Leading The Way For 75 Years

Historical Timeline 1944 - 2019
STEC BEGINS
Leading The Way

Cover image from 1966 Annual Report
1962 Generating Capacity
0 Kilowatts

1963 Generating Capacity 22,500 Kilowatts
(Gas Turbines)

1966 Generating Capacity
50,000 KW
(Gas & Steam Turbines)
1944—South Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc., chartered on March 28th. South Texas electric cooperative directors, managers and other leaders foresaw a possible need in the future to own their generating facilities to obtain sufficient power at economical rates. Incorporators were M. D. Linde mann of Guadalupe Valley Electric, H. O. Anger stein of DeWitt County Electric, R. A. Hall of San Patricio Electric, E. S. Yoas of Jackson Electric, W. F. L. Lehman of Nueces Electric, Romeo Korth of Karnes Electric and Herbert Wisch kaemper of Victoria Electric.

1948—June:—REA granted first loan to South Texas Electric Cooperative for construction of generating plant. Loan later rescinded after power supplier offered new contracts to STEC members at reduced rate of 5.6 mills, a figure slightly below estimated generation costs at that time.

1958—August:—Private power supplier announced unwarranted major increase in wholesale power rates to STEC members with unreasonable large power and other restrictive clauses. November:—Proposed new rate reduced somewhat but restrictive clauses remained. Medina Electric Cooperative started construction of Pearsall generating plant.

1961—May:—STEC directors signed loan agreement with REA for $14,683,000 to construct generating plant at Nursery, Texas, after final breakdown of negotiations with private power supplier. Another rate increase coupled with large power restrictions forced STEC members, reluctantly, to the generation and transmission of their own power. August:—Riggs Shepperd employed as general manager. September:—Hurricane Carla hit with heavy damage to STEC Headquarters at Foster Field, Victoria.


1963—April:—Both 11,250 KW gas turbine generators completed. The first STEC generated power flowed through the lines. Construction begun on steam generator at Nursery. STEC sold 128,229, 554 KWH in 1963. 17,477,676 KWH generated at Nursery.

1964—STEC increased sales to 170,748,368 KWH Nursery Plant generated 29,223,412 KWH.

1965—July:—25,000 KW steam generator completed and test runs made. October:—Steam generator placed in regular service. STEC sold 188,862,100 KWH in 1965. 86,164,854 KWH generated at Nursery.

SOUTH TEXAS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
Victoria, Texas

DIRECTORS:
Romeo M. Korth, President
Sam Ruschhaupt, Vice President
Verner A. Petersen, Secretary-Treasurer
C. E. Caddel
John Stevens
F. C. Wolf

HOME ADDRESS:
Ecletto
Victoria
Danevang
Mathis
Bay City
Orange Grove

CO-OP REPRESENTED:
Karnes E. C.
Victoria County E. C.
Wharton County E. C.
San Patricio E. C.
Jackson E. C.
Nueces E. C.

MANAGER:
Riggs Shepperd

MILES OF LINE ENERGIZED:
786 (69 KV and 24.9 KV)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>TOTAL KWH SOLD</th>
<th>GENERATED BY STEC</th>
<th>PURCHASED FROM MEC</th>
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<td>1962</td>
<td>2,793,300</td>
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<td>2,793,300</td>
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<td>1963</td>
<td>128,229,554</td>
<td>17,477,676</td>
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<td>1964</td>
<td>170,748,368</td>
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<td>188,862,100</td>
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<td>1966</td>
<td>207,085,600</td>
<td>148,906,117</td>
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KILOWATT HOURS SOLD

ROMEO KORTH
President

S. F. RUSCHHAUPT, JR.
Vice President

C. E. CADDLE
Ass’t Secretary-Treasurer

JOHN STEVENS
Director

VERNER A. PETERSEN
Secretary-Treasurer

F. C. WOLF
Director
The 40s - 60s

South Texas Electric Cooperative’s (STEC) first organizational meeting was held on July 17, 1941, and the cooperative was chartered as a Texas corporation on March 28, 1944 with seven member distribution cooperatives.

STEC’s founding incorporators were: Herbert Wischkaemper of Victoria Electric Cooperative (VEC), H.O. Angerstein of DeWitt Electric Cooperative (DEC), Romeo Korth of Karnes Electric Cooperative (KEC), R.A. Hall of San Bernard Electric Cooperative (SBE), M.D. Lindemann of Guadalupe Valley Electric Cooperative (GVEC), E.S. Yoas of Jackson Electric Cooperative (JEC), and W.F.L Lehman of Nueces Electric Cooperative (NEC).

In 1944, an investor owned utility serving many cooperatives in South Texas threatened to increase rate to between 1.2 and 1.4 cents per kWh. According to E.S. Yoas, a Director of Jackson Electric Cooperative, the substantial rate hike prompted the creation of STEC and its first application for a loan from the Rural Electrification Administration (REA).

Seven-County REA Plant Is Planned for This Section
Post-war plans of seven South Texas co-operatives, including Victoria County Rural Electric Co-operative, are now under way to begin construction as quickly as possible following lifting of restrictions on vital materials, the announcement revealed.

Tentative location of the proposed generating plant has been placed at Thomaston, but definite

and final designation has not yet been made. Herbert Wischkaemper, president of the Victoria County Electric Cooperative, is president of the new organization; R.A. Hall of the San Patricio Cooperative is vice president; and Milton Lindemann of the Guadalupe Valley Electric Cooperative is secretary-treasurer.

Other members of the South Texas Cooperative board and the co-ops they represent are E.S. Yoas, Jackson Electric Cooperative; W.F. Lehman, Nueces Electric Cooperative; Romeo Korth, Karnes Electric Cooperative; and H.O. Angerstein, DeWitt County Electric Cooperative.
By 1948, STEC was actively working through the REA loan application process to finance generation, transmission lines, and substations due to the imminent price hikes. The articles of incorporation were amended that year to reflect that a Director from each Member would be on the Board. The membership also grew to eight with the addition of Wharton County Electric Cooperative (WCCEC). Facing the threat of losing cooperative business, the investor owned utility dropped its price back to 0.56 cents per kWh, so STEC rescinded its loan application. In the late 1960s, the investor owned power supplier again quoted high rates, and in response, STEC submitted an application for an REA loan. By this time, STEC had grown to 10 Members, adding San Patricio Electric Cooperative (SPEC) and Fayette Electric Cooperative (FEC).

Prior to 1961, the Members performed work on behalf of STEC. In 1961, STEC hired its first General Manager, Mr. Riggs Shepperd, and began the transformation to a full-service Generation & Transmission (G&T) cooperative. STEC secured its first office location, an existing older building at Foster Field Airport just outside of Victoria, Texas. Mr. Shepperd moved into the office in August. In September, the building was seriously damaged by Hurricane Carla. The year was extremely busy with STEC hiring its first employees, engaging in engineering and feasibility studies, and working through the REA loan application process.

