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SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS – 400 SERIES POLICIES

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**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY 400**

**OREMC SERVICE RULES & REGULATIONS**

I. OBJECTIVE:

To establish service rules and regulations policies which help to define and clarify obligations and requirements of the cooperative, applicants and members regarding electric service, billing and fees.

II. CONTENT

These Rules and Regulations apply to each and every member or applicant for membership and electric service. They are a part of every contract for service made by Okefenoke Rural Electric Membership Corporation, hereinafter referred to as the Cooperative, unless modified by special terms written therein, and govern all classes of service.

They may be revised, amended, supplemented, or otherwise changed from time to time by the Board of Directors, and such changes shall have the same force as the present ones.

The Cooperative reserves the right to apply or make proper and fitting exceptions to these provisions, particularly special charges, where unusual circumstances and conditions may warrant.

The failure of the Cooperative to enforce any of the terms of these Rules and Regulations shall not be deemed as a waiver of the right to do so.

A periodic review will be made of the amounts of special charges specified for the purpose of determining their appropriateness as related to the rights and interests of all members and their relation to actual costs of operations affected.

Whenever the context may require, any pronoun shall include the corresponding masculine, feminine and neuter forms.

III. APPLICABILITY

The applicability of these policies to applicants and members is set forth in Policy 401.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY

The General Manager will be responsible for carrying out the provisions of these policies.

Date Adopted: September 26, 2019

Effective Date: November 1, 2019

**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY NO. 401**

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

I. OBJECTIVE:

To establish policy to provide for establishment of membership with the Cooperative.

II. CONTENT:

Any individual or entity ("Person") with the capacity to enter a legally binding contract with the Cooperative to receive electric service is eligible to apply to become a member of the Cooperative.

Any two or more natural Persons, each of whom is individually eligible to apply to become a member of the Cooperative, by jointly executing a Membership Application or otherwise jointly requesting in writing, shall be eligible to apply for joint membership. If one or more of these natural Persons is already a member, the Joint Membership Application or written notice may request that one or more of the individual memberships be converted to a joint membership.

Each Applicant must apply for membership in such form, substance and manner prescribed by the Cooperative from time to time. Such Membership Application shall include, without limitation, the member's agreement to:

- 1) Comply with and be bound by the Cooperative's Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, rates, tariffs, Service Rules and Regulations, Membership Application and any other reasonable rules and regulations from time to time adopted or amended by the Cooperative, as well as any supplemental or separate contract between the Applicant(s) and Cooperative, (collectively, the "Membership Documents"); and
- 2) Take electric service from the Cooperative and pay for same based upon such rates and terms as the Cooperative may from time to time prescribe.

Each Applicant or member must:

- 1) Pay or make satisfactory arrangement for the payment of any past-due indebtedness owed by the Person to the Cooperative, plus accrued interest thereon;
- 2) Pay or make satisfactory arrangement for the payment of such security deposit, membership fee, contribution-in-aid-of-construction, connect/transfer fee, unpaid debt to the Cooperative plus accrued interest thereon, or any combination of the

same, and such other fees or charges as may be required pursuant to the Membership Documents in effect at the time application is made.

- 3) Satisfy all other reasonable conditions and requirements established for membership from time to time.
- 4) Each additional service connection request shall be subject to the same requirements as outlined in the foregoing.

Upon termination of membership, the membership fee will be refunded or applied against any unpaid balance owed the Cooperative. Since the Cooperative members are owners of the Cooperative, no interest will be payable on membership fees except as may be required by State and Federal Laws.

III. APPLICABILITY:

This policy applies to all Persons, Applicants and members.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY:

The General Manager will be responsible for carrying out the provisions of this policy.

Date Adopted: September 26, 2019  
Supersedes: July 25, 2006  
Effective Date: November 1, 2019

**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY NO. 402**

**SERVICE SECURITY DEPOSITS**

I. OBJECTIVE:

To establish policy to provide a uniform program for collection of security deposits.

II. CONTENT:

- A. A service security deposit shall be collected in advance of connecting any service with respect to which the Cooperative determines that such deposit is needed to assure payment of the bill and protection of the Cooperative's property on the member's premises.

In determining the need for service security deposits, and in fixing the amounts of such deposits, the Cooperative will give careful regard to the following credit factors:

1. Type of service involved;
2. Risk involved in a new business enterprise;
3. The credit rating of the member;
4. History of connects, disconnects, and reconnects at the involved premises or for the involved member;
5. Where no billing history is available, the Cooperative will estimate usage and bill amounts;
6. The member's payment history with the Cooperative;
7. Information received in a letter of credit from a previous utility;
8. Ability to provide satisfactory identification. (Satisfactory identification of person(s) proposing to transact business with the Cooperative is required. Employees may request identification from any applicant or current member. Failure to provide proper identification shall be grounds for withholding the service or not completing the business transaction.);
9. Any other factor having a realistic bearing on the member's financial dependability.

B. Security Deposit Requirement

1. Residential and Temporary Service for Residential Construction

The Cooperative may require a deposit not to exceed two and one-half times the highest estimated or actual monthly bill. The security deposit, or a portion thereof, may be waived based upon credit factors determined by management.

2. Small Commercial

The Cooperative may require a security deposit not to exceed two and one-half times the highest estimated or actual monthly bill for commercial services where the estimated load is less than 100 kW.

3. Political Subdivisions

The Cooperative will not require security deposits from political subdivisions of the Federal, State or local governments, unless credit factors indicate a deposit should be required.

4. Large Commercial and Industrial

Deposits for Commercial or Industrial services where the estimated or actual load exceeds 100 kW will be determined by management on a case by case basis.

5. Exceptions

When deposits exceed \$1,500.00, one of the following methods may also be used at management's discretion:

- a. A surety bond;
- b. The full amount of the security deposit may be deposited in a bank, mutually agreed upon between the Cooperative and the Member, with the bank as Escrow Agent.

C. Additional Deposits

The Cooperative reserves the right to require a deposit, or increase the existing deposit, at any time, if in the judgment of the Cooperative, such deposit or increase in deposit is necessary for its full protection.

D. Security Deposit Refunds

Refund of security deposits will be made without interest under the following conditions:

1. As provided for in the written contract for service.
2. Upon termination of service – The security deposit shall be refunded by check; less any amounts the member may owe the Cooperative.
3. Prior to service termination – Upon such other conditions as may be established by the Cooperative with respect to service risks of similar characteristics.

Because the Cooperative's members are owners of the Cooperative, no interest will be payable on security deposits, except as may be required by State or Federal laws.

Security deposits must be refunded in the same name as the member's electric service account and are not generally transferable. However, the transference of a security deposit may be permitted in order to facilitate transferring an account from the name of a deceased member to a succeeding spouse.

III. APPLICABILITY:

This policy applies to all members and services.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY:

The General Manager will be responsible for carrying out the provisions of this policy.

Date Adopted: September 26, 2019

Supersedes: March 23, 2010

Effective Date: November 1, 2019



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**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY NO. 403**

**ELECTRIC SERVICE BILLING RATES & FEE SCHEDULES**

I. OBJECTIVE:

To establish policy to provide and maintain consumer classification definitions, a schedule of billing rates and service fees.

II. CONTENT:

A. Rate Schedules

All members shall be billed on the rate deemed applicable by the Cooperative. When two or more rates are available for certain classes or service, the conditions under which each is applicable to requirements for the individual member will be plainly set forth in the Cooperative's published rate schedules.

The Cooperative will, upon request, advise any member as to the rate best adapted to existing or anticipated service requirements, as defined by the member, but, the Cooperative does not assume responsibility for the selection of such a rate or for the continuance of the lower annual cost under the rate selected should the volume or character of service change.

A member having selected a rate adapted to his service may not change to another rate within a twelve-month period unless there is a substantial change in the character or conditions of this service. A new member will be given reasonable opportunity to determine his service requirements before definitely selecting the most favorable rate therefore.

A copy of the Cooperative's applicable rate schedules shall be on file at the Georgia Public Service Commission and the Florida Public Service Commission and will be provided at the offices of the Cooperative.

The rate schedules will be reviewed and approved on a periodic basis by the Board of Directors.

B. Fee Schedules

The Board of Directors shall review and approve a Schedule of Fees on a periodic basis. These fees shall include, but not be limited to, such fees as, Membership Fee, PrePay Advance Credit Minimum, Connection/Transfer Fee, Overtime Connection/Transfer Fee, Reconnect for Non-Payment Fee, Overtime Reconnect for Non-Payment Fee, Disconnect at Pole/Transformer Fee, Service Call

Fee, Returned Check Fee, E-Check Convenience Fee, E-Billing with Automatic Payment (monthly credit), Temporary Service Fee, Cut Seal Fee, Meter Test Fee, Meter Tampering Fee/Current Diversion Fee, Distributed Generation Application Fee, Distributed Generation Protective Equipment Inspection Fee, Overhead Service Lateral Fee, Overhead Line Extension Fee, Underground Service Lateral Fee, Underground Primary Installation Fee, Underground Multiphase Primary Installation Fee, Cumberland Island Line Extension Fee, Customer Owned Lighting Fixture Connection Fee, Outdoor Lighting Underground Service Fee, Outdoor Lighting Construction Fee, Outdoor Lighting Fixture Installation Fee, Outdoor Lighting Pole Installation Fee, Outdoor Lighting Relocation Fee, Construction Mobilization Fee and Hourly Rates. Other fees applicable on a case-by-case basis include, but are not limited to Preliminary Engineering Review Deposits, OREMC Design Deposits, and Special Equipment Fee.

C. Consumer Classification

Residential Service – Service to a dwelling unit suitable for year-round family occupancy and occupied eight or more months per year as the permanent residence of the owner, or the principal place of residence of the occupant leased for a period of one month or more.

Miscellaneous Residential Service – Service to a separately metered point of service used exclusively for personal rather than business use that is not included in the definition of residential service (i.e., garages, pump, pools, boat docks, barns, etc.)

General Service – Any service to which no other rate schedule is applicable shall be considered a General Service Consumer. These may be commercial, or institutional such as nonprofit organizations, religious, philanthropic, fraternal, educational, governmental, or others not listed.

III. APPLICABILITY:

This policy applies to all members and services.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY:

The General Manager will be responsible for carrying out the provisions of this policy.

Date Adopted: July 28, 2022

Supersedes: September 26, 2019

Effective Date: September 1, 2022

**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY NO. 404**

**ELECTRIC METERING**

I. OBJECTIVE:

To establish policy to provide guidance in meter reading and metering of services.

II. CONTENT:

Electric Meters

All meters used to register member's electricity consumption will be owned and supplied by the Cooperative.

Meter Reading

Meters will be read by Cooperative. The Cooperative may estimate the billing when actual readings are unavailable. The Cooperative may prorate the accumulated consumption over the period of time from the last reading of the meter to the present reading, and render a correct statement.

Incorrect Reading of Meter

Corrections shall be made whenever meter readings are determined by the cooperative to have been inaccurate. The correct reading shall be ascertained whenever possible to reflect the correct usage.

Failure of Meter to Register Correctly

If a meter fails to accurately register or report the correct consumption, the member's bill for the current billing period (or portion thereof) will be billed on an estimated consumption, which will be based on the previous usage of the member. Consideration will be given to consumption on months immediately preceding, consumption in similar period of other years, comparative uses and sizes of connected loads, and other relevant facts. Adjustments to prior billing periods will be done as specified in Policy 405 or Policy 405.1, as applicable, Adjustment of Bills.

If a meter is tested and found to have over-registered or under-registered by more than two percent due to calibration error, an adjustment will be made in the bill as described under Policy 405 or Policy 405.1, as applicable, Adjustment of Bills.

#### Meter Tests

The Cooperative, at its expense, will make periodic tests and inspections of its meters in order to maintain them at a high standard of accuracy.

The Cooperative will, upon request, test the accuracy of a member's meter upon the member paying a deposit equal to the Meter Test Fee. If the meter, upon testing is found to be more than 2% (fast or slow) in error the deposit shall be refunded to the member.

The Cooperative shall have the right, at its option and at its expense, to place special meters or instruments on the premises of a member for the purpose of special test of all, or any part of the member's load.

#### III. APPLICABILITY:

This policy applies to all members and services.

#### IV. RESPONSIBILITY:

The General Manager will be responsible for carrying out the provisions of this policy.

Date Adopted: September 26, 2019

Supersedes: March 23, 2010

Effective Date: November 1, 2019

**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY NO. 405**

**ELECTRIC SERVICE BILLING & COLLECTION**

**NON-PREPAY ACCOUNTS**

I. OBJECTIVE:

To establish policy to provide guidance on the billing and collection of electric service revenue of Cooperative members.

