



**DSO ELECTRIC  
COOPERATIVE, INC.**

## Board

**Ken Hedberg**  
Marquette, Vice President

**James Christopher**  
Falun, Director

**David Mueller**  
Tampa, Secretary

**Dane Clark**  
Gypsum, Director

**Dean Allison**  
Delphos, Director

**Sheila Hummel**  
Hope, Director

**Kenneth Berry**  
Minneapolis, Director

**Mike Richards**  
Solomon, Director

**David Butler**  
Junction City, Director

**Bruce Spare**  
Assaria, 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



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@DSOElectricCoop

# 2022 Board Election Results



**Sheila Hummel**  
East District  
Position 2



**Mike Richards**  
Central District  
Position 2



**Jim Christopher**  
West District  
Position 2



**Kenneth Berry**  
West District  
Position 3

Visit [www.dsoelectric.com](http://www.dsoelectric.com) to watch the 82nd Annual Meeting video for DSO Electric Cooperative and contact us with the code at the end to receive your \$20 bill credit.

**TO MEMBERS OF  
DSO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**

## Notice of Board Meeting

The board of directors of DSO Electric Cooperative, Inc. (DSO) will meet on May 16, 2022, at 7 p.m. at the cooperative's office, located at 201 Dakota Drive in Solomon, to discuss and vote upon revisions to the following rates: R-II, R-2I and R-3I.

This meeting is open to members. For planning purposes, if you plan to attend, please contact the DSO office during business hours at 800-376-3533.

K.S.A. 66-104d(g) provides that members may petition the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) to review any rate change. DSO's rates are the responsibility of its board of directors, and DSO is not rate-regulated by the KCC.

## In Memory of Bill Griggs



Bill Griggs

**WILLIAM E. "BILL" GRIGGS** passed away suddenly on April 8, 2022, at his home in Abilene. He was born July 13, 1961, at Ft. Riley, Kansas, the son of William and Sue (Morrison) Griggs. He graduated from Manhattan High School and Manhattan Tech.

Griggs was a journeyman lineman for DSO for over 40 years where he started out of Manhattan Tech and worked his entire career. His DSO family was his second family. He enjoyed golfing, riding his Razr, and was an avid K-State football fan. He loved time spent with his friends and family.

He leaves behind his wife, Pat, and children Michelle, Jordan, Brooke, Travis, and Nolan, and two grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the William Griggs Memorial Fund for the benefit of the Solomon School athletics program or the local Meals on Wheels program where Griggs donated his time and infectious personality. Memorials may be sent to:

**MARTIN-BECKER-CARLSON  
FUNERAL HOME  
414 NW THIRD  
ABILENE, KS 67410**

DSO Electric offers its condolences to Bill's family and friends during this difficult time.



**ABOVE:** Bill Griggs (far right) enjoyed golfing with his cooperative counterparts from across the state at the annual KCRE Golf Tournament.

**BELOW:** Snapshots of Griggs while on the job at DSO.



## Restoring Power Safely and Efficiently

We do our best to avoid them, but there's no way around it: power outages occasionally happen.

For most DSO members, outages are rare and only last a few hours. But when major storms, like the Dec. 15, 2021, Kansas windstorm or 2021's Winter Storm Uri impact our area, extended outages are unavoidable.

So, when the power goes out, how do DSO crews know where to start working? How do you know if your outage has been reported? We've got answers to these questions and more, and it all starts with a safe, efficient plan for power restoration.

When the lights go out and it's safe for our crews to begin the restoration process, they start by repairing power lines and equipment that will restore power to the greatest number of people in the shortest time possible.

This process typically begins with repairs to the larger main distribution lines that service a great number of homes and businesses. After those repairs are made, crews work on tap lines, which deliver power to transformers, either mounted on utility poles (for above-ground service) or placed on pads (for underground service). Finally, individual service lines that run between the transformer and the home are repaired.

We can't control the weather, but we can prepare for it. DSO keeps a supply of extra utility poles, transformers and other equipment on hand so we can quickly get to work in the event of infrastructure damage. When widespread

outages occur, multiple crews will be out in the field simultaneously working to repair damage at multiple locations. We also coordinate with nearby co-ops to bring in additional crews when necessary.