STEC, Medina Electric Cooperative (MEC), and Rio Grande Electric Cooperative (RGEC) contemplated at length becoming members in each other’s organizations. The conversations about joining continued after MEC and STEC executed a power pooling agreement in 1961. MEC’s recently completed Pearsall Power Plant had more capacity than MEC’s load. STEC was going to need some energy from the Pearsall Plant, particularly before construction on its own plant was complete. REA strongly encouraged the power pooling agreement because of the high rates MEC members would have to pay if there was not another off-take party.
Picture taken during the dedication ceremonies of the Sam Rayburn Plant at Nursery showing (left to right) the Hon. Ralph Yarborough, U.S. Senator; Riggs Shepperd, STEC general manager; S. F. Ruschhaupt, Jr., STEC vice president; Romeo M. Korth, STEC president; John Stevens, STEC director; Verner L. Petersen, STEC secretary-treasurer; F. C. Wolf, STEC director; and C. E. Caddel, STEC assistant secretary-treasurer.
In November 1961, STEC estimated that it would take two years to build the needed transmission, substations, and gas turbine generators needed to begin supplying power to STEC’s Member Cooperatives. Throughout 1962, STEC procured materials and awarded contracts for the construction of 7 transmission lines totaling 694.37 miles, 35 substations, and two gas turbines at the Sam Rayburn Power Plant. In addition to the procurement and construction activities, STEC negotiated with neighboring utilities, the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) and Central Power & Light (CP&L), on interconnections, standby power arrangements, and short-term power supply. Although CP&L noticed several of the STEC Members of the termination of the long-term power supply arrangement in 1958, service continued under the agreement until the transition to STEC’s own resources could be completed.

A land agent was hired early in 1962 and transmission line right-of-way acquisition got underway. Substation and transmission line materials started arriving at Foster Field in February 1962 and construction began. In May of the same year, the Board authorized hiring a line superintendent. In August 1962, STEC membership swelled to eleven, adding Central Texas Electric Cooperative (CTEC). Operating on a tight budget and utilizing loan funds from the Rural Electrification Administration, STEC energized its first substations in November of 1962.

Membership of STEC was in flux in 1962, with several Members studying power supply arrangements with LCRA. In early 1963, five Members announced their intention to take power from LCRA and withdrew from full membership to become Associate Members of STEC. The Associate Members were DeWitt Electric Cooperative, Guadalupe Valley Electric Cooperative, San Bernard Electric Cooperative, Fayette Electric Cooperative, and Central Texas Electric Cooperative.

By March of 1963, practically all of STEC’s planned 69 kv transmission lines and substations were completed and in service. The final costs for the construction of the 69 kv transmission lines was $8,632.21 per mile. By the end of 1963, there were 40 stations energized and 812 miles of line in service.
STECC had also completed the installation of Units 1 and 2 at the Sam Rayburn Power Plant by the end of 1963 and started preparations to add a steam turbine resource to augment the capacity from the two gas turbines. Total installed cost for the two gas turbines, including overhead and engineering, was $2,786,244.40.

The 1963 organization chart included 15 total positions; 1 engineer, 6 power plant personnel including the plant manager, 4 line crew personnel including the line superintendent, 1 land agent, an office manager, and the General Manager’s secretary. There were other employees contracted to oversee line and substation construction that were not included in the organization chart.

In 1963, STECC delivered to its Members, over its own lines and substations, 128,929,000 kWh of electricity and received a total revenue of $1,074,733. With 37,440,000 kWh purchased from CP&L and line losses, the total STECC system energy requirements were approximately 180,000,000 kWh.

Construction of the Unit 3 steam turbine and generator commenced in 1964. Even before completion of the unit, consideration was given to the development of a second unit, also to be located at the Sam Rayburn site, to cope with the increasing demand of the Members. RBA encouraged interconnection with CP&L to provide opportunities for power exchange and to help address potential power quality concerns presented by the rapid growth rate of the STECC system and the long transmission lines.

On July 22, 1965, the 25 MW Sam Rayburn Unit 3 steam turbine was placed online for the first time. Over the next several weeks, the unit was operated continuously, with both gas turbines online for support during the day with a single gas turbine running at night. As a result of the capacity addition, MEC was able to take one of the Pearsall steam units offline to hold in reserve.

The system hit a peak of 44.02 MW on July 28, 1965. STECC generated or purchased a total of 202,327,881 kWh and sold a total of 185,872,100 kWh to the Members. Transmission planning activities during late 1965 and early 1966 included the addition of a 69 kV line near Sargent and the addition of a 1,000 kVA substation in Nursery.
In 1966, Board Officers and Members were President Romao Korth of Karnes Electric Cooperative (KEC), Vice-President S.P. Buschaupt of Victoria Electric Cooperative (VEC), Secretary-Treasurer Verner A. Petersen of Wharton County Electric Cooperative (WCEC), Director C.E. Caddel of San Patricio Electric Cooperative (SPEC), Director John Stevens of Jackson Electric Cooperative (JEC), and Director F.C. Wolf of Nueces Electric Cooperative (NEC).

In November of 1966, the Board proposed sending invitations to the directors of the six Members for STEC’s annual meeting. The new meeting format represented a departure from the way the annual meetings had historically been conducted. The new format of extending invitations to Directors of Members would remain in place to the present.

Energy sales continued to increase in 1966, with STEC generating or purchasing 214,383,775 kWh and energy sales to Members increasing to 207,085,600 kWh.

Hurricane Beulah, a Category 3 storm, made landfall in deep south Texas near Brownsville on September 20, 1967. Beulah spawned an estimated 64 tornadoes and caused outages at 8 substations with the longest lasting 30 hours. STEC crews had to straighten over 1,400 poles, equivalent to approximately 130 miles of 69 kV line, and wash multiple substations.

Two new substations were built in 1967, Van-Humble for Humble Pipeline Corporation and Sargent, along with 32 miles of new transmission line. Several substations, including El Campo and Port Lavaca, received upgrades to cope with growth in the system.

In 1968, STEC and MEC finalized transmission connections to CP&L in accordance with the 1967 interconnection agreement. Three interconnection points were established with CP&L at Pearsall, Calallen, and Victoria. The connections served to backstop generation from the STEC-MEC pool and bolster the reliability of both systems. STEC also began double-arming poles to combat salt air contamination flashes and pole-top fires.

By 1969, there were 45 total employees including 5 in engineering, 3 in accounting, 7 in the line and substation department, 6 in system operations, and 18 at the Sam Rayburn Power Plant and management. The 138 kV tie between Sam Rayburn and Victoria and the 138 kV line to Vanderbilt, along with STEC’s first two autotransformer stations at Sam Rayburn and Vanderbilt were completed. Communications, remote control capabilities, and a system operations department were established in order to remotely operate the 69 kV Oil-filled Circuit Breakers (OCBs) and switches installed at Driscoll, San Diego, Mathis, Refugio, Kenedy, Placedo, Bay City, and El Campo.

STEC recorded its first positive margin in 1969.
The 70s

In January of 1970, the Board voted to extend the Wholesale Power Contract to 2010. In July, the Board voted unanimously to join the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation (NRUCFC or CFC), beginning a relationship that has spanned 50 years. During the same meeting, the Board voted to join a new organization, the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) for a one-year period.

On August 3, 1970, Hurricane Celia made landfall near Corpus Christi, Texas. With winds gusting up to 160 mph, the storm did extensive damage to the system. Approximately 216 poles were downed and 14 substations were without service for a period of up to 36 hours. Celia was the costliest storm in history to that date, incurring $930 million in damage. Damage to the STEC system cost approximately $170,000.

During 1971, STEC began the construction of three new substations; Nada, Ganado, and Port O'Connor. The engineering and right-of-way work was also started on a new 138kV Danevang substation and its 138 kV transmission line from Vanderbilt.

PATH OF DESTRUCTION — Celia, the season’s first hurricane to hit the mainland, left a trail of destruction from the Texas coast to Mexico. Extensive damage was reported at Inglewood and Corpus Christi, and as far inland as Eagle Pass and Del Rio where the storm swept into Mexico. (AP Wirephoto)

Celia Winds Hit 160 MPH

Picture: Adjoining (Victoria, Texas) - Wed, Aug 5, 1970 - Page 12
STEC and Brazos Electric Power Cooperative (BEPC) began the exploration of lignite deposits in Atascosa and McMullen counties with the intent of using the fuel at one of the STEC-MEC pool plants or at a new plant. By February of 1972, STEC and BEPC had agreed on the terms of a 10,000-acre, 10-year lease for lignite reserves.

