



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative   
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 www.lanescott.coop

**LANE-SCOTT  
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

# Connections

## Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative, Inc.

### Board of Trustees

**Dick Jennison**  
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**Ed Wiltse**  
General Manager

**Dow Morris**  
Assistant Manager

**Nate Burns**  
Manager of Electrical Operations

**Katherine Lewis**  
Manager of Financial Services

**Bob Venters**  
Resale Manager

### In Case of an Outage

If your electricity is off for more than a few minutes, call 800-407-2217. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. After-hours calls will be answered by the dispatch and standby personnel.

### 24-hour Electrician Service

If you are without electricity or have an electrical emergency on your side of the meter, we have a master electrician on staff available 24 hours a day.

The purpose of this newsletter message is to explain the upcoming opportunity for you, a member of Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative, to vote on who should set rates for your electric cooperative.

In 1933, the Kansas Legislature made many public utilities, including electric cooperatives, subject to the jurisdiction of the KCC, giving the Commission authority over rates, rate setting, terms and conditions of service and many other aspects of the electric utility. Since 1992, however, small not-for-profit electric cooperative members have had the right to vote whether they want the KCC to oversee rates or whether they want to self-regulate. In 1994, members of Lane-Scott voted to self-regulate on rate matters, allowing Lane-Scott's member-elected board of trustees to set rates that are best for Lane-Scott's members. Currently, 28 of 29 Kansas electric cooperatives have voted to self-regulate.

The upcoming vote to self-regulate will include ALL members of Lane-Scott, including the members of Mid-Kansas who are now official members of Lane-Scott.

In April 2005, Lane-Scott, along with the other five Sunflower member cooperatives, formed Mid-Kansas Electric Company, LLC (Mid-Kansas), to acquire the electric assets of Aquila's Kansas Electric Network. Since 2007, Mid-Kansas customers (former customers of Aquila) have been receiving service from Lane-Scott. However, another step was necessary in order for Mid-Kansas customers to become official members of Lane-Scott.

I am pleased to report that the

final stage of the acquisition was recently completed when the KCC approved the transfer of the former Aquila customers from Mid-Kansas to Lane-Scott. One requirement in the acquisition is that all Lane-Scott members must have the opportunity to vote on who should set rates for Lane-Scott.

Cooperatives are fundamentally democratic organizations. As not-for-profit organizations, it is the goal to provide the best service at a competitive price. Under self-regulation, your board of trustees—your neighbors who pay the same electric rate as every other member—will continue to follow proper procedure in setting rates: members must be notified 10 days in advance of the time and place of any board meeting when rates are discussed and voted on; those meetings must be open to members; and members must be notified of their right to request the KCC to review rate changes.

When the KCC controls your electric rates, it adds layers of regulation, which can increase costs. In the coming months you will receive information about why your board of trustees is urging you to again choose self-regulation and keep control of your electric rates at home. Lane-Scott staff and board members will also be available to answer your questions about the vote, which will occur by a mail-in ballot.

For more information, please visit our website at [www.lanescott.coop](http://www.lanescott.coop). If you have additional questions, please call me at 800-407-2217.



**Ed Wiltse**

## Scammers Target Members

Lane-Scott Electric would like our members to be aware of scammers who have attempted to defraud electric consumers by trying to collect funds over the phone. In some cases, they have created caller ID's, so when they call, your caller ID will have Lane-Scott Electric's name and phone number. Individuals will call claiming to be a representative from the "electric company" and tell members if they don't go buy a pre-paid credit card to pay their electric bill they will be disconnected within an hour.

Please do not fall for scams like this. Unfortunately there are always scam artists out there trying to take advantage of people.

Members should never

give out personal or credit card information over the phone. When Lane-Scott members are contacted, our representatives will clearly identify themselves, and if you have any doubts, please hang up and call our local number.

Lane-Scott Electric members' information is kept confidential. Consumer information is never shared with third party companies or individuals. It is our policy not to release or sell member information to any third parties for any reason.

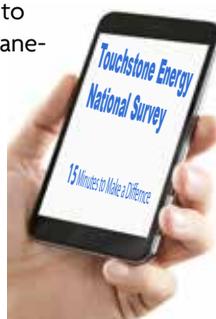
Please share this information with your friends and families. Citizens who believe they have been a victim of this scam are urged to call Lane-Scott Electric and local law enforcement.

## Residential Members Can Make a Difference

We are excited to announce that Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative has been selected to participate in a National Survey on the Cooperative Difference through Touchstone Energy. Touchstone Energy will sponsor this survey at no cost to Lane-Scott Electric.

We are asking our residential members to participate in this survey. Your feedback can make a difference and help us serve you better.

TSE Services will conduct 15 minute phone surveys with 250 residential customers under caller ID,



**"Opinion Counts", from area code 336.** This survey will be related to service only; no financial account information will be requested nor should it be shared. Residential

member telephone interviews will be made primarily during weeknights from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Weekend calling will be limited to Saturdays only.

Thank you in advance for your time and assistance. Your opinion counts.

If you have questions please contact Bob Venters or Rebecca Campbell at the Lane-Scott office. 620-397-5327 or 800-407-2217

## Meet the New Bulb on the Block: LED Lucy

There's a new lighting mascot in town. CFL Charlie, a cartoon mascot for Touchstone Energy Cooperatives®, the brand "ID" of the nation's not-for-profit, consumer-owned electric cooperatives, helps families become "Super Savers" by switching to energy efficient lightbulbs. In 2013 he was joined by LED Lucy, a dazzling, spunky mascot lighting the way for even brighter bulb savings.

Lighting standards started shifting away from traditional lightbulbs in 2012. CFL Charlie and LED Lucy want to make sure Lane-Scott members know about all lighting options.

"I'm older than I look," LED Lucy confides. The mascot's light-emitting diodes beam. "The first LED was created in 1927. Since then we've added stylish colors, and costs dropped. I love bargains, and LED prices get lower every year!"

The mascots share a few pointers on their energy efficiency namesakes.

### Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs)

CFL Charlie—and other bulbs like him—are the most common and economical efficient lightbulbs on

the market. The swirly style is linked to the concept of efficient lighting, but some consumers haven't warmed to the design.

"Not everyone likes to see my swirls," explains Charlie. "That's fine by me—everyone has a different sense of style. Several of my friends are designed to look just like a traditional lightbulb."

CFLs offer 75 percent energy savings over traditional incandescent bulbs and pay for themselves in 9 months, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.

### Light emitting diodes (LEDs)

Light emitting diodes (LEDs) have been used for years in cell phones and other electronics. Most diodes are small—about half the size of a pencil eraser. By banding several small diodes together, a bright and dependable light emerges. As their popularity grows, some companies are making light with a single, bright LED chip. New ways to build LEDs with help drive down costs.

"It's going to be fun to watch LED Lucy gain fans," laughs Charlie. "She uses a little less energy than me, and lasts 25 times longer than traditional incandescent bulbs."

