



[www.blueridge.coop](http://www.blueridge.coop)

**FOR ALL YOUR CUSTOMER SERVICE NEEDS**

Call Toll-Free (800) 240-3400

**AUTOMATED OUTAGE REPORTING**  
 1-888-BLUERIDGE

**PICKENS**

P.O. Box 277  
 734 West Main St.  
 Pickens, SC 29671

**OCONEE**

P.O. Box 329  
 2328 Sandifer Blvd.  
 Highway 123  
 Westminster, SC 29693

**MISSION STATEMENT**

Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative will operate as a competitive provider of energy services and a partner with local communities, with a focus on safety, service and integrity.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Joel R. Davis, *Chairman*  
 Joel Spencer Dalton, Jr.,  
*Vice-Chairman*  
 Len D. Talley, *Secretary*  
 Franklin M. Looper, Jr., *Treasurer*  
 Ben G. Bolt  
 Jimmy Lee Dodgens  
 William G. Elrod  
 Kenneth G. Southerlin  
 J. Mendel Stone

**PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

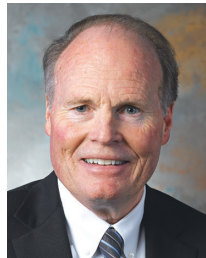
Jim Lovinggood

This organization is an equal-opportunity provider.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

## Strengthening the system



**THE DELIVERY OF** electricity is actually accomplished in just a few steps. It begins at a plant where the power is generated. From there, electrons travel along a transmission line to a substation where the high voltage is then stepped down to a lower voltage. Next, a

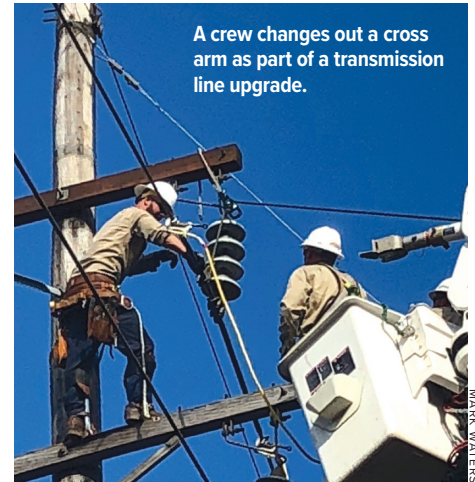
distribution line channels the energy to its ultimate consumer. Then and there, a smaller transformer converts the voltage to a level suitable to serve a household, a farm, a business, or the like.

At Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative, we focus on the distribution function. It's our ongoing mission to keep getting better at doing just that.

### An engineering assessment

For transmission, we look to our generation and transmission supplier, Central Electric Power Cooperative, to meet our needs. Today, after an engineering assessment and in accordance with specific requests we've made related to service reliability, Central Electric is preparing to undertake some significant system enhancements.

Within the next three years, we'll see an existing substation in Oconee County undergo an extensive rebuild. During that period, and within the same general geographic vicinity, a second substation is scheduled to be erected and energized. In conjunction with those projects, a transmission line loop is to be constructed that will encompass much of the county's middle and southern portions. Once that loop is in place, Blue Ridge will be able to back-feed the transmission system in the event of storm damage or other trouble. That back-feeding capability should then position the co-op to restore service much quicker.



A crew changes out a cross arm as part of a transmission line upgrade.

MARK WATERS

### On the drawing board

In addition, transmission work is on the drawing board for Oconee's Salem area. A proposed five-mile-long transmission tie line would produce a similar back-feeding option for a number of Blue Ridge substations in that region. Plans also call for a complete rebuild of the transmission line that now feeds the cooperative's Mountain Rest substation.

In Pickens County, work is already under way on a new transmission line to supply a Blue Ridge substation to be built in the Cross Roads community. These long-awaited facilities should be in service around the first of the year.

While all these jobs are in progress, our own co-op crews will be hard at work on multiple improvements to our distribution lines. We want to stay ahead of growth on our system, while we also seek to ratchet up the quality of service we're providing to our existing members. I believe you're going to appreciate these improvements.

**JIM LOVINGGOOD**  
 President and CEO



Members of our Energy Services team, Scott Dalton, Billy House, Tim Mays, Brandon Collier, Edward Hancock, and Marvin Cole (left to right), are ready to assist you. Contact them at (800) 240-3400.

AMANDA MACHEN

## Door to door—not our style!

FOR SEVERAL YEARS, we have encouraged you to come to us if you have a question about any of the new technologies now offered—solar, battery storage, electric vehicles, smart thermostats, or geothermal heat pumps. We have information on all these new and different ways to power your life, but we're not going to come to your door and try to sell you on any of them.

For instance, a number of our members have recently been contacted by companies telling them there are new and cheaper ways to heat and cool their homes. The representatives talk fast and give great-looking comparisons about the money you can save by spending a lot of your cash on solar panels attached to your home. Then they secure your signature on a contract, and you're ready to start living the good life with no power bill. Sound too good to be true? It is!

Unfortunately, there are some persuasive people going door-to-door in local neighborhoods telling this very

story. Some of them even go one step further and say they are partnering with Blue Ridge Electric for this service. Once you've signed the contract, it's too late.

Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative is your co-op, and we are dedicated to providing you with the most affordable power every day. We have a group of energy experts who want to talk with you about solar, geothermal, and other programs that may save you money. However, be assured that we will not come to your home—uninvited—and try to pressure you into making a decision that will cost you lots of money to save you money.

If solar is an option you want to consider, ask us first and get all the information. We'll see your project through from start to finish and make sure you know what to expect before you sign on the dotted line. Contact us at [blueridge.coop](http://blueridge.coop) and invite us in for a conversation.

## Public auction Nov. 7

**BLUE RIDGE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE** will hold a public auction on Saturday, Nov. 7 starting at 10 a.m. at 734 West Main Street in Pickens.

A preview is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 6 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Items to be sold include:

- ▶ Vehicles.
- ▶ Miscellaneous supplies.
- ▶ Metal fencing and poles.
- ▶ Truck toolboxes.
- ▶ Computer products and accessories.

For more information, contact Meares Auctions, Inc. at (864) 947-2000 or (864) 444-1322 or visit [mpa-sc.com](http://mpa-sc.com).



## Pay Your Power Bill Without Leaving Your Car!

Safe • Simple • Convenient

Pay with cash, credit card or check, day or night.  
Now your payment stub contains a scan bar that makes it even easier!

**Kiosk at Oconee office**  
2328 Sandifer Blvd.  
Westminster, SC 29693



**Kiosk at Pickens office**  
734 W. Main St.  
Pickens, SC 29671

