

## Calhoun County Electric Cooperative Association Honored with Impact Award

*For Site Development at the Calhoun County Business Park*



*Photo Caption: L to R: Jim Vermeer, Corn Belt Power, Riley Bleam, Calhoun County Economic Development Corporation, Brittany Dickey, Corn Belt Power, Keaton Hildreth, Calhoun County Electric Cooperative, and Rand Fischer, Iowa Area Development Group*

Iowa's rural electric cooperatives actively foster and utilize strategic partnerships to make significant contributions to economic sustainability and community vitality statewide. Iowa Area Development Group (IADG) annually recognizes its electric utility members for outstanding commitment, support, and participation in business development projects and community initiatives. During the recent Calhoun County Electric Cooperative Board Meeting, the Cooperative was recognized for its economic development accomplishments and commitment to the communities it serves.

Calhoun County Electric Cooperative Association was presented with an IADG Impact Award for site development. CCECA has been an active partner in establishing the Calhoun County Business Park, strategically located at the intersection of U.S. Hwy. 20 and Hwy. 4 north of Rockwell City. The park offers excellent access to Interstates 35 and 29 via 4-lane U.S. Hwy. 20. The 16.5 acre first phase is currently under development. When all four phases are complete, the park will provide 115 acres of industrial space. Top prospects for the park include cold storage, warehouse/distribution, and logistics companies. CCECA and Corn Belt Power Cooperative are both active partners and financial contributors to this new business park.

"We commend Calhoun County Electric Cooperative for their support of economic development and being actively involved in developing Calhoun County's first business park," said IADG President Rand Fisher. "The Calhoun County Business Park creates excellent opportunity to attract business and create jobs for the county and beyond."

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# February SPP Outages Update



Keaton Hildreth, CEO

As I'm sure you all remember, in February the Midwest and beyond encountered historically low temperatures and record-high electricity use that resulted in load curtailments, better known as rolling blackouts.

The events during the week of February 14 were unprecedented. The extreme and prolonged arctic weather significantly impacted Southwest Power Pool's (SPP) 14-state footprint, stretching from Canada to northern Texas. In the following weeks SPP worked to find the root causes of the event and find ways to mitigate future energy emergency alerts.

In March, SPP's board of directors directed a comprehensive review of the event to identify how SPP can better prepare for future extreme reliability threats. Five teams and several hundred stakeholders - including representatives from our power supplier Corn Belt Power - conducted in-depth analysis. SPP announced the analysis produced key observations including:

- Lack of available generation was the primary cause of the event's reliability impacts. Lack of fuel was the biggest cause of generation unavailability.
- Extremely high natural gas prices were the primary driver of record-high energy offers, exceeding SPP's market offer caps for the first time.
- Rapid spike in SPP's market prices raised concerns about market participants' liquidity & exponentially increased short-term credit exposure.
- Relationships & interconnections with neighboring systems facilitated critical helpful assistance.
- Full use of generation in certain locations was limited by congestion on SPP's system.
- Early preparation, timely decisions & effective communication helped minimize reliability impacts while effective execution of load-

