## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

**Electronic Emergency Docket Related** 

To The Novel Coronavirus Covid-19

Case No. 2020-00085

Responses filed by: Farmers Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation

#### **COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**

#### **BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In the Matter of:

**Electronic Emergency Docket Related** 

To The Novel Coronavirus Covid-19

Case No. 2020-00085

#### VERIFICATION

Tony Wells, Vice President, Member & Corporate Services of Farmers Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation, being duly sworn, states that he has supervised the preparation of responses to Requests for Information in the above-referenced case and that the matters and things set forth therein are true and accurate to the best of his knowledge, information and belief, formed after reasonable inquiry.

Dated: July \_\_\_\_\_, 2020

FARMERS RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

LLE VP. MEMBER & CORPORATE SERVICES

Subscribed, sworn to, and acknowledged before me by Tony Wells, Vice President, Member & Corporate Services for Farmers Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation on behalf of said Corporation this  $_{6}^{\text{th}}$  day of July, 2020.

Notary Public, Kentucky State At Large

ID: 625999

My Commission Expires: 07-30-2023

LINDA SUE FOUSHEE NOTARY PUBLIC STATE AT LARGE KENTUCKY COMM. # 625999 MY COMMISSION EXPIRES JULY 30, 2023

#### COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

#### BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

Electronic Emergency Docket Related

To The Novel Coronavirus Covid-19

Case No. 2020-00085

#### VERIFICATION

Jennie Gibson Phelps, Vice President, Finance & Accounting of Farmers Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation, being duly sworn, states that she has supervised the preparation of responses to Requests for Information in the above-referenced case and that the matters and things set forth therein are true and accurate to the best of her knowledge, information and belief, formed after reasonable inquiry.

Dated: July 6, 2020

FARMERS RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

G. PHELPS, VP, FINANCE & ACCOUNTING

Subscribed, sworn to, and acknowledged before me by Jennie Gibson Phelps, Vice President, Finance & Accounting for Farmers Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation on behalf of said Corporation this  $\frac{0+1}{2}$  day of July, 2020.

Notary Public, Kentucky State At Large

625999 ID:

My Commission Expires: 07 - 30 - 2023

LINDA SUE FOUSHEE NOTARY PUBLIC STATE AT LARGE KENTUCKY COMM. # 625999 MY COMMISSION EXPIRES JULY 30, 2023

**1** Provide the utility's current number of customers and the date used for that determination:

**Response:** For the month of June, 2020 Farmers RECC billed 25,706 accounts.

#### Item 2 Page 1 of 1 Witness: Tony Wells

#### Farmers Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation Case No. 2020-00085 Commission Staff's Initial Request

- 2 If applicable, provide the utility's current number of customers and the date used for that determination.
- **Response:** For the month of June, 2020 Farmers RECC billed the following accounts per class:

Residential		8	23,883
Commercial < 1,000 kVA	2	2	1,811
Commercial > 1,000 kVA			6
Street Lighting			6
Total			25,706
			Contract of the owner

3 If a utility provides multiple services, such as both electric and gas

residential service, provide the information requested for each service separately. For those customers that receive combined service, provide each service separately if separately served or combined if billed on a combined basis. Provide the average total bill for all customer for:

- a. 2017 as a year, not each month;
- b. 2018 as a year, not each month;
- c. 2019 as a year, not each month; and
- d. Each month in 2020

Total bill is defined as including charges for current service and past service that is unpaid, including the accumulation of fees.

#### **Response:** The data requested is as follows:

	Total	Total		Average	
Period	Billed	Bills	2	Bill	
Jul - Dec 2017	\$ 27,665,591	25,335	\$	182.00	**
2018	\$ 60,192,517	25,421	\$	197.32	
2019	\$ 56,682,423	25,544	\$	184.92	
20-Jan	\$ 4,837,352	25,674	\$	188.41	
20-Feb	\$ 5,461,271	25,631	\$	213.07	
20-Mar	\$ 4,586,086	25,653	\$	178.77	
20-Apr	\$ 3,924,914	25,652	\$	153.01	
20-May	\$ 3,773,867	25,661	\$	147.07	
20-Jun	\$ 3,754,793	25,706	\$	146.07	

\*\*The Cooperative only retains a rolling 36 month historical computer record for each member's usage. Therefore, year 2017 reflects six months of data for the July - December period.

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If a utility provides multiple services, such as both electric and gas residential service, provide the information requested for each service separately. For those customers that receive combined service, provide each service separately if separately served or combined if billed on a combined basis. Provide the average total bill for all customers in each class for:

- a. 2017 as a year, not each month;
- b. 2018 as a year, not each month;
- c. 2019 as a year, not each month; and
- d. Each month in 2020

Total bill is defined as including charges for current service and past service that is unpaid, including the accumulation of fees.

**Response:** The data requested is as follows:

Residential							
		Total	Total		Average		
Period		Billed	Bills		Bill		
Jul - Dec 2017	\$	18,581,593	23,462	\$	132.00	* *	
2018	\$	41,618,163	23,490	\$	147.64		
2019	\$	39,222,326	23,652	\$	138.19		
20-Jan	\$	3,555,290	23,816	\$	149.28		
20-Feb	\$	4,015,244	23,777	\$	168.87		
20-Mar	\$	3,347,299	23,793	\$	140.68		
20-Apr	\$	2,778,365	23,790	\$	116.79		
20-May	\$	2,656,118	23,829	\$	111.47		
20-Jun	\$	2,697,271	23,883	\$	112.94		

#### Commercial < 1,000 kVA

	Total	Total	Average	
Period	Billed	Bills	Bill	
Jul - Dec 2017	\$ 4,350,883	1,860	\$ 389.86	**
2018	\$ 8,866,154	1,918	\$ 385.22	
2019	\$ 8,779,459	1,880	\$ 389.16	
20-Jan	\$ 671,473	1,846	\$ 363.75	
20-Feb	\$ 725,533	1,842	\$ 393.88	
20-Mar	\$ 622,297	1,848	\$ 336.74	
20-Apr	\$ 605,535	1,850	\$ 327.32	
20-May	\$ 568,860	1,820	\$ 312.56	
20-Jun	\$ 611,120	1,811	\$ 337.45	

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	Commercial > 1	L,000 kVA		
	Total	Total	Average	
Period	Billed	Bills	Bill	
Jul - Dec 2017	\$ 4,696,597	6	\$ 130,461.03	* *
2018	\$ 9,632,871	6	\$ 133,789.87	
2019	\$ 8,599,732	6	\$ 119,440.73	
20-Jan	\$ 603,339	6	\$ 100,556.48	
20-Feb	\$ 714,154	6	\$ 119,025.70	
20-Mar	\$ 610,051	6	\$ 101,675.09	
20-Apr	\$ 534,582	6	\$ 89,096.99	
20-May	\$ 542,363	6	\$ 90,393.75	
20-Jun	\$ 439,600	6	\$ 73,266.66	