On March 30, 1972, Mr. Romeo Korth retired from the Board and stepped down as President. Mr. Korth had served as President since 1960 and was one of the original incorporators. At the 1972 Annual Membership Meeting on April 27, Mr. S.F. Buschhaupt, was elected President of the Board. He served as Board President until 2006.

In December 1972, STEC was feeling the effects of the natural gas shortages. At least one of the units at the Pearsall Plant was running on fuel oil and STEC was contemplating switching to oil on the units at Sam Rayburn. The Railroad Commission of Texas was holding hearings on possible curtailments to consumers, and the natural gas supplier was pushing for STEC to curtail consumption.

Pressure on natural gas supply continued into 1973, prompting STEC, MEC, and BEPC to begin planning in earnest for a new lignite-fired generating unit. In the meantime, STEC set up a fuel subcommittee to find additional sources of natural gas from fields in the area and made plans to purchase a 50,000 bbl oil storage tank for the Sam Rayburn Plant to serve as backup in case of gas curtailment.
Natural gas curtailments and escalating fuel costs continued to plague STEC through mid-1974. STEC held a special Board meeting in early June of 1974 to review a feasibility study associated with the proposed lignite-fired generating plant. The Board resolved to purchase a walking dragline from the Marion Power Shovel Company to facilitate the start of lignite mining operations in 1978.

In the Fall of 1974, the Board commissioned various environmental and engineering studies associated with the proposed plant and mine. STEC approved participation in the lignite project on a 50-50 basis with BEPC. The total projected cost for constructing the plant and mine facilities was $341.1 million. STEC’s share, including the necessary transmission lines, totaled $183.8 million.

Anticipating additional personnel, the Board authorized expansion into new office facilities at Foster Field.

In 1976, the Public Utility Regulatory Act (PURPA) was passed in Texas to establish a regulatory system for public utilities. In the latter half of 1976 and throughout 1976, the Board made numerous commitments for the procurement of equipment for the lignite project, now named the San Miguel Power Plant (San Miguel) after the creek in the mining area.
In October of 1976, the Board authorized execution of a contract with the Bureau of Reclamation to purchase the power output of the Amistad and Falcon Dam projects. In July of 1977, an agreement was reached among STEC, MEC, and CP&L for the allocation of costs and energy from the Amistad and Falcon Dams in a 35%/65% split between CP&L and the STEC-MEC pool.

In early 1977, after much debate on how to incorporate the San Miguel joint venture into STEC and BEPC, both Boards ultimately resolved that San Miguel would become a separate corporation with members of each member cooperative on its Board of Directors.

On April 28, 1977, Mr. Riggs Shepperd, STEC’s first General Manager, officially retired after 16 years of service. Mr. W.S. (Bill) Robson was promoted to General Manager to take Mr. Shepperd’s place.

In October 1978, the Board authorized plans for the construction of a headquarters facility and warehouse at the Sam Rayburn Power Plant in Nursery. The new headquarters facility and warehouse were complete in April 1980.
Working Together As Partners To Help Solve The Energy Crunch

Oil & Gas Industry South Texas
South Texas Electric Co-op Inc.

Safe Drivers Record Cited

Accident-free performance behind the wheel has earned special recognition for 15 men who drive for South Texas Electric Cooperative of Victoria.

They received safe driving awards from the insurance company which covers the co-op. Notification to STEC was received from Gordon B. Lemke, vice president for Safety and Health Services of the insurance company.

Professional drivers throughout the country are recognized annually by the insurance firm for each year of accident-free operation.

Loan Given To Co-Op

A $4,114,000 loan has been awarded the South Texas Electric Cooperative, headquartered in Victoria, by the Rural Electrification Administration, according to an announcement Thursday from Senator Lloyd Bentsen's office.

The loan, being made at an interest rate of 5 per cent, will be used to finance 44 miles of 69 kilowatt transmission line, seven new transmission substations, and general improvements to power generating and transmission facilities.
Retiring Shepperd Honored by Co-Op

By LYNN GARNER

By Advocate Staff Writer

Riggs Shepperd, retiring general manager of South Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc., learned much to his surprise Thursday that he and his wife will soon be on a plane bound for Acapulco.

Shepperd as told of the vacation trip provided by the co-op during the annual membership meeting held at the Victoria County Electric Co-op building in Victoria.

The Victorian was hired by the South Texas Co-op (STEC) in 1961 as its first general manager. He is retiring due to health problems, but will continue to serve as a consultant.

Shepperd's replacement has not been named.

To 150 persons giving Shepperd a standing ovation, he replied:

"I'm short on words, I can't begin to express my appreciation. I feel a very special awareness that all the managers and members of STEC have been the reason for the successes we've had.

"I would like to personally express my appreciation to you."

Also attending the meeting was David A. Hamil, administrator of the Rural Electric Co-op, (See SHEPPERD, Page 10A)

Shepperd observes during the annual membership meeting on Thursday at the Victoria County Electric Co-op building. Shepperd has been with the company since 1961 as STEC's first general manager.

Shepperd Gets Honor

(Continued From Page 1A)

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For Co-op Project

Groundbreaking Ceremonies Set

The South Texas Electric Cooperative, with headquarters in Victoria, will hold groundbreaking ceremonies at 10 a.m. Saturday for its San Miguel Project, a lignite-fired generating plant in Atascosa County.

It will be the first lignite-powered generating plant built in Texas by electric cooperatives and is being developed as a joint venture with Brazos Electric Power Cooperative, headquartered in Waco. Lignite is a lower grade coal.

The 400 mega-watt power station will be built on a 20,000-acre site near the Atascosa and McMullen county line at a point about 50 miles south of San Antonio. Officials earlier had said the project represents an investment of in excess of $340 million.

Carrying out the groundbreaking activity will be J.F. Rutschhaart Jr. of Victoria, president of South Texas Electric Cooperative; David Hamill, REA administrator of Washington; and Curtis Maynard, president of the Brazos Electric Power Cooperative. Hamill will be the featured speaker.

Others to participate in the ceremony will be Riggs Sheppard of Victoria, general manager of South Texas Electric Cooperative, and Russ Segresh of Waco, general manager of the Brazos Cooperative.

Jim Cobb, general manager of the Texas Electric Cooperative of Austin, will be master of ceremonies. Also scheduled to attend are State Sen. John Traeger of Seguin and State Rep. Jon Newton of Beeville, the Democratic Party nominee for the Texas Railroad Commission.

The power station is expected to go on line in late 1978, with a second 400 mega-watt station to be constructed after 1980. The lignite fuel for the plant will be strip mined from the 20,000 acres surrounding the 330 acres required for the plant itself.

Brazos Cooperative will be in charge of construction and South Texas Cooperative will operate the plant, expected to employ 225 persons.

Equipment to meet air pollution standards will cost over $23 million, with land reclamation and ash handling expected to run some $1,243,000 per year. The huge, 65-yard dragline necessary for mining the lignite alone will cost $1.5 million.
Robson Named
Board Selects Co-Op Manager

The board of directors of South Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc., announced Tuesday it has selected William S. Robson to be the co-op's new general manager, succeeding Riggins Sheperd, who retired last month.

Robson was employed by South Texas Electric in January 1976 in the position of assistant to the manager, with special responsibility for the San Miguel Lignite Project, a joint partnership venture with the Brazos Electric Power Cooperative, Inc., of Waco, in the construction and operation of a lignite-fired plant in Atascosa County.

