Line Items
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LOCAL STUDENTS COMPETE IN AREA EMC/FFA WIRING CONTEST

The students below are participating in the wiring portion of the contest. This allows students to showcase their learned skills in electrical wiring. They are graded on correctness, neatness, and functionality.

Cade Andrews
Southeast Bulloch High School

Jayden Luke
Statesboro High School

Isaac Mosley
Metter High School

Three local students recently competed in the EMC/FFA wiring contest, held at Treutlen County High School in Soperton on January 14th, 2025. The competition is designed to promote electrification programs for agriculture students. The three students are Cade Andrews (Southeast Bulloch High School), Jayden Luke (Statesboro High School), and Isaac Mosely (Metter High School).

Sponsored by the Electric Membership Corporations of Georgia, including Excelsior EMC, the EMC/FFA wiring contest is a program of the Agricultural Education division of the Georgia Department of Education, organized as a Career Development Event by local FFA chapters. Participants can win scholarship funds to use at any college, university, or vocational school in Georgia.

Any active FFA member enrolled in a 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grade high school agriculture education class is eligible to participate. Chapters are limited to one contestant per chapter. The top two individuals in each area contest will advance to compete in the state competition. The wiring contest contains three primary components: a practical wiring exercise, a problem-solving exercise requiring the students to interpret and apply the National Electric Code, and a speech demonstration activity.

The FFA is a national organization of more than 850,000 members preparing for leadership and careers in the science, business, and technology of agriculture. FFA is an integral part of the agricultural education program in public schools. Its mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education.

Excelsior EMC would like to congratulate Cade, Jayden, and Isaac on a job well done at the Area IV EMC/FFA wiring contest!

Line Items

Joseph Jones
Editor

When Your Power is Off – Call (912) 685-2115 or (912) 764-2123

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

Budget Billing: Making Energy Costs Predictable Year-Round

Managing your household budget can be tricky when energy bills fluctuate throughout the year. At Excelsior EMC, we understand that seasonal changes in energy usage can lead to unpredictable bills. That's why we offer Budget Billing, a program designed to make your energy costs consistent by using a rolling average approach.

What Is Budget Billing?

With Budget Billing, your monthly payment is based on the **average of your last 12 months of bills**. Each month, we recalculate this rolling average to reflect your most recent energy usage. This approach smooths out seasonal highs and lows, making your bill more predictable without overpaying or underpaying.

Here's how it works:

1. **We Calculate Your Rolling Average:** Each month, your bill is determined by averaging your energy costs from the previous 12 months.
2. **Consistent Payments:** Instead of experiencing seasonal spikes, your bill stays relatively steady month to month.
3. **No Big Surprises:** Because your average adjusts monthly, your payment reflects your actual usage trends over time.

Why Choose Budget Billing?

Budget Billing offers several benefits:

- **Predictability:** Even with changing seasons, your monthly bill remains steady, helping you budget more effectively.
- **Flexibility:** Unlike fixed-payment programs, our rolling average adjusts to reflect your real usage, ensuring accuracy.
- **Peace of Mind:** Avoid high bills during extreme weather months without overpaying when usage is low.

Who Is Eligible?

Budget Billing is available to residential members with at least 12 months of billing history and a good payment record. It's ideal for anyone looking for stability in their monthly energy costs.

How to Enroll

Joining Budget Billing is simple:

1. **Call Us:** Our friendly member services team can guide you through the process.
2. **Stop by Our Office:** Speak with a representative in person to learn more.

Take the Guesswork Out of Your Energy Bill

At Excelsior EMC, we're always looking for ways to make life easier for our members. With Budget Billing, you can enjoy consistent, predictable energy bills that fit your budget—no matter the season.

Ready to enroll or learn more? Give us a call at 912-685-2115 or stop by one of our offices today and let us help you take control of your energy costs!

What Is 1 MW?

Exploding demand for electricity, lingering supply chain challenges and short-sighted public policy aimed at rapidly eliminating fossil fuels from power generation have forced large portions of the United States to confront unprecedented power shortages and soaring costs. Let's examine the familiar measurement of 1 megawatt (MW) and how much power is needed to supply common facilities in our community.

Big Box Stores

1 MW will power a typical large retail store.

Factory

Facilities with heavy machinery can draw 1 MW of power.

Office Building

1 MW can power several medium-sized office buildings.

Hospital

1 MW will power a small hospital.

Power Plant

Typical outputs:
Coal: 500 MW to 1,000 MW
Gas: 50 MW to 1,000 MW
Nuclear: 500 MW to 1,500 MW

1 MW is 1 million watts of power.

Georgia's Plant Vogtle has a generating capacity of 4,658 MW, making it the largest nuclear plant in the US.

School

0.5 MW will power a medium-size public school.

EV Charging

1 MW can power four Tesla Supercharger V3s simultaneously.

Data Center

1 MW will power one small data center.

Other facilities that can draw up to 1 MW of power:
- High-speed rail
- Large farms
- Wastewater treatment
- Stadiums

Residential

1 MW can power 750 to 1,000 homes.

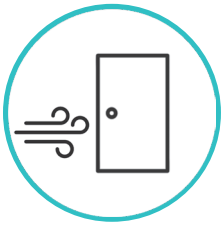
Source: NRECA; Design: Jerry Mosemak

EFFECTIVE WAYS
To Lower Home Energy Use

Outside factors, such as fuel and equipment costs and extreme weather, can impact electricity prices. But you have the power to control home energy consumption by taking proactive steps to reduce energy use.

Thermostat Management

The thermostat is one of the best places to lower your energy use because heating and cooling account for a significant portion of home energy consumption. During winter months, adjust your thermostat to the lowest comfortable setting to reduce energy use. The Dept. of Energy recommends 68 degrees or lower.



Seal Your Home

According to ENERGY STAR®, about 20% of heated or cooled air that moves through a home is lost due to lack of proper insulation and air leaks. Ensure your home has sufficient insulation levels and seal air leaks around windows and doors with caulk and weatherstripping. This is a simple, effective way to lower energy use and improve indoor comfort.

Utilize Off-Peak Energy Times

Plan energy-intensive chores and tasks, such as running the dishwasher or washing clothing, during off-peak energy hours, when the demand for electricity is lower. Off-peak times are early in the morning or late evenings. By scheduling these activities during off-peak periods, you can help keep rates lower, reduce demand and relieve pressure on the grid.

Maintain Equipment

The health of your heating and cooling system is essential for comfort and can greatly impact energy bills. Maintain your system by regularly replacing dirty filters and scheduling annual inspections for maintenance and necessary repairs.

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