



Exciting News: JOEMC's 2025 Annual Meeting Goes Virtual!

As we step into a new year, JOEMC is making an exciting change to ensure all our members can participate in one of our most important events. In 2025, we're returning to a Virtual Annual Meeting format. This decision wasn't made lightly, but it aligns with our commitment to accessibility, making it easier for members—especially those unable to attend in person—to stay connected with their cooperative.

Mark your calendars! The virtual meeting will stream live on Friday, March 28, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. During the meeting, we'll share in-depth updates



on the cooperative's achievements, future plans, and initiatives. Plus, just like in past meetings, we'll feature exciting prizes as part of the experience!

Be on the lookout for registration details in the coming weeks. By registering, you'll be entered into our prize

drawings and have access to all the information you need to tune in. We look forward to connecting with you online as we celebrate another year of serving our members and community.

Stay tuned and get ready for an engaging virtual experience—it's your cooperative, your meeting, and your chance to be part of the action!



Attention High School Juniors: A Great Opportunity Awaits!

Are you ready to grow your leadership skills and make new friends? This June, join students from across North Carolina and the United States for an exciting trip to Washington, D.C., with the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour!

Each year, JOEMC selects four rising high school seniors to attend this special event. Students learn about how cooperatives work, visit historic sites, and gain leadership skills that can help them in the future. Many past participants have gone on to make a difference in their schools, communities, and careers.

JOEMC also picks two alternates in case one of the four can't attend. If the alternates are not needed, they will go to the Cooperative Leadership Camp at White Lake. This fun camp teaches teamwork and leadership through activities like group challenges and outdoor adventures.

If you're interested—or know a student who might be—don't wait! JOEMC representatives will share details at local high schools this month.

For more information, contact **Krystal Phillips**, JOEMC Youth Tour Coordinator, at **910-353-1940** or visit **joemc.com**.

Don't miss your chance to be part of this amazing experience!



joemc.com



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Summary of Bylaws Pertaining to the Annual Meeting

Any natural person, firm, association, corporation, business trust, partnership or body politic shall be eligible to become a member of, and, at one or more premises owned or directly occupied or used by him, to receive service from Jones-Onslow Electric Membership Corporation. No person shall hold more than one membership in the cooperative.

An Annual Meeting of the members, for the purpose of electing directors, hearing and passing upon reports covering the previous fiscal year, and transacting such other business as may properly come before the meeting, shall be held on the last Friday of the month of March of each year. Provided, that for good cause, the Board of Directors may fix a different date for such Annual Meeting not more than thirty (30) days prior or subsequent to the date established for such meeting in this Section.

Attendance in person (or the virtual platform as designated by the bylaws) of at least two percent (2%) of the then total members of the cooperative shall be required for the transaction of business at any meeting of the members.. If less than a quorum is present at a meeting, a majority of those present in person may adjourn the meeting to another time and date.

The election of directors shall be completed at each legal meeting by the members. The business and affairs of the cooperative shall be managed by a Board of ten (10) Directors, which shall exercise all the powers of the cooperative except such as are by law or by the cooperative's Articles of Incorporation, or Bylaws conferred upon or reserved to the members.

The Board of Directors shall consist of ten (10) Directors. One (1) of the cooperative's Directors shall be elected on an "At-Large" basis and may reside anywhere within the Cooperative service territory. The other nine (9) directors shall be nominated and elected so that at least three (3) but not more than four (4) shall be residents of each of the Cooperative's three (3) Directorate Districts, which are as follows: District Number One--those areas served by the Cooperative in Pender, Onslow, Carteret and Craven counties and which lie on the eastern side of U.S. Highway No. 17; District Number Two--those areas served by the Cooperative in Duplin County and in Pender and Onslow counties on the western side of U.S. Highway No. 17; and District Number Three--those areas served by the Cooperative in Lenoir County and Jones County, and the western side of U.S. Highway No. 17 in Craven County. The one (1) "At-Large" Director shall be elected on an "At-Large" basis and may be a resident of any of the foregoing three geographic Directorate Districts, even if the result is to give one District more than four Directors.

