

# THE AMP

## YOUR MONTHLY CONNECTION





#### **OUR MISSION:**

PROVIDING SAFE, RELIABLE ELECTRICITY

#### OFFICE:

22458 HIGHWAY 2, PO BOX 70 BLOOMFIELD, IA 52537

**OFFICE HOURS:** MON. - FRI. 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM OFFICE: 641-664-2277 / 800-607-2027 WEBSITE: WWW.SIE.COOP

#### WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF TROUBLE:

\*CHECK FOR BLOWN FUSES OR TRIPPED BREAKERS AT THE METER POLE.
\*CHECK WITH NEIGHBORS AND ASK IF THEIR ELECTRICITY IS OFF AND IF THEY HAVE REPORTED THE OUTAGE. IF NOT, CALL SIEC AND REPORT THE PROBLEM 24 HOURS A DAY AT 641-664-2277 OR 800-607-2027.

#### SERVICE CHARGES:

BILL COLLECTION \$ 50.00
 DISCONNECT \$ 50.00
 POSTING \$ 50.00
 RETURNED CHECK \$ 30.00
 RECONNECT \$ 75.00
 TRIP CHARGE \$ 50.00
 METER TAMPERING \$150.00

### MANAGEMENT:

GREG PROCTOR, CEO/GM ROSS HUNTER, COO/SYSTEMS ANALYST LINDSAY SMITH, OFFICE/ACCOUNTING MGR KELLY MOORE. HR MGR

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

DARRELL DOWNING, PRESIDENT
TRAVIS HARRIS, VICE PRESIDENT
EARL TRACHSEL, SECRETARY
DAVE YAHNKE, TREASURER
RYAN DAVIS
ALAN BODKINS
JAMES SCHOOLEY
MAGGIE HOUGLAND
DOUG JARR

## **WE ARE HIRING!**

# JOURNEYMAN LINEMAN OR APPRENTICE LINEMAN

SIEC is actively seeking to hire a fulltime lineman. Journeyman lineman and apprentice lineman resumes will be considered. The candidate must possess a Class A CDL with air brakes. The position will perform assigned work related to construction, maintenance and repair overhead and underground electric distribution system related equipment. Experience with mechanical and hydraulic systems is desirable. This is a union position with an excellent wage and benefit package.

## Requirements:

- · Working in inclement weather
- Working overtime and being oncall as required
- On-call personnel must establish permanent residency within 17 miles of the co-op headquarters
- A pre-employment drug screening and physical
- Obtaining and completing a preemployment DOT application

SUBMIT RESUMES TO: hrdept@sie.coop NO LATER THAN 12/15/2025

If you are an lowa-based builder or contractor, you are invited to learn about energy efficiency technologies by attending the 2026 Momentum is Building Conference, scheduled for February 19-20, 2026 at **The Sheraton West Des Moines**. A major draw for electricians, plumbers and HVAC professionals is the opportunity to earn up to 12 CEU credits. For more information or to register, go to:

www.momentumisbuilding.com.







## **DEFINED ELECTRIC SERVICE AREAS PROTECT RURAL IOWANS**

By Leslie Kaufman, executive vice president and general manager of Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives

At the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives, we are constantly monitoring issues that could impact the people
and rural communities served by Iowa's electric cooperatives. Our state's 2026 Legislative Session will begin on
January 12 and IAEC will prioritize efforts to ensure Iowa's law regarding defined service areas is not undermined.
I'd like to explain why this law has been so crucial to our mission to serve co-op member-consumers.

## What are defined service areas?

In Iowa, your location determines which electric utility will serve you. This regulatory protection is called defined electric service territory and the State of Iowa wrote Senate File 1258 into law almost 50 years ago to efficiently ensure that every square foot of our state has an electric utility obligated to provide service upon request.

## Why do Iowa's electric cooperatives support defined service areas?

Electric co-ops are committed to safeguarding defined service areas because they protect rural lowans by supporting affordable electric rates, fostering a resilient electric grid and encouraging economic development.

Defined service areas provide a high degree of certainty to lowa's electric cooperatives which allows us to confidently make long-term investments in power generation to maintain affordable rates, finance major grid upgrades to ensure resiliency and utilize new technologies to enhance service. Electric co-ops can also be proactive in maintenance and vegetation management to improve reliability for the homes, farms and businesses we serve every day. Additionally, defined service areas allow electric co-ops to robustly support economic development efforts in the communities we serve, which retain and create local jobs and provide needed services and tax revenue.

Any efforts to remove or weaken lowa's defined service areas could result in higher electric bills and decreased reliability for lowans. This issue is non-negotiable for lowa's not-for-profit electric cooperatives, which are mission driven to power lives and empower communities by providing electricity that is safe, reliable and affordable.

Since the 1990s, several states have deregulated their electric utilities, but the hopes that competition would result in lower rates and improved reliability have not materialized. In fact, according to a 2023 *New York Times* investigation, "Deregulation has resulted in increased rates/fees in every state where it has been introduced." The report goes on to conclude that "On average, residents living in a deregulated market pay \$40 more per month for electricity..." This outcome is unacceptable for the lowans we serve.

We invite you to learn more about this issue at www.ProtectRurallowa.com where you will also find links to research and studies on deregulation. Your locally owned electric cooperatives are working hard to safeguard defined service area protections that have benefited Iowans since 1976.

## **Green Power for Members**

Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative and our power supply partners of NE Missouri Power Co-op and Associated Electric Co-op (Associated) are continually making changes to make our power generation and delivery to our members as environmentally friendly as allowed by cost-effective measures. For example, Associated has been a leader in incorporating wind energy and other renewable energy into the generation power supply mix. Associated currently has 1,240 megawatts of wind generation in the portfolio representing 17% of member load in 2024. Also, the hydro power allocation represents 5% of the members' energy needs bringing the renewable resources to 22% of the total power supply mix for 2024. At the distribution cooperative level, SIEC is providing for our members the option of a Renewable Choice Program (RCP). The premium for the RCP is added to the amount you are already paying for electricity. Renewable energy is sold in 100-kilowatt hours (kWh) blocks or 1-megawatt hour (MWh) blocks for industrial with a 6 month commitment. The cost for the RCP is \$0.211 per 100 kWh block, or \$2.11 per 1 MWh block per month for the time frame of January 1 through June 30, 2026. This means for each 100 kWh block purchased, \$0.211 will be added to the current electric bill, or for each 1 MWh block purchased, \$2.11 will be added to the bill. If you are interested in participating in this program, please contact Lori McAllister at 800-607-2027 or lmcallister@sie.coop.

## **Tree Trimming to Start**

Starting in December, our SIEC linemen will be out doing some light tree trimming across our service area. Since trees are one of the main causes of power outages, we work hard to keep branches and limbs safely away from power lines. This helps prevent fire hazards and keeps your power reliable. Regular tree trimming not only improves service reliability, but also helps us restore power faster when outages do happen--and keeps our crews and communities safe. If you have any questions or concerns about tree trimming in your area, give us a call at 800-607-2027.