



**DSO ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE, INC.**

DSO
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

HEADLINER

Board

Brian Lang
Solomon, President

James Christopher
Falun, Director

Ken Hedberg
Marquette, Vice President

Dane Clark
Gypsum, Director

David Mueller
Tampa, Secretary

Sheila Hummel
Hope, Director

Dean Allison
Delphos, Director

Bruce Spare
Assaria, Director

David Butler
Junction City, Director

Staff

Timothy J. Power
CEO

Marla Marshall
CFO

Mike Olberding
Operations Manager

Derrick Rutherford
Communications Manager

Office Hours

8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday
Open over the lunch hour



Payment Locations

**CENTRAL NATIONAL BANK IN
WALMART SUPERCENTER**
521 E. Chestnut St., Junction City, KS 66441
FARMERS STATE BANK
447 Harrison, Lindsborg, KS 67456

Outage Information

**IN CASE OF AN OUTAGE, CALL
800-376-3533.** After-hours calls will be
answered by dispatch and forwarded to
standby personnel.

Find Out More

 facebook.com/DSOElectricCooperative
 @DSOElectricCoop

FROM THE CEO

The Best Laid Plans BY TIMOTHY J. POWER, CEO

The idiom “the best laid plans” seems appropriate after what we’ve been through the past couple years with the pandemic and Winter Storm Uri. That is not to say that most of our plans were not completed; rather, we just had to reprioritize projects and focus our time on things nobody saw coming. So, with that in mind, here are some things DSO is **PLANNING** to address in 2022.

Online Annual Meeting

We plan to present the annual meeting via video in April, like we did in 2021. Stay tuned for more information on the meeting.

Member Appreciation Day

As mentioned in last month’s article, we are looking at holding a member appreciation day (or week) at Rolling Hills Zoo just west of Salina sometime in 2022. We will get the word out once we have finalized plans.

New Solar Project

After successfully deploying two solar projects last year, we are in the planning stages of deploying a third in 2022. The solar project would likely be located near Solomon and be similar in size to the others in Junction City and just north of Lindsborg (1 MW covering about 8 acres). We will keep you updated as we move forward on this.

Margin Stabilization Adjustment (MSA)

As approved by the board of directors on Sept. 20, 2021, the MSA was added as a billing component to the power cost adjustment (PCA). The MSA will help stabilize DSO’s monthly margins, thereby reducing the likelihood and frequency of a rate increase in the near future. The MSA is scheduled to go into effect in January and will be included in the calculation of member bills for January usage. If you have questions on the MSA or PCA, please contact Marla at our office.

Tree Trimming

We plan to do a lot of tree trimming this next year. Tree trimming is basically a year-round task, but we never seem to “catch up.” Don’t be surprised if you get a call letting you know that we plan to do some trimming in your area.

Electric Vehicle (EV) Charger

Depending on the details of the federal infrastructure plan passed by Congress, DSO may have access to grant funds to install one or more EV chargers in our service territory. We will keep you posted as we learn more.

As I said at the beginning, these are our “best laid plans” and we are cautiously optimistic they will all get done in 2022!



Our Crews are Working to Serve You

Help us keep them safe

- ▶ At a job site, don't ask crews what they are working on or when power will be restored. Crew members must give the repairs their full attention to ensure safety. Diverting their attention increases the amount of time it takes to resolve the issue.
- ▶ When driving by a utility truck (or any roadside vehicle with flashing lights), please move over and give them space. In a work zone, follow all signage, including speed limits. Drivers who travel through a work zone too fast endanger workers on the ground and up in the bucket.
- ▶ If one of our employees is in your yard or on an easement to address service issues, please secure your dogs. Also keep meters and pad mount transformers (green boxes) free from obstructions.
- ▶ Please be patient as we work on an outage or other issues. Safety is our top priority, for you and our employees.

Notice of Board of Directors Elections

DSO Electric Cooperative (DSO) will soon be accepting nominations for five seats on DSO's Board of Directors.

Positions up for election this year include the following (current directors are shown):

- ▶ West District, Position 2 **JIM CHRISTOPHER**
- ▶ West District, Position 3 **VACANT**
- ▶ Central District, Position 2 **BRIAN LANG**
- ▶ East District, Position 2 **SHEILA HUMMEL**

DSO's coverage area is divided into three districts. Individuals who wish to run for a director's seat need to be active members of the cooperative and bona fide residents of the district they wish to represent. Packets of information for those seeking to be director candidates for the board election are available at DSO's office in Solomon. Potential candidates must submit a completed petition packet signed by at least 15 members who are residents of the cooperative. Signed petitions must be filed in the DSO cooperative office in Solomon by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 4, 2022.

Ballots will include those nominated by petition for the board and will be mailed to all members of the cooperative on or about March 1, 2022, and must be returned by 4:30 p.m. on March 25, 2022. Election results will be posted to our web-site in early April and published in the May edition of *Kansas Country Living* magazine.

DSO's bylaws are available at the cooperative office located in Solomon or online at dsoelectric.com.