II. CONTENT:

A. Billing and Late Fees

All members shall be billed monthly at a time determined by the Cooperative. Bills are due and payable upon receipt of the bill. The bill shall be considered received by the member when the bill is placed in the mail of the United States Postal Service. If the member has requested e-mail billing, the bill shall be considered received by the member when the e-mail notification is sent. The Cooperative is not responsible if a member fails to receive an electric bill. Members are expected to promptly notify the Cooperative of change of address or if they fail to receive a bill. Failure to pay an electric bill for this reason will not exempt the member from having electric service disconnected or from paying a late charge.

If a bill is not paid (received in the Cooperative office) within fifteen days of the date of the bill, a disconnect notice will be sent to the member. This notice will advise the member that the account must be paid by the stated date to avoid disconnection of electric service. Failure to receive said notice will not exempt the member from disconnection.

If a bill is not paid (received in the Cooperative office) within twenty days of the date of the bill, the account will be subject to collection or suspension of electric service. If a bill is not paid within twenty-five days from the date of the bill, a late penalty will be added.

Payments made through the U.S. Postal Service, a delivery service, a payment processing service, or the night deposit at a Cooperative office will not be considered paid until they are received and processed at the Cooperative office during regular office hours. E-Check payments will be assessed an E-Check Convenience Fee in an amount prescribed by the Board of Directors.

If a member requests e-mail billing and one of the Cooperative's automatic payment options, the member will receive a monthly credit in an amount prescribed by the Board of Directors. If the member subsequently discontinues e-billing or automatic payment, then no credit shall be given.

Interest, in an amount prescribed by the Board of Directors, will be added to all bills left unpaid when a member's service is disconnected.

An extension may be granted to members for extenuating circumstances upon approval of the General Manager or other such employee as he may designate from time to time.

**B. Disconnections for Failure to Pay and Reconnecting**

Any member whose service has been disconnected for failure to pay their bill shall be required to pay a reconnection fee prior to reconnection for any reconnects made during regular working hours. Normally, reconnections shall be made only during regular working hours. However, reconnection requested and made during other than regular working hours shall be made only upon the member's agreeing to pay an overtime reconnection fee. Any additional deposit required according to Policy 402, Service Security Deposit Policy, must be paid prior to reconnection.

When it is necessary to disconnect the service at the pole or transformer for non-payment, meter tampering, or unauthorized use of service and the service is subsequently reconnected, the member will be charged a Disconnect at Pole/Transformer Fee in addition to the applicable reconnect for non-payment fee. In the event that service is not reconnected for the same member at this location, the disconnected account will be charged the Disconnect at Pole/Transformer Fee.

All reconnection fees shall be in an amount prescribed by the Board of Directors.

The Cooperative may deviate from this policy on disconnection for delinquent bills only in accordance with the following standards:

1. When it is determined that enforcement of the policy will constitute an undue hardship in relation to the amount of the delinquent bill and that extension of credit for a Cooperative's ability to effectuate final collection of the bill; or
2. When the member involved establishes to the satisfaction of the Cooperative that member's failure to pay the bill has resulted from some mistake on the Cooperative's part or some mistake for which the member was not responsible (other than failure to receive a bill or disconnect notice); or
3. When the involved bill is a final bill covering service to a farm, house, or other residential account and the main building thereof has been destroyed by fire not caused by act of arson on the part of the member or member's family; or



4. When to disconnect service might pose immediate danger to the member or other persons due to illness; or
5. When it is determined that the consumer has a good credit rating with the Cooperative and the risk involved in extending the credit will not unduly jeopardize the ability of the Cooperative to collect the full amount of the bill; or
6. When the provisions of Policy 405.2 are applicable.

C. Returned Payments

If the payment for an electric bill or other indebtedness to the Cooperative is returned for insufficient funds, fraudulent transaction, hold on account, unavailable funds or no account, a notice of disconnection will be sent, unless one was previously sent for this past due bill

D. Connection/Transfer Fee

A connection/transfer fee, in an amount prescribed by the Board of Directors, will be charged each time a service is connected or transferred during regular working hours. An overtime connection/transfer fee, as prescribed by the Board of Directors, will be charged each time a service is connected or transferred outside normal working hours

E. Other Reasons for Disconnecting Service

1. The Cooperative reserves the right to discontinue the supply of electric service to any member or members **WITHOUT NOTICE** for any of the following reasons:
  - a. For fraudulent representation as to the use of electric service.
  - b. Where a member's equipment or wiring, or Okefenoke REMC equipment or lines are creating or contributing to an imminent hazardous condition.
  - c. For tampering with any service wires, meters, seal, or any other facilities belonging to Okefenoke REMC.
  - d. For repairs or emergency operations.
  - e. For unavoidable shortage or interruption of Okefenoke REMC's source of supply.
  - f. When necessary to protect Okefenoke REMC from theft, fraud, or abuse.
  - g. Upon cancellation of contract and vacating of the premises by the member.

- h. For an unauthorized electrical connection.
  - i. For the use of equipment which adversely affects Okefenoke REMC's service to its other members.
2. The Cooperative reserves the right to discontinue the supply of electric service to any member or members **WITH REASONABLE NOTICE** for any of the following reasons:
- a. For non-payment of a bill for service rendered, including any late payment charge.
  - b. For refusal of access to Okefenoke REMC's equipment as defined in Policy 407.
  - c. For failure to install meter base on an outside wall of the structure being served to permit access to the meter at all times.
  - d. Where a member's equipment or wiring, or Okefenoke REMC's equipment or lines, are creating or contributing to hazardous condition.
  - e. For violation and or non-compliance with any applicable State or Local law, regulations and codes pertaining to electric service.
  - f. For non-compliance with bylaws, policies, rules and regulations of the Cooperative.

The discontinuance of service for any of these causes does not release the member from the obligation to pay for energy received, or the charges specified in any existing contract or policy.

F. Adjustment of Bills

Based on Members Request for Test:

An adjustment of past bills for service will be made if the meter is tested and found to be excess of 102% average accuracy. The amount of adjustment shall be calculated on the basis that the metering equipment should be 100% accurate. For kilowatt and kilowatt-hours meters, the average shall be the weighted average of percent indicated at light load and at full load, giving the full load indication a weight of four.

The records of the member's energy usage and previous tests will be reviewed and a mutually acceptable agreement reached between the member and Cooperative as to when the error began.

Meters testing below 98% average accuracy will be adjusted based on the above averaging method. The Cooperative will review the member's energy usage and all other pertinent information, but any adjustment made will be limited to the previous twelve months.

Other Adjustments:

Whenever it is found that for any reason other than incorrect calibration or meter tampering the meter apparatus has not registered or reported the true consumption or that the member was billed incorrectly due to an error in rate, fees or any other charges, the member's account will be adjusted.

If the Cooperative, after exercising due diligence, is unable to determine the exact date that the billing error began, the adjustment will be based on the period of time that it can reasonably confirm that the billing error occurred.

If the adjusted bills are less than billed to the consumer, the account will be adjusted throughout the entire period of incorrect billing. If the adjusted bills are more than the consumer was billed, the adjustment will be limited to the previous twelve months and the member will be allowed to pay this adjusted amount in installments. The number of installments will be no less than the number of months adjusted.

III. APPLICABILITY:

This policy applies to all members and accounts except those accounts enrolled in the PrePay Program.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY:

The General Manager will be responsible for carrying out the provisions of this policy.

Date Adopted: July 25, 2024  
Supersedes: September 26, 2019  
July 22, 2014

Effective Date: November 1, 2019

**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY NO. 405.1**

**ELECTRIC SERVICE BILLING & COLLECTION**  
**PREPAY ACCOUNTS**

I. OBJECTIVE:

To establish policy to provide guidance on the billing and collection of electric service revenue of Cooperative members.

II. CONTENT:

A. Eligibility

PrePay service is an option available to all accounts billed on Rate Schedules RS and GS, or mandatory in instances when the Cooperative considers it necessary, subject to the follow provisions:

1. The metering equipment at the location must be compatible with the Cooperative's PrePay metering equipment and software.
2. The member may be required to pay all applicable fees and equipment charges.
3. Member shall complete a "PrePay Service Agreement" unless the member has a Prepay Service Agreement currently in effect.
4. A Member who is certified under Policy 405.2 is not eligible for Prepay.

B. Billing

PrePay accounts do not receive paper statements (bills). Billing and account information shall be available to the member online and through other automated technologies.

Daily, the PrePay system calculates an estimated amount for the previous day's

energy usage, prorated monthly charges, and estimated taxes. This amount is deducted from the available account balance.

PrePay accounts shall be billed monthly at a time determined by the Cooperative to true up the daily estimated billings to the actual charges as if the entire month had been billed under non-PrePay billing.

Members enrolled in PrePay billing are responsible for maintaining a credit balance on their account. The Cooperative may make available several methods for the member to inquire and receive notifications about their account. However, the failure of any of these inquiry or notification methods shall not relieve the member of their responsibility to maintain a credit balance thereby preventing disconnection of service. The member shall be responsible for maintaining accurate contact information.

Payments made through the U.S. Postal Service, a delivery service, a payment processing service, or the night deposit at a Cooperative office will not be considered paid until they are received and processed at the Cooperative office during regular business office hours. E-Check payments will be assessed an E-Check Convenience Fee in an amount as specified in Policy 409.

Accounts enrolled in prepaid billing are not subject to Late Payment Fees. Interest in an amount prescribed by the Board of Directors will be added to any balance left unpaid when a member's service is disconnected.

C. Disconnection for Failure to Maintain Credit Balance

PrePay accounts become delinquent immediately upon failure to maintain a credit balance. The Cooperative will provide account notifications, including but not limited to Low Balance Warning and Balance and Usage Alert. The Cooperative will provide multiple communications methods for the member to receive the account notifications. Notifications will be sent based on the contact information and communication methods provided by the member. The member is responsible for maintaining contact information and notification methods through the Cooperative website or notifying the Cooperative of the correct information.

Members whose service has been disconnected for failure to maintain a credit balance shall be required to pay any amounts owed the Cooperative plus the PrePay Advance Credit Minimum specified in Policy 409 before service is reconnected. The prorated Basic Facility Charge of OREMC's applicable rate and

any other prorated monthly fees are due for each day the prepay account is open regardless of whether service is connected or disconnected. When a PrePay account remains disconnected for a continuous period of 20 days because of failure to maintain a credit balance, the account will be closed.

Reconnect for Non-Payment fees are not charged to PrePay accounts except when it is necessary to dispatch a cooperative employee to disconnect or reconnect a service because of tampering or vandalism of the Cooperative's equipment at the member's location. Reconnection of service involving tampering or vandalism shall be made only during regular working hours.

When it is necessary to disconnect the service at the pole or transformer for non-payment, meter tampering, or unauthorized use of service and the service is subsequently reconnected, the member will be charged a Disconnect at Pole/Transformer Fee in addition to the applicable reconnect for non-payment fee and any other fees that may apply. In the event that service is not reconnected for the same member at this location, the disconnected account will be charged the Disconnect at Pole/Transformer Fee.

All fees shall be in an amount prescribed by the Board of Directors in Policy 409.

The Cooperative may deviate from this policy of disconnection only when the member involved establishes to the satisfaction of the Cooperative that the member's failure to maintain a credit balance has resulted from a mistake on the Cooperative's part.

**D. Returned Payments**

If the payment for an electric bill or other indebtedness to the Cooperative is returned for insufficient funds, fraudulent transaction, hold on account, unavailable funds, no account or for any other reason, the amount shall be charged back to the member's account. A returned payment fee as specified in

Policy 409 shall also be charged to the account. If these charges result in the account not having a credit balance, the account will be subject to immediate disconnection for failure to maintain a credit balance.

E. Connection/Transfer Fee

A connection/transfer fee, in an amount prescribed by the Board of Directors, will be charged each time a service is connected or transferred during regular working hours. An overtime connection/transfer fee, as prescribed by the Board of Directors, will be charged each time a service is connected or transferred outside normal working hours. Normally, these connections will be made only during regular working hours.

F. Other Reasons for Disconnecting Service

1. The Cooperative reserves the right to discontinue the supply of electric service to any member or members **WITHOUT NOTICE** for any of the following reasons:
  - a. For fraudulent representation as to the use of electric service.
  - b. Where a member's equipment or wiring, or Okefenoke REMC equipment or lines are creating or contributing to an imminent hazardous condition.
  - c. For tampering with any service wires, meters, seals or any other facilities belonging to Okefenoke REMC.
  - d. For repairs or emergency operations.
  - e. For unavoidable shortage or interruption of Okefenoke REMC's source of supply.
  - f. When necessary to protect Okefenoke REMC from theft, fraud or abuse.
  - g. Upon cancellation of contract and vacating of the premises by the member.
  - h. For an unauthorized electrical connection.