	Total	Total		Average	
Period	Billed	Bills		Bill	
Jul - Dec 2017	\$ 36,517		7	\$ 5,216.71	**
2018	\$ 75,329		7	\$ 10,761.29	
2019	\$ 80,906		6	\$ 13,484.33	
20-Jan	\$ 7,250		6	\$ 1,208.33	
20-Feb	\$ 6,341		6	\$ 1,056.83	
20-Mar	\$ 6,439		6	\$ 1,073.17	
20-Apr	\$ 6,431		6	\$ 1,071.83	
20-May	\$ 6,526		6	\$ 1,087.67	
20-Jun	\$ 6,803		6	\$ 1,133.76	

	Total			
	Total	Total	Average	
Period	Billed	Bills	Bill	
Jul - Dec 2017	\$ 27,665,591	25,335	\$ 182.00	* *
2018	\$ 60,192,517	25,421	\$ 197.32	
2019	\$ 56,682,423	25,544	\$ 184.92	
20-Jan	\$ 4,837,352	25,674	\$ 188.41	
20-Feb	\$ 5,461,271	25,631	\$ 213.07	
20-Mar	\$ 4,586,086	25,653	\$ 178.77	
20-Apr	\$ 3,924,914	25,652	\$ 153.01	
20-May	\$ 3,773,867	25,661	\$ 147.07	
20-Jun	\$ 3,754,793	25,706	\$ 146.07	

\*\*The Cooperative only retains a rolling 36 month historical computer record for each member's usage. Therefore, year 2017 reflects six months of data for the July - December period.

If a utility provides multiple services, such as both electric and gas
 residential service, provide the information requested for each service separately. For
 those customers that receive combined service, provide each service separately if
 separately served or combined if billed on a combined basis. Provide the average bill for

- current service for all customers for:
  - a. 2017 as a year, not each month;b. 2018 as a year, not each month;
  - c. 2019 as a year, not each month; and
  - d. Each month in 2020

**Response:** The data requested is as follows:

	Total	Total	Average	
Period	Billed	Bills	Bill	
Jul - Dec 2017	\$ 25,555,492	25,335	\$ 168.12	**
2018	\$ 53,984,216	25,421	\$ 176.97	
2019	\$ 51,624,777	25,544	\$ 168.42	
20-Jan	\$ 4,394,581	25,674	\$ 171.17	
20-Feb	\$ 5,025,126	25,631	\$ 196.06	
20-Mar	\$ 4,077,139	25,653	\$ 158.93	
20-Apr	\$ 3,409,726	25,652	\$ 132.92	
20-May	\$ 3,106,059	25,661	\$ 121.04	
20-Jun	\$ 3,283,342	25,706	\$ 127.73	

\*\*The Cooperative only retains a rolling 36 month historical computer record for each member's usage. Therefore, year 2017 reflects six months of data for the July - December period.

#### Item 6 Page 1 of 2 Witness: Tony Wells

#### Farmers Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation Case No. 2020-00085 Commission Staff's Initial Request

If a utility provides multiple services, such as both electric and gas residential service, provide the information requested for each service separately. For those customers that receive combined service, provide each service separately if separately served or combined if billed on a combined basis. Provide the average bill for

- current service for all customers in each class for:
  - a. 2017 as a year, not each month;
  - b. 2018 as a year, not each month;
  - c. 2019 as a year, not each month; and
  - d. Each month in 2020

Total bill is defined as including charges for current service and past service that is unpaid, including the accumulation of fees.

**Response:** The data requested is as follows:

Residential							
Period		Total Billed	Total		Average		
Period		Billed	Bills		Bill		
Jul - Dec 2017	\$	16,566,217	23,462	\$	117.68	**	
2018	\$	36,025,291	23,490	\$	127.80		
2019	\$	34,539,341	23,652	\$	121.69		
20-Jan	\$	3,144,006	23,816	\$	132.01		
20-Feb	\$	3,598,910	23,777	\$	151.36		
20-Mar	\$	2,857,790	23,793	\$	120.11		
20-Apr	\$	2,292,008	23,790	\$	96.34		
20-May	\$	2,248,710	23,829	\$	94.37		
20-Jun	\$	2,279,356	23,883	\$	95.44		

#### Commercial < 1,000 kVA

	Total	Total	Average	
Period	Billed	Bills	Bill	
Jul - Dec 2017	\$ 4,255,799	1,860	\$ 381.34	**
2018	\$ 8,600,113	1,918	\$ 373.66	
2019	\$ 8,529,389	1,880	\$ 378.08	
20-Jan	\$ 640,249	1,846	\$ 346.83	
20-Feb	\$ 704,943	1,842	\$ 382.71	
20-Mar	\$ 602,464	1,848	\$ 326.01	
20-Apr	\$ 576,329	1,850	\$ 311.53	
20-May	\$ 530,159	1,820	\$ 291.30	
20-Jun	\$ 557,584	1,811	\$ 307.89	

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#### Item 6 Page 2 of 2 Witness: Tony Wells

Total         Total         Average           Period         Billed         Bills         Bill           Jul - Dec 2017         \$         4,696,597         6         \$         130,461.03           2018         \$         9,282,077         6         \$         128,917.73           2019         \$         8,473,784         6         \$         117,691.45	**
Jul - Dec 2017         \$ 4,696,597         6         \$ 130,461.03           2018         \$ 9,282,077         6         \$ 128,917.73	**
2018 \$ 9,282,077 6 \$ 128,917.73	**
2019 \$ 8,473,784 6 \$ 117,691,45	
20-Jan\$603,3396\$100,556.4820-Feb\$714,1546\$119,025.7020-Mar\$610,0516\$101,675.0920-Apr\$534,5826\$89,096.99	
20-Feb \$ 714,154 6 \$ 119,025.70	
20-Mar \$ 610,051 6 \$ 101,675.09	
20-Apr \$ 534,582 6 \$ 89,096.99	
20-May \$ 320,395 6 \$ 53,399.19	
20-Jun \$ 439,600 6 \$ 73,266.66	
Street Lighting	
Total Total Average	
Period Billed Bills Bill	
Jul - Dec 2017 \$ 36,517 7 \$ 5,216.71	* *
2018 \$ 75,329 7 \$ 10,761.29	
2018       \$       75,329       7       \$       10,761.29         2019       \$       80,906       6       \$       13,484.33         20-Jan       \$       7,250       6       \$       1,208.33         20-Feb       \$       6,341       6       \$       1,056.83         20-Mar       \$       6,439       6       \$       1,073.17	
20-Jan \$ 7,250 6 \$ 1,208.33	
20-Feb \$ 6,341 6 \$ 1,056.83	
20-Apr \$ 6,431 6 \$ 1,071.83	
20-May \$ 6,526 6 \$ 1,087.67	
20-Jun \$ 6,803 6 \$ 1,133.76	
Total	
Total Total Average	
Period Billed Bills Bill	
2017 \$ 25,555,130 25,335 \$ 168.11	
2018 \$ 53,982,810 25,421 \$ 176.96	
2019 \$ 51,623,420 25,544 \$ 168.41	
20-Jan \$ 4,394,843 25,674 \$ 171.18	
20-Feb \$ 5,024,348 25,631 \$ 196.03	
20-Mar \$ 4,076,743 25,653 \$ 158.92	
20-Apr \$ 3,409,350 25,652 \$ 132.91	
20-May \$ 3,105,790 25,661 \$ 121.03	
20-Jun \$ 3,283,342 25,706 \$ 127.73	

\*\*The Cooperative only retains a rolling 36 month historical computer record for each member's usage. Therefore, year 2017 reflects six months of data for the July - December period.