Immediately prior to coming to South Texas Electric, Robson was employed by Brazos Electric Power Cooperative from 1957 through 1975 where he rose to the position of executive assistant.

Robson, a native of LaGrange, received his degree in electrical engineering from Texas A&M University in 1967. Prior to attending Texas A&M University, Robson served four years in the Air Force, stationed in Alaska as a radar technician and attained the rank of Staff Sergeant.

Robson is a registered professional engineer and holds membership in the Texas Society of Professional Engineers and the IEEE. In 1973, he was selected as "Engineer of the Year" by the Central Texas Chapter of TSPC.

Robson and his wife, Beverly, reside at 406 Live Oak Lane and have three married sons.

CO-OP FOURSOME – Shown at Thursday's 17th annual membership meeting of South Texas Electric Cooperative are, from left, Riggins Sheperd, retired general manager of STEC; W. S. Robson, present general manager; Col. E. J. Botard, vice president of the board; and Fred G. Meyer, retiring employee who was presented a wrist watch.

South Texas Electric Cooperative
Has served and will continue to supply the needs of the Oil and Gas Industry in this area for many years through its six owner-distributor electric co-operatives.

OUR OWNER-DISTRIBUTION CO-OPS

- Victoria County Electric Cooperative
- Victoria, Texas
- Nueces Electric Cooperative
- Robstown, Texas
- San Patricio Electric Cooperative
- Corpus Christi, Texas
- Wharton County Electric Cooperative
- Wharton, Texas
- Karnes City Electric Cooperative
- Karnes City, Texas
- Jackson Electric Cooperative
- Edna, Texas

Call us or any of our owner electric cooperatives for economical and dependable electric service for your industrial needs...

From left to right:

Calvin Fagan - Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc.

E. J. Botard - Vice President
Nueces Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Clyde C. Sanders - Director
Karnes Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Burt O'Connell - Secretary-Treasurer
Jackson Electric Cooperative, Inc.

S. F. Ruschhaupt, Jr. - President
Victoria County Electric Cooperative Company

Frank N. Stabbs - Director
Wharton County Electric Cooperative, Inc.
$429 MILLION APPROVED FOR ELECTRIC POWER PROJECT IN TEXAS:

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31 -- Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland announced today the approval of $429,381,000 in loan guarantee commitments to four rural electric cooperatives in Texas for the construction of a generating plant and related transmission lines.

The loan guarantees were through the Department’s Rural Electrification Administration. They went to the San Miguel Electric Cooperative, Jourdanton, Tex., $362,160,000; Brazos Electric Power Cooperative, Waco, Tex., $49,561,000; South Texas Electric Cooperative, Victoria, Tex., $14,715,000; and to Medina Electric Cooperative, Hondo, Tex., $2,945,000.

The loan to the San Miguel cooperative will finance construction of a 400 megawatt coal-fired generating plant near Christine, Tex., where coal to fuel the plant will be mined. Power from the plant will be delivered to the service areas of 26 REA-financed rural electric distribution cooperatives over transmission lines to be built with the loan guarantees to the Brazos, South Texas and Medina Cooperatives.

“This is the first project of its kind for rural electric cooperatives in Texas,” Secretary Bergland said. “In the past, natural gas has been their prime source of fuel for generating electricity. The co-ops now are involved in developing another local resource for generating the electric power they need, thereby easing the demand on natural gas.”
The 80s

In March 1980, the Board authorized the purchase of a supervisory control and data acquisition system from Advanced Control Systems and a microwave system. These two systems would be greatly expanded over the ensuing decades and formed the foundation of STEC’s transmission and substation operations system. STEC also completed the 138 kV line between Sam Rayburn and San Miguel, the San Miguel 138/69 kV autotransformer station, the San Miguel to Orange Grove 138 kV line, and the 69 kV San Miguel to Fashing line.

Hurricane Allen impacted the system in early August 1980. Eighteen structures were downed by the storm and over 580 required straightening. Service to 29 substations was interrupted over a five-day period from August 9 to August 13.

By October of 1980, STEC added 7 new positions to the organization chart for a total of 51 employees.

San Miguel came online and began commercial operations on January 7, 1982.
During 1988, the General Manager position, previously held by Mr. Robson, was temporarily filled by the Assistant General Manager, Mr. Ed Krause. Mr. Krause, the Acting General Manager, was promoted to General Manager by the Board in August 1988 becoming STEC’s third General Manager.

Shortly thereafter, Mr. Krause resigned from STEC. By December 1988, Mr. Mike Coyle was named Acting General Manager. The Board made the decision to rehire Mr. Robson as the General Manager in May of 1989.
Ernest J. Botard, Vice President
Nueces Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Clyde C. Sanders, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
Karnes Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Burt O’Connell, Secretary-Treasurer
Jackson Electric Cooperative, Inc.

S. F. Runkhaupt, Jr., President
Victoria County Electric Cooperative Company

W. C. Goodwin, Director
San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Frank N. Stubbs, Director
Wharton County Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Signed (left to right):
New Officers Elected by Cooperative

South Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc. elected officers during its annual membership meeting Thursday at the STEC headquarters complex at Nursery.

Elected were S.F. Ruschhaupt Jr. of Victoria, representing Victoria County Electric Cooperative, president; Burt O’Connell of Van Vleck, representing Jackson Electric Cooperative, Inc., vice president; and Clyde C. Sanders of Karnes City, representing Karnes Electric Cooperative, Inc., secretary-treasurer.

Also, William C., Goodwin of George West, representing San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Inc., assistant secretary-treasurer; Kenneth Christensen of El Campo, representing Wharton County Electric Cooperative, director; and John W. Turcotte of Sarita, representing Nueces Electric Cooperative, Inc., director.

Officers have been elected by South Texas Electric Cooperative. They are, from left, Clyde Sanders, Burt O’Connell, S.F. Ruschhaupt and W.C. Goodwin.

Service awards were presented to the following employees for their years of service with the cooperative through Dec. 31, 1986: Bill Josclyn, 20 years; Mike Francis, Mike Troell and Arlon Zarnow, 15 years; Matt Carter, Michael Orsek, Rickey Powell, J.R. Rusch and Henry Wood, five years.

A service award was also presented to O’Connell, vice president of the board, for 15 years of service.

Reports were given by Ruschhaupt and Sanders. Tom Sweatman, executive director, Electric Reliability Council of Texas, was the guest speaker.

Al Erwin, right, Chairman of the Public Utility Commission of Texas, with William S. Robson, STEC, General Manager. Mr. Erwin was keynote speaker at the STEC Annual Meeting, April 27, 1983.
Co-Op Notes

Cost Drop

Costs for electric power supplied by the South Texas Electric Cooperative have dropped about 10 percent over a two-year period, the co-op reported in a press release.

The savings are passed on to members of electric cooperatives in Victoria, Jackson and Wharton counties, STEC said.

Decreased power costs are due to improving load factors and increased efficiency at the lignite-coal powered San Miguel power plant in Atascosa County, the co-op said.

STEC spokesman Mike Coyle said power costs will continue to decrease as the co-op’s load increases.
The 90s

Mr. W.S. Robson announced his intentions to retire at the end of 1993 and Mr. David Grubbs became the General Manager in January of 1994.

In October of 1998, the Sam Rayburn Power Plant and portions of STEC’s system situated near the Guadalupe river were impacted by a disastrous flood event caused by rain in central and south Texas. Over 30 inches of rain were estimated to have fallen in a 36-hour period near San Marcos. Other areas of South Texas were also inundated as a near stationary cold front combined with moisture from two hurricanes. The water crested at the Sam Rayburn site at 109.5’ above mean sea level, over 5 feet higher than the 100-year floodplain on the site.