- i. For the use of equipment which adversely affects Okefenoke REMC's service to its other members.
2. The Cooperative reserves the right to discontinue the supply of electric service to any member or members **WITH REASONABLE NOTICE** for any of the following reasons:
    - a. For refusal of access to Okefenoke REMC's equipment as defined in Policy 407.
    - b. For failure to install meter base on an outside wall of the structure being served to permit access to the meter at all times.
    - c. Where a member's equipment or wiring, or Okefenoke REMC's equipment or lines, are creating or contributing to a hazardous condition.
    - d. For violation and or non-compliance with any applicable State or Local law, regulations and codes pertaining to electric service.
    - e. For non-compliance with bylaws, policies, rules and regulations of the Cooperative.

The discontinuance of service for any of these causes does not release the member from the obligation to pay for energy received or the charges specified in any existing contract or policy.

G. Adjustment of Bills

Based on Members Request for Test:

An adjustment of past bills for service will be made if the meter is tested and found to be in excess of 102% average accuracy. The amount of adjustment shall be calculated on the basis that the metering equipment should be 100% accurate. For kilowatt and kilowatt-hours meters, the average shall be the weighted average of percent indicated at light load and at full load, giving the full load indication a weight of four.

The records of the member's energy usage and previous tests will be reviewed

**Second Revised Sheet No. 5.14.7**



and a mutually acceptable agreement reached between the member and Cooperative as to when the error began.

Meters testing below 98% average accuracy will be adjusted based on the above averaging method. The Cooperative will review the member's energy usage and all other pertinent information, but any adjustment made will be limited to the previous twelve months.

**Other Adjustments:**

Whenever it is found that for any reason other than incorrect calibration or meter tampering, the meter apparatus has not registered or reported the true consumption or that the member was billed incorrectly due to an error in rate, fees or any other charges, the member's account will be adjusted.

If the Cooperative, after exercising due diligence, is unable to determine the exact date that the billing error began, the adjustment will be based on the period of time that it can reasonably confirm that the billing error occurred.

If the adjusted bills are less than billed to the consumer, the account will be adjusted throughout the entire period of incorrect billing.

If the adjusted bills are more than the consumer was billed, the adjustment will be limited to the previous twelve months. If the member is unable to pay the full amount of this adjustment, the member may request that the Cooperative recover this adjusted amount by applying ten percent of each payment made toward this adjustment until the adjustment is paid in full.

**III. APPLICABILITY:**

This policy applies to all accounts enrolled in PrePay billing.

**IV. RESPONSIBILITY:**

The General Manager will be responsible for carrying out the provisions of this policy.

Date Adopted: September 26, 2019  
Supersedes: July 26, 2016  
Effective Date: November 1, 2019

**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY NO. 405.2**

**MEDICALLY ESSENTIAL SERVICE**

**OBJECTIVE:**

To establish a corporate policy providing guidelines for identifying members with special medical needs and addressing service expectations.

**CONTENT:**

- A. **Definition:** "Medically essential" means the medical dependence on electric-powered equipment that must be operated continuously, or as circumstances require, as specified by a physician to avoid the loss of life or immediate hospitalization of the member or another permanent resident at the residential service address.
- B. **Notification:** On an annual basis, Okefenoke REMC shall provide written notice to all members regarding the application process for medically essential service. Medical Essential Service status can be obtained by requesting and completing the required certification forms.
- C. **Certification:** Okefenoke REMC shall provide upon request a Physician's Certification Form which the member shall have completed by a physician licensed to practice in the State of Florida or State of Georgia, which describes in medical and nonmedical terms why electric service is medically essential.
  - a. The need for medically essential service shall be recertified every 12 months.
  - b. Okefenoke REMC will mail existing medically essential members recertification materials and forms at least 30 days prior to expiration. All recertification forms shall be completed and signed within 30 days after the expiration of the member's existing certification. If not returned within the 30-day period, Okefenoke REMC shall remove the member's medical essential service status.
- D. **Service Expectations for Medically Essential Service:**
  - a. Certification for medically essential service does not guarantee uninterrupted service.
  - b. Certified members are responsible for all backup equipment or power supplies necessary to sustain life and have a planned course of action in the event of a power outage.
  - c. Okefenoke REMC will restore service as soon as feasible but cannot assure any preferential treatment in this process.

- d. In the event of a planned outage, Okefenoke REMC will attempt to provide written or verbal notification of the service interruption.
- e. Members with certification for medically essential service are not exempt from paying their electric bill as established by other policies and procedures.
  - i. Should a certified member's bill become delinquent, Okefenoke REMC will notify the member by phone or in the field, personal contact or with written notification at the residence, 24 hours prior to disconnecting the service.
  - ii. If necessary, payment arrangements shall be initiated by the member and shall be consistent with applicable bylaws, policies and procedures. Okefenoke REMC is not obligated to make any special arrangements.
  - iii. Okefenoke REMC will provide information on sources of state or local agency funding which may provide financial assistance to members who require medically essential service.

**APPLICABILITY:**

This policy applies to all Okefenoke REMC members and services.

**RESPONSIBILITY:**

It is the responsibility of General Manager or designee to ensure this policy is followed.

Date Adopted: September 26, 2019

Effective Date: November 1, 2019

**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**  
**POLICY NO. 406**  
**METER TAMPERING & CURRENT DIVERSION**

I. OBJECTIVE:

To establish policy to provide guidance in situations where meter tampering, current diversion or cut meter seals have been found.

II. CONTENT:

A. Meter Seals

All meters on lines of the Cooperative shall be sealed at all times and no seal shall be broken without permission from an employee of the Cooperative. Upon giving permission for any seal to be broken, a service order to reseal the meter shall be created and printed immediately.

It shall be the responsibility of each and every member to see that the meter seal at their premises is not broken or tampered with. Upon finding any seal broken, an investigation shall be made. Broken meter seals will constitute grounds for questioning the accuracy of meter registration and the possibility of meter tampering. If it is determined that there was no valid reason for the seal to be cut, the member will be charged a Cut Seal Fee as prescribed by the Board of Directors.

B. Meter Tampering and Current Diversion

When it becomes evident that a member has tampered with the Cooperative's metering or service equipment, it will be the policy of the Cooperative to disconnect the service immediately and without notice. The following conditions must be met before service will be restored:

1. Payment of a meter tampering/current diversion fee.
2. Payment of a reconnect for non-payment fee during regular working hours.
3. Payment for all kWh used and any other amounts owed to the Cooperative.
4. The Cooperative reserves the right to collect the difference between what the member has paid and the recalculated bill before service is restored. The Cooperative reserves the exclusive right to recalculate the billing on the account based on past billing history, the highest twelve months' usage for this type service, and/or any other factors deemed appropriate by the Cooperative.
5. The member must agree to comply with reasonable requirements to protect the Cooperative against further infractions.
6. The member's deposit will be reviewed in accordance with the Cooperative's deposit policy. Any additional increase in deposit is due prior to reconnecting the service.

7. The member must pay or make satisfactory payment arrangements, at one of the Cooperative's offices, of all amounts required for reconnection before the service is reconnected. The only acceptable form of payment is cash or money order.
- C. When service is disconnected at the pole or transformer for meter tampering or unauthorized use of service and is subsequently reconnected, the member will be charged a Disconnect at Pole/Transformer Fee in addition to the fees specified in Section B and C. In the event that service is not reconnected for the same member at this location, the disconnected account will be charged the Disconnect at Pole/Transformer Fee.
- D. The meter tampering fee, unauthorized service connection fee, disconnect at pole/transformer fee, reconnect fee and overtime reconnect fee will be in an amount as prescribed by the Board of Directors.

The Cooperative reserves the right to take any legal action it deems appropriate.

III. APPLICABILITY:

This policy applies to all members and services.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY:

The General Manager will be responsible for carrying out the provisions of this policy.

Date Adopted: July 29, 2021

Supersedes: September 26, 2019

Effective Date: August 1, 2021

**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY NO. 407**

**EASEMENTS, RIGHT OF ACCESS AND PROTECTION OF COOPERATIVE PROPERTY**

I. OBJECTIVE:

To establish policy to provide guidance for acquiring easements, right-of-way, right of access to member's premises, and protection of Cooperative property on member's premises.

II. CONTENT:

A. Member to Grant Easements to Cooperative if Required:

Each member, upon being requested to do so by the Cooperative, shall execute and deliver to the Cooperative grants of easement or rights-of-way over as defined in Policy 411, on and under such lands owned by the member in accordance with such reasonable terms and conditions as the Cooperative shall require, for the furnishing of electric service to the member or other members or for the construction, operation, maintenance or relocation of the Cooperative's electric facilities.

B. Right of Access:

The Cooperative's authorized employees, agents and independent contractors shall have the right of safe access, without interference from any hostile source, to the member's premises at all times for the purpose of reading meters, collecting bills, disconnection of service, testing, repairing, removing, maintaining or exchanging any or all equipment and facilities which are the property of the Cooperative.

C. Protection of Cooperative Property on Member Premises:

The member shall protect the equipment of the Cooperative on the premises and shall not interfere with, alter, or permit interference with, or alteration of meters or other property including load management devices except by duly authorized representatives of the Cooperative.

The cost of the necessary replacements and repairs to correct damage to the property of the Cooperative due to, caused by, or arising from carelessness, neglect, or misuse by unauthorized persons, shall be payable by the member.

The member shall pay the replacement cost of Cooperative metering equipment damaged by rising water.

III. APPLICABILITY:

This policy applies to all members and services.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY:

The General Manager will be responsible for carrying out the provisions of this policy.

Date Adopted: September 26, 2019  
Supersedes March 23, 2010

Effective Date: November 1, 2019

**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY NO. 408**

**GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR MEMBER WITHDRAWAL**

I. OBJECTIVE:

To establish policy to provide conditions for member withdrawal.

II. CONTENT:

A. A member may voluntarily withdraw in good standing from membership upon compliance with the generally applicable conditions set forth following:

1. Payment of any and all amounts due the Cooperative, and cessation of and non-compliance with his membership obligations; all as of the effective date of withdrawal; and either
  - a. Removal to other premises not furnished service by the Cooperative; or
  - b. Ceasing to use any central station electric service whatsoever at any of the premises to which such service has been furnished by the Cooperative pursuant to his membership; or
  - c. resigning his membership in favor of another applicant who shall own or directly occupy or use the same premises to which the Cooperative has furnished service pursuant to the resigning member's membership.

B. Upon such withdrawal, the member shall be entitled to refund of his membership fee and of any service connection or security deposit then held by the Cooperative.

III. APPLICABILITY:

This policy applies to all members and services.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY:

The General Manager will be responsible for carrying out the provisions of this policy.

Date Adopted: September 26, 2019  
Supersedes: April 26, 1994  
Effective Date: November 1, 2019



**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY NO. 409**

**FEES SCHEDULE**

I. OBJECTIVE:

To establish policy to set fee amounts charged by the Cooperative.

II. CONTENT:

Membership Fee	25.00
PrePay Advance Credit Minimum	50.00
Connection/Transfer Fee	35.00
Overtime Connection/Transfer Fee	90.00
Reconnect for Non-Payment Fee	60.00
Overtime Reconnect for Non-Payment Fee	90.00
Disconnect at Pole/Transformer Fee	145.00
Service Call Fee	75.00
Returned Payment Fee	30.00
E-Check Convenience Fee	0.60
E-Billing with Automatic Payment (monthly credit)	0.60
Temporary Service Fee	75.00
Document Recording Fee	25.00
Cut Seal Fee	25.00
Meter Test Fee	35.00
Meter Tampering Fee/Current Diversion Fee	300.00 minimum or actual cost of investigation
Distributed Generation Application Fee	200.00
Distributed Generation Protective Equipment Inspection Fee	100.00
Annual Interest Rate	16% APR

<b>Schedule A</b>										
1Φ, Overhead Service, Permanent Residence, Commercial, Industrial, Public Buildings and Installations, Overhead Residential Developments										
	Total number of poles required for job									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Required Aid In Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,800	\$3,600	\$5,400	\$7,200	\$9,000	\$10,800	\$12,600
	Total number of poles required for job									
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Required Aid In Construction	\$14,400	\$16,200	\$18,000	\$19,800	\$21,600	\$23,400	\$25,200	\$27,000	\$28,800	\$30,600
Greater than 20 Poles = (Number of Required Poles minus 3) X \$1800										

<b>Schedule B</b>										
1Φ, Overhead Service, Other Permanent Installations										
	Total number of poles required for job									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Required Aid In Construction	\$0	\$1,800	\$3,600	\$5,400	\$7,200	\$9,000	\$10,800	\$12,600	\$14,400	\$16,200
	Total number of poles required for job									
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Required Aid In Construction	\$18,000	\$19,800	\$21,600	\$23,400	\$25,200	\$27,000	\$28,800	\$30,600	\$32,400	\$34,200
Greater than 20 Poles = (Number of Required Poles minus 1) X \$1800										