7 Explain how the utility calculates bad debt.

a. Explain the decision criteria governing when the utility writes off bad debt.

b. Provide the monthly bad debt write-offs for each month in 2018,

2019, and 2020.

c. If the utility has changed its calculation or determination of bad debt

in the past two years, explain its previous calculation or determination of bad debt and the reason for the change.

Response:

a. A member is issued a final bill and two reminder letters. Then, four months from the month the member is disconnected, Farmers RECC writes off the bad debt.

b. The following table shows gross bad debt write-offs by month. The data for year 2020 is provided through June.

	2018	2019	2020
January	\$ 3,840	\$ 6,375	\$ 1,984
February	\$ 2,120	\$ 2,276	\$ 2,636
March	\$ 1,793	\$ 3,812	\$ 3,592
April	\$ 2,866	\$ 8,101	\$ 4,078
May	\$ 10,055	\$ 4,003	\$ 5,036
June	\$ 8,753	\$ 3,795	\$ 3,734
July	\$ 8,892	\$ 7,320	
August	\$ 4,607	\$ 4,055	
September	\$ 3,015	\$ 3,284	
October	\$ 4,579	\$ 3,409	
November	\$ 5,245	\$ 4,444	
December	\$ 8,278	\$ 3,595	
Total	\$ 64,041	\$ 54,471	\$ 21,060

c. Farmers RECC has not changed its calculation or determination of bad debts in the past two years.

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#### Item 8 Page 1 of 1 Witness: Tony Wells

#### Farmers Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation Case No. 2020-00085 Commission Staff's Initial Request

8 Assuming the Commission's moratorium on disconnections was not in effect, provide the number of customers in each class that would be subject to disconnection and the date used for this determination.

#### **Response:** The data requested is as follows:

Resi	dential
Date For Disconnection	Number Customers
3/16/2020 - Post Pay	47
4/8/2020 - Post Pay	145
4/15/2020 - Post Pay	259
4/22/2020 - Post Pay	232
4/30/2020 - Post Pay	162
5/8/2020 - Post Pay	256
5/15/2020 - Post Pay	224
5/22/2020 - Post Pay	210
5/30/2020 - Post Pay	211
6/8/2020 - Post Pay	221
6/15/2020 - Post Pay	198
6/22/2020 - Post Pay	163
6/30/2020 - Post Pay	175
3/31/2020 - Pre Pay	231 **
4/30/2020 - Pre Pay	298 **
5/31/2020 - Pre Pay	310 **
6/30/2020 - Pre Pay	370 **

\*\* Prepay members are subject to disconnection daily. This is a snapshot of prepay members, subject to disconnection, at the end of March, April, May and June. Refer to Question 17 for additional details on the prepay accounts.

#### Commercial < 1,000 kVA

Date For Disconnection	Number Customers
3/16/2020	1
4/8/2020	3
4/15/2020	3
4/22/2020	2
4/30/2020	19
5/8/2020	9
5/15/2020	6
5/22/2020	5
5/30/2020	23
6/8/2020	9
6/15/2020	3
6/22/2020	4
6/30/2020	15

#### Commercial > 1,000 kVA

4/20/2020	0
5/19/2020	0
6/23/2020	0

**9** Provide the percent of customers, by class, that pay on time for:

- a. 2017 as a year, not each month;
- b. 2018 as a year, not each month;
- c. 2019 as a year, not each month; and
- d. Each month in 2020.

**Response:** The data requested is as follows:

Residential								
	Delinquent	Total	<b>Bills Paid</b>					
Period	Notices	Bills	On Time					
Jul - Dec 2017	21,026	140,772	85.06%					
2018	42,461	281,879	84.94%					
2019	41,505	283,820	85.38%					
20-Jan	3,505	23,816	85.28%					
20-Feb	3,320	23,777	86.04%					
20-Mar	3,622	23,793	84.78%					
20-Apr	2,888	23,790	87.86%					
20-May	3,002	23,829	87.40%					
20-Jun	1,559	23,883	93.47%					

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Commercial < 1,000 kVA							
	Delinquent	Total	<b>Bills Paid</b>				
Period	Notices	Bills	On Time				
Jul - Dec 2017	1,016	11,170	90.90%				
2018	1,926	23,040	91.64%				
2019	1,986	22,561	91.20%				
20-Jan	124.00	1,846	93.28%				
20-Feb	168.00	1,842	90.88%				
20-Mar	155.00	1,848	91.61%				
20-Apr	179.00	1,850	90.32%				
20-May	178.00	1,820	90.22%				
20-Jun	93.00	1,811	94.86%				

#### Item 9 Page 2 of 2 Witness: Tony Wells

Commercial > 1,000 kVA								
Delinquent Total Bills Paid								
Period	Notices	Bills	On Time					
Jul - Dec 2017	0	36	100.00%					
2018	2	72	<del>9</del> 9.77%					
2019	2	72	99.77%					
20-Jan	0	6	100.00%					
20-Feb	0	6	100.00%					
20-Mar	0	6	100.00%					
20-Apr	1	6	83.33%					
20-May	1	6	83.33%					
20-Jun	0	6	100.00%					

	Street Lig	hting	
	Delinquent	Total	Bills Paid
Period	Notices	Bills	On Time
Jul - Dec 2017	0	7	100.00%
2018	0	7	100.00%
2019	0	6	100.00%
20-Jan	0	6	100.00%
20-Feb	0	6	100.00%
20-Mar	0	6	100.00%
20-Apr	0	6	100.00%
20-May	0	6	100.00%
20-Jun	0	6	100.00%

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#### Farmers Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation Case No. 2020-00085 Commission Staff's Initial Request

10 Provide the following information for January 1, 2015, until December 31, 2019. If a utility provides muliple services, such as both electric and gas residential service, provide the information requested for each service separately. For those customers that receive combined service, provided each service separately if separately served or combined if billed on a combined basis. Further, provided the following information by class.

a. Provide monthly totals of service termination notices issued to customers only for nonpayment of bills.

b. Provide monthly totals of service terminations for customers only for nonpayment of bills.

c. Provide the total number of customers for each month.