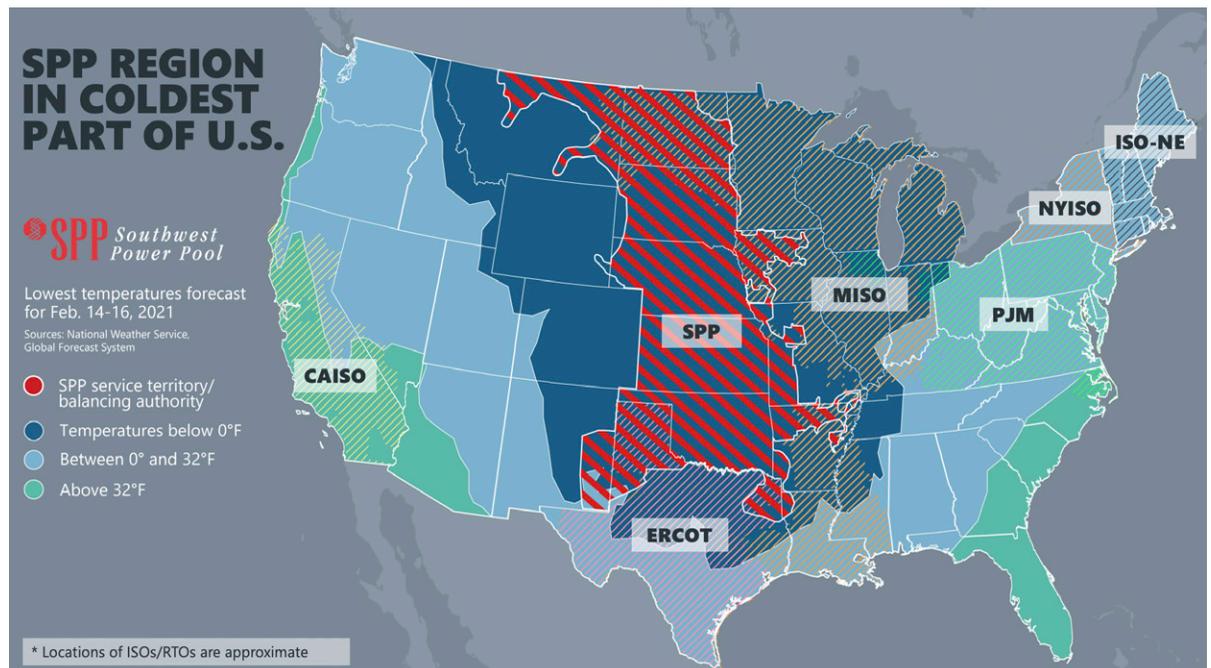
shed procedures mitigated the risk of uncontrolled blackouts.

- Stakeholders indicated general satisfaction with SPP's emergency communications, information sharing & credibility, while recognizing the need for improvements.

The analysis is complete and now work begins. Following these findings, the SPP board directed work to immediately begin on recommendations that address root causes, and requested additional analysis to explain the failure of natural gas supply. Staff were instructed to prioritize work on the remaining recommendations, provide a project plan and quarterly progress updates, and issue letters to generator operators in the SPP region requiring them to inform SPP about their plans to assure generation availability for the upcoming winter.

As SPP completes its comprehensive review, we will keep you abreast of findings and solutions. For our part, Calhoun County Electric Cooperative continues to work with Corn Belt Power, our power supplier, on ways to improve processes should an energy emergency situation every take place again. We're working to refine our communication and emergency operation plans to allow for more advanced notice of load curtailments. We're also working with policymakers on all levels to ensure electric grid reliability.

We can't promise an energy emergency situation won't happen again. We can assure you that we're working with our partners on solutions and to mitigate the impact of a future energy emergency situation. We strive for reliable and affordable electricity every day. Our dedication to that won't change.



# Recipe of the Month

## Brown Sugar Glazed Carrots

### INGREDIENTS:

- 1 lb baby carrots
- 3 TB salted butter, melted
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/3 cup brown sugar
- Cinnamon, optional

### DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees F.
2. Add the carrots to a 9 x 13 baking dish.
3. Drizzle the melted butter over the carrots then sprinkle with salt and brown sugar.
4. If you'd like to add cinnamon, sprinkle that on top.
5. Stir to coat the carrots and evenly distribute the brown sugar.
6. Bakes for 25-30 minutes, or until carrots are tender.



## New Ways to Connect

Watch for  
this letter in  
your mail!



**Calhoun County Electric  
Cooperative Association**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

1015 Tonawanda | PO Box 312 | Rockwell City, IA 50579  
(712) 297-7112 | (800) 821-4879 | FAX: (712) 297-7211

[www.calhounrec.coop](http://www.calhounrec.coop)

### Text Message Alerts & Email Notifications Now Available!

Calhoun County Electric Cooperative is excited to offer new ways to connect with our members. Not only are these methods more cost-effective for the cooperative, the communications are nearly instantaneous!

