

PrePaid keeps things simple

Take control of your power usage with PrePaid. No monthly bills. No surprises. Just simple, flexible energy management.

With PrePaid, you can:

- Avoid late fees and keep your budget in check
- Add credit anytime, anywhere—on your schedule
- Monitor your energy use daily online or via the MyClayElectric app

PrePaid gives you real-time insights and peace of mind. Join members who are enjoying smarter, simpler energy — and give us a call at 1-800-224-4917.

2026 calendars are here



Clay Electric's 2026 calendars have landed — and they're free for members!

This year's edition celebrates 60 years of the Youth Tour to Washington, highlighting the co-op's proud history of investing in future leaders.

Pick up your copy at any of Clay Electric's six district offices while supplies last. Inside you'll find key co-op dates, plus the Barnett Fish & Game Forecast.

ASK FOR ID

Continued from cover

- We are not notified when these surveys happen — we usually only find out when a member calls.

What you should do if you're concerned:

- Ask for credentials if someone shows up saying they need access to your property.
- Ask to see proof of their easement or permission before allowing access.
- If something feels off, give us a call at 1-800-224-4917.

We appreciate you staying vigilant when you see suspicious activity — it helps us protect your property rights.

On a side note: Our AMI meters send us data remotely, but every now and then, one of our employees may stop by your meter to retrieve data or ensure everything is working properly. Again, if something feels off, just request to see their ID — we just ask you treat them with respect as common courtesy goes a long way.

Power Line is an informational publication of Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. It is distributed monthly with members' statements. If you have questions or comments about Power Line, write Nick Jones at P.O. Box 308, Keystone Heights, FL 32656; or email: NJones@clayelectric.com. Clay Electric Cooperative's Board of Trustees will meet at the headquarters building in Keystone Heights at 11 a.m. (or shortly thereafter) on Oct. 16, Nov. 20 and Dec. 17.

The Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. _____

Power Line

November 2025

Unsure if it's us? Just ask for ID.

We've had reports of people in unmarked vehicles entering private property and saying they are working on behalf of Clay Electric.

To be clear: Clay Electric personnel carry ID badges and typically drive in marked company vehicles. Contractors and subcontractors

usually have a magnet on their vehicles identifying them as working on behalf of Clay Electric. They will also be carrying identification.



What's happening:

- Some outside companies (like cable providers) hire contractors to survey power poles when they want to attach their lines.
- These companies are responsible for getting permission and securing easements before stepping onto private property. Unfortunately, they don't always follow those rules.

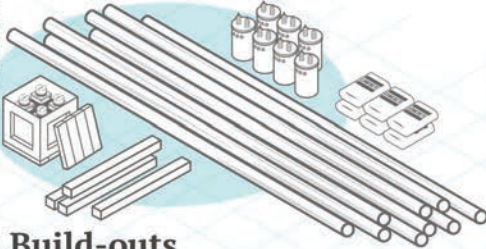
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Infrastructure Costs

The past five years have been a period of exploding costs for the electric utility industry and for broadband providers, pushed by soaring demand, supply chain challenges, raw materials shortages, increased labor costs and tariffs. The impact has been rapid increases in the cost of producing power, longer and more unpredictable project timelines and the need for more financing, all of which have driven electric rates up for residences, businesses and other end-users. Here's a look at what's contributing to the trend. **Percent increase since 2020:**

● Infrastructure

Utility poles (wood, steel, composite)	+25-40%
Crossarms & braces (steel/wood)	+20-35%
Conductor wire (aluminum/copper)	+30-50%
Transformers	+70-100%
Grain-oriented electrical steel	+80-100%
Oil/dielectric fluids	+25-40%
Copper wiring	+50%
Concrete	+25-35%
Smart meters	+20-35%
Pad-mounted switchgear	+25-40%
Circuit breakers/reclosers	+20-35%



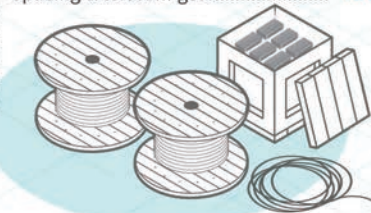
● Build-outs

Utility construction labor	+20-40%
Freight/logistics	+30-60%



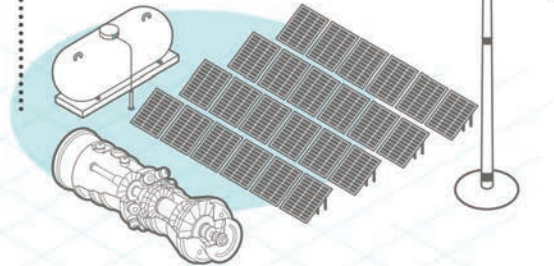
● Broadband

Fiber-optic cable	+25-40%
Splicing & telecom gear	+20-30%



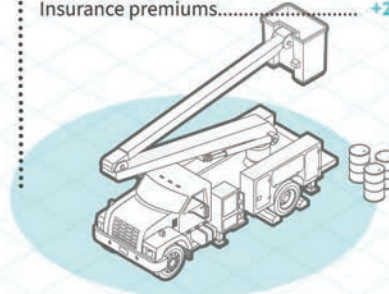
● Generation

Diesel gensets	+20-40%
Gas turbines	+20-30%
Solar PV systems	+25-35%
Wind turbines	+25-35%
Hydropower components	+20-30%
Battery storage	+25-40%
SCADA/EMS systems	+20-30%
Inverters	+20-30%
Relays & switchgear	+25-40%
Natural Gas	+20-120%
Coal	+30-60%
Diesel/fuel oil	+40-70%



● Fleets

Light trucks	+25-40%
Bucket trucks, digger derricks	+20-50%
Fuel costs (especially diesel)	+20-30%
Maintenance	+15-25%
Insurance premiums	+20%



Energy assistance: Support for eligible members

Each year, thousands of Floridians receive help paying their utility bills through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), and this year, many Clay Electric members benefited from the federal program.



LIHEAP is designed to help income-qualified households manage energy costs, especially during extreme weather or other challenging times. Payments to co-op members were applied directly to eligible accounts, helping families keep the lights on and easing strain on household budgets.

While Clay Electric is glad to facilitate these credits, it's important to understand that LIHEAP funds do not come from the co-op or from other members' electric bills. The program is financed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and distributed locally by community action agencies. Our role is to apply approved payments so members can see the benefit quickly.

If you or someone you know is having trouble with energy costs, help may be available. Eligibility is based on income and household size, and funding windows vary. To learn more about current guidelines, application periods, and how to apply, visit FloridaLIHEAP.com or contact the agency that serves your county.

Clay Electric's mission is to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy for all members. Partnering with programs like LIHEAP allows us to connect eligible households with additional support — without adding costs to members.