Response: The data requested is as follows:

55	Year	Annually	January	February	March	April		May	Jun	ne	July		August	September	October	November	December
Total service termination notices issued.	2015	3,582	319	330	350	)	497	3	59	250	1	167	219	254	280	256	301
Residential and Small Commercial	2016	3,243	240	289	24:	l	267	з	33	195		262	366	264		227	
	2017	3,841	370	265	268	3	343	4	42	244		184	308	390		250	
	2018	3,996	287	349	38	L	377	2	92	323		277	419	392		362	
	2019	4,027	282	326	385	;	300	2	87	431		280	329	286	330	405	387
×	Year	Annualiy	January	February	March	April	-	May	Jun	ne	July		August	September	October	November	December
Industrial	2015	-		•	<u>د</u>		-	-		1 <b>•</b>		۲			3	7	2
	2016	3 <b>4</b> 3	- <b>1</b> 443	-	-		8	-								<b>.</b>	5
	2017	2.05			-		÷.	-				•					\$:
	2018	848					÷			•			÷	57		۵.	<b>5</b> )
	2019			-			*	5				050	1.2	3°	<u>_</u>	*	÷.
	Year	Annually	January	February	March	April		Mav	Jun	ne	July		August	September	October	November	December
Total service terminations	2015	907	60		118		94		31	63		54	89	68		62	
Residential and Small Commercial	2016	848	52				69		38	38		71	90	83		33	
	2017	920	74				91		)5 )5	53		34	73	119		76	
	2018	1,112	67	75			120		72	84		62	132	102		118	
	2019	1,245	94	103			59	1		95		70	123	74		129	
														•••		125	+24
	Year	Annually	January	February	March	April		May	Jun	e	July		August	September	October	November	December
Industrial	<u>Year</u> 2015	Annually	January -	February -	March	April	8	May -	Jun	ie -	July	<u>.</u>	August	September	October	November	December
Industrial			January - -	February - -	March -	April		May -	June	ie -	July	÷.	August	September - -	October	November - -	December - -
Industrial	2015 2016 2017		January - -	February - - -	March -	April		<u>May</u> - - -	Jun	1 <del>0</del>	July		August	September - - -	October - - -	November - -	December - - -
industriəl	2015 2016 2017 2018		January - -	February - - - -	March - - -	April		<u>May</u> - - -	June	1e - -	July	(法) (法) (表)	August - - -	September - - -	October - - - -	November - - -	December - - - -
Industrial	2015 2016 2017		January - - - -	February	March	April		<u>May</u> - - -	Jun	18 • • •	July	(1) (1) (2) (2) (3) (3)	August	September	October - - - - - -	November - - - - -	December - - - - -
industrial Total number of customers per month	2015 2016 2017 2018		January - - - - January	February - - - - - - -	March - - - - - -	<u>April</u>		•	June June	100 D 200 D 200	<u>ylut</u> July	(1) (1) (1) (1)	August - - - - - August	September - - - - September	October - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	November	December - - - - - December
	2015 2016 2017 2018 2019					).—	24,985		Jun	100 D 200 D 200	ylut	(1) (1) (1) (1)	August	- - - September	5 5 5 5 5	- - - November	- - - - December
Total number of customers per month	2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 Year		- - - January	- - - February	- - - March	).—		- - - - - - - -	<u>Jun</u>	• • • •	אוענ		27 25 25 25 25	- - - - - - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	2 2 2 2 2 2 2	•
Total number of customers per month	2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 Year 2015		January 24,926	February 24,920	March 24,895	).—	24,985	- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	<u>Jun</u> 8 9	- - - 24,958	ylut	25,019	August 24,976			- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -
Total number of customers per month	2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 <u>Year</u> 2015 2016		January 24,926 24,986	February 24,920 25,038	March 24,895 25,083	).—	24,985 25,009		<u>Jun</u> 8 9 5	- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	עוענ	25,019 25,117	August 24,976 25,170		October 25,077 25,183	November 24,995 25,156	 
Total number of customers per month	2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 <u>Year</u> 2015 2016 2017		January 24,926 24,986 25,193	February 24,920 25,038 25,211	March 24,895 25,083 25,278	).—	24,985 25,009 25,208		Jun 8 9 5 5	ne 24,958 25,136 25,312	ylut	25,019 25,117 25,274	August 24,976 25,170 25,352	- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	October 25,077 25,183 25,343	November 24,995 25,156 25,374	December 25,034 25,191 25,297
Total number of customers per month Residential and Small Commercial	2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 Year 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019	Annually	January 24,926 25,193 25,315 25,457	February 24,920 25,038 25,211 25,299 25,424	March 24,895 25,083 25,278 25,410 25,452	).—	24,985 25,009 25,208 25,317		Jun 8 9 5 5	24,958 25,136 25,312 25,342	ylut	25,019 25,117 25,274 25,360	August 24,976 25,170 25,352 25,645	September 25,007 25,171 25,302 25,429	October 25,077 25,183 25,343 25,458	November 24,995 25,156 25,374 25,515	December 25,034 25,191 25,297 25,444
Total number of customers per month	2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 Year 2015 2016 2017 2018 2017 2018 2019 Year	Annually	January 24,926 24,926 25,193 25,315 25,457 January	February 24,920 25,038 25,211 25,299	March 24,895 25,083 25,278 25,410	).—	24,985 25,009 25,208 25,317	May 24,92 25,08 25,24 25,38	Jun 8 9 5 5	24,958 25,136 25,312 25,342 25,559	ylut	25,019 25,117 25,274 25,360 25,536	August 24,976 25,170 25,352 25,645	September 25,007 25,171 25,302 25,429	October 25,077 25,183 25,343 25,458	November 24,995 25,156 25,374 25,515	December 25,034 25,191 25,297 25,444
Total number of customers per month Residential and Small Commercial	2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 <u>Year</u> 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 <u>Year</u> 2015	Annually Annually 72	January 24,926 25,193 25,315 25,457	February 24,920 25,038 25,211 25,299 25,424	March 24,895 25,083 25,278 25,410 25,452 March	April April	24,985 25,009 25,208 25,317		Jun 8 9 5 5 9	24,958 25,136 25,312 25,342 25,559	July	25,019 25,117 25,274 25,360 25,536	August 24,976 25,170 25,352 25,645 25,623	September 25,007 25,171 25,302 25,429 25,547	October 25,077 25,183 25,343 25,458 25,644	November 24,995 25,156 25,374 25,515 25,586	December 25,034 25,191 25,297 25,444 25,600
Total number of customers per month Residential and Small Commercial	2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 Year 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 Year 2015 2016	Annually Annually 72 72	January 24,926 24,926 25,193 25,315 25,457 January	February 24,920 25,038 25,211 25,299 25,424 February	March 24,895 25,083 25,278 25,410 25,452 March	April April	24,985 25,009 25,208 25,317		<u>Jun</u> 8 9 5 5 9	e 24,958 25,136 25,312 25,342 25,559 e	July	25,019 25,117 25,274 25,360 25,536	August 24,976 25,170 25,352 25,645 25,623 August	September 25,007 25,171 25,302 25,429 25,547	October 25,077 25,183 25,343 25,343 25,644 October	November 24,995 25,156 25,374 25,515 25,586	December 25,034 25,191 25,297 25,444 25,600
Total number of customers per month Residential and Small Commercial	2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 Year 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 Year 2015 2016 2017	Annually Annually 72 72 72	January 24,926 24,986 25,193 25,315 25,457 January 6	February 24,920 25,038 25,211 25,299 25,424 February	March 24,895 25,083 25,278 25,410 25,452 March	April April	24,985 25,009 25,208 25,317		<u>Jun</u> 8 9 5 5 9 9	e 24,958 25,136 25,312 25,342 25,559 re 6	July	25,019 25,117 25,274 25,360 25,536	August 24,976 25,170 25,352 25,645 25,623 August	September 25,007 25,171 25,302 25,429 25,547	October 25,077 25,183 25,343 25,343 25,644 October	November 24,995 25,156 25,374 25,515 25,586	December 25,034 25,191 25,297 25,444 25,600
Total number of customers per month Residential and Small Commercial	2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 Year 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 Year 2015 2016	Annually Annually 72 72	January 24,926 24,986 25,193 25,315 25,457 January 6 6	February 24,920 25,038 25,211 25,299 25,424 February	March 24,895 25,083 25,278 25,410 25,452 March	April April	24,985 25,009 25,208 25,317		<u>Jun</u> 8 9 5 5 9 9 6 6	e 24,958 25,136 25,312 25,342 25,559 re 6	July	25,019 25,117 25,274 25,360 25,536	August 24,976 25,170 25,352 25,645 25,623 August	September 25,007 25,171 25,302 25,429 25,547	October 25,077 25,183 25,343 25,343 25,644 October	November 24,995 25,156 25,374 25,515 25,586	December 25,034 25,191 25,297 25,444 25,600

