



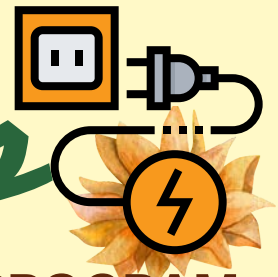
Southern Iowa  
Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



September 2023

# The Amp



## 2023/2024 IOWA LIHEAP PROGRAM

Heating costs too high? LIHEAP can help! LIHEAP, the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program accepts applications from **November 1, 2023 through April 30, 2024**. Interested households can apply at:

Davis County Resource Center, 203 S. Madison St., Bloomfield, IA  
Phone: 641-640-9773 (Monday & Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm)

OR

Van Buren County Resource Center, 902 4th St., Keosauqua, IA  
Phone: 641-640-9773 (Tuesday & Wednesday 8:45 am to 3:45 pm)

### YOU WILL NEED TO FURNISH THE FOLLOWING:

Social security numbers, a copy of your most recent heating and electric bills, and proof of all household members' gross income for the past 30 days or the past calendar year.

Assistance is based on household income, household size, type of fuel, and other factors. **This is a one time only payment.** Eligibility for participation is established according to the following federal income guidelines

### Income maximums:

<u>Household Size</u>	<u>Annual Gross Income</u>
1	\$29,160
2	\$39,440
3	\$49,720
4	\$60,000
5	\$70,280
6	\$80,560



**For households with more than six members, add \$10,280 for each additional member.**

This program is funded by the Department of Health and Human Services through the Iowa Department of Human Rights, and has been established to help qualifying low-income Iowa homeowners and renters pay for a portion of their primary heating costs. **LIHEAP is a program of Sieda Community Action.**



## Are Your Grain Bins Ready for Harvest?

Harvest season is fast approaching...have your electrician check your grain bin electrical services BEFORE harvest season to be sure they are in proper working order. Planning ahead will help eliminate delays during the harvest. Please contact SIEC to schedule any needed assistance to you or your electrician in getting your equipment ready.

### Our mission: Providing Safe, Reliable Electricity

Office: 22458 Highway 2, PO Box 70

Bloomfield, IA 52537-0070

Phone: 641-664-2277 or 800-607-2027

**PAYING BY PHONE: 800-927-5341**

Report Outages: 800-607-2027

Call Before You Dig: 800-292-8989

Website: [www.sie.coop](http://www.sie.coop)

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8:00am-4:30pm

Closed Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays

### Management:

Greg Proctor, CEO/General Manager

Ross Hunter, COO/Systems Analyst

Lindsay Smith, Office Services/Accounting Mgr

Kelly Moore, Human Resources Manager

### Board of Directors:

Darrell Downing, President      Trent Gregory

Travis Harris, Vice President      Fred Zeitler

Earl Trachsel, Secretary      Rodney Reck

Dave Yahnke, Treasurer      Susan Knapp

Jason Wells

### What to Do in Case of Trouble:

\*Check for blown fuses or tripped breakers.

\*Check with neighbors and ask if their electricity is off and if they have reported the outage. If not, call Southern Iowa Electric Cooperative and report the problem 24 hours a day at 641-664-2277 or 800-607-2027.

### Service Charges:

Bill Collection.....\$50      Disconnect.....\$50

Posting.....\$50      Returned Check.....\$30

Reconnect.....\$75      Trip Charge.....\$50

Meter Tampering....\$150





## \$400,000 Patronage Refund



The SIEC Board of Directors approved returning capital credits (patronage dividends) to the Membership at the July 27, 2023 meeting in the amount of \$400,000. This will be returned as a credit to the electric bills received in SEPTEMBER for August energy use to approximately 4,700 SIEC accounts from the years 2006, 2007 and 2022. The act of returning capital credits is what differentiates cooperatives from other organizations. Each Member is an owner with an investment in our electric distribution system as well as the community. Each year, the SIEC Board of Directors allocates any financial margin that exceeds the expenses of the Cooperative for the prior year. This is where the funds originate that enabled this month's bill credit. In an effort to help our newer Members understand the Cooperative difference, 30% of this year's capital credits refund came from the year 2022. The remaining 70% of the capital credits being returned are from financial margins created in the years 2006 and 2007. Even if you move off of SIEC's lines, your membership and investment is not forgotten. You are entitled to receive capital credits, based upon your financial contribution, for the years of SIEC membership. If the Board of Directors elects to return capital credits from the year(s) that you were an SIEC Member, a check will be issued for the proportional amount of your cooperative investment. So stay in touch! Please let us know your current address and/or contact information so we can efficiently return capital credit funds to you. In the event a Member of record passes, capital credits are refunded to the surviving spouse, heirs or estate in the same manner as former Members. The SIEC Board of Directors is tasked with closely monitoring the financial condition of the Cooperative. This includes analyzing the need for capital and understanding the cost of debt. These factors determine when and how many capital credits can be returned to the Membership each year. Since our origin in 1939, SIEC Members have built over 1,700 miles of electric distribution infrastructure serving our community all the while continuing to function as a not-for-profit organization that returns any available funds to the Members.



## DRIVEN BY OUR COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY



To celebrate local volunteers, the Shine The Light contest returned for a third year and received 126 nominations representing 25 Iowa electric cooperatives during June, an 85% increase over last year! Employees and members of Iowa's locally owned electric cooperatives were invited to nominate someone who makes a positive difference in their community. Two of the nominees were submitted by members of SIEC. Member, Joye Lore-Lawson of Bloomfield, nominated Diane Bales of Bloomfield, whose charity/non-profit is the Davis County Tourism Corporation. Joye wrote that Diane is, "one of those tireless behind-the-scenes dynamos that rural Iowa communities rely upon so heavily these days." Joye went on to say the following of Diane:

During her tenure as DC Tourism Corp's co-president, Diane has actively recruited members and other volunteers to the organization, written grant applications, maintained and distributed tourism calendars and materials, developed and implemented fundraisers and local tourism opportunities, advised and consulted with regional tourism groups, and, most importantly, put her genius with people to good use. When Diane is not busy, she also finds the time to serve the Davis County Fine Arts Council and the Friends of the Bloomfield Library. In addition to these contributions, she volunteers her time to an area food pantry. Joye wrote that Diane is never one to brag; she just continually contributes whatever is needed so that her communities may thrive. Diane also serves as lay pastor to several rural churches in Davis and Van Buren counties. Although Diane did not win the contest, we are so very appreciative and thankful to have Diane in our community. It is people like her that truly "Shine The Light" for everyone around her! Thank you Diane, for all of the time and effort you so willingly and generously give!



## \$8,000 Awarded Through Co-Bank's Sharing Success Matching Grant Program



SIEC works hard to not only provide value to our members, but to also improve the quality of the life in communities we serve. The recipients of Co-Bank's 2023 matching grant program through SIEC went to the Davis County Agriculture Society Swine Pavilion Project (\$8,000). These facility improvements will benefit 4H and FFA exhibitors for many years to come. Contributions are matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis, up to \$20,000. We are delighted to team up with Co-Bank in support of this worthy cause!