

OWEN Electric Connection

Owen Electric
Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

MAY 2017

Let the sun shine!

Owen Electric Cooperative to offer solar power to members this fall

Owen Electric Cooperative members who want to help the environment and future generations by powering their home or business with renewable energy will soon have their chance. We are teaming with other electric cooperatives to build and operate a 60-acre solar farm that is expected to begin generating sun-powered electricity this fall.

State regulators recently gave the green light to plans for Cooperative Solar, the largest sun-to-electricity community solar farm in Kentucky.

The facility is expected to produce enough electricity to satisfy the power needs of about 1,000 homes.

More than

32,000 solar panels are being installed on land adjacent to the headquarters of Owen Electric's power supplier, which is based in Winchester and generates electricity for our co-op as well as 15 others in the state.

Cooperative Solar One, as the new solar farm is called, will provide Owen Electric members an easy, affordable way to benefit from sun power without the hassle, maintenance, and expense of owning your own solar electricity generation. The program is ideal for those who rent, have shaded property, or don't want to put solar panels on their roof.

Interested members will pay a one-time fee of \$460 to license a single solar panel for 25 years. Each panel is

expected to produce between 20 and 50 kilowatt-hours of solar energy monthly. Energy output will vary due to the sun's angle, the time of year, the number of cloudy days in the month, and other factors. Every month, the energy output of your licensed panel will be calculated and credited to your bill.

If you happen to be driving on Interstate 64 just east of Lexington, keep an eye out for the solar farm we're "planting" in a field by the roadway. Soon, we will be harvesting the sun to benefit members of Owen Electric.

Panel licenses are now available. To learn more, visit www.cooperativesolar.com.



Mark Stallons
President/CEO

ABOUT COOPERATIVE SOLAR

Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, including Owen Electric Cooperative, are building a not-for-profit 60-acre solar farm in Winchester. They plan to license each solar panel to their electric cooperative members through Cooperative Solar.

Members of Owen Electric Cooperative will be able to tap into renewable solar energy for their home or business without the headaches of installing and maintaining solar panels themselves.

Many co-op members are interested in going solar but they face obstacles, such as:

- Covering their roof with solar panels.
- Their home's roof is shaded by trees or is not aligned for optimum sun exposure.
- Maintaining the equipment themselves.

- They rent their dwelling.
- Deed restrictions prevent installation of panels.

Cooperative Solar is renewable energy that is easy and affordable. Owen Electric's power supplier will install and maintain solar panels on their property; and, with a one-time payment, co-op members get credit on their monthly power bill for the energy produced by their share of the panels over the next 25 years.

Cooperative Solar Offers Co-Op Members Easy, Affordable, Renewable Solar Energy

For a one-time payment of \$460 per panel, participating members will receive a 25-year license to one of the panels. That means they will get credit on their monthly power bill for their proportional share of the energy generated by the solar farm, as well as the market value

of their panel's capacity. And they can monitor panel performance online.

Cooperative Solar participants are joining a community of co-op members who are committed to the environment and the future.

Many businesses have sustainability goals that can be met through Cooperative Solar, which offers participants the option of retiring or monetizing the solar energy renewable credits associated with their share of the farm.

This is an easy, cost-effective way to enjoy the benefits of renewable solar energy and also manage energy costs.

This will be one of the biggest solar installations in Kentucky. Electric co-ops like Owen Electric are leading the way in bringing renewable energy to our members and embracing the technologies of the future.





Cooperative Solar

Owner-Member Cooperative Solar: Q&A

Q. What is Cooperative Solar?

A. Cooperative Solar will be a community solar farm owned by Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives. It will be built by fall 2017, and will provide renewable energy without the headaches of installing and maintaining solar panels at private homes and businesses.

Q. Where will the farm be built?

A. Approximately 9 miles east of Lexington and 2 miles west of Winchester, adjacent to Interstate 64 and U.S. 60. Thousands of motorists will see the farm daily as they pass it on I-64.

Q. How large will Cooperative Solar be?

A. Cooperative Solar will have more than 32,000 photovoltaic panels covering 60 acres, making the installation one of Kentucky's largest solar farms. Construction will begin spring 2017.

Q. How can members participate?

A. For a one-time payment of \$460 per panel, participating members will receive a 25-year license for one of the panels. That means they will get credit on their monthly power bill for the value of the energy generated by their share of the solar farm. And they can monitor panel performance online.

Q. When can members participate?

A. You can join our Cooperative Solar community today. To sign up or to learn more, go to www.CooperativeSolar.com.

Q. Why do businesses want to participate?

A. Many businesses have sustainability goals that can be met through Cooperative Solar.

Q. What are additional advantages for joining?

A. In addition to getting bill credits, participating members will also get:

- Renewable power at an affordable cost.
- No worries about maintenance or hassles from bolting panels to their roof.

Q. Are there other reasons members might want to participate?

A. Many co-op members are interested because:

- They rent or face deed restrictions that prevent the private installation of panels.
- Their roof is shaded by trees or doesn't get good exposure to the sun.



Kentucky's
Touchstone Energy
Cooperatives®

Board of Directors

Robert True—Chairman

Alan Ahrman—Vice Chairman

Rick Messingschlager—
Secretary/Treasurer

John Grant
Hope Kinman
Eddie McCord
Charlie Richardson

Mark Stallons
President/CEO

James M. Crawford
Attorney

Whitney Prather Duvall
Editor

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday
8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Owenton Office
8205 Hwy 127 N
PO Box 400
Owenton, KY 40359-0400
502-484-3471

Toll-Free 1-800-372-7612

Boone County Office
Florence Government Center
8100 Ewing Blvd.
Florence, KY 41042
859-283-5800

Grant County Office
300 Arbor Drive, Suite 1
Dry Ridge, KY 41035
859-824-3020

Pendleton County Office
10599 Hwy 27 N
Butler, KY 41006
859-472-2600

Virtual Office
www.owenelectric.com

This institution is an equal
opportunity provider.



Pole Treating Contractors Begin Work in Grant, Pendleton Counties

Owen Electric's pole treating contractor, Power Pole Maintenance Company (PPMC), will begin treating poles on our system this week.

These crews will primarily be working in Grant and Pendleton counties and will be driving in white Ford full-size pickups with "Contractor for Owen Electric" on them. Taped in the window of all trucks is a letter of authority, and all crew members have been equipped with a photo ID badge that has "Owen Electric contractor" on it.

They also will be wearing a high visibility vest with "contractor for Owen Electric" on the back.

Their scope of work consists of visiting and visually inspecting every pole, excavating around poles that are 10 years of age or older, and treating them at ground line level.

They will also be removing existing pole tags from meter poles and adding a "member owned" tag.



Report an Outage
1-800-372-7612
OECTEXT to 85700

Outage Viewer
<http://68.156.55.165/>

Safety & Preparedness
<http://owenelectric.com/content/safety-preparedness>