For questions please contact Derrick Rutherford at the DSO Solomon office at 800-376-3533, email at Derrick.Rutherford@dsoelectric.com, or by mail at P.O. Box 286, Solomon Kansas 67480.



Jim Christopher
West District



Sheila Hummel
East District



Brian Lang,
Central District

2022 Dates to Remember

Feb. 4

Completed petition, affirmation of director qualification, and brief bio must be filed at the DSO Solomon office by 4:30 p.m.

March 1

Director election ballots will be mailed to the members.

March 25

Ballots must be received at the DSO Solomon office by 4:30 p.m.

Early April

Election results will be announced at the DSO Annual Meeting.



Choose Your Space Heater Wisely



If your home heating system does not deliver the toasty warmth you want or you would like to dial down your thermostat to save on your energy bill, a space heater can help make up the difference. Multiple types of space heaters exist on the market, but the most important thing to remember is to buy

one that you can operate safely.

Dispose of old space heaters with exposed coils, those that are dangerous to use (e.g., worn or cracked cords) or those that operate inefficiently. Many available today have safety features that older versions do not, such as timers, tip-over prevention or auto shut-off.

Before you purchase an electric heater, determine the square footage of the space you want to warm and whether you have a safe spot to place it. Inefficient or excessively large options will only run up your electric bill without much benefit to you or your family.

Types of Space Heaters Include:

METAL COIL AND FAN: Perhaps the most common and affordable type of space heater, this type uses electricity to heat a metal coil that is safely tucked inside. The fan sucks cold air from the room, heats it, and redistributes it at a higher temperature.

CERAMIC RADIANT: Similar to the metal coil variety, these space heaters also include ceramic plates inside. They absorb and store heat so that it radiates outward, even after you turn the heater off. Quick and long-lasting radiant heat makes these some of the most efficient space heaters.

INFRARED: These larger and usually more expensive space heaters use electromagnetic waves to heat objects in the room. In other words, your furniture, walls and you are heated up safely, so the increased temperature radiates out from

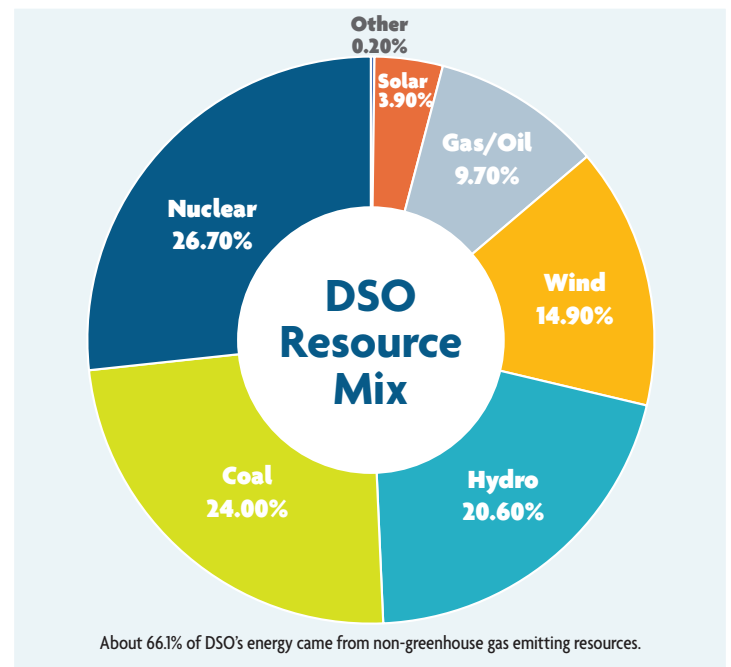
everything. This technology is often used in fake fireplaces.

RADIATOR-STYLE OIL: If you like the appearance of old-fashioned radiators or need something larger without a fan, consider an oil-filled space heater. An upside is that these radiate a lot of heat after they are turned off. The downside is that the unit itself can get quite hot and increase the risk of burns.

No matter what type of heater you choose, there are safety precautions you should follow. These will help prevent house fires, property damage and injury.

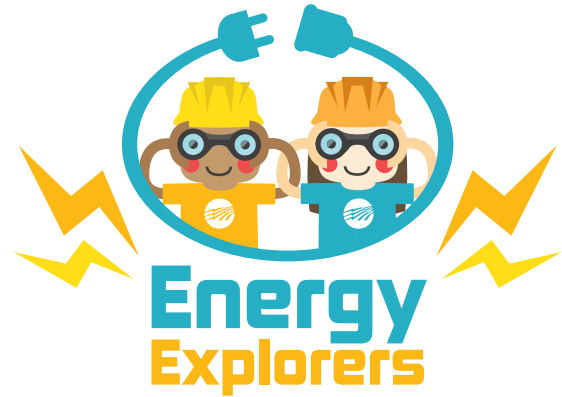
- ▶ Use a space heater with a minimum of 3 feet of clearance on all sides.
- ▶ Do not put a heater in a doorway or high-traffic area in the home.
- ▶ Place the heater on a flat, safe surface.
- ▶ Consider using one with built-in safety features.
- ▶ Do not plug one into an extension cord.
- ▶ Never leave a space heater unattended; unplug it and put it away when not in use.

