



# The Electrifier

[www.frenchbroademc.com](http://www.frenchbroademc.com)

**SEPTEMBER 2021**

**"Owned by those we serve"**

**Marshall, NC**

## **WHEN YOU HAVE AN OUTAGE...**

With the automated metering system, which we now have in place, we are alerted when there is a power outage. Once we get the outage alert, crews are dispatched to trouble-shoot the outage and to restore power.

Outages are reported and you can view the outage map on our website at [www.frenchbroademc.com](http://www.frenchbroademc.com). If you see outages in your area on the map, then know that our crews are aware of the outage.

You are welcome to call our office regarding the outage, but due to limited phone lines, we can only accommodate a limited number of phone calls.

We appreciate your patience and we are working hard to keep your power on.

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## **Update Contact Information**

Please be sure to notify your FBEMC office when any of your contact information changes.

Customers are notified of FlexPay balances, electronic bills, pending disconnects, scheduled outages, etc. via email, text message and/or voicemail.

It is important that we keep our records updated, should we need to contact you.

## **STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION**

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202)720-2600 \*(voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800)877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [http://www.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866)632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) fax: (202)690-7442; or

(3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

August 2021  
French Broad Electric Membership Corporation  
Marshall, NC

# Manager's Report

## Cost of Service Study on the Horizon



At French Broad EMC, our goal is to provide you with exceptional service and electricity to power your home, business, and life at the lowest cost possible. We understand that we are member-owned and accountable to you in all the decisions we make. To ensure that our rates to our members are covering our costs and meeting RUS (Rural Utility Service) financial guidelines, we have contracted with an independent consultant to review our retail rate schedules, develop a load forecast, examine the actual costs of the electricity we provide, and determine any necessary adjustments. French Broad EMC has not had a base rate increase in several years. We have worked hard to hold the line on expenses as costs have continued to rise.

In order to provide an accurate Cost of Service and Rate Study, we must first develop a load forecast. A load forecast predicts what our future electric requirements will be based on weather forecasts and additional loads. Once completed, we can move on to the Cost of Service and Rate Study to examine the components of our overall rates, including the Basic Facilities Charge.

A Cost of Service and Rate Study compiles data from all expense and revenue accounts within the operations of French Broad EMC. The purpose is to determine if the revenues

we receive from the different rate schedules are reflective of the cost of providing service to members billed under each rate schedule. The study reviews our current and future wholesale power cost projections which make up 58 percent of all our costs; the cost of new plant additions; and all maintenance accounts, including the cost of line and right-of-way maintenance. The study then examines how each of these and all the other expenses impact the retail rates to our members. This very detailed and thorough process needs to be completed periodically to ensure fair and equitable rates and to ensure your cooperative's financial stability into the future. Our lenders require that we meet certain financial standards and that our key financial ratios are strong enough to support the long-term operations of the cooperative.

One of the important components of our rate structures is the Basic Facilities Charge. What is the Basic Facilities Charge? This component is included in every electric utility's rate schedules. Many other utilities and providers—such as your home phone, cell phone, cable, internet, or satellite TV—include some sort of monthly charge to cover the cost of providing the service.

French Broad EMC's Basic Facilities Charge is designed to cover the cost of our power delivery system, which

includes transmission lines, substations, distribution lines, power poles and transformers. All physical structures that allow you to access the electrical grid to power your homes and businesses are considered "basic facilities." The charge is also designed to cover any required maintenance on the system and the cost of restoring power when the lights go out. Our goal is to have the most reliable electric system possible.

The Basic Facilities Charge for our standard residential rate is currently \$20 per month. But historical data have shown the actual cost for basic facilities should be \$65. As a standard practice, electric utilities do not recoup the full cost with the Basic Facilities Charge alone, but rather it's combined with the energy portion of the bill. This is true for French Broad EMC as well. Our goal is to strike a balance on what the new charge should be so that it is fair to all members.

Here is an example to illustrate why adjusting rates to more closely reflect actual costs helps to ensure fairness for everyone. A member has two accounts with French Broad EMC. One is for their home and the other is for a meter at an old shop.

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# The Outlet

All numbers are in  
828 area code  
unless otherwise listed.

This is a FREE service to members for advertising non-commercial items. Ads are limited to two items per member per month and will appear only one time unless resubmitted. Ads are limited to two lines per ad. We reserve the right to edit, condense, or refuse ads due to content, unreasonable length, or available space.

French Broad EMC does not endorse services advertised and is not responsible for reliability of services listed.

When submitting ads for The Outlet, please be sure to include your name, address, phone number and account number. Ads without this reference information are subject to not being published.

Ads may be submitted online or mailed to:

French Broad EMC, Attn: Paula Seay, PO Box 9, Marshall, NC 28753.

### Manager's Report, cont'd

The shop is rarely used and has very low kilowatt hour usage, but for the previous 12 months, the residence has averaged 1,250 kilowatt-hours per month. The Basic Facilities Charge is the same for both accounts—\$20.

As you can see, the home account is clearly subsidizing the shop account. The shop account is not using enough energy to pay its "fair share" of what it takes to deliver the electricity, and the higher kilowatt-hour usage at the home account is making up for it. As we continue to work through this rate review process, we will provide additional information concerning any changes that will impact you.