<b>Schedule C</b>			
Underground Primary Extension Fees		Required Aid in Construction \$ per Lineal Foot per Phase of Underground Primary Conductor	
Permanent Residences (Policy No. 410.II.B.1)	\$ 2.00 per foot	Member-Installed Conduit	To OREMC Specs
	\$ 6.00 per foot	OREMC-Direct Burial	First 500 ft of Primary
Commercial, Industrial, Public Buildings, and Other Permanent Installations (Policy No. 410.II.B.2 and 410.II.B.3)	\$10.00 per foot	OREMC-Direct Burial	> 500 ft of Primary
	\$ 8.00 per foot	Member-Installed Conduit	To OREMC Specs
	\$12.00 per foot	OREMC-Direct Burial	First 500 ft of Primary
Underground Residential Developments (Policy No. 410.II.B.4)		Feasibility Study Required	> 500 ft of Primary
	\$ 8.75 per foot	Plus Special Equipment Charge	

**Underground Service Lateral Fees**

Single Phase Service Lateral 200 Ampere	200.00
Single Phase Service Lateral in excess of 200 Amperes	400.00
Three Phase Service Lateral	400.00

**Overhead Service Lateral Fees**

Three Phase Service Lateral 400 Amp or Less	400.00
Three Phase Service Lateral, Greater than 400 Amp	Feasibility Study

Cumberland Island Line Extension Fee est. 15.00 per foot

Customer Owned Light Fixture Connection Fee	35.00
Outdoor Lighting Underground Service Fee	2.00 per foot
Outdoor Lighting Construction Fee	280.00

**Outdoor Lighting Fixture Installation Fee**

Area Lighting Small	85.00
Area Lighting Medium	140.00
Area Lighting Large	170.00
Roadway Lighting Small	85.00
Roadway Lighting Medium	145.00
Roadway Lighting Large	175.00
Roadway Lighting X-Large	190.00
Flood	260.00
Decorative Post Top	185.00
Decorative Post Top – Acorn	385.00
Deluxe Fixture – Tier 2	Market
Deluxe Fixture – Tier 3	Market
Deluxe Fixture – Tier 4	Market
Deluxe Fixture – Tier 6	Market
Premium Fixture – Tier 2	Market
Premium Fixture – Tier 3	Market
Premium Fixture – Tier 4	Market
Premium Fixture – Tier 5	Market
Premium Fixture – Tier 6	Market
Premium Fixture – Tier 8	Market

**Outdoor Lighting Pole Installation Fee**

20 Foot T&C Pole (Decorative Post Top, URD Only)	385.00
20 Foot Fluted Pole (Decorative Post Top, URD Only)	Market
35 Foot Tenon Top (URD Only)	1632.00
30 Foot Wood Pole	280.00
35 Foot Wood Pole	338.00
40 Foot Wood Pole	464.00
45 Foot Wood Pole	604.00
50 Foot Wood Pole	675.00
55 Foot Wood Pole	785.00
30 Foot (MH) Steel Pole and Concrete Base	1063.00

**Outdoor Lighting Relocation Fees**

Light Only	200.00
Light and Pole	200.00 Plus Outdoor Lighting Pole Installation Fee
Construction Mobilization Fee	250.00 minimum or actual cost
Hourly Rates	
Labor	65.00 per man-hour
Bucket/Derrick Truck	32.00 per hour
Pickup	12.00 per hour

III. APPLICABILITY:

This policy applies to all members and services.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY:

The General Manager will be responsible for carrying out the provisions of this policy.

Date Adopted: July 27, 2023

Supersedes: July 28, 2022

Effective Date: September 1, 2023

**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY NO. 410**

**GENERAL LINE EXTENSION**

I. OBJECTIVE

To establish policy to provide for extension of electric service facilities.

II. CONTENT:

A. Overhead Line Extensions

1. Permanent Residences

The Cooperative shall extend single-phase, overhead electric service facilities to all permanent residences in the area served by the Cooperative at the regularly established rates in accordance with Schedule A of Policy No. 409. Necessary right-of-way easements must be secured and adequate construction / maintenance access provided at no cost to the Cooperative. A permanent residence is defined as one which will be the member's principal dwelling and occupied the majority of the year.

A mobile home shall be considered a permanent residence provided that it has a separate, individually utilized water and septic system and is the member's principal dwelling and occupied the majority of the year. A mobile home utilizing public or community water and septic systems shall qualify as a permanent residence provided that it is the member's principal dwelling and occupied the majority of the year.

2. Commercial, Industrial, Public Buildings and Installations

Single-phase, overhead electric service facilities shall be extended to commercial/industrial or public buildings at the regularly established rates in accordance with Schedule A of Policy No. 409. Necessary right-of-way easements must be secured and adequate construction / maintenance access provided at no cost to the Cooperative.

3. Other Permanent Installations

Single phase, overhead electric service shall be extended to all other installations not included in Section II.A.1 or II.A.2 of this Policy in accordance with Schedule B of Policy No. 409. Necessary right-of-way easements must be secured and adequate construction / maintenance access provided at no cost to the Cooperative.

4. Residential Developments (Overhead)

Single phase, overhead electric service shall be extended to residential developments in the area served by the Cooperative in accordance with Schedule A of Policy No. 409. A recorded utility easement along with all applicable permitting is required prior to construction of any facilities.

5. Outdoor Lighting (Overhead)

An outdoor lighting fixture may be installed on an appropriate existing pole where suitable secondary voltage is available, subject to payment of the Outdoor Lighting Fixture Installation Fee as specified in Policy 409.

An outdoor lighting fixture may be installed on an appropriate existing pole where suitable secondary voltage is not available, subject to payment of the Outdoor Lighting Fixture Installation Fee and payment of the Outdoor Lighting Construction Fee as specified in Policy 409.

An outdoor lighting fixture may be installed on a new pole, subject to payment of the Outdoor Lighting Fixture Installation Fee and payment of the Outdoor Lighting Pole Installation Fee as specified in Policy 409. Should the member request the installation of special types of poles not addressed in Policy 409, the member shall be responsible for the full cost of such special pole.

Primary line extensions shall not be built to serve outdoor lighting without a contribution in aid of construction for the full cost of the extension. No outdoor lighting shall be installed on rental property except in the property owner's name.

Should the member request relocation of outdoor lighting fixtures and/or poles, the Outdoor Lighting Relocation Fees in Policy No. 409 shall apply. The Outdoor Lighting Relocation Fees shall also apply for the installation of a new light if the member has requested the removal of outdoor lighting at the same general location in the previous twelve months.

Should the member request the replacement or upgrade of a functioning outdoor lighting fixture and/or pole, the member will be responsible for the appropriate Outdoor Lighting Fixture Installation Fee, as well as any applicable Outdoor Lighting Pole Installation Fees specified in Policy 409. Replacement and upgrade requests will be addressed as resources are available in the area.

Outdoor lighting service will be rendered only at locations that, solely in the opinion of the Cooperative, are readily accessible for construction and continue to remain accessible and feasible to maintain. The Cooperative reserves the right to remove or abandon in place to the member any lighting facilities which are, in the sole opinion of the Cooperative, no longer in a serviceable location. The Cooperative maintains the right to discontinue service and/or require the member to reimburse the estimated repair cost (including parts, labor, and transportation expenses) in the event of vandalism.

B. Underground Line Extensions

Underground electric service shall be available under the following terms and conditions:

1. Residential Services

For individually constructed new permanent residences where no primary construction is required, the Cooperative will extend single-phase, 120/240 Volt underground electric service facilities at the regularly established rates upon payment of Underground Service Lateral Fee as specified in Policy No. 409. The member or the member's electrical contractor shall be required to install conduit from point of source to member's meter base as specified by OREMC.

In addition to the above, extensions that require underground primary construction shall require a contribution in aid of construction in accordance with Schedule C of Policy No. 409. If deemed necessary by the Cooperative, the member or the member's contractor shall be required to install conduit for the primary conductor to the Cooperative's specifications. Necessary right-of-way easements must be secured and adequate construction / maintenance access provided at no cost to the Cooperative.

2. Commercial, Industrial, Public Buildings and Installations

Single-phase, 120/240 Volt underground electric service facilities shall be extended to commercial/industrial or public buildings at the regularly established rates upon payment of the appropriate Underground Service Lateral Fee as specified in Policy No. 409. The member or the member's electrical contractor shall be required to install conduit from point of source to member's meter base as specified by OREMC.

In addition to the above, extensions that require underground primary construction shall require a contribution in aid of construction in accordance with Schedule C of Policy No. 409. If deemed necessary by the Cooperative, the member or the member's contractor shall be required to install conduit for the primary conductor to the Cooperative's specifications. Necessary right-of-way easements must be secured and adequate construction / maintenance access provided at no cost to the Cooperative.

3. Other Permanent Installations

Single-phase, 120/240 Volt underground electric service facilities shall be extended to all other installations not included in Sections II.B.1 or II.B.2 of this policy as follows. Where no primary construction is required, the Cooperative will extend Single-phase, 120/240 Volt underground electric service facilities to these installations at the regularly established rates upon payment of Underground Service Lateral Fees as specified in Policy No. 409. The member or the member's electrical contractor shall be required to install conduit from point of source to member's meter base as specified by OREMC.

In addition to the above, extensions that require underground primary construction shall require a contribution in aid of construction in accordance with Schedule C of Policy No. 409. If deemed necessary by the Cooperative, the member or the member's contractor shall be required to install conduit for the primary conductor to the Cooperative's specifications. Necessary right-of-way easements must be secured and adequate construction / maintenance access provided at no cost to the Cooperative.

4. Residential Developments (Underground)

For new residential developments requiring underground electrical service, the developer shall be required to install a total conduit system. The OREMC engineering department shall design the conduit system, and the developer's contractor shall install the conduit system in accordance with OREMC's design and specifications. A recorded utility easement along with all applicable permitting is required prior to construction of any facilities. The developer shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with any required National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") permits.

The manual, "Procedures, Standards, and Specifications for the Installation of Underground electrical Facilities for Residential/Commercial Developers", will be made available to the developer. This document outlines the process and procedures the developer must follow for the proper installation of the conduit system.

The developer shall be required to pay in advance of construction, a non-refundable contribution in aid of construction in accordance with Schedule C of Policy No. 409. Underground service lateral fees and temporary service fees will be required as appropriate for each service within the development.

In addition to the per-foot charges for underground primary conductor outlined in Schedule C of Policy No. 409, the developer will be required to submit a non-refundable Special Equipment Fee equal to the installed cost of all special equipment (transformers, switchgear or sectionalizing equipment) to be installed in the development.

5. Outdoor Lighting (Underground)

Underground service to outdoor lighting will be installed at the Cooperative's discretion. An outdoor lighting fixture may be installed on an appropriate existing pole deemed by the Cooperative to be in a suitable location and where suitable secondary voltage is available at or immediately adjacent to the pole, subject to payment of the Outdoor Lighting Fixture Installation Fee specified in Policy 409.

An outdoor lighting fixture may be installed on a new pole where suitable secondary voltage is available immediately adjacent to the pole, subject to payment of the Outdoor Lighting Fixture Installation Fee and payment of the Outdoor Lighting Pole Installation Fee as specified in Policy 409. Should the member request the installation



of special types of poles not addressed in Policy 409, the member shall be responsible for the full cost of such special poles.

An outdoor lighting fixture may be installed at a location other than immediately adjacent to Cooperative equipment providing suitable secondary voltage, subject to payment of the Outdoor Lighting Underground Service Fee as specified in Policy 409, in addition to any required Outdoor Lighting Fixture Installation or Outdoor Lighting Pole Installation Fees as specified above. The member or the member's contractor shall be required to install conduit for the outdoor lighting underground service conductor to the Cooperative's specifications.

Primary line extensions shall not be built to serve outdoor lighting without a contribution in aid of construction for the full cost of the extension. No outdoor lighting shall be installed on rental property except in the property owner's name.

Should the member request relocation of outdoor lighting fixtures and/or poles, the Outdoor Lighting Relocation Fees in Policy No. 409 shall apply. The Outdoor Lighting Relocation Fees shall also apply for the installation of a new light if the member has requested the removal of outdoor lighting at the same general location in the previous twelve months.

Should the member request the replacement or upgrade of a functioning outdoor lighting fixture and/or pole, the member will be responsible for the appropriate Outdoor Lighting Fixture Installation Fee, as well as any applicable Outdoor Lighting Pole Installation Fees specified in Policy 409. Replacement and upgrade requests will be addressed as resources are available in the area.

Outdoor lighting service will be rendered only at locations that, solely in the opinion of the Cooperative, are accessible for construction and continue to remain accessible and feasible to maintain. The Cooperative reserves the right to remove or abandon in place to the member any lighting facilities which are, in the sole opinion of the Cooperative, no longer in a serviceable location. The Cooperative maintains the right to discontinue service and/or require the member to reimburse the estimated repair cost (including parts, labor, and transportation expenses) in the event of vandalism.