The main office and warehouse were flooded with approximately 2 feet of water and the area around the Guadalupe River for miles from the main river channel. Flow estimates in the town of Cuero, TX, approximately 15 miles from the plant, were 3-4 times above the 100-year flood peak discharge level. Even though isolated in both directions out of the site, STEC maintained staffing at the plant and system operations throughout the flood.

The deregulation of the wholesale markets and open access to the transmission system in Texas contributed to a boom in generation and transmission construction. STEC’s load was beginning to exceed the capacity of its resource portfolio so, in 1999, planning began for additional generation.

Utility hopes system will inform residents of dangerous weather

David Teweles
The Victoria Advocate

An electric utility concerned about plans to close the government weather office in Victoria has set up a system it hopes will help keep residents informed when dangerous weather threatens.

The South Texas Electric Cooperative is rebroadcasting a stream of weather information that includes everything from satellite and radar pictures to the latest warnings and watches.

Henry Wood of the electric cooperative said the information should be especially helpful to law enforcement agencies and emergency managers. But he said businesses and individuals may also find it useful.

The 100-watt signal is being broadcast from a transmitter at the cooperative located west of Nursery and covering northern Victoria and Goliad counties and eastern DeWitt County.

“There is a possibility that if the South Texas Electric Cooperative sees it’s being used some, they will boost the signal,” said John Cole of the National Weather Service.

He said the system, known as the Emergency Management Weather Information Network, provides weather information almost as quickly as the weather service disseminates it.

Wood said the information is received by that agency from a satellite and then rebroadcast for the public for use without charge.

He said residents only need a police scanner or other receiver that can pick up the VHF signal on 156.45 megahertz, a demodulator to descramble the signal and special software. The information is then fed into and stored on a computer.

Wood said the entire system, not including the computer, costs less than $800.

He said similar information is available from commercial vendors, but for a monthly fee. Wood said there is no charge for using the information supplied by the cooperative.

The cooperative is a 24-hour operation that sends electricity from its Nursery plant to member cooperatives in 27 South Texas counties.

Wood said having the latest weather information helps his office pinpoint where storms could interrupt the transmission of electricity.

The weather service plans to close its Victoria office in January.
The Flood of 1998
In August of 2000, the Board approved the purchase of three gas turbines for a combined-cycle expansion at the Sam Rayburn Power Plant.

In July 2001, Mr. Grubbs stepped down as the General Manager, and Mr. Winston Low was named the Interim General Manager.

In March 2002, the Board approved execution of a contract for a new System Operations and Engineering building to be constructed at the Sam Rayburn site.

Hurricane Claudette, a Category 1 storm, made landfall in the service territory on July 16, 2003, directly impacting the STEC headquarters facility in Nursery, disrupted the ongoing construction activities at the Sam Rayburn Plant, and downing 75 poles.

In August 2003, STEC appointed Mr. Michael Packard as the General Manager, replacing Mr. Low.

Commissioning activities for the new combined cycle at the Sam Rayburn Plant were underway during the summer of 2003, with the 177 MW combined cycle plant achieving official commercial operation in October of 2003. That year, STEC also completed its first 345 kV line between the Sam Miguel Power Plant and Pawnee.
Power plant project will bring jobs

Advocate Staff Report

A Nursery power plant construction project to install four new generators will create an estimated 1,000 mostly short-term jobs over the next year.

South Texas Electric Co-op has also hired an additional 14 new permanent full-time employees because of the addition of the four generators, which will enable the plant to generate five times the electricity it presently puts out.

During the first part of the construction, which has begun and will run until February, an estimated 300 contractors each day will likely be on the plant working.

“A lot of those came from the workforce commission,” said Mike Packard, assistant general manager of the Nursery plant.

Linda Pulijam, business service supervisor with the center, said that since the project began in April an estimated 500 people have applied and have been referred to contractors through the Golden Crescent Workforce Center.

“We are still working with them, so that number is probably going to grow,” she said.

The total number of people hired as a result of the referrals was not available.

While not all the new hires will come from this area, many of the contractors hired are Victoria companies.

“I think all of the concrete has come from local companies. Ingram and

Alamo have provided the concrete,” said Mike Packard. “A lot of the steel came from Safety Steel.”

“Right now, we are getting some of the surface piping done,” said John Packard, plant manager.

For the next six months, construction will be fast. “We are on the fast track, there is no doubt about it,” Mike Packard said.

Construction on the nearly $145 million project is expected to be completed by June of 2003, and since the groundbreaking, contractors have already built the two water-holding tanks and poured the foundation for the gas turbines.

The existing three turbines use water pumped from the Guadalupe River, but the new system will use underground water in what engineers described as a closed system.

The largest tank, at 750,000 gallons, will contain purified water that will be converted to steam by heat from the three jet engines that turn the first three turbines to produce electricity. The pressured steam will turn a fourth turbine that will then produce electricity.

“It is like free energy,” John Packard said.

The smaller tank, at 250,000 gallons, will be used to hold well water that will be pumped into a cooling tower and used to cool the steam back into water, and also to cool pumps in the system.

The four engines will produce about 200 megawatts of electricity.

“What we have here is the latest technology,” said Nolan Mayraz, an engineer with Burns and McDonnell. Mayraz is overseeing the construction as the project manager for the company.

“Here we have zero discharge,” Mayraz said. “We are not going to pollute the environment in any way.”

Mayraz said the combustion turbine is identical to the engines on a Boeing 747 jetliner. “The units are running on dual fuel – natural gas or diesel.”

John Packard added, “What we are designing them to run primarily on is natural gas. The new ones are twice the efficiency of these steam engines and three times the efficiency of the combustion engines.”

By spraying purified water into the combustion chamber, harmful emissions are reduced, Mayraz said.

The plant currently produces about 43 megawatts of electricity, purchasing the remaining energy it needs to supply the co-ops from other plants. By partnering with Medina Electric Co-op, the local co-op sells electricity to six smaller co-ops.

“Our total peak load is around 300 megawatts,” John Packard said. Co-ops in Jackson, Karnes, San Patricio, Nueces and Wharton counties are supplied with electricity from the Nursery plant.
On May 1, 2006, Magic Valley Electric Cooperative (MVEC), and MEC joined STEC as Members. This began a four-year process of transferring the generation and transmission assets of both cooperatives to STEC. Generation assets transferred included MEC’s Pearsall Power Plant and a Purchase Power Agreement (PPA) with Calpine that served MVEC’s load.

In 2005, NEC opted into retail competition, the only cooperative to do so in the state. STEC organized a Competitive Retail Department to provide billing, market communications, customer service, and other retail transaction support for the NEC retail subsidiary.

After 34 years of service to STEC, S.F. Ruschhaupt’s tenure as President of the Board ended in May 2006 and Mr. Arlon Retzloff, a KEC Director, became STEC’s President.
STEC plant gears up for operation

THOMAS DOYLE
Victoria Advocate

The South Texas Electric Cooperative plans to bring its new 200-megawatt expansion in Nursery online this month, incoming plant manager Michael Packard said.

“We will go into commercial operations some time after the 15th of July,” Packard said. So far two of the three generators in the new expansion have been test-fired with good results, he said.

The expansion consists of three generators fueled by either natural gas or diesel, and a fourth steam generator that produces power from the waste steam that comes off the other three units, Packard said.

The cooperative is a nonprofit electric utility that was formed to provide electric service to rural customers. The South Texas Electric Cooperative generates power for the six distribution cooperatives that own it. Those cooperatives in turn are owned by their customers, he said.

Normal growth created the need for additional generation capacity, Packard said. In addition, several contracts to purchase power expired and weren’t renegotiated.

