

New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

NEW ENTERPRISE RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

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EMERGENCY OUTAGE NUMBERS

814-766-3221
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April is for Celebrating Lineworkers



MARK MORRISON

IF YOU WERE ASKED to associate an image or a person with New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative (REC), you would probably picture a lineworker. Some of the most visible employees of the cooperative, lineworkers work tirelessly to ensure our members receive uninterrupted power 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

“Lineworker” is one of the most dangerous jobs in the country, and it’s understandable as they perform detailed tasks near high-voltage power lines. Regardless of the time of day, lineworkers perform their work in all types of weather and other challenging conditions, often climbing 40 feet in the air while carrying heavy equipment to get the job done.

Being a lineworker is not a glamorous or easy profession. It takes years of specialized training, ongoing education, dedication, and a sense of service, empathy, and commitment. How else can you explain their willingness to leave the comfort of their homes to tackle a challenging job in difficult conditions? This dedication and sense of service to the community are truly what sets them apart. That is why we set aside a day each April to celebrate and recognize the men and women who are called on to work around the clock to keep the lights on.

Our lineworkers at New Enterprise REC also serve others in the cooperative network. Through the years, they have answered the call from fellow electric cooperatives when severe weather put their members out of service and damaged their distribution systems.

Our line crews have traveled as far as Georgia to aid restoration efforts that resulted from Hurricane Helene. They have also assisted with storm restoration for our fellow cooperatives in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. It is humbling that our crews volunteer to work in the worst weather and repair the heaviest damage to help others.

Our linemen are also active in our statewide Job Training and Safety (JT&S) program by volunteering to serve as instructors at cooperative line training schools. There, they teach the next generation to be the best in their craft. This volunteer work takes them away from their homes and families simply to help others.

Our dedicated and beloved lineworkers are proud to represent New Enterprise REC, and they deserve all the appreciation and accolades that come their way. If you see a lineworker on April 18, this year’s Electric Cooperative Lineworker Day, I hope you will join me in thanking them for their exceptional service. I also hope you remember that you have a dedicated team of professionals working behind the scenes at the co-op, and that team’s commitment to service runs just as deep as we all do our part to keep the lights on for our members. 🙏

MARK MORRISON
GENERAL MANAGER/CEO

Could You Be a Lineworker?

WENDY CONLEY, MEMBER SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE

EVERY APRIL, WHEN THE NATION celebrates Electric Cooperative Lineworker Day, I take time to recognize New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative's (REC) linemen. However, this year, I wanted to see firsthand what it takes to be one.

First, let me say: I am happy to be an office worker.

But they graciously accepted me as I tagged along on a cold day in February. The day arrived with a frigid temperature of 23 degrees, with the wind making the real-feel temperature in the lower teens.

Remember: I am an office worker and a person who despises cold weather. However, I did bundle myself up and headed out with the crew chief after we reviewed the job detail with the lineworkers.

Patience and steadiness

For this particular job, a member wanted to relocate their service and change out overhead lines to underground lines. We started at the Waterside substation to tag out the line and then moved to the job site to set up traffic controls.

After doing another job briefing, the lineworkers positioned their trucks in place, which followed safety protocol, and started their work. I observed them working from the buckets as they removed old wire and installed new, pulled wire underground from the transformer pole to the meter base, and attached conduit to the pole.

I tried to get the extendable hot stick ready to close in the fuse, but I must say that is a long stick and I failed. It takes patience and steadiness to close the fuse on a windy day.

Next was removing the old service. They started by removing the transformer and all the hardware attached to the pole. The digger derrick truck then pulled the pole from the ground and laid it to the side. I then used the tamp to help fill in the hole with dirt.

The hole is deeper than most would think — if you hang on to the tamp, it will try to pull you down into the hole. Again, patience and skill are needed.

When this job came to an end, we removed our traffic control signs and headed back to the substation to put the line back to normal operation. The job took just over an hour for the lineworkers to complete — which was long enough for me! The crew usually doesn't look at the length of the job. Instead, they focus on the safety and detail they need to put into the work.

A different outlook

After tagging along, I have a different outlook on a lineworker's job, even though my husband is a former lineworker. Whether it is routine service work or outage situations, lineworkers jump into action without a second thought.

They are there for their community, serving its needs and restoring power at any time, day or night. It doesn't matter if it is freezing cold or high humidity or if thunderstorms are rumbling through the territory; when they are called to duty, they report. Our crews are always ready, even if they are pulled away from family gatherings, called to work in the middle of the night, or have to miss school functions.



MEETING OF THE MINDS: From left, New Enterprise Rural Electric Cooperative lineworkers Kyler Fink, Mason Detterline, Connor Kagarise, Zac Conley, Roman Dell and Randy Walker are part of the team being celebrated this month on Electric Cooperative Lineworker Day.

The work can be demanding, physical, and at times, dangerous. Our lineworkers, however, take pride in their job and appreciate the patience and encouragement they receive from our members as they restore their power. For some, it may not be a glamorous job, but it is essential to you and our community.

So the next time you see our lineworkers, thank them for the service they provide to the community. After all, lineworkers are the power behind your power. 🌟



FINISHING THE JOB: Above, Kyler Fink goes up in a bucket to finish work as Mason Detterline connects a conduit on the pole and Roman Dell comes over to assist. At left, Kyler Fink finishes up connecting a transformer.

A close-up shot of a person's feet wearing rubber boots, stepping on a shovel. The background is a grassy field.

You can't AVOID what you CAN'T SEE

Starting a job — big or small — without first getting utilities marked could result in serious injury, service disruptions for you and your neighbors, and a hefty fine.

Call 8-1-1 before you dig.

Learn more at: Safe Electricity.org®

Annual Meeting – Save the Date!

June 2, 2026



SPRING INTO ENERGY SAVINGS.

- Schedule a tune-up for your heating/cooling system.
- Set fan blades to run counterclockwise for cooling.
- Adjust your thermostat a few degrees.
- Take short showers to save on water heating.
- Run major appliances during off-peak hours.