6. Conversion of Overhead to Underground

Members requesting conversion of existing overhead electric facilities to underground distribution facilities shall be responsible for all costs associated with the conversion, including cost of removal for the overhead facilities and the cost of construction for the new underground facilities.

7. Cumberland Island

Members requesting electric service on Cumberland Island shall be required to make a contribution in aid of construction from point of source to point of service as determined by actual construction costs. Prior to construction by the Cooperative the

member shall make payment to the Cooperative of the estimated construction cost as determined by the Cumberland Island Line Extension Fee as specified in Policy 409.

Upon close-out of the construction work order, any contribution in aid of construction paid in excess of actual construction costs shall be refunded to the member.

In addition to the foregoing requirements, the following requirements shall also apply to any underground line extension:

1. Underground electric service will not be provided in established wetland areas except where as the consumer and or developer provides a total conduit system according to OREMC specifications. Applicant shall acquire and provide documentation of all applicable permits necessary prior to construction of facilities.
2. All underground services shall require installation by the consumer of a conduit system from point of source to point of service according to OREMC specifications.
3. The owner or developer shall provide, without cost to the Cooperative clear (free of stumps, debris, and other obstructions) easements and rights-of-way, suitable for the installation, operation, and maintenance of underground facilities. The owner or developer will be required to have the rights-of-way and all streets, alleys, sidewalks, and driveway entrances graded to final grade, and will have lot lines established before construction of the electrical distribution system begins.
4. The Cooperative shall determine the preferred method of service based on good engineering design, applicable construction codes and specifications, economics, and other pertinent factors. If the preferred method of service is not acceptable, the member will be required to pay a contribution in aid of construction equal to the estimated additional cost to provide service by the non-preferred method.
5. The owner or developer will reimburse the Cooperative for the cost of cutting through and replacing pavement within the development, and all costs of punching and/or boring.
6. If underground facilities are desired, it shall be the responsibility of the owner/developer to provide all necessary protection for items including, but not limited to: shrubs, trees, grass sod, irrigation, water and septic systems, and member's communication systems during installation and/or maintenance of underground facilities. The owner or developer will hold the Cooperative and/or its subcontractors harmless against any claims of such damage. Plants, shrubs and trees shall not be planted any closer than ten feet from the front, or five feet from the side or rear of any electrical equipment, transformer, junction boxes, etc. It will be the responsibility of the owner or developer to re-seed and/or maintain the trench cover.

C. Three Phase Service

The Cooperative will not normally extend three-phase service to installations that can be adequately served by single-phase service. Exceptions may be made where the installation is in close proximity to existing multi-phase lines. In such cases where no primary construction is required, the Cooperative will make available three phase service facilities at the regularly established rates upon payment of the appropriate Overhead or Underground Service Lateral Fee as specified in Policy No. 409.

For overhead three phase service 400 Amp or less, the Overhead or Underground Service Lateral Fee includes the service conductor. For overhead three phase service in excess of 400 Amp, a feasibility study will be performed by the Cooperative to determine the amount of the Three Phase Overhead Lateral Fee.

For 200 ampere, three phase underground service, the Three Phase Service Lateral Fee includes the service conductor, with the member providing and installing the service conduit to Cooperative specifications. For three phase underground services in excess of 200 ampere, the member shall provide, install, and maintain the service conduit and conductor to Cooperative specifications.

For installations requiring three phase service at a distance from multi-phase lines, a feasibility study will be done by the Cooperative to determine the amount of contribution in aid of construction required.

If the proposed construction is consistent with long range system planning, the required contribution may be mitigated.

D. Temporary Services

1. Overhead Temporary for Construction

Temporary service of 120/240 volts, single-phase, will be furnished for construction upon payment of the Temporary Service Fee as specified in Policy No. 409, provided that permanent service is to be furnished by the Cooperative. In addition to the above, extensions that require primary construction shall require a contribution in aid of construction in accordance with Schedule A or Schedule B or Policy No. 409. The member applying for temporary service shall be required to furnish and install temporary service equipment conforming to the Cooperative's wiring standards and shall be installed at a location approved by the Cooperative.

2. Underground Temporary for Construction

Temporary service of 120/240 volts, single-phase, will be furnished for construction in areas where the Cooperative has underground facilities in place or the permanent service will be underground. Such installation shall require payment of the Temporary Service Fee specified in Policy No. 409, provided that permanent service is to be furnished by the Cooperative. In addition to the above, extensions that require

primary construction shall require a contribution in aid of construction in accordance with Schedule A, Schedule B, or Schedule C of Policy No. 409. The temporary service equipment must be located immediately adjacent to the pad-mount transformer or secondary junction box provided by the Cooperative. Temporary service equipment shall conform to the Cooperative's wiring standards and shall be installed at a location approved by the Cooperative.

3. Service to Temporary Loads

Service will be extended to temporary loads upon receipt of a contribution in aid of construction equal to twice the estimated construction cost to provide the service.

E. Contributions In Aid of Construction

Any required contribution in aid of construction shall be paid prior to construction of facilities.

The member shall be responsible for all additional costs for line extensions requiring specialized equipment for construction/maintenance, special permitting, easements, or special regulatory approvals.

If determined to be in the best interest of the Cooperative, contributions in aid of construction may be modified or waived upon approval of the Cooperative's General Manager or his designee.

Special consideration may be given to members who pay aid in construction charges when other members may be reasonably expected to take service from the line extension.

F. Facilities Extension Ownership

All line extensions, service wire, and connections no matter who pays or contributes toward paying the cost thereof, are to be made by the Cooperative and remain the property of the Cooperative. In cases where the Member is required by the Cooperative to install the service conductor, the Member retains ownership of, and is responsible for the maintenance of the service conductor. The Cooperative shall not be required to serve any consumer over a line built, owned, operated, or maintained by the member or a third party.

All property of the Cooperative placed in or upon the member's premises, used in supplying service to the member, is placed there under the member's protection. The cost for any loss or damage to such property, normal wear and tear excepted, shall be payable by the member.

The Cooperative shall have access to such property at all reasonable times. The member shall not commit or cause or permit any act that will or may result in damage to or loss of such property or in the loss of life or injury to any person, or the loss of or damage to any property, in relation to such property.

III. APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to all members and applicants for service of the Cooperative.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY

The General Manager or designee will be responsible for carrying out the provisions of this policy.

Date Adopted:	July 29, 2021
Supersedes:	September 26, 2019
Effective Date:	August 1, 2021

**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY NO. 411**

**RIGHTS-OF-WAY**

I. OBJECTIVE:

To establish policy for procurement of rights-of-way by applicants for service and to provide for the clearing, reclearing, and maintenance of rights-of-way by the Cooperative.

II. CONTENT:

Right-of-way easements are required of landowners for the purpose of providing location of and access to electric distribution lines for construction, operation and maintenance.

A. Procurement by Applicants

Applicants for service may be required to secure to, and for, the Cooperative all necessary and convenient rights-of-way and to pay the costs of securing same. Applicant is responsible for providing the Cooperative with a recorded easement for rights-of-way as well as associated costs incurred.

Applicants for service shall also be responsible for initial clearing of rights-of-way necessary for line extensions for provision of service unless the Cooperative determines that it is in the best interests of the Cooperative to provide said initial clearing.

B. Delays

Applications for service for an extension to be constructed where right-of-way is not owned by the Cooperative will only be accepted subject to delays incident to obtaining satisfactory right-of-way, highway and railroad crossing permits, or other permits which may be required.

Satisfactory right-of-way clearance for electric lines to the point of delivery of a new service must be accomplished before the service connection will be made.

C. Clearing, Reclearing, and Maintenance of Rights-of-Way

Normally, a 30-foot right-of-way shall be required. Exceptions from this normal range will be made only by special arrangement in consideration of the Cooperative's requirements and conditions affecting the landowner's property.

The Cooperative shall have the rights of ingress and egress from the premises at reasonable times and as required, and shall have the right to cut and trim trees and shrubbery to the extent necessary to keep them clear of the electric lines and meter bases and to cut all dead, weak, and dangerous trees which may endanger the line by falling.

The member shall allow the Cooperative to maintain the Cooperative's facilities in accordance with prudent utility practices. The member shall also allow the cooperative to clear and trim trees which will endanger the lines of the Cooperative and imperil service to that member or other members. The member shall refrain from:

1. Planting trees, shrubs, et cetera along the Cooperative's right-of-way which may at some time in the future endanger the lines.
2. Placing structures on the right-of-way. If the member does place vegetation or structures within the right-of-way, the Cooperative will not be responsible for damages done to same. Members shall gain the approval of the Cooperative before placing fences on the right-of-way. Members may be required to install gates at locations designated by the Cooperative to ensure that access to Cooperative facilities is not inhibited.
3. Planting trees, shrubs, et cetera, around underground transformers or switching cabinets.

The Cooperative shall use all reasonable care and diligence in the clearing, reclearing, and maintenance of rights-of-way. The Cooperative shall make reasonable attempt to give notice to the landowners of scheduled or planned clearing and reclearing and alterations within the existing right-of-way.

III. APPLICABILITY:

This policy applies to all members and applicants for service of the Cooperative.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY:

It shall be the responsibility of the General Manager or designee to carry out the provisions of this policy.

Date Approved: July 29, 2021  
Supersedes: September 26, 2019

Effective Date: August 1, 2021

Issued by: John Middleton, General Manager

Effective August 1, 2021



**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY NO. 412**

**STANDARD SUPPLY VOLTAGES**

I. OBJECTIVE:

To establish standard supply voltages available in the Cooperative's service territory.

II. CONTENT:

One system of alternating current, 60 Hz, is supplied throughout the Cooperative's system.

The voltages, number of phases, and type of metering which will be supplied depends upon the Cooperative's facilities available and upon the character, size, and location of the load to be served. Therefore, the member shall consult the Cooperative before proceeding with the purchase or installation of wiring or equipment. To avoid misunderstanding, this information should be in writing.

The standard secondary voltages described below are nominal and are subject to a plus or minus five percent variation. Fluctuations caused by lightning or other environmental causes, equipment owned or operated by the member or others, and other causes beyond the control of the Cooperative may exceed five percent.

Single-phase	3-wire	120/240 volts
Three-phase	4-wire	120/208 volts
Three-phase	4-wire	120/240 volts*
Three-phase	4-wire	240/480 volts*
Three-phase	4-wire	277/480 volts

\*Note: These voltages are not available from pad-mounted transformers.

The standard primary voltages described below are nominal and are subject to a plus or minus ten percent variation:

Single-phase	2-wire	7200 volts
Single-phase	2-wire	14400 volts
Three-phase	4-wire	7200/12470 volts
Three-phase	4-wire	14400/24940 volts

Any member requiring non-standard voltage may be responsible for the costs of the required equipment and/or redundant equipment necessary to provide the non-standard voltage.

It will not be considered a violation when voltages outside of the prescribed limits are caused by any of the following:

1. Action of the elements;
2. Service interruptions;
3. Temporary separation of parts of the system from the main system;
4. Infrequent fluctuations not exceeding five minutes duration;
5. Other causes beyond the control of the Cooperative.

III. APPLICABILITY:

This policy applies to all members and services of the Cooperative.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY:

It shall be the responsibility of the General Manager or designee to carry out the provisions of this policy.

Date Approved: July 29, 2021  
Supersedes: September 26, 2019  
Effective Date: August 1, 2021

**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY NO. 413**

**COOPERATIVE'S LIABILITY**

I. OBJECTIVE:

To establish policy to limit the liability of the Cooperative for damages that occur due to acts or occurrences beyond the control of the Cooperative.

II. CONTENT:

The Cooperative will use reasonable diligence in furnishing a regular and uninterrupted supply of energy, but does not guarantee uninterrupted service. The Cooperative shall not be liable for damages in case such supply should be interrupted or fail by reason of an act of God, the public enemy, sabotage, accidents, labor disputes, orders or acts of civil or military authority, breakdowns or injury to the machinery, transmission lines, distributions lines or other facilities of the company, extraordinary repairs of any other cause whatsoever, or, by reason of any act of the Cooperative including the interruption of service to any consumer, taken to prevent or limit the extent or duration of interruption, instability or disturbance on the electric system of the Cooperative or any electric system interconnected, directly or indirectly, with the Cooperative's system, whenever such act is necessary or indicated in the sole judgment of the Cooperative. The Cooperative shall not be liable for damages to a member's premises, including but not limited to a member's electronic equipment, caused by lightning or other sources of voltage fluctuation not reasonably under the Cooperative's control, even when transmitted over or through the Cooperative's transmission and/or distribution lines to the member's premises.

