

Watts Working

Battery Energy Storage System Opening Celebration

On Thursday, October 27, Randolph EMC and North Carolina's Electric Cooperatives commemorated the activation of our new Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at Five Points substation in Randolph County. Co-op representatives gathered with project partners and local officials, including U.S. Representative Ted Budd and N.C. Senator Dave Craven, to "flip the switch" and mark the energizing of the array.

U.S. Representative Ted Budd, whose thirteenth congressional district includes REMC's service territory, delivered remarks on the importance of the project to rural member-owners.

"This technology is an excellent example of an innovative solution to drive down energy costs for North Carolinians. It is outstanding to see this groundbreaking project unveiled for their benefit," said Budd.

Construction for the project began in January 2022. The battery storage system is one of ten similar projects being



Pictured from left to right: NCEMC CEO Joe Brannan; REMC Directors Jeff Sugg, Lee Isley, Scott Cole and Jerry Bowman; U.S. Rep. Ted Budd; N.C. Sen. Dave Craven; Randolph County Commissioners Maxton McDowell and Hope Haywood; REMC CEO Dale Lambert

deployed in rural areas by North Carolina's electric cooperatives. Collectively, the ten projects provide 40 MWs of battery energy storage and join a growing network of innovative energy resources integrated by N.C. cooperatives, including 14 "solar + storage" sites and four active microgrids with another currently in development.

Dale Lambert, CEO of Randolph EMC, introduced honored guests

and spoke on the purpose for building the battery array.

"This battery installation allows us to reduce demand costs, strengthen the grid and reduce outage times for co-op member-owners," said Lambert.

The substation batteries can be charged when demand for electricity is low and discharged during moments of peak demand

[Continued on page B](#)

B Apply for NC Youth Tour

C PHP Board Honors Servant Leaders

D 5 Ways to Stay Cozy This Winter

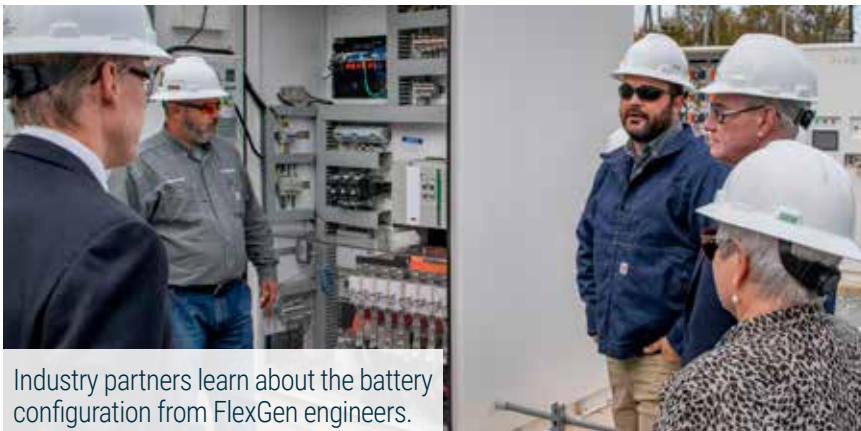
E RE-Connect Podcast: Episode 6

F A Word About Randolph Electric

for power. This cutting-edge technology not only enhances electric reliability but should also provide cost savings over the lifetime of the batteries. Because cooperatives are nonprofit, at-cost energy providers, co-op members will benefit from those savings.

Joe Brannan, executive vice president and CEO at North Carolina's Electric Cooperatives, discussed the Brighter Future vision that all North Carolina electric cooperatives share.

"Randolph EMC's Five Points project is the first of its kind, integrating a stand-alone battery energy storage system into North Carolina's cooperative electric grid," said Brannan. "The battery will not only support Randolph EMC's efforts to supply affordable



Industry partners learn about the battery configuration from FlexGen engineers.

energy to its members, but it is also capable of enhancing the reliability and resiliency of the cooperative electric grid."

The battery configuration can operate as its own microgrid and will store energy for later use. It has the capability during an outage to provide power to a geographic

location near the system.

"We will continue to lead the integration, management and optimization of resources and technologies that benefit our community and local member-owners, now and in the decades to come," said Lambert.

NC YOUTH TOUR!

June 17-23, 2023

#YT23

High school students, apply for a free trip to Washington, D.C., and experience a week you'll never forget!

- ✔ Scholarships
- ✔ Monuments
- ✔ Museums
- ✔ Legislators
- ✔ Friends
- ✔ Fun



Scan the QR code to learn more.





Thank you

for the time you gave,
the compassion you demonstrated
and the service you
provided to members in need.

**DORIS BRADY
GARY LOY**



PHP Board Honors Servant Leaders



Dale Lambert (center) congratulates Doris Brady and Gary Loy on their awards.

On Thursday, October 27, 2022, the People Helping People Board of Directors held their fourth quarter board meeting in the board room at Randolph Electric. At this meeting, two board members were honored for their service to the PHP organization and their service to the community.