To learn more about electrical safety, visit SafeElectricity.org.



WINTER ENERGY EFFICIENCY CROSSWORD

Did you know there are several ways you can fight the winter chill *and* save energy at home? Complete the crossword puzzle below to learn how to save energy during winter months.



1. Down: Open curtains and blinds during the day to allow _____ in to warm your home.

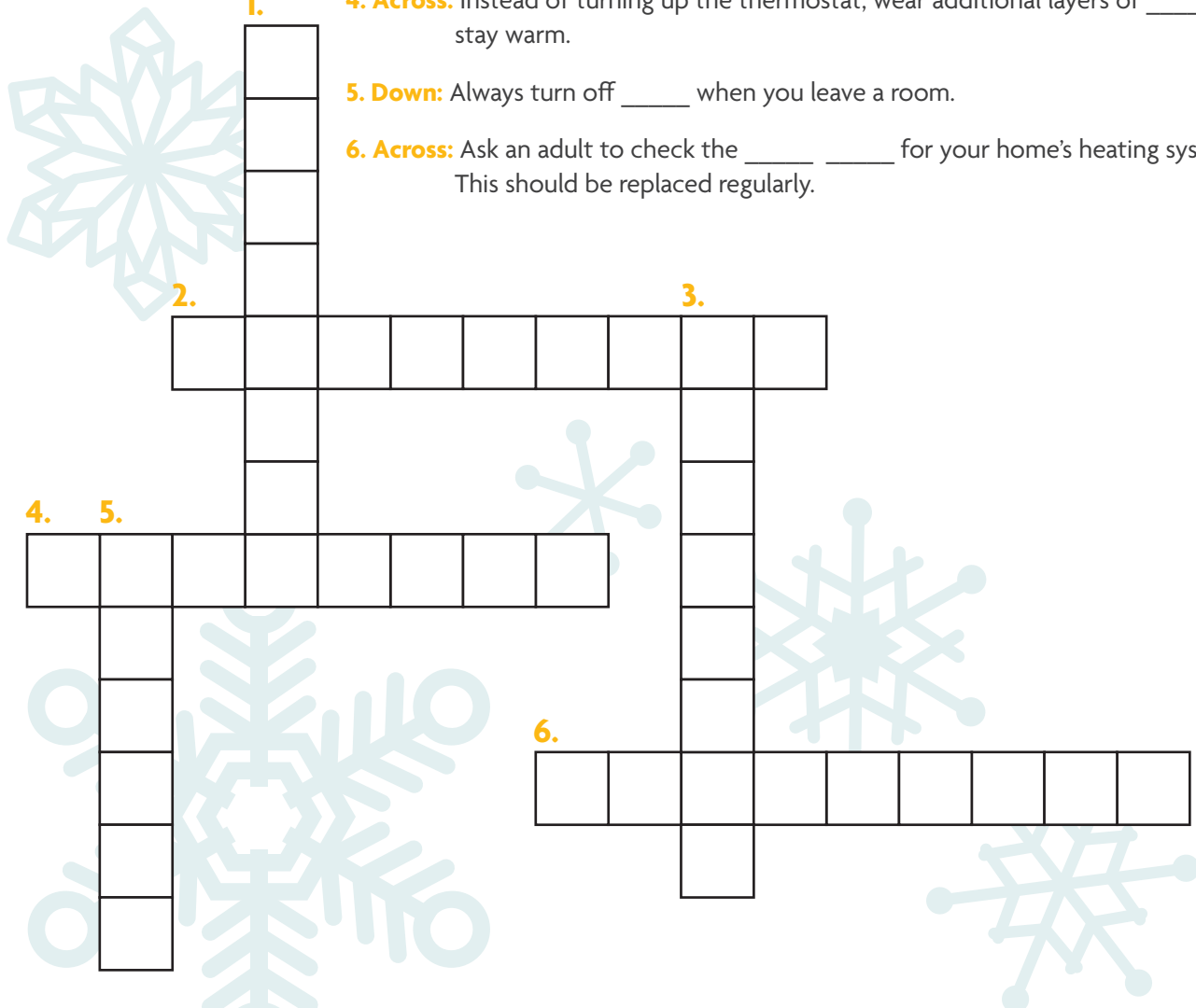
2. Across: If you have a _____ at home, ask an adult to close the flue when a fire is not burning.

3. Down: Unplug phone and tablet _____ when they're not in use.

4. Across: Instead of turning up the thermostat, wear additional layers of _____ to stay warm.

5. Down: Always turn off _____ when you leave a room.

6. Across: Ask an adult to check the _____ _____ for your home's heating system. This should be replaced regularly.



Answer Key — 1. Down: sunlight, 2. Across: fireplace, 3. Down: chargers, 4. Across: clothing, 5. Down: lights, 6. Across: air filter