#### Item 11 Page 1 of 1 Witness: Jennie Phelps

#### Farmers Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation Case No. 2020-00085 Commission Staff's Initial Request

#### **11** Provide the total income received from late payment fees for:

- a. Each month in 2017;
- b. Each month in 2018;
- c. Each month in 2019;
- d. Each month in 2020;

#### **Response:** The data requested is as follows:

The information for year 2020 is provided through June.

	<u>2017</u>	2018	<u>2019</u>	2020		
January	\$ 44,329	\$ 49,657	\$ 44,794	\$	33,272	
February	\$ 26,138	\$ 36,340	\$ 26,995	\$	22,594	
March	\$ 36,698	\$ 50,454	\$ 35,554	\$	16,636	
April	\$ 18,737	\$ 27,435	\$ 29,211	\$	-	
May	\$ 27,252	\$ 40,330	\$ 21,979	\$		
June	\$ 14,391	\$ 16,474	\$ 18,978	\$	876	
July	\$ 23,236	\$ 37,090	\$ 48,050	\$	122	
August	\$ 39,458	\$ 30,633	\$ 20,685			
September	\$ 20,322	\$ 21,070	\$ 28,211			
October	\$ 30,813	\$ 32,847	\$ 36,582			
November	\$ 14,480	\$ 16,166	\$ 15,453			
December	\$ 24,258	\$ 24,522	\$ 39,566			

**12** Quantify the amount of the late payment fees the utility would have assessed since March 16, 2020, absent the Commission's directive.

**Response:** The data requested is as follows:

78,069

\$

#### Item 13 Page 1 of 24 Witness: Jennie Phelps

#### Farmers Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation Case No. 2020-00085 Commission Staff's Initial Request

- Provide copies of all general communication provided to customers
   regarding arrearages, late payment, payment plans, etc. since March 16, 2020.
   Customer-specific communication is excluded from this request.
- **Response:** See attachments for general communications posted via Farmers RECC's website, Facebook and Twitter. Farmers RECC also communicated with its members in the May and June issues of Kentucky Living.

#### **Coronavirus Communications**

Hem 13

Herm is Page 2 of 24 Witness: Jennie Phelps

#### March 17, 2020: Website

"With the uncertainty created by the coronavirus pandemic, we know that the people we serve are facing many concerns. Farmers RECC is dedicated to doing what we can to live up to the trust that our members place in us to bring them safe, affordable and reliable power.

As a cooperative, we have a responsibility to do what is in the best interest of all of our members. We will be closing our lobbies, beginning on Wednesday, March 18, 2020 to help limit the direct exposure of our employees and members. Our goal is to decrease the likelihood of illness and resulting work disruptions so that we can continue to provide our members continuity of service. Members are still able to pay bills and conduct all other necessary business through our mobile app, our website, by phone or the night deposit. Anyone with questions regarding any of these options can call 270-651-2191. We ask that anyone who can do business by phone to please do so in order to keep drive-thru times down.

In addition, we are suspending disconnection of service to members for nonpayment or low funds for a temporary period. While this is not normal procedure, we are sensitive to the well-being of all our members. Late payment and disconnect notices will not be sent at this time, however, this does not remove members' responsibility to pay their bills. We encourage any member who is facing financial difficulty during this time to call us.

As we move through this challenging time together, Farmers RECC is dedicated to finding the best solutions for our membership and our communities. For existing members requesting new services with an existing Farmers RECC membership, please contact us at 270-651-2191 ext. 1871 or via email at <br/>
<billing@farmersrecc.net>.

For those needing to establish service for the first time with the Cooperative. Application Forms are available on our website at farmersrecc.com, or at the Glasgow office near the front door or you can contact us at the above information so we can email you an application.

For new service requests involving construction or upgrades to existing services, please contact us at 270-651-2191 ext. 1873 or via email at <engineering@farmersrecc.net>.

Payments can be received at our drive thru at the Glasgow office, in our night deposit, or via credit card payment over the phone."

#### March 17, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"Farmers RECC is temporarily suspending service disconnections for nonpayment. We understand the importance of electrical service, particularly during this pandemic, and we continue to look for ways to support member needs during this time. Farmers RECC will continue, as it always has, to work with members experiencing hardships, and we appreciate our members working with us to keep their accounts as current as possible."

March 18, 2020 Facebook/Twitter



#### March 24, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"We are currently not disconnecting service to members for non-payment or low funds and are suspending new late fees for a limited time. While this is not

- normal procedure, we are sensitive to the well-being of all of our members.
- Though disconnects may not occur, it remains the responsibility of each account holder to pay as they can, which will help avoid a larger balance in the future.
- <sup>6</sup> Bills will continue to be sent as usual.

Local Community Action agencies still have LIHEAP funds available until March

31st. Please feel free to contact them to see if you qualify for assistance and to get more information on how to apply.

Find out more at our website www.farmersrecc.com/COVID19"

Item 13 Page 3 of 24 Witness: Jennie Phelps



#### March 24, 2020 Website

"We are currently not disconnecting service to members for non-payment or low funds and are suspending new late fees for a limited time. While this is not normal procedure, we are sensitive to the well-being of all of our members. Though disconnects may not occur, it remains the responsibility of each account holder to pay as they can, which will help avoid a larger balance in the future. Bills will continue to be sent as usual.

Local Community Action agencies still have LIHEAP funds available until March 31st. Please feel free to contact them to see if you qualify for assistance and to get more information on how to apply. Barren County: 270-651-8171 Hart County: 270-524-0224 Metcalfe County: 270-432-4006"

#### March 26, 2020 Facebook/Twitter



ltem 13 Page5 of 24 Witness: Jennie Phelps

#### March 27, 2020 Website

"We understand that our members may have questions or concerns about bill payment, disconnects and other business functions during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please read our Frequently Asked Questions and if you have any additional questions or concerns, please call us at 270-651-2191."