The PHP Board of Directors consists of seven members from the Randolph EMC service territory. Each member serves a three-year term with the opportunity to renew a term once more based on the director's desire to continue and the approval of fellow board members. On October 27, the Board honored 2022 Vice Chair Doris Brady and Director Gary Loy for serving two terms—a total of six years—of PHP leadership

Round Up Your Bill to Help Others

To sign up for PHP, scan this QR code with your phone's camera, or go to RandolphEMC.com/PHP and look for the online form. You can also call your local office, and we will be happy to help you round up just pennies a month to help another member in need.



Thank You

Dear PHP,
On behalf of my father, I send a huge "thank you" for your gift! He would be the first to say, "I'm sure somebody needs that more than me."

I have no idea how you knew that my father was failing, but we appreciate your concern for us.

We also appreciate the check, and we need your prayers.

-from a PHP recipient's family member



5 Ways

to Stay Cozy and Save Energy this Winter

- 1 Watch the thermostat.** Keep it at 68 degrees when you are at home and even lower when you are away for an extended time.
- 2 Stop those drafts.** Caulk windows and apply weather stripping around doors to seal your heat in and keep the cold out of your home.
- 3 Open and close.** Open blinds or drapes to allow natural sunlight in to warm a room. But close the curtains at night or hang thicker drapes to block cold air.
- 4 Maximize your appliances.** Wash full loads of laundry and dishes. Unplug energy-draining devices like phone chargers or game consoles when not in use.
- 5 Layer up!** You can rely on cozy socks, warm sweaters and adequate underclothes to keep your body warm. Add a rug to chilly hard-surface flooring to warm up your toes on a cold day.

Dropping temperatures can add up to higher energy bills. By being mindful about saving energy, you can control your costs. Find more tips on our website or call our Energy Advisors for more information, and stay warm this winter.

May the true spirit of Christmas shine in your heart
and light your path.

REMC offices will be closed
Friday, December 23,
Monday, December 26, and
Monday, January 2.

Merry Christmas
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



In this episode, learn how People Helping People gives back to members in need and how REMC cares for our community.

REMC
RE-Connect Podcast
Episode 6



Interview with
Chrissy Haynes
Chair, People Helping People

Dremia Meier
Family Services Director,
Habitat for Humanity of Randolph County



Scan this QR code on your smart phone or go to our website to listen.

A Word About Randolph Electric

From CEO Dale Lambert



KEEPING YOU SAFE FROM STORMS

Dear Members,

Weather forecasters have a very difficult job. Certainly, weather modeling accuracy has increased significantly in the last few years with more powerful computers and improved data analytics. I recently saw a statistic that stated weather forecasters got a 5-day forecast correct 90 percent of the time and a 7-day forecast correct 80 percent of the time. But for a 10-day or longer forecast, the accuracy dropped to 50 percent. In my mind, that's basically in the "flip a coin" territory.

I have a friend who lives in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. This town is internationally known for only one reason, its most famous resident, Punxsutawney Phil. If Punxsutawney Phil is not the most famous weather prognosticator of all time, then he certainly has been in the business longer than anyone else—since 1887. Annually, on February 2, Phil emerges from his winter hibernation at Gobblers Knob to reveal, using the simplest of tools, his shadow, whether winter will hang on for a few more weeks or if spring will come early.

There's a hotly contested debate on the accuracy rate of his forecasts, which ranges from 39 percent to 100 percent, depending on who you ask. It reminds me of the joke,

A total of 10,750 accounts, 32 percent of the total meters we serve, were out of power at some point during the storm event.

"What do you call a male pig with no legs and delusions of being a weather forecaster? Answer: a groundhog."

In all fairness, we rarely remember when weather forecasters get it right. But let them miss it big and their mistake is seared into our minds for decades. Many of you will recall the "dusting" of snow that weather forecasters predicted for January 24, 2000. Ironically, it turned out to be a "winter hurricane" because of a spinning low-pressure system feeding the storm.

In most of our service area, this "dusting" resulted in around 24 inches of wet snow with a few places getting upwards of 30 inches. It's now famously known around the co-op as the "Big Snow of Double O."

For the remnants of Hurricane Ian that blew through on September 30, weather forecasters struggled to determine the track through North Carolina. Early forecasts predicted

the track would be west of Charlotte, but as the remnants got closer, the track kept shifting east. The ultimate reality was that the remnants passed through the center of Randolph EMC's service territory.

Ian grew to a high category 4 hurricane, with winds around 150 miles per hour when it hit the Florida Gulf coast and brought widespread devastation. It tracked across the state, entered the Atlantic as a tropical storm, grew back into a category 1 hurricane and entered South Carolina near Georgetown. From there, Ian weakened to an extratropical storm as it passed through central North Carolina. Portions of our service area experienced wind gusts in excess of 50 miles per hour, causing trees to fall onto power lines.

