

JACKSON ENERGY



WORKING FOR YOU



jacksonenergy.com

Maintaining a delicate balance

Being a circus tightrope walker who can maintain sure footing in a high-wire crossing is no easy feat. It requires laser focus and exceptional steadiness. Making decisions that balance the affordability and reliability of your electricity along with sustainability is much the same.

Jackson Energy is committed to both energy and the environment because they're important to improving the quality of life in our communities. And both are essential to ensure your co-op remains a viable source of power in the future. Environmental stewardship starts with the very source of our power. Working with our wholesale power supplier, East Kentucky Power Cooperative, we have a diverse mix of power-generating fuels to balance affordability and reliability with cleaner sources of electricity.

For decades, our power supplier has generated power from methane gas from Kentucky's landfills—and hydro-power from the water in our lakes and rivers—to supply some of the electricity you use.

Jackson Energy was the first co-op in the state to purchase renewable power from a landfill and a hydroplant located within our own service territory.

We're further integrating renewable sources into our power mix with



DEVAN GEORGIEVA/DOBESTOCK

Cooperative Solar Farm One, which gives our members a no-hassle solar option to offset their electric bills. Our envirowatts program, which includes hydro, solar, biomass and wind options, also gives members a choice in how their renewable energy dollars are spent.

Jackson Energy is also one of Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives that offers a tariff program to provide a renewable energy option for businesses and industries. Helping companies meet their sustainability goals can attract new jobs to our area. That's a win-win for us all.

Beyond power generation, we're also

practicing good environmental stewardship by promoting energy efficiency. After all, the most environmentally friendly kilowatt-hour is the one you never use. So, when you adjust your thermostat, close your window blinds or wash your clothes in cold water, you're doing more than lowering your electric bill. You're helping keep power demand in check.

Balancing members' needs for affordable, reliable electricity with concerns for the environment can be tricky at times. We're carefully taking it one step at a time. Our future depends on it.



Lisa Baker, Editor

Published by Jackson Energy

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REGULAR OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

OFFICES

KY HWY 290, McKee
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MEMBER SERVICES

Headquarters - (606) 364-1000
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Clover Bottom

WORKING FOR YOU

Always reliable

Common sense solutions are more important than ever

Born this month in 1777, Henry Clay was known as “The Great Compromiser.”

It might sound like a put-down to modern ears, but at the time, Clay’s nickname was a tribute to his genius for getting things done. Remembered as one of Kentucky’s greatest politicians, Clay certainly knew how to stand firm where it mattered—he supported abolition in Kentucky in the 1790s—but he also knew how to work with other viewpoints to accomplish larger goals.

Clay’s reputation as a dealmaker hinged on his ability to appeal to common sense. It was an unusual talent in his own time. It’s rare today, too, and just as important as ever.

Jackson Energy will never compromise on our core principles. These include delivering you safe, reliable electricity at the lowest possible cost, advocating for your interests as a member and serving the community we belong to. Those are our values, and we’re sticking to them.

In our fast-changing energy world, however, there are some places where compromise would be appropriate. Unfortunately, there are also extreme points of view that take a “my way or the highway” approach—with disastrous results.

Look at electric service reliability, for example. Although Jackson Energy members did not face rolling blackouts this past December, many other Kentuckians served by other electric companies were not as fortunate—showing us how political decisions made in Frankfort and in Washington, D.C., can lead to real consequences for the end consumer. The push to incorporate new sources of energy like solar and wind must be balanced with the need for dispatchable energy sources—like coal, natural gas and nuclear—that can be ready at a moment’s notice.

Demand for electricity continues to rise, and it’s more important than ever to make energy decisions based on reality rather than political agendas. As your energy advocate, Jackson Energy is a leader in this conversation. Keep reading *Kentucky Living* for more on reliability in the months ahead. It’s a topic that will only grow in importance.

There are some who demand perfect solutions with no steps in between. The art of compromise suggests another way—working toward future goals without ignoring today’s needs.

By President & CEO
Carol Wright



Commitment to community

Operation RoundUp is a program that gives Jackson Energy members the opportunity to give back to their community a few cents at a time.

It is solely funded by co-op members who voluntarily choose to round their electric bill to the next even dollar amount each month.