#### March 27, 2020

Facebook/Twitter

"We remain committed to our members and we understand that you may have questions about your interaction with us in the coming days or weeks. Take a look at the 'Frequently Asked Questions' sheet at the link below. Don't see your question answered? Give us a call at 270-651-2191!

https://www.farmersrecc.com/COVID19"



#### March 31, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"Applications for the LIHEAP Crisis Component will now be accepted through April 30, 2020. For more information, call your local Community Action agency!"



Hem 13 Page 6 of 24 Witness: Jennie Phelps

April 3, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

> "Although our lobbies are closed, there are still several no-contact ways to pay your bill! Plus, we have extended drive thru hours to remain open from 7:30AM -6:30PM Monday thru Friday!"

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#### April 8, 2020

Facebook/Twitter

"While we are not disconnecting services at this time, it remains the responsibility of each member to pay as they can, which will help avoid larger balances in the future. While our lobbies may be closed, you can still pay through all of our nocontact methods!"

### **5 WAYS TO MAKE BILL PAYING EASIER**

Farmers RECC offers a number of ways to pay your bill remotely to reflect the "social distancing" advocated by health officials because of COVID-19. Stay home to pay!

- 1. Online at www.farmersrecc.com, e-check and credit card options
- 2. Automatic bank draft
- 3. Night deposit
- 4. Smartphone App, Farmers RECC at Play or App Stores 5. Automated phone system, 'Option 2'

Questions? Call (270) 651-2191

Item 13 Page I of 24 Witness: Jennie Phelps

#### April 9, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"If all your family members are home during this time, you may be using more energy. Keep in mind, more energy use will result in a larger bill. Keep an eye on your daily energy use by using the 'Your Meter' feature in our 'Member Center' at farmersrecc.com. #TeamKentucky"



#### April 10, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"Just a reminder that applications for the LIHEAP Crisis Component will now be accepted through April 30, 2020. For more information, call your local Community Action agency!"



Item 13

Page 8 of 24 Witness: Jennie Phelps

April 15, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"While we are not disconnecting services at this time, it remains the responsibility of each member to pay as they can, which will help avoid larger balances in the future!"



#### April 17, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"If all your family members are home during this time, you may be using more energy. Keep in mind, more energy use will result in a larger bill. Keep an eye on your daily energy use by using the 'Your Meter' feature in our 'Member Center' at farmersrecc.com. #TeamKentucky"



Item 13 Page 9 of 24 Witness: Jennie Phelps

April 22, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

> "While we are not disconnecting services at this time, it remains the responsibility of each member to pay as they can, which will help avoid larger balances in the future!"



#### April 23, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"Just a reminder that applications for the LIHEAP Crisis Component will be accepted through April 30, 2020. For more information, call your local Community Action agency!"



Item 13 Page 10 of 24 Witness: Jennie Phelps

#### April 27, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"As we begin another work week, we want to remind our members not to be overwhelmed, especially about their electric bill. We are here to work with each person who may be struggling during the public health situation.

Just pay what you can, when you can. This will help avoid large balances in the future. We want to help you manage your energy so give us a call at 270-651-2191."



#### April 27, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"Electric cooperatives across Kentucky are reporting a surge in scammers attempting to exploit Kentuckians amidst the COVID-19 crisis. Members have reported receiving calls from someone claiming to work for the local electric coop and threatening to disconnect service without immediate payment. We are currently not disconnecting services at this time. If you receive a phone call like this, call us at 270-651-2191 and the Attorney General's office at 1-888-432-9257."



Hem 13 Rage 11 of 24 Witness : Jennie Phelps

April 28, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

> "If all your family members are home during this time, you may be using more energy. Keep in mind, more energy use will result in a larger bill. Keep an eye on your daily energy use by using the 'Your Meter' feature in our 'Member Center' at farmersrecc.com."



#### April 30, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"Remember all of our no-contact ways to pay!"

#### **5 WAYS TO MAKE BILL PAYING EASIER** Farmers RECC offers a number of ways to pay your bill remotely to reflect the "social distancing" advocated by health officials because of COVID-19. Stay home to pay!

distancing<sup>2</sup> advocated by health officials because of COVID-19. Stay home to pay! 1. Online at www.farmersrecc.com, e-check and credit card options 2. Automatic bank draft

3. Night deposit

4. Smartphone App, Farmers RECC at Play or App Stores

5. Automated phone system, 'Option 2'

Questions? Call (270) 651-2191



May 11, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"Contact your local Community Action agency to see if you qualify!"



May 13, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"To find out what resources are available for assistance, contact your local Community Action agency. The spring enrollment period deadline is June 30. Barren County: 270-651-8171 Hart County: 270-524-0224 Metcalfe County: 270-432-4006"

## **NEED HELP WITH YOUR ELECTRIC BILL?**



First-come, first-served low-income assistance now available.

Apply now. New LIHEAP spring enrollment deadline is June 30.

Hen 13 Page 13 of 24 Witness: Jennie Phelps

May 18, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"To find out what resources are available for assistance, contact your local Community Action agency. The spring enrollment period deadline is June 30. Barren County: 270-651-8171 Hart County: 270-524-0224

Metcalfe County: 270-432-4006"



#### May 19, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"We understand this is a difficult time and we want to remind our members not to be overwhelmed, especially about their electric bill. We are here to work with each person who may be struggling during the public health situation. Just pay what you can, when you can. This will help avoid large balances in the future. We want to help you manage your energy so give us a call at 270-651-2191."



Item 13 Page 14 of 24 Witness: Jennie Phelps

May 27, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

> "To find out what resources are available for assistance, contact your local Community Action agency. The spring enrollment period deadline is June 30. Barren County: 270-651-8171

Hart County: 270-524-0224 Metcalfe County: 270-432-4006"

 KENTUCKY

 KENTUCKY

 KENTUCKY

 KENTUCKY

 First-come, first-served

 Iow-income assistance

 Iow-income assistance

#### June 1, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

- "We understand this is a difficult time and we want to remind our members not to be overwhelmed, especially about their electric bill. We are here to work with each person who may be struggling during the public health situation.
- Just pay what you can, when you can. This will help avoid large balances in the future. We want to help you manage your energy use so give us a call at 270-651-2191."



ltem 13 Page 15 of 24 Witness: Jennie Phelps

June 3, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"To find out what resources are available for assistance, contact your local Community Action agency. The spring enrollment period deadline is June 30. Barren County: 270-651-8171 Hart County: 270-524-0224

Metcalfe County: 270-432-4006"

**NEED HELP WITH YOUR ELECTRIC BILL?** First-come, first-served



First-come, first-served low-income assistance now available.

Apply now. New LIHEAP spring enrollment deadline is June 30.

#### June 5, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"Remember all of our no-contact ways to pay!"



Questions? Call (270) 651-2191

Hem 13

Page 16 of 24 Witness: Jennie Phelps

June 8, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

> "To find out what resources are available for assistance, contact your local Community Action agency. The spring enrollment period deadline is June 30. Barren County: 270-651-8171

Hart County: 270-524-0224 Metcalfe County: 270-432-4006"



#### June 10, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"We understand this is a difficult time and we want to remind our members not to be overwhelmed, especially about their electric bill. We are here to work with each person who may be struggling during the public health situation. Just pay what you can, when you can. This will help avoid large balances in the future. We want to help you manage your energy use so give us a call at 270-651-2191."