A proactive approach to maintenance helps minimize the chance of prolonged outages; this is why you see DSO crews periodically trimming trees and clearing vegetation near rights-of-way. We love trees too, but it only takes one overgrown limb to knock out power for an entire neighborhood. Trimming improves power reliability for our entire community. In addition to managing vegetation, we regularly inspect utility poles, power lines, and other critical equipment to maintain a more reliable system.

If you experience a power outage, don't assume a neighbor reported it. It's best to report the outage yourself, and we make it easy to do. The quickest way to report an outage is by calling our outage reporting number at 800-376-3533.

If you have a medical condition that requires electrical equipment, please let us know, and always have a backup plan in place. This plan could include a portable generator, extra medical supplies, or moving to an alternate location until power is restored. If you plan to use a generator for backup power, read all safety information and instructions before use.

Mother Nature can be unpredictable, but as a member of DSO, you can feel confident knowing we're standing by, ready to restore power as quickly and safely as possible.



## Selecting a Tree? Know Its Mature Height.

If you consider planting a tree, carefully select its location before you begin digging. Also, call 811 before you break ground to get underground utilities marked. If trees are planted in the wrong place, they can be expensive to maintain and even dangerous. DSO and Safe Electricity offer tips on how to pick an optimal location.

A mature height of fewer than 15 feet is recommended if planting near lines. Some trees that are generally not tall enough to interfere with lines include crabapple, honeysuckle, juniper, flowering dogwood, and hawthorn.

Trees should never be planted directly under power lines, near poles, or too close to electrical equipment.

Once you have a tree selected, contact Kansas 811 by simply calling 811, visiting 811kansas.com, or downloading the Kansas 811 app to schedule a utility locate before putting a shovel to the ground. The “Call Before You Dig” number is a free service that locates and marks public underground utilities in your yard or on your land. Call several business days before you plan to dig. Locators will mark public underground utilities such as electric, gas, water, cable, and fiber. The service does not mark

privately owned lines or pipes such as sprinkler systems and invisible fencing.

- ▶ If your established trees are growing into power lines, contact us to ask about them. In some cases (depending on the tree’s location), we will come out and trim the tree. However, if it is your responsibility, do not take on the task yourself. Only tree trimmers who are line-clearance certified are legally allowed to prune and trim trees within 10 feet of power lines.
- ▶ It is important to have trees trimmed. Limbs can fall on power lines during bad weather, resulting in power outages or blinking lights. Broken or drooping limbs could also cause a fire.
- ▶ Tall growing trees with a mature height greater than 45 feet should be planted at least 45 feet away from lines to avoid future pruning. Some of these trees include oak, white and blue spruce, most pines, and most maples. Be sure no one climbs a tree near power lines. If branches are touching the wires, the tree could be energized. Even branches that do not touch power lines could become energized if a child’s weight is added. In addition, a child could climb high into the tree and be able to reach the line.



## Test Your GFCI Outlets ONCE A MONTH

Ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) can fail without notice, so check them on the first or last day of each month.

### HOW TO TEST A GFCI OUTLET

- ▶ Find the test and reset buttons.
- ▶ Press the TEST button.
- ▶ The outlet should trip with a “snap” sound.

### CONFIRM THE POWER IS OUT

- ▶ Plug in a lamp or other device.
- ▶ The item you plug in should not turn on.