South Texas Electric Cooperative is buying electric power on the spot market until the new generation facility goes online.

The new capacity will give the co-op additional electricity to sell to other electric service providers, Packard said.

The project, originally slated for $140 million, was paid for by a loan from the federal government, he said.

Customers will see a fraction of a cent increase in their base electric rate, said Roy Griffin, general manager for STEC member Jackson Electric Cooperative, but there should also be a decrease in the fuel cost portion of customer bills because of the efficiency of the new units.

“It will be pretty well a wash,” Griffin said.

“(The generators) are extremely efficient,” said Michael Duff, general manager of the Victoria Electric Cooperative, another STEC member. “They are really a state-of-the-art piece of equipment.

“All the six members of STEC are growing so that’s going to be capacity we have available in the future.”

The Victoria Electric Cooperative has customers in Dewitt, Victoria, Goliad, Jackson, Calhoun and Refugio counties.

The Jackson Electric Cooperative has customers in Brazoria, Matagorda, Calhoun, Jackson and Lavaca counties.

Wharton County Electric Cooperative, Nueces Electric Cooperative, Karnes Electric Cooperative and San Patricio Electric Cooperative are also members of STEC.

STEC bought out of the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) loan and guarantee programs by prepaying $164.2 million of Federal Financing Bank (FFB) debt and $19.6 million of RUS debt in 2007. STEC funded the prepayment through a bridge loan from CFC with the intention of refinancing the loan through the issuance of private placement debt.

In late 2007, STEC began development and environmental permitting work for the expansion of the Pearsall Power Plant. Twenty-four 8.4 MW reciprocating engine generator sets were purchased from Wartsila in January 2008. Environmental permits authorizing commencement of construction were received in January 2009 and site clearing and grading activities commenced that March.

In May of 2009, STEC began receiving energy from a wind-powered generation facility in Kenedy County under a 50 MW, 15-year, PPA. The San Miguel to Lobo 345 kV transmission line was also completed and put into service in 2009.
In October of 2009, STEC entered an indenture, replacing the mortgage with CFC to become STEC’s primary financing instrument and issued bonds for the first time under the indenture.

In December 2009, the first 12 engines of the 202 MW Fearsall Power Plant expansion began commercial operation, with the remaining 12 engines beginning commercial operation the following March of 2010.
Electric co-ops will join STEC

THOMAS DOYLE
Victoria Advocate

A deal announced this week to add two new members to the Nursery-based South Texas Electric Cooperative could eventually lead to the construction of a new coal-fired power plant by 2010.

Under a memorandum of understanding signed March 31, the Mercedes-based Magic Valley Electric Cooperative and the Houston-based Medina Electric Cooperative would join the six other member-owners of South Texas Electric Co-op, increasing the number of customers of the latter institution from about 70,000 to about 141,000, said Michael Packard, South Texas co-op general manager.

The South Texas Electric Co-op is a generation and transmission cooperative owned by six area distribution cooperatives – Jackson Electric Cooperative, Victoria Electric Cooperative, Karnes Electric Cooperative, San Patricio Electric Cooperative, Nueces Electric Cooperative and Wharton County Electric Cooperative – which are in turn owned by their individual customers.

South Texas Electric Cooperative: http://www.stec.org/

South Texas Electric stays strong

Cooperative ready to plan for future, expand with any possible needs

BY ALLISON MILES
AM@victoriaadvocate.com

NURSERY – It takes a full range of aspects, from informed leadership to a sound business plan and the ability to adapt, to change for an electric cooperative to make it today, Kyle Drefke said Thursday.

“Even if you have tools at your disposal, if you cannot act, if you cannot take the action that’s necessary within the window of opportunity that you have, you lose out,” he said.

Drefke, a partner with Washington, D.C.’s Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP, spoke to about 200 people Thursday at the South Texas Electric Cooperative’s annual meeting, updating attendees on challenges cooperatives face and the measures STEC has taken to meet them.

STEC is among about 90 generation transmission cooperatives nationwide and, like most industries, it faces hurdles, Drefke said.

For one thing, STEC is in one of the nation’s fastest-growing regions. Growth is one of the best problems a co-op can have, but requires leadership to plan ahead, look to the future and be prepared to act quickly when necessary.

The electric utility industry is the most capital-intensive business in the world, which introduces its own issues, Drefke said. Companies must invest in assets that are supposed to last them far into the future.

“It’s like buying a house in the day you get married and having that house be something you have to live in not knowing the size of your family,” he said. “It’s not knowing the requirements of what you need 30 years down the road.”

Other issues involve regulations, technological advances – if electric cars catch on, for instance, car charge times might change co-ops’ peak times and the like, and tighter financing conditions.

But STEC is poised to meet the challenges, Drefke said, explaining it maintains a solid investment credit rating, which helps it to continue to receive funding, even with tightening restrictions nationwide.

It also boasts both a plan and an experienced management team. Its six senior managers maintain more than 150 years in combined electric utility experience.

“The financial community respects that,” he said, adding STEC has had two presidents in the past 33 years. “It appreciated the perspective gain from that.”

David Davidson attended the Thursday event because, as director of the Karnes Electric Cooperative, he said it’s important to stay informed.

He said he appreciated hearing about the organization’s financial progress and well-being. As for what the future holds, he said no one really knows.

“The future is unstable and for two reasons,” he said. “The political environment and the economic environment. Nobody knows the answers.”

All in all, things are holding strong for the local co-op, said Arlon Retzlaff, the board president.

The cooperative recently completed the Wartsila plant, a Houston plant that produces just over 200 megawatts of power, he said, and is continuing work on the Colets Creek project.

“I think that STEC is moving along in the right direction,” Retzlaff said.
2011 - 2019

STEC expanded its wind energy purchase power agreement in 2011 with a second 50 MW, 15-year tranche.

After going online July 23, 1965 and providing 47 years of service, the Sam Rayburn Power Plant steam turbine, G3, was retired in June, 2012. In September 2012, STEC completed the purchase of a 400-acre site and began environmental permitting activities for a new generating plant in Hidalgo County that was ultimately named the Red Gate Power Plant.

In 2013, STEC completed the Bakersfield to Big Hill 345 kV transmission line in West Texas and the City of Garland’s 87-mile Bakersfield to Odessa 345 kV line.

STEC issued an additional $350 million in long-term bonds in 2013 to cover the costs of the Fearsall Power Plant Expansion and the various transmission line and substation projects.

In March 2014, Mr. Packard stepped down as the General Manager. Mr. Cory Allen was appointed Interim General Manager until the Board finalized the selection of Mr. Michael Kezar as the new General Manager in September 2014.
In February 2016, STEC received the permits necessary to begin construction of the Red Gate Power Plant, a 224 MW reciprocating engine-based peaking power plant.

After 10 years of service, Mr. Arlon Retzloff stepped down as the Board President in May 2015. Mr. Gary Raybon, a Director from Wharton County Electric Cooperative, was elected to take Mr. Retzloff’s place as President.

In December of 2015, STEC acquired 100% of the off-take rights associated with San Miguel.

In September 2016, the Red Gate Power Plant went online, with official commercial operation commencing in October. In December of 2016, STEC began receiving energy from a 74.8 MW PPA with NextEra for energy from a wind generation facility in Webb County.

Hurricane Harvey, a Category 3 storm, hit the Texas coast near Rockport in August of 2017. Thirty-three substations were impacted and a total of 75 transmission structures were downed.