Unless otherwise provided in a contract between the Cooperative and the member, the point at which service is delivered by the Cooperative to the member, to be known as "delivery point", shall be the point at which the member's facilities are connected to the Cooperative's facilities. The Cooperative shall not be liable for any loss, injury or damage resulting from the member's use of his equipment or occasioned by the energy furnished by the Cooperative beyond the delivery point.

The member shall provide and maintain suitable protective devices on his equipment to prevent any loss, injury or damage that might result from single-phasing conditions or any other fluctuation or irregularity in the supply of energy. The Cooperative shall not be liable for any loss, injury or damage resulting from a single-phasing condition or any other fluctuation or irregularity in the supply of energy.

III. APPLICABILITY:

This policy applies to all members and services of the Cooperative.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY:

It shall be the responsibility of the General Manager or designee to carry out the provisions of this policy.

Date Approved: September 26, 2019  
Supersedes: April 26, 1994  
Effective Date: November 1, 2019

Issued by: John Middleton, General Manager

Effective November 1, 2019

**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY NO. 414**

**CO-GENERATION**

I. OBJECTIVE:

To establish guidelines for any Cooperative member desiring to co-generate electric energy.

II. CONTENT:

Any member wishing to become a co-generator or small power producer shall meet all rules and regulations of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (PURPA) Sections 201 and 210, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Order No. 70 issued March 13, 1980 (45FR17959), and the Cooperative.

III. APPLICABILITY:

This policy applies to any member of the Cooperative desiring to become a co-generator.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY:

It shall be the responsibility of the General Manager or designee to carry out the provisions of this policy.

Date Approved: September 26, 2019  
Supersedes: April 26, 1994  
Effective Date: November 1, 2019

Issued by: John Middleton, General Manager

Effective November 1, 2019

**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY NO. 415**

**RESALE OF POWER**

I. OBJECTIVE:

To prohibit resale of electricity by members of the Cooperative.

II. CONTENT:

Members shall not directly resell energy for any purpose, unless said member is an “electric light and power company”, subject to the general supervision of the Georgia Public Service Commission, as defined in the Official Code of Georgia 46-2-20 or an “electric utility” as defined in Florida Statutes 366.02. Members shall not divert electric energy to other premises or use it for purposes other than those permitted by the bylaws, rules and regulations of the Cooperative, and by state or local laws, rules, and codes.

III. APPLICABILITY:

This policy applies to all members and services of the Cooperative.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY:

It shall be the responsibility of the General Manager or designee to carry out the provisions of this policy.

Date Approved: September 26, 2019  
Supersedes: March 23, 2010  
Effective Date: November 1, 2019

**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY NO. 416**

**SERVICE CONNECTIONS, MEMBER WIRING, MEMBER EQUIPMENT**

I. OBJECTIVE:

To establish policy that ensures adequacy and proper installation of member wiring and equipment.

II. CONTENT:

A. Service Connections

1. The Cooperative will furnish and install only one service drop to a metered point. The member must furnish a point of attachment for the Cooperative's service facilities which will meet the National Electrical Safety Code, the National Electric Code, State, local and Cooperative requirements.
2. The point of attachment furnished by the member must be designated by the Cooperative to ensure construction at a reasonable cost and in accordance with sound engineering practices.
3. The Cooperative's responsibility for installation, maintenance, inspection, oversight and/or control of service facilities (except load management devices) shall not extend beyond the point of attachment to the member's building, central distribution point, or the electric power measuring device.
4. When the member's service requirements are of such nature that a point of attachment must be located on a pole, the member will be responsible for furnishing and installing the pole.
5. No more than one residence, mobile home or separate business will be served through one meter.
6. All service facilities and equipment constructed and installed by the Cooperative shall remain the sole property of the Cooperative and shall not become part of the property of premises to which said facilities are attached or on which said facilities are constructed.

B. General Wiring Requirements

1. The Cooperative's responsibility extends only to the supplying of service at the point of attachment. Any change to electrical installations must meet standards of the National Electrical Code, State, County, Local, and Cooperative requirements.
2. The member assumes full responsibility for the power on member's premises from the point of attachment thereof and for the wires, apparatus, devices, and appurtenances thereon, used in connection with the service except for load management devices. The member shall indemnify, save harmless, and defend the Cooperative against all claims, demands, costs, expenses, losses, damage or injury to persons or property in any manner directly or indirectly arising from, connected with, or growing out of, the transmission or use of power by the member at or on the member's side of the point of delivery.
3. It is the responsibility of each member to cause all premises receiving electric service to become and remain wired in accordance with the specifications and requirements of the Cooperative, the National Electrical Code, and any requirement of local government agencies having jurisdiction over the installation of electric wiring.
4. In the event of a known hazardous condition or potentially hazardous condition because of a violation of requirements, electric service will not be connected until the condition is corrected. In the event service is being received, service may be immediately discontinued. The member may also be notified by certified mail with copy to County or Local Inspector, if applicable, that if the deficiencies are not corrected in a reasonable time, service may be discontinued.
5. Where applicable, members will be required to conform to existing State, County and local wiring regulations.

C. Member Equipment

1. In order for the Cooperative to provide proper voltage and give the best service possible, it is important that members consult the Cooperative prior to motor installations other than motors used in normal home appliances. The Cooperative should also be notified prior to the installation of larger heating and air-conditioning units (5 ton and larger), or large electric motors (5 horsepower or larger). This will provide Cooperative representatives the opportunity to verify that adequate transformer and service wire capacity is provided to service the member's new equipment. All motor installations on the Cooperative's lines must conform to the rules and regulations as set forth in the National Electrical Code, and such other codes as may be applicable. All motors, single and three-phase, above ten (10) horsepower must be approved by the Cooperative before installation. It is characteristic of most electric motors to draw a heavy momentary current when starting, resulting in many cases in variation of the voltage supplied to the other members who receive service from



the same circuits or transformer. The Cooperative shall require the consumer to limit, when necessary, the amount of starting current which may be drawn by a motor. The direction of phase rotation and the continuity of all three-phase currents are guarded with great care, but the Cooperative cannot guarantee against accidental or temporary change in phase rotation or phase failure. Therefore, all motors or other apparatus requiring unchanged phase rotation and/or continuity of three-phase supply shall be equipped with suitable protection against such reversal or phase failure.

2. Where auxiliary or standby power is installed by the member to provide emergency power, parallel operation of the member's generating equipment with the Cooperative's system will not be allowed. A double throw switch must be used to prevent possible injury to Cooperative workmen by making it impossible for power to be fed back into the main line from the emergency generator. Any generator found connected to wiring system without an approved double throw switch shall be cause for disconnecting service.
3. Members desiring to operate electric welders or other devices with high inrush or fluctuating currents must supply the Cooperative with information regarding the electrical characteristics of the equipment. Service will not be allowed to equipment which adversely affects the Cooperative's equipment or the service to the members. The Cooperative should be consulted before the purchase or installation of the equipment.
4. Members shall ensure that the Member's equipment does not cause objectionable voltage flicker, harmonics, or other spurious signals to be injected onto the Cooperative's facilities.
5. The member shall own, maintain, and operate all substations and transforming equipment where voltage, phase, or frequency is desired other than that under which service is rendered and metered. All protective devices required by these installations shall be provided by the member and at the member's sole expense.

III. APPLICABILITY:

This policy applies to all members and services of the Cooperative.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY:

It shall be the responsibility of the General Manager or designee to carry out the provisions of this policy.

Date Adopted: July 29, 2021  
Supersedes: September 26, 2019  
Effective Date: August 1, 2021

Issued by: John Middleton, General Manager

Effective August 1, 2021

**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY NO. 417**

**ELECTRIC METERING EQUIPMENT**

**I. OBJECTIVE:**

To establish policy for the application and installation of electric metering equipment.

**II. CONTENT:**

All meter bases should be installed on an exterior surface or pole as nearly as possible at eye level. Upon receipt of the application for a new service, an authorized representative of the Cooperative shall approve the location of the meter center and associated apparatus in a mutually agreeable location in effort to improve service and safety.

All meter installations shall be made in accordance with the National Electric Code and all other applicable codes.

All meters shall be placed ahead of all switches and protective devices unless otherwise agreed to by the Cooperative.

A disconnect switch shall be required on specialty metered accounts which include, but are not limited to, three-phase services, single phase services that require 400-amp services or greater, or where deemed necessary by the Cooperative.

For large single-phase installations of over 200 amperes or for three-phase installations, the Cooperative shall specify the type of metering equipment required before installation of same.

In case of new line construction requiring the relocation of the meter, said relocation shall be at the expense of the Cooperative.

An electric meter that becomes enclosed inside a structure or becomes inaccessible to the Cooperative for any reason, shall be relocated to a Cooperative-approved, accessible location at the expense of the member.

The Cooperative will normally furnish a single meter for each class of service at the point of connection to the member's premises. Any member desiring service at two or more separately metered points of connection to the distribution system shall be billed separately at each such point and the metered energy consumption of such members shall not be combined for billing purposes.

Current transformer metering will be used when the magnitude of the load to be served warrants installation of such equipment. However, if requested by member simply for member's convenience, member shall pay additional costs associated with the current transformer metering installation and maintenance.

**III. APPLICABILITY:**

This policy applies to all members and services of the Cooperative.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY:

The General Manager or his designee shall be responsible for carrying out the provisions of this policy.

Date Adopted: July 29, 2021

Supersedes: September 26, 2019

Effective Date: August 1, 2021

Issued by: John Middleton, General Manager

Effective August 1, 2021

**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY NO. 418**

**SAFEGUARDS AGAINST HIGH VOLTAGE LINES**

I. OBJECTIVE:

To establish policy assuring compliance with the Georgia High Voltage Safety Act.

II. CONTENT:

A Purpose of The Act

The purpose of the High Voltage Safety Act (Georgia Code 46-3-30) is to prevent injury to persons or property, and interruptions of utility service resulting from accidental or inadvertent contact with high voltage electrical lines. High voltage electrical lines are defined as overhead high voltage lines in excess of 750 volts between conductors or from any conductor to ground. The Act provides that no work shall be done in the vicinity of such lines unless and until the Cooperative or the Utilities Protection Center (phone number "811" or 1-800-282-7411) has been notified of such work and the Cooperative has taken one of the following safety measures:

1. De-energizing and grounding the line
2. Relocating the line
3. Installing protective covering or mechanical barriers

B Applicability of The Act

The High Voltage Safety Act applies to a person or entity in pursuit of his trade or business.

Even though private citizens working on their own property are exempted by this law they shall receive the same response that a person in pursuit of a trade or business would receive.

Any telephone company, cable television company, or other entity which has a joint use contract with the Cooperative is exempted from this act.

C. Compliance with The Act

No person in pursuit of a trade or business shall commence any work within ten feet of any high voltage line unless and until the person responsible for the work has given notice to the Utilities Protection Center during its regular business hours at least 72 hours (excluding weekends and holidays) prior to commencing work.

If the Cooperative is contacted directly by a person in pursuit of a trade or business concerning work to be performed within ten feet of a high voltage line within the State of Georgia, the Cooperative shall direct the person to the Utilities Protection Center to comply with the law before commencing any work. If the work to be performed is within the State of Florida, the Cooperative shall deal directly with the person making the request.

The Utilities Protection Center will forward to the Cooperative all notices involving Cooperative owned high voltage lines. After receiving notification from the Utilities Protection Center, the Cooperative shall contact the person whose name is given on the Utilities Protection Center notice within a reasonable time.

Information shall be maintained by the Cooperative of actions of the person doing the work in connection with the Act. The following arrangements should be discussed and agreed upon in writing and recorded for the safety precautions required:

1. Date and Time
2. Name of Owner and Firm
3. Name of Person
4. Coordination of the work schedule
5. Type of work and equipment to be utilized
6. Evaluating safeguard deemed to be most feasible under the circumstances
7. The specific lines affected by this notification shall be identified, and instructions given that if work is to be done within ten feet of other lines located near the work site, additional notification is necessary.
8. Payment and costs to affect such safety precautions if applicable.

D. Reimbursement of Costs Incurred by The Cooperative

The person or firm planning to perform work near a high voltage line shall be required to reimburse the Cooperative for costs incurred in affecting necessary safety precautions. Such costs shall be determined by an hourly rate for labor and equipment as set forth in Policy No. 409, Fees Schedule. If relocation of facilities is required, the cost of any unsalvageable material shall be recouped in addition to the labor and equipment charges.

The Cooperative shall maintain sole discretion as to the most appropriate safeguard, and as to the men and equipment required to effect the necessary safety precautions.

The cost of providing temporary precautionary measures shall be borne by the Cooperative when:

1. During public highway construction, high voltage electric lines are located upon public highways or roads (state or county), and
2. The construction is undertaken pursuant to a permit issued by the state or county and neither the state or county received consideration for the permit.

