

# POWERLINES

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JANUARY 2026



Coweta-Fayette



## Apply now for scholarships to empower your future!

Whether you're a high school senior or a graduate looking to invest in your career path, paying for continuing education can seem daunting. Regardless of what step you're on in your educational journey, Coweta-Fayette EMC is here to help with several scholarship options.

In addition to our Lineman Scholarship, CFEMC currently has three scholarship opportunities open with a deadline of **Jan. 30, 2026**.

Learn more about each opportunity, **see a full list of requirements, and apply on our website, [utility.org](http://utility.org)**. Let us help you invest in a powerful future! For questions, contact Jenna Addison at [jaddison@utility.org](mailto:jaddison@utility.org)

### Coweta-Fayette Trust Lineman Scholarship

Amount: \$3,500

**No application deadline**

Requirements:

- High school graduate, GED equivalent or graduating senior in good standing
- Be a CFEMC member or member's child living in a CFEMC served home

### Coweta-Fayette Trust Technical/Trade School Scholarship

Amount: \$1,000

Available: Twenty (20) scholarships

Requirements:

- Must reside in CFEMC service area (zip codes found on website)
- Minimum 3.0 GPA

### Melissa Segars Scholarship

Amount: \$3,000

Available: Fifteen (15) scholarships

Requirements:

- Current high school senior attending school in CFEMC's service area
- Minimum 3.0 GPA

### Walter G. Harrison Scholarship

Amount: \$1,000

Available: One (1) scholarship

Requirements:

- Recipient's primary residence **MUST** be a **CFEMC member**
- Proof of enrollment in an accredited program with application or upon award



**Applications and full requirements for these scholarships are on our website, [utility.org/scholarships](http://utility.org/scholarships) or scan the QR code.**

**The deadline for the Walter G. Harrison, Melissa Segars, and the Technical/Trade School scholarships is **Jan. 30, 2026****

## APPLY NOW FOR WASHINGTON YOUTH TOUR!



JUNE 12-19

High school juniors! Enter for an all-expense paid trip to Washington D.C. this June! Join 1,800 other students from across the U.S. for a week you'll never forget!

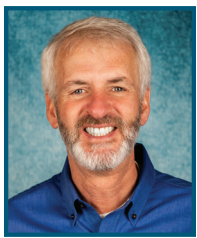
Scan the QR code to learn more and apply!

**Deadline is Feb. 13, 2026!**



APPLY NOW ➔

# Understanding Your Power Bill: A Look Back at 2025 and Ahead to 2026



Chris Stephens  
CEO

As we begin 2026, you may have noticed a nice surprise on your December bill—a credit of about \$30 for most members. I want to explain why that happened and what to expect moving forward this year.

## Why was there a credit in December?

Simply put: **it was good news.** That credit reflects strong financial stewardship, smart planning, and the value of being

part of a not-for-profit electric cooperative.

Here's what made it possible:

- **Careful management of power costs**, including budgeting and strategies to reduce risk
- A **\$1.4 million dividend** returned to Coweta-Fayette EMC from our for-profit subsidiary, **True Natural Gas.**

In order to maintain margins within budget, the Board of Directors elected to return the savings directly back to you before the year's end.

## Why is the PCA increasing in January?

Starting in January, the **Power Cost Adjustment (PCA)** will be set to **3.5 mills.**

(A mill is one-tenth of a cent, so 3.5 mills equals \$3.50 per 1,000 kilowatt-hours.)

This change reflects a projected rise in power costs for 2026, driven mainly by **higher natural gas prices**, which affects how electricity is generated across our region. While we work hard to manage these costs through long-term planning, global fuel markets are beyond our control.

## What is PCA?

The PCA is a separate line item on your bill that helps us manage changes in the cost of electricity. Instead of raising or lowering your base rates every time the price of power changes, we use the PCA to make small adjustments.

This way, your rates stay steadier, and you can see exactly what's driving any changes on your bill.

Here's how this helps you as a member:

- If the cost of electricity goes up, the PCA allows us to handle those increases without surprising you with big rate hikes.
- When prices drop, we are then able to quickly **return those savings to you—like you saw with the December credit.**

This kind of flexibility is just one of the ways your cooperative works for you.

## Why the cooperative difference matters

Unlike investor-owned utilities, **Coweta-Fayette EMC** is not-for-profit. That means:

- We don't answer to shareholders.
- Any margins we earn are reinvested into the system or returned to members.
- Our decisions are made locally, with your best interest in mind, by a board elected by you.

The December credit is a great example of that difference in action.

## Looking ahead to 2026

While we're watching rising fuel costs closely, I'm optimistic about the year ahead. Our team will continue to:

- Manage costs responsibly
- Plan strategically for long-term reliability
- Invest in infrastructure that keeps your power safe and dependable
- Look for opportunities to return savings whenever possible

If power costs decline, the PCA allows us to respond quickly and pass those savings on to you just as we always have.

Thank you for your trust in Coweta-Fayette EMC. We remain committed to providing reliable, affordable power and being transparent about how and why your bill changes. That's part of our promise to you as your local electric cooperative. Here's to a safe and bright 2026.



**Resolve to save money in 2026?**  
**We can help with that! Subscribe to**  
**Watts Matter for practical energy saving**  
**tips all year long!**



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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