THE LINEMAN’S PRAYER

Almighty God, Creator of the Earth, Wind, and Rain, protect us as we journey through the morning mist, the noontime sun, and the evening shadows. Help us to always remember that the most powerful energy can light the sky and run across wires that only time and experience can guide us to touch. Teach us to trust in your divine intervention but prepare us for unnatural clashes that man cannot control. Lead us into the darkest storm and deliver us to serve those who depend on our skills. Thank you, O God, for every blessing and may you give us strength to reach for the stars. Amen.

STEC

Safety is our way of life.
STEC completed renovations to the three-story G3 Powerhouse at Sam Rayburn in February 2018, repurposing the structure as offices for several departments.

In May 2019, Mrs. Barbara S. Miller, Director from Magic Valley Electric Cooperative (MVEC) was elected as the Board President.

STEC entered into its first Purchase Power Agreement (PPA) for solar photovoltaic generation in 2019 from four distribution connected 945kW_{AC} single-axis tracking arrays, split between the Red Gate and Pearsall Power Plant. South Texas Solar Power, LLC (STSP), a wholly owned taxable subsidiary of STEC, was created to facilitate the addition of the solar resources and monetize the Investment Tax Credit.
Sam Rayburn Power Plant

Completed Projects 1966

Completed Projects 2008

Pearsall Power Plant

Completed 1982

Expansion Completed March 2016

Solar Project Completed 2019

Courtesy of KDF Renewables Distributed Solutions

Red Gate Power Plant

Completed September 2016

Solar Project Completed 2019
Hydro & Wind Purchase Power Agreements

STEC has a long history of providing renewable energy to its Members which began with the 60 year power purchase agreement with the Western Area Power Authority for power from the Falcon and Amistad Dam Power Projects in 1983.

As wind energy became commercially viable and available, STEC expanded its purchases of renewables to include a 100.8 MW share in Avangrid Renewables’ Penascal Wind Power Project in two separate tranches in 2009 and 2011.

As prices of wind energy continued to decrease and STEC found an incremental need for additional energy, STEC supplemented its renewable portfolio with an additional amount of wind energy in 2016 from NextEra Energy’s Javelina II project.
Board Presidents
1960 - Present

Romeo Korth
1960 - March 1972

S.F. "Sammy" Ruschhaupt
April 1972 - May 2005

Arlon Retzlaff
May 2005 - May 2015

Gary Raybon
May 2015 - May 2019

Barbara S. Miller
May 2019 - Present

General Managers
1961 - Present

Riggs Shepperd
1961 - April 1977

W.S. "Bill" Robson
April 1977 - 1988

Ed Kreuse
August 1988 - December 1988

Mike Oylye (Acting)
December 1988 - May 1989

W.S. "Bill" Robson
May 1989 - December 1993

David Grubbs
January 1994 - July 2001

Winston Low (Interim)
August 2001 - August 2003

Michael Packard
August 2003 - March 2014

Cory Allen (Interim)
March 2014 - September 2014

Michael Kesar
September 2014 - Present
2019 Directors

BARBARA S. MILLER
President
MAGIC VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

RON HUGHES
Vice President / Finance & Audit Chairman
SAN PATRICIO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

PAUL T. BRYSCHEL, JR.
Secretary-Treasurer
KARNES ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

JAMES COLEMAN
Director
JACKSON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

BRUCE ELLIOTT
Director
JACKSON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

MARK ROLLANS
Director
MEDINA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

VARZAVAND "AYAN" IRANI
Director
NUCLES ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

DONALD HERRMANN
Director
NUCLES ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

of South Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc. are rural electric leaders who have either been elected to the Board of their distribution system or are managers of their distribution system. The Board consists of two representatives from each of its eight Member Cooperatives.
JACKSON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Member Highlights from 1966

JACKSON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., Edna, Texas

DIRECTORS:

Arnold Koop, President .......................................................... Edna
John Stevens, Vice President .................................................. Bay City
J. J. Hunt, Secretary-Treasurer .............................................. La Ward
C. M. Laird ............................................................................. Wadsworth
Burt O'Connell ........................................................................ Van Vleck
W. M. Sells ............................................................................. Port Lavaca
Tom Stone ............................................................................... Palacios
R. T. Bain .............................................................................. Edna
Carl O. Jensen ....................................................................... Bay City
Mrs. E. S. Yoas ......................................................................... Louise
K. B. Peck ............................................................................. Cordele

MANAGER:
B. H. Horne

COUNTIES SERVED:
Jackson, Matagorda, Lavaca, Brazoria, Calhoun

AVERAGE KWH PER MEMBER PER MONTH:
Domestic ................................................................. 558
Commercial and Industrial ... 1,492

CONNECTED MEMBERS:
6,063

MILES OF LINE ENERGIZED:
1,430

KWH PURCHASED FROM STEC:
1962 ...................................................... 0
1963 ...................................................... 18,691,800
1964 ...................................................... 28,002,900
1965 ...................................................... 31,144,200
1966 ...................................................... 35,085,100

Member Highlights & Service Area from 2019

JAMES COLEMAN • GENERAL MANAGER/CEO
JACKSON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Total Utility Plant $120,877,717
Total Margins & Equities $61,140,376
Total Revenue $53,621,162
Total kWH Sold 755,505,715
2019 New Connections 435
Total Connections in Service 16,322
Total Miles of Line 2,467
KARNES ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Member Highlights from 1966

KARNES ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., Karnes City, Texas

DIRECTORS:
Romeo M. Korth, President .............................................................. Eclectic
John A. Wilson, Jr., Vice President .................................................. Charlotte
B. P. Urbanczyk, Secretary-Treasurer ............................................ Hobson
E. H. Wehmann .............................................................................. Falls City
C. A. Ryan ..................................................................................... Tilden
Cleo Rogers .................................................................................... Poteet
C. D. Winerich .............................................................................. Karnes City
Felix B. Henke ............................................................................... Campbellton
John Henson .................................................................................. Pleasanton
Paul Dittfurth ............................................................................... Runge

MANAGER:
Clyde C. Sanders

COUNTIES SERVED:
Atascosa, Bee, Goliad, Karnes, Live Oak, Medina, McMullen, Wilson

AVERAGE KW H PER MEMBER PER MONTH:
Domestic ...................................................... 395
Commercial and Industrial ................ 675

CONNECTED MEMBERS:
5,260

MILES OF LINE ENERGIZED:
2,509

KWH PURCHASED FROM STEC:
1962 ........................................ 2,788,300
1963 ........................................ 29,780,100
1964 ........................................ 31,551,000
1965 ........................................ 32,793,800
1966 ........................................ 34,684,000

Member Highlights & Service Area from 2019

BRAD BIERSTEDT • GENERAL MANAGER
KARNES ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Total Utility Plant $98,800,059
Total Margins & Equities $143,513,107
Total Revenue $97,199,305
Total kWh Sold 1,192,870,075
2019 New Connections 588
Total Connections in Service 20,749
Total Miles of Line 4,603
NUECES ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Member Highlights from 1966

MANAGER:
C. M. Wagner

COUNTIES SERVED:
Nueces, Jim Wells, Kleberg, Kenedy, Duval, Live Oak, McMullen

AVERAGE KWH PER MEMBER PER MONTH:
Domestic .......................... 452
Small Commercial .................. 990
Industrial .......................... 26,290

CONNECTED MEMBERS:
4,614

MILES OF LINE ENERGIZED:
2,123

KWH PURCHASED FROM STEC:
1962 ..................................... 0
1963 ..................................... 19,487,400
1964 ..................................... 23,565,167
1965 ..................................... 28,199,400
1966 ..................................... 29,590,600