Grants totaling \$7,500 were awarded

during the first quarter of 2023 to the following:

- \$1,000 to Grace Covenant Ministries
- \$500 to Lee County Middle/High School Youth Service Center
- \$250 to Lee County 4-H Club
- \$1,000 to Beattyville in Bloom
- \$250 to Owsley County 4-H Club
- \$500 to Owsley County Historical Society



Clay County Director Landis Cornett, right, presents a \$1,000 Operation RoundUp check to Beverley Stevens, Jamie Feltner, Danielle Collins and Steve Collins with the Stay in Clay Project Hope.



Jackson Energy's Rockcastle County Director Phil Thompson, right, presents a \$500 Operation RoundUp check to Don Hamilton and James Cornett with the Owsley County Historical Society.



Thomas Miracle, left, and Ruthie Sizemore with Grace Covenant Ministries, accept a \$1,000 Operation RoundUp check from Jackson County Director Gordon Phillips. Photos: Brent Jackson.

- \$1,000 to Estill County Dolly Parton Imagination Library
- \$1,000 to Stay in Clay Project Hope
- \$1,500 to Fogertown Fire & Rescue
- \$500 to Clay County Shrine Club

Community organizations can apply for grants and members can sign up for Operation RoundUp at www.jacksonenergy.com/operation-roundup.

The power behind the power

You've likely noticed Jackson Energy's crews out and about, working on power lines and other electrical equipment in our community. It's no secret that a lineworker's job is tough—but it's a job that must be done, often in challenging conditions. This month, we celebrate Lineworker Appreciation Day on April 10 in appreciation for their courage and commitment to powering our community.

Lineworkers must be committed to their career—because it's not just a job, it's a lifestyle. The long hours and ever-present hazards can truly take a toll. In fact, being a lineworker is listed in the top 10 most dangerous jobs in the U.S.

Lineworkers often work nontraditional hours, outdoors and in difficult

surroundings. While the job does not require a college degree, it does require technical skills, years of training and hands-on learning. To become a journeyman lineworker, it can take more than 7,000 hours (or about 3 1/2 years) of on-the-job training. That's because working with high-voltage equipment requires specialized skills, experience and ongoing mental toughness. Shortcuts are not an option, and there is no room for error in this line of work.

Being a lineworker is absolutely essential to the life of our community. Without their dedication and devotion, we simply would not have the reliable electricity that we need for everyday life.

So, the next time you see a lineworker,



LISA BAKER

please thank them for the work they do to keep power flowing, regardless of the time of day or weather conditions. After all, lineworkers are the power behind your power.

LINEMAN TRAINING CENTER Scholarship Application



Jackson Energy Cooperative
is proud to offer one full
scholarship for the
Lineman Training Center
at Somerset Community College



**Applications must be received at the Jackson Energy Office
or submitted online by May 26, 2023**

Applicants must complete this form or apply online to be considered for the scholarship. The scholarship amount will not exceed \$4,200.

1. Applicants must be at least a senior in high school.
2. Applicants shall enroll in the Somerset Lineman Training Center and begin the program by October 2023. The applicant chosen for the scholarship shall also acquire their CDL permit before beginning the program.
3. Applicants, their parents or legal guardians must be Jackson Energy members and their primary residence or business served by the cooperative.
4. Students who apply for the scholarship will be required to interview with a selection committee consisting of Jackson Energy personnel.
5. Scholarships will be paid directly to Somerset Community College—Lineman Training Center.
6. Applicants must not be a member of the immediate family of an employee or director of Jackson Energy. Immediate family is defined as a spouse or a child of an employee or director.
7. Applicants shall not be previous winners of the Jackson Energy Scholarship No-Essay Contest.
8. Entries must be legible. Any entry that is not legible will be disqualified.

Complete application and return
or APPLY ONLINE
at jacksonenergy.com/scholarship-programs

Applicant's Name:

Name of Person (and relation if applicable) on the electric bill:

Account #:

Date of Birth:

Address:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Applicant's Signature:

RETURN TO:

Jackson Energy Cooperative
Attn: Lineman Scholarship Program
115 Jackson Energy Lane, McKee, KY 40447