



Line Items

The Official
Newsletter
Of Excelsior EMC

October 2023 • Vol. 44, No. 8

HURRICANE IDALIA

As Hurricane Idalia came and went, it left in its path almost 10,000 Excelsior EMC members without power. The worst of the storm came earlier than anticipated, and left major flooding and downed trees across our service territory. Thankfully, we had anticipated the worst and were well prepared to deal with any issues that we could have faced. However, we still had to deal with the extreme conditions that the storm left us. According to the National Weather Service, a maximum of 9.97 inches of rain was documented within our service territory as well as wind speeds of up to 45 miles per hour.

These extreme rains and high wind speeds caused troublesome navigation as we responded to outages. With much of our damage on dirt roads and even off road at times, getting to the damage proved to add much difficulty and time to the outage restorations. Even in these difficult circumstances, the crews pushed on. At the height of our outages, 9,331 Excelsior EMC members were without power. We saw the majority of these outages come in Wednesday evening, August 30. By Thursday, August 31, we had restored power



to 9,200 members. The remainder of the outages were restored by early afternoon on September 1. We are grateful that this restoration effort was short lived.

Man-power played a vital role in the speed of Hurricane Idalia's power restoration. Excelsior EMC employs a staff of 24 full-time line workers. These men, along with several contracted Pike Electric crews, are fully capable of serving Excelsior EMC members throughout the year under normal circumstances. However, in times like these, we are extremely thankful for cooperation among cooperatives. Eleven electric cooperatives from across Georgia, Tennessee, and Kentucky came to the aid of EEMC. Our total head count topped out at 195 men working to restore Excelsior EMC members' power as quickly as possible. As the dust settled, we are thankful for the support we received from our community, the men and women who assisted in the restoration effort, and the patience shown from our members.

Line Items

Joseph Jones
Editor

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When your power goes off, don't stay in the dark longer than you have to. To restore your power as quickly as possible, we need your correct phone number. Your phone number is the quickest way for us to locate your home or business when you call to report an outage.

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Between the Lines

by
Greg Proctor
President/CEO

Cooperation Among Cooperatives

Hurricane Idalia recently reminded us how important it is for cooperatives to work together. During Cooperative Month, which we celebrate every October, we focus on the idea of "cooperation among cooperatives." It's the sixth principle guiding our cooperative values, emphasizing unity and mutual help. This month is a special time where we reflect on the values that unite all cooperatives, highlighting the spirit that binds us together.

The principle of cooperation among cooperatives is not just a phrase we say; it's a commitment we live by at Excelsior EMC. It means we support one another and share resources and knowledge. We are a cohesive group that knows no distance or boundaries when it comes to providing each other the help that is needed. This cooperation makes our cooperative network stronger. It means that when one cooperative faces challenges, others come to their aid. This mutual support creates a safety net, ensuring that no co-op is alone in difficult times.

Cooperation among cooperatives takes different forms. First, it means sharing knowledge and expertise generously. We help each other learn and grow, making our fellow electric cooperatives better. Second, it involves working together to get the resources and tools we need. By pooling our resources, we can be efficient and cost-effective, ensuring that our members receive the best services possible. Third, it embodies democratic values, ensuring that every member has a voice in decision-making. This ensures fairness and equality within cooperatives.

During crises such as natural disasters, the true essence of cooperation among cooperatives shines. Recently, when Hurricane Idalia struck, 11 cooperatives from different states, including Georgia, Tennessee, and Kentucky, came together to help us. This support emphasized the strong sense of community and shared purpose that defines all cooperatives.

As we celebrate Cooperative Month, we recognize the lasting importance of cooperation among cooperatives. It's the bond that ties our cooperative movement together, enabling us to overcome challenges, improve our services, and support our members. In a world full of uncertainties, cooperatives stand as pillars of strength and hope. At Excelsior EMC, we are grateful for the cooperative community that surrounds us. We are dedicated to upholding the principles of cooperation among cooperatives because we know that together, we can achieve much more than any single cooperative could alone. This principle is a living example of the power of teamwork and unity, showing the way to a future where collaboration and mutual support lead us to greater success and resilience.



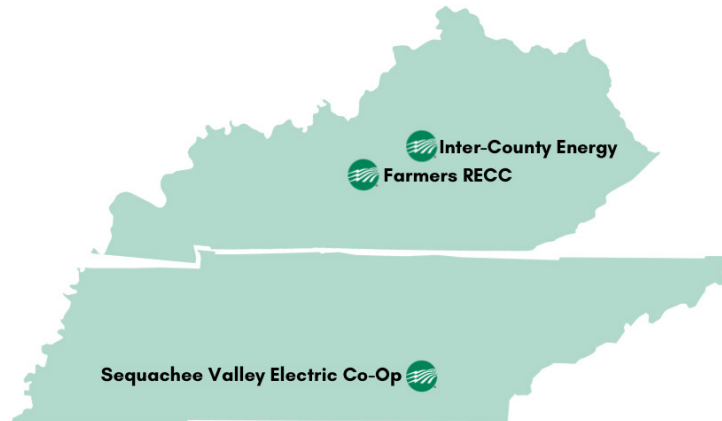
Every Member Counts

HURRICANE IDALIA STORM SUPPORT

Electric Cooperatives that provided assistance:

GEORGIA

- Central Georgia EMC-8
- Cobb EMC-24
- Greystone Power-6
- Jackson EMC-17
- Ocmulgee EMC-4
- Snapping Shoals EMC-6
- Southern Rivers EMC-5
- Tri-County EMC-5



TENNESSEE

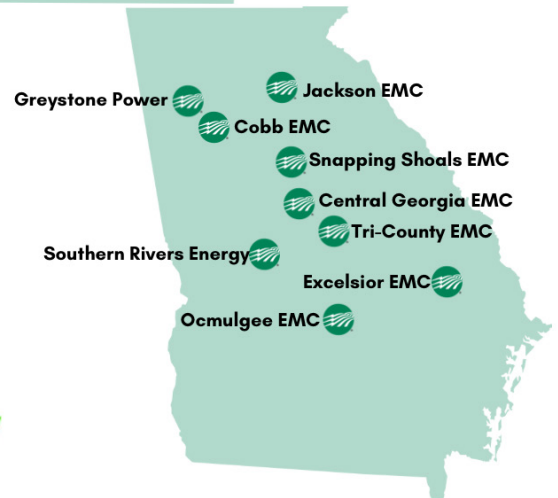
- Sequachee Valley Electric Cooperative-13

KENTUCKY

- Farmers RECC-4
- Inter-County Electric Cooperative-4

CONTRACTORS

- Pike Electric-37
- Georgia Right of Way-7
- Eager Beaver-6
- CRT-4



Gavin Edenfield



Carson McLamb

Congratulations to Gavin Edenfield and Carson McLamb on being promoted to Lineman! This takes hard work, dedication, and lots of time spent in the field! They were both hired in 2018 and have shown that they both have what it takes to get the job done. We are happy to have them here at Excelsior EMC!

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