## Item 13 Page 17 of 24 Witness: Jennic Phelps

#### June 10, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"We have received phone calls about members being disconnected if they don't make an immediate payment. This is a scam. We are always willing to help our members with payment arrangements. Please call us at 270-651-2191 if you have any questions about your account."



#### June 15, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

- "To find out what resources are available for assistance, contact your local Community Action agency. The spring enrollment period deadline is June 30. Barren County: 270-651-8171
- Hart County: 270-524-0224

Metcalfe County: 270-432-4006"

## **NEED HELP WITH YOUR ELECTRIC BILL?**



First-come, first-served low-income assistance now available.

Apply now. New LIHEAP spring enrollment deadline is June 30.

Hem 13 Page 18 of 24 Witness: Jennie Phelps

#### June 17, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"We understand this is a difficult time and we want to remind our members not to be overwhelmed, especially about their electric bill. We are here to work with each person who may be struggling during the public health situation. Just pay what you can, when you can. This will help avoid large balances in the future. We want to help you manage your energy use so give us a call at 270-651-2191."



#### June 18, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"If all your family members are home during this time, you may be using more energy. Keep in mind, more energy use will result in a larger bill. Keep an eye on your daily energy use by using the 'Your Meter' feature in our 'Member Center' at farmersrecc.com."



Item 13 Page 19 of 24 Witness: Jennie Phelps

#### June 22, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"There are still funds available at your local Community Action agency to assist with utility needs. To find out qualifications and apply for assistance, contact your local Community Action agency. Barren County: 270-651-8171 Hart County: 270-524-0224

Metcalfe County: 270-432-4006"



#### June 24, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"We understand this is still a difficult time and we want to remind our members not to be overwhelmed, especially about their electric bill. We are here to work with each member who may be struggling during the public health situation. Just pay what you can, when you can. This will help avoid large balances in the future. We want to help you manage your energy use so give us a call at 270-651-2191."



Item 13 Page 20 of 24 Witness: Jennie Phelps

June 26, 2020 Facebook/Twitter

"Reminder: While disconnections for nonpayment have been postponed, members will still be responsible for their full bill amount. Prepaid members will still be responsible for the full balance on their account. We are postponing disconnection of service only, not the actual bill. We want to encourage our members to pay as much as they can on their bill, both regular billing and prepaid accounts, to prevent larger bills in the coming months.

If you have questions concerning how much you owe, please call us at 270-651-2191, and we will be happy to assist you."



# Cooperative strength in crisis

Someday, some future historian will calculate the long-term damage inflicted by the COVID-19 pandemic on our families, communities and economy.

For today, I am taking account of how this crisis has not only exposed the vulnerabilities of humankind, but our strengths, as well.

For the families, communities and businesses served by Farmers RECC, our most significant strength is our sense of community. The spirit that helped our parents and grandparents build this cooperative is still with us today. And, I dare say, we will need to rely on that spirit and sense of community as we ultimately reclaim our lives from this terrible disruption.

Farmers RECC is proud to serve you and we are proud of the way our communities have rallied to help each other in times of uncertainty and distress.

Guided by cooperative values, Farmers RECC has taken a number of steps since March related to the outbreak of the COVID-19 coronavirus, in particular doing our part to discourage transmission of the virus. These measures are important not only to protect the public but to protect our ability to continue to serve you without disruption. We know that you have placed your trust in us to bring you safe, affordable and reliable power.

There are still many challenging days ahead for us, but I do want to take a moment to thank everyone we serve for your patience and goodness during



critical times. I also want to publicly thank the entire team here at Farmers RECC for their tireless dedication in service to all of our member-owners.

I often reflect on the Seven Cooperative Principles, the ideals for the operation of any cooperative. Three of those seven principles stand out to me today:

Education, Training and Information: Farmers RECC is committed to keeping you informed and serving as a trusted resource upon which you can rely.

**Cooperation among Cooperatives:** Our service to you has been buoyed by our partnership with the 25 other electric cooperatives in Kentucky and our statewide association, the publisher of *Kentucky Living*.

**Concern for Community:** Farmers RECC is dedicated to the safety and wellbeing of the people we serve, during times of crisis and as we recover together.

William T. Prather President & CEO



Item 13 Page 22 of 24 less: Jennie

#### CONTACT US



#### **Corporate Office** 504 South Broadway Glasgow, KY 42141 Phone (270) 651-2191 Fax (270) 651-7332 www.farmersrecc.com

William T. Prather, President and CEO

Woodford L. Gardner Jr., Attorney

#### **Board of Directors**

Randy London C.F. Martin Jr. **Ronnie Smith Randy Sexton** 

Paul C. Hawkins Neil Pendygraft **Brandi Williams** 

#### CALL (270) 651-2191

When calling from these exchanges: Cave City (773) Edmonton (432) Fountain Run (434) Gamaliel (457) Hiseville (453) Lucas (646) Park City (749) Temple Hill (427) Summer Shade (428) Greater Glasgow (678) (659) (651)

#### CALL (800) 253-2191

When calling from these exchanges: Bonnieville (531) Buffalo (325) Canmer (528) Center (565) Horse Cave (786) Magnolia (324) Munfordville (524) and other exchanges not listed above.

Farmers RECC provides reasonably priced, dependable electricity to more than 25,000 total services in place over 3,623 miles of line in Barren, Hart, Metcalfe, Adair, Edmonson, Green, Grayson and LaRue counties.

#### **Caralyne Pennington, Editor**



Touchstone Energy\* Cooperatives The power of human connections\*

28B KENTUCKY LIVING . MAY 2020



#### CAVE CITY CONVENTION CENTER

502 Mammoth Cave Street, Cave City, KY Registration begins at 5:30PM Entertainment begins at 6 p.m. Annual Business Meeting begins at 7 p.m.

Denny Whalen Caricaturist Farmers RECC Scholarship drawing Electric vehicle display Energy efficiency information

# Entertainment by Rockland Road



#### FREE energy-saving lightbulb for members who attend!

Each registered member will receive a bucket and LED bulb and will be entered into drawings for door prizes. Members MUST be present to win.

# 5 ways to make bill paying easier

Farmers RECC offers a number of ways to pay your bill remotely to reflect the "social distancing" advocated by health officials because of COVID-19. Stay home to pay!

- Online at www.farmersrecc.com, e-check and credit card options
- Automatic bank draft
- Night deposit
- Smartphone App, Farmers RECC at Play or App Stores
- · Automated phone system, 'Option 2'

Questions? Call (270) 651-2191



# We're here for you

As we all deal with the new realities brought on by the coronavirus, I want to assure you that your local electric cooperative is here to help you. We have always had an emergency plan that has served us well in a variety of circumstances, from ice storms to tornadoes to flash floods. Early in this crisis, our staff updated that plan with a special emphasis on ensuring we can continue to provide the reliable electric service you have come to expect from your electric cooperative.

So far, that is exactly what has happened. We know that after a sufficient supply of food and water, electricity is the No. 1 thing you need to maintain some sense of normalcy as we hunker down in our homes. With that in mind, keeping the power flowing is job one for everyone involved in maintaining the electric cooperative system.

