January 2024

COREV Charge available now

The COREV Charge option of our new residential electric vehicle program is now available.

With COREV Charge and its \$22 monthly subscription fee:

- CORE provides some make-ready credit for any necessary electrical work — typically from your service panel to the garage — in order to support a Level 2 residential EV charger.
- CORE installs a CORE-owned and maintained 240-volt, 40-amp (or equivalent) Level 2 ChargePoint Home Flex charger.
- CORE connects the EV charger to the ChargePoint network, establishes electrical current settings, and ensures a proper charge to the vehicle.



Photo courtesy of ChargePoint

Interested? **Visit www.CORE.coop > My Account > Residential EV Charging** for more info and to begin enrollment.

Members who already have a ChargePoint HomeFlex charger are eligible for the COREV Connect option, also

available at www.CORE.coop. Participation in COREV Connect helps us analyze the effects of EV charging on our distribution network, plan system improvements, and structure rates more efficiently. As a thank-you, COREV Connect participants receive a \$15 credit on their CORE bill after 12 consecutive months of enrollment.

Rate changes take effect with March bills

Changes to CORE Electric Cooperative's rates and regulations will take effect starting with March 2024 bills. The changes include increases to base rates, updates to several service fees, discontinuance of advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) opt-outs and minor updates to other parts of the rates and regulations.

Residential members will see an average rate increase of

approximately 3.3%. The monthly basic service charge will increase to \$17.25, and the "on-peak" demand charge will increase to \$3.

The changes are necessary to allow CORE to continue to deliver safe, reliable power. In the last decade, CORE's rates have gone up about 11%, even as inflation has grown 34% and our operational costs have increased 42%. Even with the March 2024 changes, **average bills for**

CORE residential members will remain lower than those of most other Colorado electric utilities, many of which plan to increase rates by 8% to 10%.

Visit www.CORE.coop > My Cooperative > Rates and Regulations for additional information about CORE's rates, including a redlined version of all changes to the rates and regulations.

The demand charge, and how to reduce it

To maintain the grid and deliver reliable power during times when our members typically consume the most energy, **CORE applies a demand charge to most accounts.**

Starting with March 2024 bills, the demand charge for residential members will be \$3 multiplied by their peak demand, which is the highest amount of usage (in kilowatts) that occurs within one 60-minute period during the “on-peak” hours between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.

For non-residential members, the demand charge varies by rate schedule, and peak demand occurs within one 15-minute period during the billing cycle.

The simplest way for residential members to reduce their peak demand — and resulting demand charge — is to spread out their use of appliances and other power-hungry devices between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Non-residential members can reduce their peak demand by staggering power consumption throughout the day — not just the 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. window.

Peak demand occurs only once per month for both residential and non-residential members. If your peak demand within a billing cycle is 8 kilowatts, your demand charge will be based on that single 60- or 15-minute period, even if your demand reaches 7 kW any other time during the same billing cycle.

Your peak demand for the most recent billing period can be found under Your Energy Use on the first page of your CORE monthly bill. Your demand charge appears under the Current Activity portion on the second page of your monthly bill.

You can identify your daily and monthly peak demand via the Usage Explorer in the SmartHub account management platform.

Visit www.CORE.coop > My Cooperative > Rates and Regulations for more information about the demand charge.

Stacking vs. staggering

Here are two scenarios to illustrate for residential members the savings that are possible by staggering power consumption rather than stacking it:

Scenario A: Stacking

A member decides to begin cooking a roast at 5 p.m., at the same time they start a cycle in the dishwasher and throw a load of laundry into the dryer. Assuming the oven and dryer have the same wattage of about 4 kilowatts (kW) and the dishwasher's is 2 kW, the member's peak demand during that 5 p.m. hour will be around 10 kW (4 + 4 + 2), which will generate a demand charge of \$30 as of March 2024.

Scenario B: Staggering

A member opts to first cook the roast at 5 p.m., dry clothes at 6 p.m., then run a load of dishes at 7 p.m. Their peak demand during that three-hour window does not exceed 4 kW, which produces a demand charge of \$12 — a savings of \$18 over Scenario A.

Note: For the purposes of these examples, we have not included other appliances or devices — such as a TV, furnace or lighting — that likely are already drawing power during on-peak hours but are not as easy to stagger.

Improved SmartHub web experience launches Jan. 29

On Jan. 29, an **improved web-based version of the SmartHub account management platform** will launch.

The new web version will more closely resemble the interface of the SmartHub app for smart devices.

Not already using SmartHub? Access it through www.CORE.coop or download the app for your iOS or Android device. It's the most convenient way to manage your CORE account, activate alerts and

notifications, monitor your power usage and enroll in account services.

Visit www.CORE.coop > My Account > SmartHub for more information.