

# Go, team! Let's keep electricity affordable and reliable.


The most successful basketball teams in history are consistent and have players with varying abilities. Some are better at shooting, some are best at rebounding or blocking. Having a balanced mix of skills makes the team a powerhouse on the court. The way to maintain affordable and

reliable electricity is a bit like that, too.

The power team first requires a foundation of consistent resources that can be put in the game anytime they're needed. Having enough "always available" fuel sources like nuclear and coal can ensure consistent power generation.

Just like a team needs different players for different situations, our power grid requires multiple sources to keep the grid running. Relying solely on one player to win every game is not an effective strategy—if they get injured, you'll likely lose. Similarly, using a

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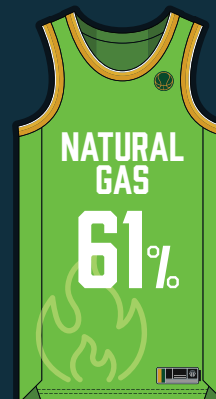
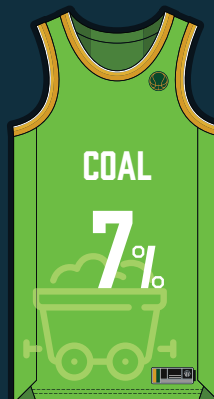
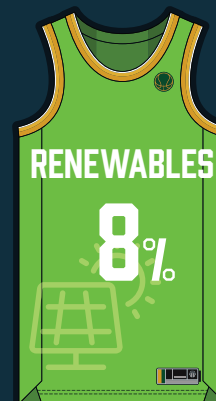
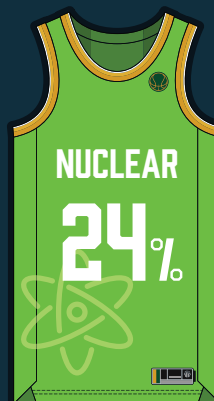


## A DIVERSE FUEL MIX IS A SLAM-DUNK FOR RELIABLE ELECTRICITY

Just like a basketball team depends on players with different skill sets, we depend on a variety of fuels to generate the electricity that powers life 24/7. Renewable energy sources like wind and solar are key players in our fuel portfolio, but the sun doesn't always shine and the wind doesn't always blow. A diverse team of fuels ensures we have electricity whenever we need it.

Source: 2022 data for EMC members of Oglethorpe Power. Approximately 3% of electricity is generated from other sources.

\*2022 generation mix. With the addition of Vogtle Units 3 and 4 in 2023 and 2024, zero-emission nuclear energy will become a larger percentage of Georgia's fuel mix.



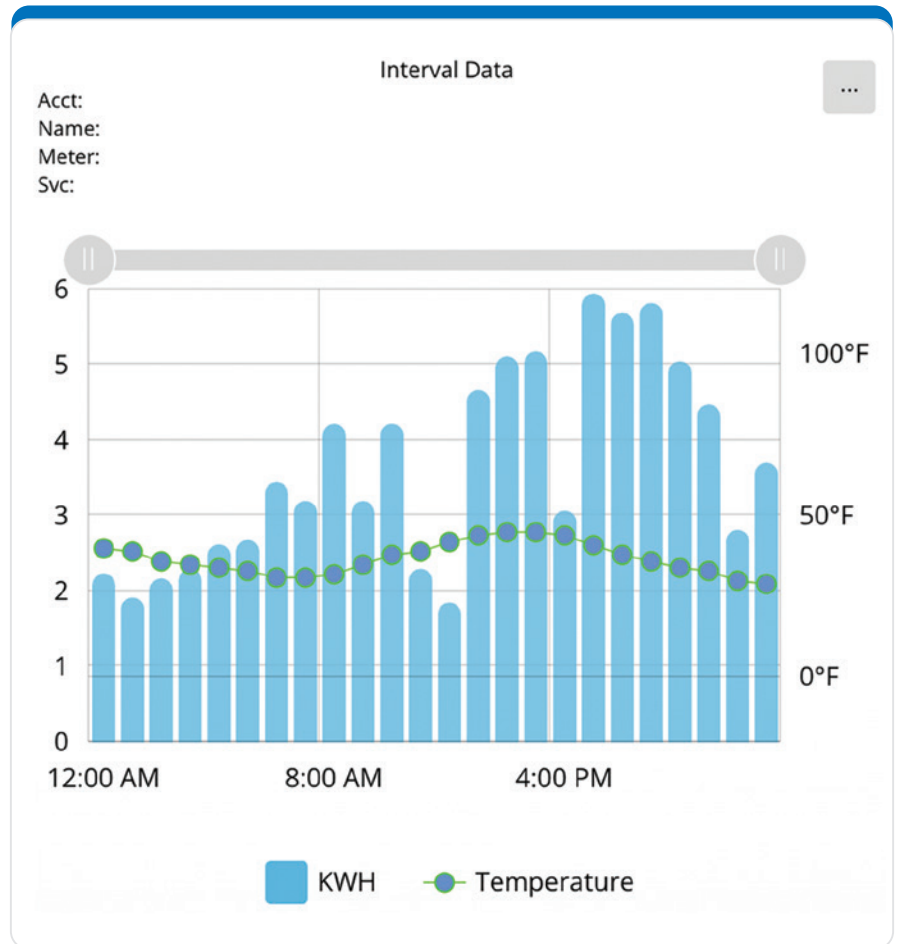
# Coastal Electric's online tools can save you money

**D**id you know as a Coastal Electric Cooperative member you can choose alerts and reminders to make life easier?

For example, use notifications can help you keep track of how much electricity your family is using every day—in dollars and cents as well as kWh. (Never let a higher-than-expected electric bill catch you by surprise again!)