Our job is to make sure our members get the highest quality service possible at a fair and reasonable cost. As members, you deserve to know about the decisions we make to deliver reliable and affordable energy to you every day. We work hard to keep rates affordable and to operate efficiently, and we are committed to planning for your energy needs far into the future.

### FOR SALE

Hardwood, includes locust, you haul. \$75/pick-up load. 675-4289.

Lionell trains, 1930's-1960's, \$600/350 items. 284-3535.

Wooden house, Buladean. 688-1363.

Drive Scout scooter, \$800. 778-0206.

World Book Encyclopedia, complete set, Index Book & more. 284-7509.

White Silkie rooster, 5 mo, \$20. 675-5544.

55" Vizio smart TV, \$150. 305/333-2499.

Tri-tronics dog training system, 4 collars, \$200. 675-5811.

King & twin metal bed frames, \$100/both. 675-5811.

Troybilt tiller, \$275 OBO. 674-1543 after 6pm.

ProForm treadmill w/ dumbbells, \$100 OBO. 674-1543 after 6pm.

1200sq ft creekfront log cabin with deck, \$285,000. 305/988-9188.

Kennebec potatoes. 656-2281.

Honda lawn mower, 21" push mower w/ bagger, \$300. 680-0363.

9 axels, 12 wheels, tires off double wide, \$300. 575-8544.

Corbin motorcycle seat for Yamaha Royal Star, \$250 OBO. 645-0500.

Ford fiberglass truck bed cover, fits SWB 2005-2015. 284-8069.

Entertainment center & tv stand, \$100. 561/215-9889.

LG washer & dryer, \$200. 656-2725.

Wheel Chair, \$225. 656-2725.

Ryobi TrimmerPlus electric tiller/weedeater. 689-5560.

2003 Ford Escape 4WD. 633-4579.

Outdoor wood furnace, \$3,000 OBO. 423/767-1137.

Hay, 1st & 2nd cutting, \$5/bale. 682-7268 or 284-7313.

(2) goat milking tables. 910/617-3922.

(6) AKC beagle pups. 910/617-3922.

3.16ac, water, elect, septic, Burnsville, \$35,100. 786/218-3249.

Bolens riding mower, 15.5 B&S, 42" & spare engine, \$250. 430-1179.

(4) beauty shop stations w/shampoo bowl & couch, \$1,000. 284-1141.

Chestnut lumber. 688-2957.

Coconut fiber COIR mesh, 100'x6'roll, \$85. 258-8281.

20x40 blue tarp, \$50. 258-8281.

Crystal & pottery. 675-4271.

Baby blankets & comforters. 675-4271.

1992 Honda Civic, \$400. 689-9074.

Window air conditioner. 230-8224.

**WANTED**

Junk cars. 689-5125.

Winter parking spot for 26ft camping trailer. 688-1363.

To lease office/warehouse, approx. 1500sq ft in Weaverville. 689-5560.

Older Class B RV. 682-6567.

Dexter heifer. 423/470-1928.

Driver's seat for 1998 Dodge Ram 1500 V8 Sport truck. 467-0798.

Someone to replace metal roof on workshop, 16x32. 206-9260.

Someone to do yard work. 689-3273.

Someone to paint a tin roof. 689-2016.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Will Do: chair caning. 273-3161.

Will Do: bush hogging, scrap drive-ways, garden or yard tilling. 713-5574.

FOMCA low cost spay/neuter. 649-9798.

Will Do: window cleaning, exp. 352/283-1027.

For Rent: horse pasture w/ 3 horse stables & tack room. 467-9324.

Will Do: alterations. 689-3273.

Will Do: pressure wash, 17 yrs exp. 675-4003.

Will Do: haul away old appliances for free. 689-3896.

Will Do: haul away old air conditioners for free. 689-3896.

*The  
Electrifier*

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**FBEMC Offices**

Marshall (828) 649-2051  
Toll-Free Marshall 1-800-222-6190  
Burnsville (828) 682-6121  
Bakersville (828) 688-4815

**To Report A Power Outage  
After Hours**

Marshall District  
(Madison, Buncombe &  
Unicoi Counties)  
(828) 649-2051 • 1-800-222-6190

**Burnsville-Bakersville District**

Yancey County (828) 682-6121  
Mitchell County (828) 688-4815

Online Credit Card Payment  
Available 24 Hours a Day  
for VISA, MasterCard, Discover  
**1-844-294-5697**



NOTE: The deadline  
for submitting ads to  
The Electrifier  
is the **15th** of each month

**ROW Clearing Schedule  
September/October**

**Marshall District**

**Cutting**

- \* Spivey TN
- \* Leicester
- \* Little Sandy Mush
- \* Meadowstown Road

**Burnsville District**

**Cutting**

- \* Poplar
- \* Murphytown
- \* Hunt Dale
- \* Big Creek
- \* Transmission Line  
(from Burnsville to Relief)  
(from Relief to Bakersville)

**Spraying**

- \* Bakers Creek
- \* Hwy 19
- \* Prices Creek
- \* Possum Trot
- \* Bald Creek to Madison/Yancey Line