NOTE: Even though no cost is associated with the above, the law still requires the person that is to perform the work to contact the Utilities Protection Center.

E. Refusal to Enter an Agreement

If for any reason a person planning to work near a high voltage line refuses to enter an agreement as mentioned above, the Manager of Engineering Services or the Manager of Distribution Services (or designee) will explain the necessity for safety around Cooperative facilities and will take whatever steps are appropriate in an attempt to secure an agreement.

Also, the person to perform such work shall be made aware of the penalty if not in compliance with this Act:

1. Guilty of a misdemeanor
2. Upon conviction, a fine of \$1,000.00 for a first offense and \$3,000.00 for a second or subsequent offense.

If all attempts to reach an agreement fail, then steps shall be taken immediately to enjoin such person(s) from proceeding with any work in violation of the Act.

III. APPLICABILITY:

This policy shall apply to all persons who perform work within ten feet of the Cooperative's high voltage lines, within the State of Georgia unless specifically exempted by the Act. In the case of work to be performed in the State of Florida, all persons shall be encouraged to comply with this policy. In any event the requirements of the National Electrical Safety Code must be adhered to.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY:

It shall be the responsibility of the General Manager or designee to carry out the provisions of this policy.

Date Adopted: September 26, 2019  
Supersedes: April 26, 1994  
Effective Date: November 1, 2019

Issued by: John Middleton, General Manager

Effective November 1, 2019

**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY NO. 419**

**REIMBURSEMENT FOR RELOCATION, REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT OF  
FACILITIES AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES**

I. OBJECTIVE:

To establish policy for recovering costs incurred in relocation, repair, or replacement of Cooperative facilities and for miscellaneous services performed by the Cooperative.

II. CONTENT:

A. Relocation of Cooperative Facilities

1. When it is determined to be in the best interest of the Cooperative to relocate existing facilities, the Cooperative shall bear the cost of relocation. If the relocated facilities are not convenient to the existing service facilities of the member, the Cooperative will pay for relocation of the member's service facilities.
2. If the Cooperative should be requested by a member or a third party to relocate or alter any overhead or underground facilities solely for benefit of the member or third party, the member or third party making the request shall bear the cost. Any relocation or alteration must meet all code requirements and sound engineering practices.
3. Costs relating to the replacement of existing overhead facilities with underground shall be borne by the member requesting such replacement.
4. Should the member request the relocation, replacement, or upgrade of a functioning Outdoor Lighting fixture and/or pole, the appropriate fees outlined in Policy No. 409 and Policy No. 410 shall apply.
5. If the relocation or alteration is requested by a State Department of Transportation or a County Road Department, the Cooperative will participate in the cost of the project on a pro rata basis to the extent that the existing facilities were constructed on state or county rights-of-way.

B. Repair or Replacement of Cooperative Facilities

If Cooperative facilities require repair or replacement due to damage caused by accident or negligence of a member or third party, the member or third party causing the damage shall bear the cost for necessary repair or replacement. Such cost shall be the cost of materials used plus labor and equipment costs as determined in accordance with Policy No. 409.

C. Miscellaneous Services Performed

When the Cooperative shall from time to time provide escort services for house movers or similar entities, the firm or individual requesting such service shall be billed at the labor and equipment rates specified in Policy No. 409. These same labor and equipment rates shall apply to any other miscellaneous services that the Cooperative may elect to perform.

If the Cooperative's employee(s) are dispatched to repair Cooperative equipment or restore service at a member's premises and there was no problem on the Cooperative's part of the service, the member shall be billed a Service Call Fee as specified in Policy No. 409.

If the Cooperative's construction crew is dispatched to build, alter and/or remove facilities at a premise and is unable to perform the scheduled work because the premise does not meet all necessary requirements for service or a request is made to cancel, postpone or change after the crew is on the premise, a Construction Mobilization Fee shall be required and billed to the account. If the work is to be rescheduled, the fee must be paid before the work is performed.

III. APPLICABILITY:

This policy shall apply to all parties causing damage to or requesting relocation of Cooperative facilities and to all parties for whom the Cooperative may elect to perform miscellaneous services.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY:

It shall be the responsibility of the General Manager or designee to carry out the provisions of this policy.

Date Adopted: September 26, 2019  
Supersedes: July 26, 2016  
Effective Date: November 1, 2019

Issued by: John Middleton, General Manager

Effective November 1, 2019



**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY NO. 420**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

I. OBJECTIVE:

To establish policy for OREMC involvement in promoting economic development within our service territory which results in the increased sale of electricity and/or the betterment of the quality of life for our members.

II. CONTENT:

We at OREMC recognize that the economic survival of rural areas in America today mandates that a unified and professional approach must be made towards economic development. It is imperative that all entities of a community bring together their respective resources for the purpose of attracting new industry, improving infrastructure and generally meeting the current and future economic needs of that community. This calls for a commitment to the economic development process by OREMC.

The management and staff of OREMC will take an active role in any Chamber of Commerce, Development Authority, or other local body which they deem promotes their knowledge of and input into the local economic development process. They will advise the Board of Directors of all significant developments within the territory and will make recommendations to the Board regarding the appropriateness of committing Cooperative efforts and resources to particular projects.

III. APPLICABILITY:

This policy applies to all communities, members and services.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY:

The General Manager will be responsible for carrying out the provisions of this policy.

Date Adopted: September 26, 2019  
Supersedes: March 21, 1996  
Effective Date: November 1, 2019

**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY NO. 421**

**Net Metering of Member Owned**

**Renewable Distributed Generation Facilities**

**FOREWORD**

Okefenoke Rural Electric Membership Corporation (herein after referred to as “OREMC” or the “Cooperative”) seeks to provide its members with the best electric service possible, and at the lowest cost consistent with sound economy and good management. In some cases, Cooperative members may become interested in installing their own electric power generation equipment. In these cases, OREMC stands ready to work with its members to ensure that their generation equipment is installed in a proper and safe manner, and in accordance with all applicable codes, standards, regulations, laws and insurance requirements. In most of these cases, members will need to coordinate the installation and approval of their electric power generator with the local code inspection authority.

**OBJECTIVES**

This policy outlines the minimum requirements, from the system protection and operations perspective, for the connection of a member’s generator to OREMC’s distribution system. Such generators can be described by several different names such as distribution generator (DG), independent power producer (IPP), co-generator, or peak shaver. OREMC will refer to all these as Distributed Generation (DG). DG as described in this policy is a source of electric power that is not directly connected to a bulk power transmission system, but is connected to the distribution system.

This policy is applicable only to distributed generation facilities defined in Section A.6 of this policy. The interconnection of other DG to OREMC’s distribution system will be addressed with each member on a case-by-case basis. This policy is not applicable to generation intended strictly for emergency backups, open transfer peak shaving, or any other stand-alone operations where DG is never tied directly with OREMC’s distribution system.

This Distributed Generation Policy establishes the terms and conditions for the interconnection of distributed generation facilities and for providing net energy metering services.

**A. Definitions**

The following words and terms shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

1. **“Billing period”** means, as to a particular member, the time period between the dates on which the Cooperative normally reads the retail service meter for billing purposes.
2. **“Bi-directional meter”** is a meter capable of measuring (but not necessarily displaying) electricity flow in both directions.
3. **“Bi-directional metering”** means measuring the amount of electricity supplied by the Cooperative and the amount of electricity fed back to the Cooperative by the member’s distributed generation facility using a single meter.

4. **“Member”** means a member of Okefenoke Rural Electric Membership Corporation.
5. **“Member Generator”** means a member who is the owner or operator of a distributed generation facility.
6. **“Distributed generation facility”** means a facility owned and operated by a member of the Cooperative for the production of electrical energy that:
  - a. Uses a fuel cell or a renewable energy source;
  - b. Has peak generating capacity of not more than 10 kW for a residential application and 100 kW for a non-residential application;
  - c. Is located on the member’s premises;
  - d. Operates in parallel with the Cooperative’s distribution facilities;
  - e. Is connected to the Cooperative’s distribution system on either side of the Cooperative’s retail service meter; and
  - f. Is intended primarily to offset part or all of the member generator’s requirements for electricity.
7. **“Electric distribution system”** is the wires, poles, reclosers, breakers, regulators, transformers, and other associated equipment and facilities owned, operated, and maintained by OREMC for the purposes of the timely and reliable delivery of electrical energy to its members.
8. **“Excess net energy”** is the amount of energy received by the electric distribution system from the member generator that exceeds the amount of energy delivered to the member from the electric distribution system during the billing period.
9. **“Net metering”** means measuring the difference, over the billing period, between electricity supplied to a Member Generator from the electric grid and the electricity generated and fed into the electric grid by the Member Generator, using a bi-directional meter or an additional single direction meter.
10. **“Renewable energy sources”** means energy supplied from technologies such as a solar photovoltaic system, wind turbine, biomass system, or other technologies approved in the Georgia Green Pricing Accreditation Program.

## **B. Application Process**

A prospective Member Generator that intends to interconnect with the Cooperative’s distribution system must:

- (1) Submit a completed Application for Interconnection of Distributed Generation Facility, including all attachments thereto, accompanied by payment of a distributed generation application fee in the amount as specified in Policy No. 409. The completed application and fee must be submitted at least thirty (30) business days prior to the date the member intends to interconnect the distributed generation facility to the Cooperative’s electric distribution facilities;

- (2) A representative from OREMC will review the Application and notify the prospective member generator within twenty (20) business days if the Application is approved or not approved. Any review or acceptance of the Application by the Cooperative shall not impose any liability on the Cooperative and does not guarantee the adequacy of the member generator's equipment to perform its intended function. The Cooperative disclaims any expertise or special knowledge relating to the design or performance of the member's distributed generation facility and does not warrant the efficiency, cost-effectiveness, safety, durability, or reliability of that distributed generation facility.

### **C. Requirements for Initial Interconnection**

1. A Member Generator may begin operation of his distributed generation facility on an interconnected basis when:
  - a. The Application Process set forth in Section B above has been completed;
  - b. The member has executed the Distributed Generation Facility Interconnection Agreement with the Cooperative and is in compliance with all requirements set forth therein, including all applicable safety, power quality, and interconnection requirements established by the most recent versions of the National Electric Code, National Electric Safety Code, the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, and Underwriters Laboratories. The Cooperative may adopt additional safety, power quality, and interconnection requirements.
  - c. The Member Generator has paid to the Cooperative all applicable charges and fees set forth in the Distributed Generation Facility Interconnection Agreement.
  - d. The Member Generator has made all payments required by and has otherwise complied with the conditions for extension or modification of the Cooperative's electric distribution system as may be determined herein and as set forth in the Cooperative's service rules and regulations.
  - e. The Member Generator has submitted to the Cooperative a copy of the final, signed, jurisdictional approval (Permit) for the member's distributed generation facility from any local government entity with jurisdiction over the member's distributed generation facility (generally the local building and inspection department).
  - f. The Cooperative has provided the Member Generator with written authorization to begin parallel operation of his distributed generation facility.
2. Any existing Member Generator who desires to modify, improve, or increase production of an approved Distributed Generation Facility shall contact Okefenoke Member Services Department for approval prior to initiating any change to the Distributed Generation Facility described in the signed Distributed Generation Facility Interconnection Agreement. Existing Member Generator requests shall be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

### **D. Net Metering**

The Cooperative will use either a single-directional or bi-directional meter depending upon how the distributed generation facility is connected to the distribution system. If the distributed generation facility is connected to the distribution system on the Member Generator's side of the retail service meter, the Cooperative will use a bi-directional meter for net metering. If the distributed generation facility is connected to the distribution system on the Cooperative's side of the retail service meter, the Cooperative will install an additional single directional meter for net metering at the member's expense.

**E. Obligations to Purchase Excess Net Energy**

When the electricity generated by the Member Generator's distributed generation facility exceeds the electricity supplied by the Cooperative during the billing period, the Member Generator shall receive payment for the excess net energy pursuant to the Cooperative's Net Metering Service, Rider NMTR-001. However, the Cooperative will only be required to purchase such energy from Member Generators on a first-come, first-served basis until the cumulative generating capacity of all renewable energy resources equals 0.2 percent of the Cooperative's annual peak demand in the previous year.

**F. Charges for Interconnection And Net Metering**

The Member Generator shall be responsible for all costs of installing, operating and maintaining protective equipment and/or electrical facilities required to interconnect with the Cooperative's distribution system. The Member Generator shall be charged for the direct cost incurred by the Cooperative as a result of the interconnection and for providing net metering service.

**APPLICABILITY**

This policy applies to all members applying for Net metering Service of Okefenoke Rural Electric Corporation.

**RESPONSIBILITY**

The General Manager or designee will be responsible for carrying out the provisions of this policy.