### RESET THE OUTLET

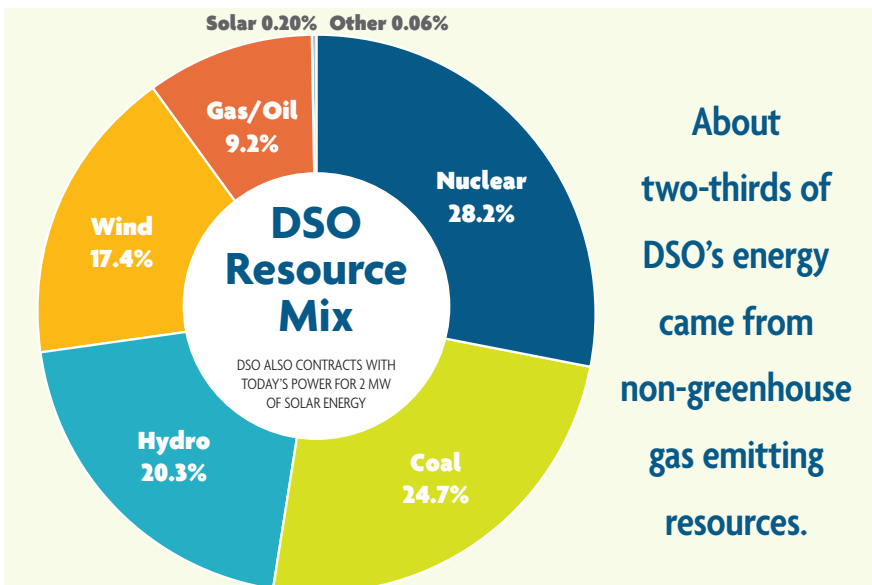
- ▶ Once you confirm the GFCI is working properly (that the outlet does **NOT** work when tested), press the reset button to restore power to the outlet.

### RETEST FOR REMAINING SOCKET(S)

- ▶ You can also buy a GFCI outlet tester with a display and test button.

GFCI protection can also be installed on circuit breakers to safeguard an entire circuit. Test monthly by pressing the test button on the breaker. If working properly, the interrupter should shut off power to the circuit.

SOURCE: SAFE ELECTRICITY

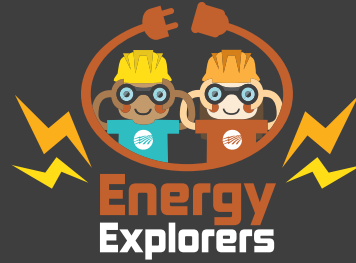


About two-thirds of DSO’s energy came from non-greenhouse gas emitting resources.

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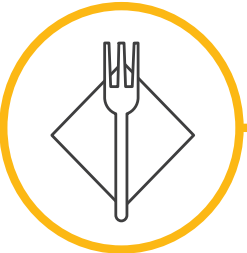


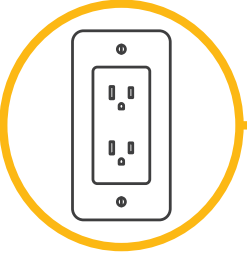

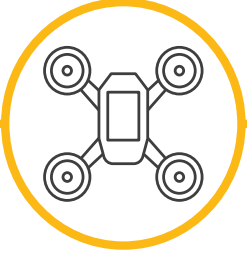
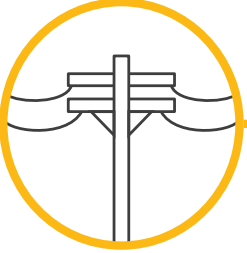

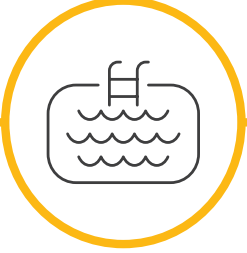

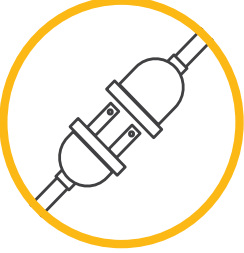
# SPOT THE ELECTRICAL HAZARD



After you complete this activity, color the items with crayons or colored pencils.

When combined, electricity and common items that seem harmless can create dangerous situations. Look at the items grouped below, then circle the two items that, when combined, create an electrical hazard.

Check your work in the answer key.

1			
	toaster	fork	bagel
2			
	hairdryer	electrical outlet	running water
3			
	drone	power lines	picnic
4			
	swimming pool	floatie	extension cord

Answer Key: 1) fork & toaster 2) hairdryer & water or outlet & water 3) drone & power lines 4) extension cord & pool