NUECES ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., Robstown, Texas

DIRECTORS:
F. C. Wolf, President ........................................ Orange Grove
Frank Blunter, Vice President .................. Robstown
W. A. Alrich, Secretary-Treasurer .................... Robstown
Charlie Rosse ............................................ Kingsville
Gus Hingst ............................................ Robstown
E. O. Walker ............................................ Freer
E. J. Botard ............................................ Alice
R. H. Roewe ............................................ Bishop
C. M. Allen ............................................ Robstown

Member Highlights & Service Area from 2019

VARZAVAND "AVAN" IRANI • CEO
NUECES ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Total Utility Plant .......................... $144,437,532
Total Margins & Equities .................. $111,468,953
Total Revenue ............................. $108,531,614
Total kWH Sold ........................... 1,310,666,833
2019 New Connections ...................... 399
Total Connections in Service ............ 19,603
Total Miles of Line .......................... 3,201
SAN PATRICIO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Member Highlights from 1966

MANAGER:
W. O. Burch

COUNTRIES SERVED:
San Patricio, Bee, Live Oak, Refugio, McMullen, Jim Wells, Goliad, Aransas, Nueces

AVERAGE KWH PER MEMBER PER MONTH:
Domestic .............................................. 392
Commercial and Industrial ................. 931

CONNECTED MEMBERS:
5,376

MILES OF LINE ENERGIZED:
2,362

KWH PURCHASED FROM STEC:
1962 ............................................. 0
1963 ............................................. 20,599,154
1964 ............................................. 30,968,601
1965 ............................................. 32,598,400
1966 ............................................. 34,259,700

SAN PATRICIO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., Sinton, Texas

DIRECTORS:
C. E. Caddel, President ......................................................... Mathis
W. L. Roots, Vice President ..................................................... Taft
C. B. Owen, Secretary-Treasurer ............................................ Taft
Dean Metts ................................................................. Three Rivers
J. C. Ermis ................................................................. Woodsboro
W. W. Brown, Jr. ......................................................... Sinton
Laurie Hunter ............................................................... Beeville
Ida Impson LeBourveau ..................................................... Mathis
Robert Wolfe ................................................................. Moulton

Member Highlights & Service Area from 2019

RON HUGHES • GENERAL MANAGER
SAN PATRICIO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Total Utility Plant ........................................ $61,810,064
Total Margins & Equities .......................... $43,999,324
Total Revenue ............................................. $29,910,521
Total kWH Sold ........................................... 297,423,202
2019 New Connections .............................. 232
Total Connections in Service .................... 11,671
Total Miles of Line ................................... 3,136
VICTORIA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Member Highlights from 1966

VICTORIA COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE COMPANY, Victoria, Texas

DIRECTORS:
- Sam Ruschhaupt, President .................................................. Victoria
- H. C. Wehmeyer, Vice President ........................................... Port Lavaca
- Walker Carpenter, Secretary-Treasurer ................................. Nursery
- L. C. Chesshir ................................................................. Victoria
- W. F. James ......................................................................... La Salle
- Dan Zimmerman ................................................................. Port Lavaca
- Sidney Albrecht ................................................................. Port O'Connor
- William B. Bayer ............................................................... Bloomington
- W. C. Buchholz ................................................................. Victoria
- James Wischkaemper ......................................................... Victoria

MANAGER:
- Seth L. Kennedy

COUNTIES SERVED:
- Victoria, Calhoun, Jackson, Goliad, DeWitt, Refugio

AVERAGE KWH PER MEMBER PER MONTH:
- Domestic ......................................................... 544
- Small Commercial ........................................... 819
- Industrial ......................................................... 20,004

CONNECTED MEMBERS:
- 6,213

MILES OF LINE ENERGIZED:
- 1,770

KWH PURCHASED FROM STEG:
- 1962 ................................................................. 0
- 1963 ................................................................. 27,748,200
- 1964 ................................................................. 40,055,900
- 1965 ................................................................. 45,791,900
- 1966 ................................................................. 53,982,600

Member Highlights & Service Area from 2019

BLAINE WARZECHA • GENERAL MANAGER
VICTORIA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Total Utility Plant $125,764,374
Total Margins & Equities $79,198,228
Total Revenue $54,454,248
Total kWH Sold 579,982,912
2019 New Connections 472
Total Connections in Service 23,527
Total Miles of Line 3,014
WHARTON COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Member Highlights from 1966

WHARTON COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., El Campo, Texas

DIRECTORS:

Kenneth Meek, President .................................................. El Campo
J. A. Schmidt, Vice President ........................................... Wharton
A. E. Berndt, Secretary-Treasurer .............................. Danevang
Jerry Bliceck, Asst. Secretary-Treasurer ......................... El Campo
Wilfred Kainer .............................................................. El Campo
Robert Krenke .............................................................. Wharton
R. J. Langdon .............................................................. El Campo
Gus Swoboda ............................................................... Nada
Alfred Wind ..................................................................... El Campo

MANAGER:
K. A. Crawford

COUNTIES SERVED:
Wharton, Fort Bend, Matagorda, Colorado

AVERAGE KWH PER MEMBER PER MONTH:
Domestic ................................................................. 420
Commercial and Industrial .................................. 1,080

CONNECTED MEMBERS:
2,322

MILES OF LINE ENERGIZED:
1,011

KWH PURCHASED FROM STEC:
1962 ....................................................... 0
1963 ................................................... 12,000,900
1964 ................................................... 15,880,800
1965 .................................................. 18,346,500
1966 .................................................. 19,533,200

Member Highlights & Service Area from 2019

GARY RAYBON • GENERAL MANAGER/CEO
WHARTON COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Total Utility Plant ........................................... $65,618,750
Total Margins & Equities ...................................... $43,125,614
Total Revenue ................................................ 21,534,251
Total kWH Sold ................................................ 224,667,579
2019 New Connections ........................................ 72
Total Connections in Service ................................ 7,237
Total Miles of Line .............................................. 1,277
### Highlights from 2004

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<td>Total Utility Plant</td>
<td>$228,995,189</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Margins &amp; Equities</td>
<td>$77,811,926</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Revenue</td>
<td>$112,176,343</td>
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<td>Total kWH Sold</td>
<td>1,304,345,724</td>
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<td>2004 New Connections</td>
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<td>76,190</td>
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<td>Total Miles of Line</td>
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### Member Highlights & Service Area from 2019

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<td>Total Utility Plant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Margins &amp; Equities</td>
<td>$279,521,830</td>
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<td>Total Revenue</td>
<td>$225,575,889</td>
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<td>Total kWH Sold</td>
<td>2,393,606,655</td>
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<td>2019 New Connections</td>
<td>3,909</td>
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<td>Total Connections in Service</td>
<td>121,798</td>
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<td>Total Miles of Line</td>
<td>5,347</td>
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MEDINA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Highlights from 2004

LARRY OEFINGER • GENERAL MANAGER
MEDINA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Total Utility Plant</td>
<td>$137,849,696</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Margins &amp; Equities</td>
<td>$36,579,533</td>
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<td>Total Revenue</td>
<td>$36,803,915</td>
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<td>Total kWH Sold</td>
<td>384,903,820</td>
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<td>2004 New Connections</td>
<td>680</td>
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<td>Total Connections in Service</td>
<td>25,562</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Miles of Line</td>
<td>8,602</td>
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Member Highlights & Service Area from 2019

MARK ROLLANS • CEO
MEDINA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Utility Plant</td>
<td>$213,154,925</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Margins &amp; Equities</td>
<td>$113,577,990</td>
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<td>Total Revenue</td>
<td>$126,079,698</td>
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<td>Total kWH Sold</td>
<td>1,513,702,266</td>
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<td>2019 New Connections</td>
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<td>Total Connections in Service</td>
<td>33,848</td>
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<td>Total Miles of Line</td>
<td>9,696</td>
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