Date Adopted: September 26, 2019  
Supersedes: March 23, 2010

Effective Date: November 1, 2019

**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION  
POLICY NO. 422**

**Interconnection of Distributed Generation Resources to the  
Electric Distribution System**

I. OBJECTIVE

To describe the business terms and conditions and the operational expectations and limitations under which Okefenoke Rural Electric Membership Corporation (herein after referred to as the "Cooperative") will connect Member owned distributed generation to the Cooperative's electric distribution system.

II. CONTENT

**A. Definitions**

Throughout this policy and the associated forms and interconnection process, there is terminology used that is specific to the policy and the associated business practices and processes that warrant a clear, mutually understood definition. To that end the following definitions are provided:

1. "**Distributed Generation**" "**(DG)**" is a generating facility (e.g. land, equipment, materials, other items associated with a generator site) that is owned or operated by a Member and:
  - a) Is located on the Member's premises;
  - b) Is connected to, and operated in parallel with the Cooperative's electric distribution system;
  - c) Is intended to supply a process need within the Member's facilities or provide part or all of the Member's electrical energy requirements as supplied by the Cooperative;
  - d) Has a capacity rating of no greater than 250 kW (AC). DG facilities with capacity exceeding 100 kW (AC) will be examined on a case by case basis.
2. "**Electric distribution system**" is the wires, poles, reclosers, breakers, regulators, transformers, and other associated equipment and facilities owned, operated, and maintained by the Cooperative for the purposes of the timely and reliable delivery of electrical energy to its Members.
3. "**Interconnection**" is the facility, equipment and materials that connect two systems such as a non-utility generator to a utility electric system.
4. "**Member**" means a member of Okefenoke Rural Electric Membership Corporation.
5. "**Member Generator**" means a Member who is the owner or operator of a distributed generation facility.
6. "**Qualifying Facility**" or "**QF**" means a generating facility which meets the requirements set forth in Federal Energy Regulatory Rules promulgated under Sections 201 and 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (PURPA) and has been granted status as meeting such requirements. In general, a QF must either produce useful thermal energy and electricity through sequential use of energy or have a renewable resource (e.g. biomass, waste, geothermal) as its primary energy source.

## **B. Scope**

This policy applies to all persons who desire to install, interconnect, own or operate Distributed Generation on the Cooperative's electric distribution system. Any Member may own, install and/or operate Distributed Generation on their premises as long as they shall abide by all cooperative policies and the terms and conditions of the Distributed Generation Facility Interconnection Agreement executed between the Cooperative and the respective Member Generator.

## **C. Notice of Interconnection**

A Member that intends to install Distributed Generation must pay a Distributed Generation Application Fee and submit a completed Application for Interconnection of Distributed Generation Facility form to the Cooperative for engineering review and approval. Upon receipt of a completed Interconnection Application, the Cooperative shall have twenty (20) days to approve or deny the application. The cooperative recommends that the Member not proceed with purchase or installation of the Distributed Generation facility prior to approval of the Application for Interconnection.

## **D. Safety**

Safety of the general public, and the Cooperative's staff, facilities and equipment is the first and foremost consideration with any interconnection. The interconnection of Distributed Generation shall not under any circumstances be allowed to reduce, minimize or impair the safety to the general public, the Cooperative's staff, facilities and equipment. To the extent necessary to ensure safe operation of the Cooperative's electric distribution system, the Member Generator's Distributed Generation installation shall adhere to the most current edition of: 1) the National Electric Safety Code (NESC), 2) the National Electric Code, 3) IEEE 1547, 4) UL1741 and 5) the Cooperative's safety rules and procedures.

In order to ensure electrical isolation from the electric distribution system when necessary for routine maintenance of the electric distribution system or during emergency conditions affecting the electric system, a manual, air-gap disconnect switch, preapproved by the Cooperative, capable of being tagged open shall be installed by the Member Generator at a location which is approved by the Cooperative and is available and readily accessible to the Cooperative's personnel for operation twenty-four hours per day, seven (7) days per week.

The Cooperative shall inspect the final installation of the Distributed Generation facility and the connection to the electric distribution system. If any defects or problems are found with the interconnection, the Cooperative may prohibit the Member Generator from closing the disconnect switch interconnecting the electric distribution system. However, under no circumstances shall this inspection by the Cooperative be deemed to warrant, validate or otherwise certify the interconnection or the proper installation of the Distributed Generation. That certification is exclusively the responsibility of the Member Generator's licensed engineer and/or the supplier(s) of the Distributed Generation equipment.

## **E. Reliability of Operation**

The Cooperative is required by the members, state regulatory authorities, and prudent engineering practice to operate its electric distribution system in a secure and reliable manner for the benefit of the members. As such, all Member Generator applicants are required to be familiar with and shall be compliant with the most

current edition of the following standards Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) standard 1547 and 1547.1, "IEEE 1547 Standard for Interconnecting Distributed Resources with Electric Power Systems" and "IEEE 1547.1 Standard for Conformance Test Procedures for Equipment Interconnecting Distributed Resources with Electric Power Systems", the National Electrical Code (NEC), and the Underwriters Laboratory (UL) regulations in UL 1741, as well as local, county and state regulations governing the installation of distributed generation on a Member's premise.

The Member Generator shall not be authorized to proceed with energizing the interconnection until such time as the Cooperative has provided notice and received approved copies of all local, county and state notices, permits and other instruments conveying approval to proceed with the installation and operation from these local authorities.

The Member Generator shall annually test the interconnection protective equipment and maintain records of testing as specified in the Interconnection Agreement. If the Member Generator fails to comply with the annual testing and documentation requirements, the Cooperative may, at its discretion, perform the necessary tests to ensure proper operations of the interconnection equipment. If the Cooperative performs such testing, the Distributed Generation Protective Equipment Inspection Fee as specified in Policy 409 shall apply.

#### **F. Cost**

The Member Generator shall be responsible for all costs of installing, operating, testing and maintaining protective equipment and/or electrical facilities required to interconnect with the Cooperative's electric distribution system.

The Member Generator may be charged for the direct and indirect costs incurred by the Cooperative as a result of the interconnection of the Distributed Generation facility. The Cooperative will provide the Member Generator applicant an estimate of the total cost to interconnect the Distributed Generation following submittal of the completed Application for Interconnection. As part of the Application for Interconnection process the Member Generator shall pay the total amount of the estimated cost up front before the Cooperative will initiate any work on the interconnection. Once the interconnection is completed and all actual costs are received and totaled for the interconnection, the Member Generator shall be responsible for payment of any additional costs in excess of the original estimate. In the event the actual total cost of the interconnection is less than the original cost estimate paid by the Member Generator, the Cooperative will refund the difference to the Member Generator.

All future costs necessary to meet requirements for public safety or system reliability as a direct result of new conditions issued by the state, the public service commission or other governmental authority shall be solely the responsibility of the Member Generator.

#### **G. Liability**

With respect to the Cooperative's provision of electric service to the Member Generator and the services provided by the Cooperative pursuant to the applicable Interconnection Agreement, the Cooperative's liability to the Member Generator shall be limited as set forth in the Cooperative's currently effective tariffs, riders, Service Rules and Regulations Policies and other terms and conditions for electric service.

The Member Generator shall assume all liability for and shall indemnify the Cooperative and its members,



trustees, directors, officers, managers, employees, agents, representatives, affiliates, successors and assigns for and shall hold them harmless from and against any claims, losses, costs, and expenses of any kind or character to the extent that they result, in whole or in part, from the Member Generator's negligence or wrongful conduct in connection with the design, construction, installation, testing, operation or maintenance of the Distributed Generation or Interconnection facilities. Such indemnity shall include, but is not limited to financial responsibility for (a) monetary losses (b) reasonable costs and expenses defending an action or claim (c) damages related to death or injury (d) damages to property and (e) damages for the disruption of business.

#### **H. Interconnection**

The Cooperative will provide the option for any Member in good standing with the Cooperative to interconnect with its electric distribution system when the Member meets the terms and conditions set forth in this policy and the applicable Interconnection Agreement. The Cooperative will work with the Member Generator to determine the capacity requirements and design criteria of the interconnection facilities necessary to meet the capacity requirements of the proposed Distributed Generation.

Since this interconnection will provide for the delivery of electric energy purchased by the Member Generator and will provide an electrical path for the delivery of excess energy produced by the Distributed Generation facility, the Cooperative will utilize industry standard electrical metering equipment appropriate to the capacity and configuration of the interconnection. The distributed generation interconnection point shall be made at the load side of member service disconnect using a bi-directional circuit breaker.

#### **I. Metering Reading and Billing**

To the extent practical the Cooperative's existing automatic meter reading system will be used to read the meters and record the energy data from the meters installed at each Distributed Generation location. Each Distributed Generation facility shall be charged for electric service under that rate schedule which would otherwise be applicable if the Member was not a Member Generator. Excess energy produced by the Distributed Generation shall be credited to the Member pursuant to the appropriate tariff or rider.

Any purchases by the Cooperative from a DG facility that has formal status as a QF shall be in accordance with the provisions described below.

1. Type of Service

- a) Type of service is 60 Hz, alternating current, single or three phase, at the Cooperative's standard voltages.

2. Conditions of Service

- a) The DG facility must have been granted Qualifying Facility status by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.
- b) The QF must meet all of the requirements of and execute the Cooperative's interconnection agreement prior to connecting any generation facilities to the Cooperative's electric distribution system.

3. Purchase Rates
  - a) DG facilities that are QFs will receive payment for the electrical energy produced by the facility and delivered to the Cooperative' electric distribution system at the Cooperative's avoided energy cost.
4. Terms of Payment
  - a) Terms of payment will be determined on a case by case basis.
5. Wholesale Cost Adjustment
  - a) Should there be any change in the manner in which the Cooperative purchases or supplies power, including but not limited to changes in rates, terms or conditions, the cost of power, the method of service or other such factors, the Cooperative reserves the right to modify the charges and provisions stated above accordingly.
6. Franchise Fee, Gross Receipt, or Occupation Tax
  - a) The above rates are subject to Rate Schedule T and all other applicable taxes.

**J. Diagrams Required**

The Member Generator shall provide a single-line diagram of their proposed Distributed Generation facilities indicating the planned electrical configuration, interconnection and electrical relationship to the Cooperative metering installation. The Cooperative may require that the single-line diagram be prepared and stamped by a registered professional engineer working directly with the Member Generator or directly for the supplier of the Distributed Generation equipment.

**III. APPLICABILITY**

This policy applies to all members and applicants for service of Okefenoke Rural Electric Membership Corporation.

**IV. RESPONSIBILITY**

The General Manager or designee will be responsible for carrying out the provisions of this policy.

Date Adopted: July 28, 2022  
Supersedes: September 24, 2020  
Effective Date: September 1, 2022

**OKEFENOKE RURAL ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION**

**POLICY NO. 423**

**COOPERATIVE SOLAR PROGRAM**

I. OBJECTIVE:

To establish policy to provide guidelines for the administration of the Cooperative Solar Program.

II. CONTENT:

Definitions

The terms “Cooperative Solar Block(s)”, “Net Energy”, “Cooperative Solar Facilities” and “Excess Cooperative Solar Energy” as used in this policy are defined in the Cooperative Solar Rider CSOL-001.

Eligibility

The Cooperative Solar Program is available to all Members’ accounts subject to the following provisions:

1. The account must be an active metered account.
2. The Cooperative Solar Program billing structure in combination with other billing components of the respective account must be compatible with the Cooperative’s billing software.
3. Member shall complete a “Cooperative Solar Program Agreement” for each account to be enrolled.

Participation

Member agrees to participate for a minimum of one (1) month per respective account before the account is eligible to terminate participation in the program. If a participating account no longer meets the eligibility requirements of the program, participation in the program shall be terminated. When an account ceases to participate in the program all rights to the block(s) allocated to it are relinquished.

Billing

The Cooperative Solar Program shall be billed as per Cooperative Solar Rider CSOL-001.

Limitation on Cooperative Solar Blocks

There is a limit of two (2) Cooperative Solar Blocks per account, subject to availability. Requests for additional blocks shall be handled on a case-by-case basis, with the objective of minimizing Excess Cooperative Solar Energy on the Member's account.

Availability

The Cooperative Solar Program is available to any eligible account on a first come, first served basis. In the event no blocks are available, eligible accounts may be placed on a waiting list per Member request.

Resources

The Cooperative Solar Facilities shall include the Net Energy from the 1.86 MW solar facility in Glynn County, the .1 MW solar facility adjacent to OREMC's Kingsland Office and the .1 MW solar facility adjacent to OREMC's Hilliard office.

III. APPLICABILITY:

This policy applies to all Members and services.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY:

The General Manager or designee will be responsible for carrying out the provisions of this policy.

Date Adopted: September 26, 2019

Supersedes: April 26, 2016

Effective Date: November 1, 2019