That starts with our generation cooperative, East Kentucky Power Cooperative, which has taken extreme

> measures to ensure its workforce is healthy and its power plants are functioning as needed.

We thought you might want to know some of the steps we have taken in order to keep your power flowing. We've closed our lobbies to prevent the spread of germs. Instead, we are encouraging members to use our night deposit, online, phone, mobile app and mail payment options.

We've divided departments into shifts so that they can practice social distancing even when in the office and some employees are working from home. If you call, the phones will be answered as always.

We have separated our line crews from other

employees and even from each other to limit possible spread of the virus. Trucks have been relocated so that lineworkers can head to the job site without coming to the office. New routines are in place for contractors working on our system in order to keep them away from employees.

Our management team and board are meeting regularly to fine-tune this plan. We are in constant contact with the other electric cooperatives in Kentucky and with the Kentucky Electric Cooperatives office, which in turn is working closely with our national association, the state legislature, Gov. Andy Beshear and local officials.

So far, it is working well and everyone has adapted to the new norm. Nothing brings out the best in our employees better than a crisis situation.

Our focus here is on doing our part to keep your life as normal as possible through this situation and beyond. The cooperative way of doing business has brought us this far, and the cooperative way will help us through this crisis.

All the best to everyone. Stay healthy, stay home and we will get through this together, the

cooperative way!

William T. Prather President & CEO





# Annual meeting postponed

On the last day of 2019 when the World Health Organization first learned of dozens of cases of a pneumonia-like illness in Wuhan, China, the world had no idea that the coronavirus pandemic was about to spread rapidly to take thousands of lives—and close businesses—all across the globe.

In the months that followed, nearly everything shut down. March Madness was canceled. The Kentucky Derby was postponed. The magical world of Disney closed for public safety. Even our own annual youth tour visits to Frankfort and Washington, D.C., were canceled.

Farmers RECC's members' safety and well-being is and always will be a priority for us. At the time of this writing, our commonwealth is still under a state of emergency with only a few restrictions being eased and only under strict guidelines. Your board of directors felt it important to further protect you—our members—during the ongoing health emergency and postponed this year's annual meeting scheduled for Thursday, July 9.

We will run our annual report for you as normal in July's *Kentucky Living* and will include postponement plans there. More details on the Farmers RECC Scholarship Drawing will be available in that issue as well. Eligibility and preregistration is available on our website at www.farmersrecc.com/scholarship.

During this unprecedented event, many of us have learned the importance of being flexible and realized how truly special it is when families are able to spend time together. We have also learned how many unsung heroes are among our co-op family and in our service area.

- Thanks to the people across our local communities who have taken food to others, supported their local businesses, helped neighbors, or called friends and relatives who have been home
- alone just to see how they were doing.
- Appreciation for our nurses, doctors,

first responders, fire and police for their sacrifices to ensure our well-being at the sake of their own has grown immensely and is long overdue.

Item 13

Page 24 of 24 Witness: Jennie

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- A loud SHOUT OUT to all the other essential workers still working to keep our lives somewhat normal during these abnormal times. We couldn't do it without you!
- Our members' patience and understanding did not go unnoticed when concerns about COVID-19 changed Farmers RECC's operations forcing our office lobbies to close and alternate work schedules to be initiated.
- We also want to recognize our lineworkers and all of our employees who kept our members' lights on and normal business functions going. Their efforts are truly heroic work.

We've all been battling against this horrible pandemic. But please remember that our nation has faced and overcome many crises. We will overcome COVID-19. We're in this together!



- 14 Provide a detailed explanation and breakout of any cost increases and decreased income (by customer class if applicable) the utility has experienced as a result of the COVID-19 State of Emergency.
- **Response:** Farmers RECC continues to monitor the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic and related state of emergency. While it is not possible to provide a complete accounting of the costs associated with these events, Farmers RECC would estimate that its costs are currently as follows:

Sanitizer Disinfecting Supplies	\$	1,405	
Gloves & Masks		6,123	
Thermometers		408	
Installation of Glass Barriers & Other PPE in Offices		12,944	
Respicaire Purification Devices on HVAC Systems		3,456	
Added Security Measures		1,076	
Est. Lost Revenue Late Fees		78,069	refer to Q.12 response
Est. Lost Revenue Collection Fees	-	19,185	<u>.</u>
TOTAL	\$	122,665	

Farmers RECC has experienced a decrease in revenue, and subsequently, margins, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and related state of emergency. Several large industrial members (factories) shut down, along with a myriad of small and medium-size businesses due to the Governor's directives. Farmers RECC has not specifically estimated by class of service, the impact on sales due to the pandemic, but estimates have been made on total\_sales for the months of March, April, May and June. Those estimations were made, <u>using a weather\_normalization process</u>. The estimations indicated a decline in total energy sales in March of 7% (estimated \$284k), in April of 16% (estimated \$519k), in May of 12% (estimated \$418k) and in June of 4% (estimated \$154k). Sales began to slowly normalize in late May as the Governor's directives allowed commercial accounts to begin to resume more normal operations.

- **15** Provide a detailed explanation and breakout of any cost decreases and increased income the utility has experienced as a result of the COVID-19 State of Emergency.
- **Response:** Employee budgeted training expenses and the associated cost of travel have been deferred during this COVID-19 pandemic and related state of emergency. Estimated budgeted amount for this training totaled \$22,200.

- **16** Provide any additional information or data the utility believes the Commission should consider in amending or vacating its previous Orders in this matter.
- **Response:** Farmers RECC is an electric cooperative owned by the members it serves. Accordingly, all costs are ultimately paid for by the members. The Cooperative continually seeks to tightly manage all costs to minimize the impact on our members. The primary risk posed by the continued moratorium on non-pay disconnections is that the write-offs for non-paid bills will rise. Higher write-off costs will ultimately have to be borne by the total membership.

With each additional month the moratorium is in effect, many of our most economically vulnerable members will fall further behind in their past due balances. The summer months bring hotter temperatures and correspondingly higher electric bills. Even with extended partial payment plans, arrearage balances may grow to such an amount that budgeting for and catching up balances may prove to be extremely difficult for these members.

Farmers RECC, as a normal part of daily business, has always worked with its members in a sensitive and professional manner when they have problems paying for their electric service. Farmers RECC would suggest that to help minimize increasing costs on the membership, that the Commission look to expedite the lifting of the moratorium. The Cooperative can then begin to work with its members so they will pay their past-due balances and bring their account current in a mutually-agreed upon manner.

- 17 If applicable, provide any information or concerns regarding the utility's prepay program as it related to the Commission's previous Orders in this docket.
- Response: Since March 24, 2020, Farmers RECC has tracked the nonpayment of pay-as-you-go (prepay) members. Referring to the graph below, the prepay accounts in arrears has significantly increased to \$70,780, as of July 1, 2020. 25% (380 accounts) of all prepay members are behind on payment and would be subject to disconnection. As the summer months bring higher temperatures and correspondingly higher electric bills, the dollar value will continue to significantly climb.

