# NEWS LINE

Citizens
Electric Corporation
A Touchstone Energy Cooperative Conference Conf

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## Co-op Solar: A Smart Alternative

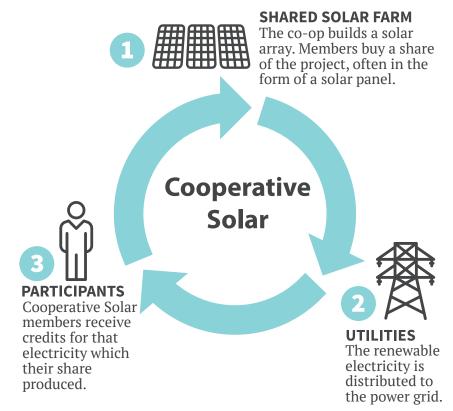
Cooperative Solar has already begun. While details for the program are still being finalized, there are some things that we know for sure; members will be able to purchase a share of the electricity generated from the project, long and short term contracts will be available and prices for Cooperative Solar will be competitive with, if not lower than, member-owned rooftop and ground mounted systems.

When you purchase a share of Cooperative Solar it is similar to investing in a stock. The more electricity the array produces the larger the credit you receive on your bill. Since you are part of a 1.8 megawatt system that spans three states, the weather conditions at your home will not necessarily dictate the amount of power being generated. A cloudy day in Missouri could be a sunny day at Cooperative Solar sites in Illinois or Indiana.

The cost of your share of Cooperative Solar will not increase based on wholesale power prices. When you participate in long term cooperative solar, you are locking in a fixed price for the return of your investment. You will receive your share of the array's output regardless of market price. This allows members to save money in the instance of a spike in the price of electricity.

If you are looking for a smaller upfront economic investment, CEC will offer an annual contract. This will allow members to participate on an annual basis or to try Cooperative Solar for a year before making a large investment. We are also considering a way to purchase power generated from Cooperative Solar on a monthly basis. More details of these offerings will be forthcoming.

### **How Cooperative Solar Works**



When cooperative members join together to create Co-op Solar, all participants share in the cost and benefit of the project.

The size and quality of utility arrays allow for a lower installation price per kilowatt. Utility-scale arrays are also much more efficient and degrade less overtime than residential systems. Since there are several arrays in three states, the output should be more reliable than in an isolated location, and sites have been selected for optimal

solar collection.

Cooperative Solar is an excellent way for you to participate in solar at a level that you are comfortable with. With competitive pricing, no maintenance fees and optimal array locations, Cooperative Solar is an attractive option for many members

### Scammers strike storm victims

The tornado that struck Perry County in February was incredibly destructive. Citizens Electric would like to remind you to be on the look out for those that want to take advantage of storm victims.

We had a report of a person

posing as a CEC employee that had entered at least one home during the restoration process. Our employees will not enter your home without your permission, and rarely have a need to enter your home.

Unfortunately, there were

also reports of unscrupulous individuals offering help with cleanup and repairs. In this scam, the person would ask for payment upfront and promise that a crew would be following later. Please, be cautious when hiring anyone to help with

storm clean up.

While it is despicable, there are those out there that prey on victims of storms. Never be afraid to ask for identification and report any suspicious activity to your local law enforcement.

## Be Outage Aware

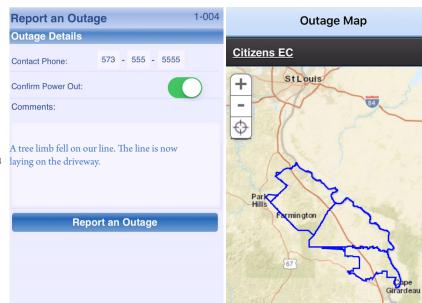
The season of spring storms and severe weathers is here. High winds, lightning and strong storms can often cause interruptions in your electric service. This can be more than just an inconvenience, but you can stay informed about power disruptions by utilizing CEC Mobile and following CEC on Facebook.

CEC Mobile is an app for your smartphone or tablet that puts the power of our Member Portal in the palm of your hands. It is quick and easy to report an outage by simply entering your phone number. You can also add a comment to assist crews in locating the source of the outage.

The outage map feature allows you to see where power is out, how many meters are impacted and when power is restored. You can also view past outages to learn the duration, cause and total number of members out of power during the event.

Citizens Electric communicates major outages to our members via Facebook. While restoration is our priority, crews understand that you, our member-owners, are interested in estimated outage durations and causes of the interruptions.

You can be outage aware by using CEC Mobile and following CEC on Facebook. Find CEC Mobile for iPhone and Android in your App Store.



CEC Mobile uses the phone number and address you have on file with CEC to generate an outage report. Please ensure that your information is current in our database to assist in quicker restoration.

The outage map on CEC Mobile places a dot in the approximate area of the outage. We do not publish outage addresses and ask that you refrain from posting outage addresses to our Facebook page.

# Where does your power come from?

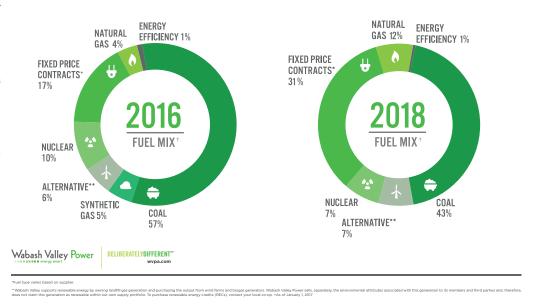
Citizens Electric and Wabash Valley Power are dedicated to bringing our member-owners reliable power at a price that is competitive with our neighbors. With this in mind WVPA is making changes in how your power is generated.

- Acquisition of 5% (83 megawatts) of Prairie State 1650
   MW coal plant and mine, a
   low-cost acquisition that serves
   as a long-term hedge against
   rising natural gas prices.
- Investment in solar energy, developing a new program to gain knowledge and respond to member interest in this growing, sustainable fuel source.
- Closure of sgSolutions, saved the organization (WVPA) nearly \$15 million annually in fixed costs.

These are just a few steps we are taking to ensure you have safe, reliable power.

#### **POWER SUPPLY PORTFOLIO**

LANDFILL GAS | BIOGAS | HYDRO | NUCLEAR | WIND | NATURAL GAS | COAL



Citizens Electric Corporation is an equal opportunity provider and employer.