Due date reminders can help you feel confident to make your payments on time, every time. And your budget will thank you when you set high energy use alerts to sound the alarm when you've hit a certain amount for the day.

You can even choose to be alerted when an outage occurs at your location and is restored—especially helpful when you're away from home.



Members can choose to receive alerts via text, email, voice call, or a combination of the three. The service is free, and you can change your settings anytime. To sign up for alerts and reminders, download the MyCoastalEC app, sign into the member portal under “My Account” at *CoastalElectric.Coop* or call (800) 421-2343, and we'll get you signed up.

Alerts and reminders aren't the only tools to help manage energy bills.

Interactive graphs on the MyCoastalEC app and member portal on *CoastalElectric.Coop* paint a clear picture to help you better understand your personal energy use patterns.

What months do you typically use the most? What time of day? Does your teenager's 30-minute shower cause a spike or maybe when your spouse cranks down the A/C? How much did your use increase when you had weekend company or during that January cold snap?

Members can compare their usage history from previous years and month by month—and even zoom in to daily and hourly increments.

Take a peek at your usage history, and if you have questions, give Coastal Electric Cooperative a call. Our energy experts are happy to help you analyze your energy use and find ways to save.

# Let's keep electricity affordable and reliable,

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single fuel source for electricity generation poses a significant risk to energy reliability. Natural disasters, geopolitical tensions or unforeseen disruptions can severely impact the supply chain and economics of a particular fuel. A diverse mix of energy sources acts as a safeguard, ensuring that the grid remains operational even in the face of unexpected challenges.

A diverse energy mix also enhances grid flexibility by accommodating the intermittent nature of renewable energy sources like solar and wind. Think of solar power like a team's inconsistent three-point shooter. It's awesome when the sun is shining bright, but what if it's nighttime or a cloudy day? That's where the

other players like wind, hydro, nuclear, natural gas and coal can step up and keep the team scoring.

Diverse fuel sources contribute to the affordability and reliability of the electric grid. The different sources have varying characteristics, including generation patterns, fuel cost and storage capabilities. This diversity allows for a more balanced and resilient energy system that can adapt to fluctuating demand and unforeseen circumstances. Having a mix of these energy sources is like having a team with different skills to handle various situations and scenarios.

A diverse set of energy sources is essential, but that's not the only thing we need to have reliable electricity—or

a winning team. Basketball teams are always trying out new plays or training rookies to create a versatile lineup. Similarly, electric cooperatives are constantly innovating to maintain reliability for tomorrow. But creating new ways to make our power sources more efficient and reliable takes time, money and advances in technology that aren't necessarily ready yet.

As we continue to work on the innovations of tomorrow, the key to keeping our electricity affordable and reliable right now is ensuring a diverse "team" of fuels. Each one brings something special to the table and, together, they make sure we have the power we need, whenever we need it.

## Energy Efficiency *Tip of the Month*



Lengthen the life of your clothes dryer with regular cleanings. Clean the lint filter after every load, which improves air circulation and safety. Check the lint trap opening to ensure it's clean. Use a vacuum to remove any lint that's fallen inside the opening.

If you use dryer sheets, check the lint filter for residue buildup. Remove any residue with hot water and a nylon brush or toothbrush. Over time, dryer sheets can leave a film on the filter, which can affect the performance of the motor.



## It's time to spring forward!

Daylight saving time begins Sunday, March 10.  
Don't forget to change your clocks.



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### Report outages

Call us at (800) 421-2343

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*Coastal Electric Cooperative, your Touchstone Energy® Partner, is a not-for-profit, member-owned power cooperative providing electricity to the people of Bryan, Liberty, Long and McIntosh counties.*



Touchstone Energy®  
Cooperatives

*The power of human connections*

# Members save more than \$300 with Cooperative Solar



**T**he average household that subscribed to two blocks (4kw) of Cooperative Solar in 2023 saved enough money to get more than a free month's worth of electricity.

That's right! Members who signed up for one \$25 block per month saved \$156.85 last year, and members who signed up for two blocks saved \$313.70—even after calculating what they paid per block.

Coastal Electric Cooperative offers our members the benefit of utility-scale solar with no holes in your roof and no contracts. Our utility-scale Cooperative Solar arrays—located in seven Georgia counties, with millions of solar panels and thousands of acres—give Coastal

Electric's residential members access to sustainable, maintenance-free solar energy without the hassles and costs associated with installing panels on their homes.

Coastal Electric's Cooperative Solar Program allows you to choose the number of solar power blocks (limit two blocks or 4 kW) that work best for your household and pay a fixed rate. The amount of energy produced by your solar blocks will appear on your monthly bill just as if you had rooftop solar panels.

Interested in Cooperative Solar? Scan the QR Code for more information and to sign up, or click the "Energy Solutions" tab online at [CoastalElectric.Coop](http://CoastalElectric.Coop).