[MERGED MEMBER INFO]  
NAME  
ADD1  
ADD2  
CITY, STATE ZIP

**SIGN UP ONLINE TODAY!**

[www.coopstats.com/calhounIM](http://www.coopstats.com/calhounIM)

You will need your account number:

In order to better serve you, these services and notifications are now available by text or email:

- Maintenance and planned outage notifications
- Major outage updates
- Paperless billing/electronic statement notifications

**Signing up for text and email notifications is easy!**

Simply complete the form below and return in postage paid envelope or complete online at: [coopstats.com/calhounIM](http://coopstats.com/calhounIM). You will need to enter the account number (printed above) when you go online.

Text message alerts and email notifications are now available in order to better serve our members.

A letter will be arriving in the mail with more information or you can also sign up now with the link below.

Sign up at [www.coopstats.com/calhounIM](http://www.coopstats.com/calhounIM)

# Electric Heat Rate

The electric heat rate is for members with electric heating systems. These systems include geothermal heat pumps, air source heat pumps, baseboard, electric boilers, an electric furnace, electric in-floor or ceiling cable. To take advantage of this rate, permanently installed electric space heating equipment must be metered separately. The effective rate is 5.3 cents per kilowatt hour during the October - April heating season. The rate is offered to electric accounts with approved, separately metered electric space heating. Metering equipment is required before the rate is issued. Contact Richard Hall, Member Services Rep, with any questions.



**COOK UP ENERGY SAVINGS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.**

- Clean oven burners regularly.
- Match the pan size to the burner you're using.
- Use small appliances like slow cookers and toaster ovens when possible.

From our table to yours,  
Happy Thanksgiving!

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Fall is the perfect time to prep your home for the upcoming winter chill. One of the best ways you can save energy and stay comfortable is to caulk and weatherstrip areas that typically need sealing.

Start by sealing around windows and doors. Seal plumbing, ducting, and areas where electrical wiring comes through walls, floors and ceilings for additional energy savings.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)



HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

# VETERANS DAY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

## Member Challenge...



1. CCECA was honored with the \_\_\_\_\_ Award from IADG for site development with the Calhoun County Business Park.
2. Cook up energy savings this holiday season by cleaning \_\_\_\_\_ burners regularly.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ message alerts and \_\_\_\_\_ notifications are now available.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Find the answers within the stories, features, and content of this newsletter and you could win a prize. Send your answer to [kwiederin@calhounrec.coop](mailto:kwiederin@calhounrec.coop), clip and mail to: Calhoun County Electric Cooperative, PO Box 312, Rockwell City, IA 50579 or submit on our website: [www.calhounrec.coop](http://www.calhounrec.coop). You may mail your entry along with your electric bill payment, but remember there is a deadline! Entries for this issue must be received by November 1st. Three names will be drawn from all correct entries. Members will receive a \$10 credit on their account. Members who answer the questions correctly and participate at least three times throughout the year will be eligible for a \$100 bill credit, through a random drawing, at the end of the year.

*Congratulations to September's member challenge winners:*

*Josiah & Amy Kaufman, Warren Albers, and Ron & Lori Prince*

## Reach Us

**OFFICE HOURS:**  
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
(Mon-Fri)

Contact 24/7 with the following numbers:

**General Phone:**  
(712) 297-7112

**Toll Free:**  
(800) 821-4879

**Fax:**  
(712) 297-7211

**Visit us online:**  
[www.calhounrec.coop](http://www.calhounrec.coop)

**Email:**  
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Keaton Hildreth, CEO



Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.

**IOWA ONE-CALL  
AT 811 OR  
(800) 292-8989  
BEFORE YOU DIG**

### EASY WAYS TO PAY BILL:

**Online:** Access through [www.calhounrec.coop](http://www.calhounrec.coop) and pay online 24/7.

**Auto Bill Pay (ACH):** Deduct from your bank account. Find the form on our website or stop by the office.

**Call:** Call the office and make a payment over the phone with a card or checking account.

**Outside Drop Box/  
Front Corner:**  
Rockwell City, IA

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This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.