A total of 10,750 accounts, 32 percent of the total meters we serve, were out of power at some point during the storm event. A few scattered outages started in the morning hours of Friday, September 30, and the activity picked up throughout the day and into the night.

All of our line personnel and contractors worked to restore power as safely and quickly as possible. We brought in additional storm crews from Edgecombe-

Randolph Electric Membership Corporation provides safe and reliable power with exceptional value to more than 33,000 member accounts in Randolph, Moore, Montgomery, Chatham and Alamance counties.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Electric Service

Asheboro (336) 625-5177
..... (800) 672-8212

Robbins: (910) 948-3401
..... (800) 868-7014

Report Outage (877) REMC-OFF
..... (877) 736-2633

Account Info
& Bill Payments: (877) 534-2319

Business Hours: 8 am – 5 pm, M-F

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Nicole Arnold Editor

Visit Randolph EMC Online
RandolphEMC.com

Martin County EMC, Tarboro, N.C.; Union Power Cooperative, Monroe, N.C.; and contract crews from Lee Electric and Sumter Utilities. Our storm center and employee team coordinated crews and answered your calls. Our communications team worked hard to keep you updated on our progress.

The number of outages by county in order of the greatest affected were the following:

- ▶ Randolph – 4,549
- ▶ Moore – 2,203
- ▶ Alamance – 1,479
- ▶ Montgomery – 1,431
- ▶ Chatham – 1,088

The two counties that were hit the hardest percentage-wise when compared to the total number of meters served were Alamance, where 58 percent of members had an outage, and Chatham, where 55 percent of members had an outage. By the late evening hours of Saturday, October 1, most members' power was restored. All members were restored by the early morning hours of Sunday, October 2. Our early estimate of the cost impact from the storm is \$548,048.

Unlike lightning and thunderstorms, a hurricane or tropical event with heavy rain, sustained winds and higher gusts will cause trees to topple, falling onto power lines, homes and other structures. Due to the weight of trees covered in foliage, lines are torn loose from poles, and in some cases, the weight breaks power poles.

We were fortunate that only 28 power poles were broken; however, several of the broken poles were on three-phase circuits, resulting in higher outage numbers than if a pole were broken on a single-phase line.

I want to thank the Randolph EMC

All members were restored by the early morning hours of Sunday, October 2.

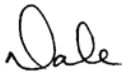
team for the great job they did. There were no injuries or accidents during this storm response. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated and seasoned team. For almost a third of our members to be out of power, and for most to be restored within 24 hours—that is a testament to the outstanding effort the employee team put forth during this latest storm.

It seems strange to go from talking about a tropical event to winter weather in one article, but as the weather shifts, the possibility of snow and ice comes with it. Please take the time to prepare for any winter storms that might come our way in the coming months. It makes all the difference when your family has to endure a power outage during storm events.

As 2022 comes to a close, I'd like to express how much your co-op employees and board of directors appreciate the support you give us throughout the year. It is truly our pleasure to serve you each day.

As we enter this Christmas season, our hope is that your holidays will be filled with joyous and memorable times spent with family and friends. We all seem to be pressed for time more than usual during the holidays. Please take time to remember the true reason for the season—the celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Merry Christmas to all!

Cooperatively Yours,


Dale F. Lambert
Chief Executive Officer

Preparing for Storm Season?

DON'T FORGET TO READY YOUR CAR

According to the National Safety Council (NSC), every vehicle should have an emergency supply kit onboard. Kits should be checked twice a year and expired items should be replaced regularly. Emergency supply kits should include:



- Snowbrush
- Shovel
- Windshield washer fluid
- Cat litter for traction



- Warm clothing
- Blankets
- Drinking water
- Nonperishable foods



- Properly inflated spare tire
- Wheel wrench & tripod jack
- Jumper cables
- Fire extinguisher



- Reflective triangles
- Reflective vest
- Brightly colored cloth (to tie on side mirror)



- First-aid kit
- Flashlight and batteries
- Compass
- Car charger for cell phone

Safe
Electricity.org®

Source: NSC

NOTICE OF HEARING

Pursuant to the Public Utility Regulatory Policy Act (PURPA) of 1978 and directives of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021, Randolph Electric Membership Corporation will receive written member and public comments until December 31, 2022, to facilitate the consideration and determination of appropriate standards on the following matters:

- ▶ Demand-response practices, pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 2621(d)(20).
- ▶ Electric vehicle charging programs, pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 2621(d)(21).

The Cooperative's current related rate schedules are available at randolphemc.com/PURPA.

Comments will be accepted via US mail, other delivery, and through email at PURPAComments@randolphemc.com.

The Board of Directors of Randolph EMC will consider the comments starting on February 27, 2023 and will issue the Cooperative's written determination on or before November 15, 2023.

This schedule may be revised or updated.

For current information, please visit randolphemc.com/PURPA.