Nominations. It shall be the duty of the Board to appoint, not less than fifty (50) nor more than one hundred fifty (150) days prior to the date of a meeting of the members at which directors are to be elected, a Nominating Committee, consisting of three (3) members from each of the Cooperative's three (3) directorate districts, and who (a) are not existing Cooperative employees, agents, officers, directors or known candidates for directors; and (b) are not close relatives or members

of the same household of any such person. Only those directors not up for election shall be eligible to participate in the nomination, voting, and ultimate appointment of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall serve three (3) year terms and shall not be permitted to serve consecutive terms. Members may be reappointed to the Nominating Committee so long as they do not serve two (2) consecutive terms. This Committee shall be appointed so that three (3) members are appointed and consist of one (1) member from each of the Cooperative's three (3) directorate districts and the following year three (3) members are appointed consisting of one (1) member per directorate district and so on. In the event that a member of the Nominating Committee is unable or unwilling to serve a full three (3) year term then the Board shall appoint a replacement to fulfill the unexpired term created by the vacancy. In such cases the new appointee shall be eligible for re-election at the conclusion of the unexpired term. The Committee shall meet in person in one of the counties in which the Cooperative serves or a meeting may be authorized to enable member participation through an electronic format under circumstances determined by the CEO of JOEMC (see footnote 1). The Committee shall prepare and post at the principal and all district offices of the Cooperative, at least twenty (20) days before the meeting, a list of nominations for directors to be elected, listing separately the nominee(s) for each directorate district from which a director must or may, pursuant to this article, be elected at the meeting. The committee may include more nominees than there are to be elected, but it shall show clearly which nominees are opposed with respect to the same directorate district, or as between two or more districts; provided, it shall not make a nomination until it shall have first determined that the nominee is qualified to serve in accordance with the provisions of Section 4.02 and, if elected, will serve. Any one half of one percent (.5%) or more members of the Cooperative, acting together, may make additional nominations in writing over their signatures, listing their nominee(s) in like manner and filing the same with the Cooperative not less than thirty-five (35) days prior to the meeting; and the Secretary shall

post such nominations at the same places where the list of nominations made by the Committee is posted. The Secretary shall mail to the members with the notice of the meeting, or separately, but at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the meeting, a statement of the names and addresses of all nominees, showing clearly those nominated by the Committee and those nominated by petition, if any. The Secretary shall include, if requested, in such mailing a brief (250 words or less) prepared biography of a nominee and/or advertisement for the election of the nominee which shall be authorized by the nominee in writing or by the initials of the nominee. All nominations, however made, shall specify the particular Directorate District for which the nomination is made. Notwithstanding anything in this Section, failure to comply with any of the provisions of this Section shall not affect in any manner whatsoever the validity of any action taken by the Board after its election at such meeting.

A Credentials and Election Committee of at least five (5), and no more than thirteen (13), shall be appointed by the Board at least ten (10) days before any meeting of members. It shall be the responsibility of the Committee to pass upon all questions that may arise with respect to the registration of members in person, to count all ballots cast in any election, unless delegated by the Board to an independent auditor, or in any other ballot vote taken, and to rule upon the effect of any ballots irregularly marked. The Committee's decisions on all such matters shall be final.

Each member who is not in a state of suspension, shall be entitled to one vote and no more upon each matter submitted to a vote at a meeting of the members. A member, which is an association, corporation, business trust or body politic may be present in person and vote at such meeting by and through a duly designated representative, qualified as such upon registering for the meeting. At all meetings of the members, at which a quorum is present, all questions shall be decided by a majority of the members voting thereon, in person, except as otherwise provided by law or by the cooperative's Certificate of Incorporation or Bylaws. ♦

2025 Nominating Committee

A Nominating Committee has been selected for the purpose of nominating individuals for election to the position of Director in District One, District Two, and District Three. This committee is scheduled to meet on February 20, 2025. The committee's names and addresses are as follows:

DISTRICT I

Michael Davis
407 Nautical Ct.
Sneads Ferry, NC 28460

Steven Pasquantonio
115 South Oak St.
Surf City, NC 28445

Galen Treble
118 Leslie Dr.
Hubert, NC 28539

DISTRICT II

Leland Brown
731 Jim Blake Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540

Pansy Horne
1810 Haw Branch Rd.
Beulaville, NC 28518

Ronald Pittman
1079 Gregory Fork Rd.
Richlands, NC 28574

DISTRICT III

Tyler Griffin
1102 Island Creek Rd.
Pollocksville, NC 28573

Timmy Haddock
1955 Wyse Fork Rd.
Trenton, NC 28585

Bobby Smith
168 Sutton Ln.
Trenton, NC 28585

From Outage to On

Bringing the Power Back

When the power suddenly goes out, we all want to know when the lights will return, right? Have you ever thought about how it all gets fixed? This article is here to give you a closer look at what our hardworking JOEMC lineworkers do to bring back the electricity. We'll break down their essential steps, from figuring out what went wrong to finally getting everything up and running again. Join us as we explore the behind-the-scenes journey of our lineworkers and learn how they make sure our lights stay on.



When an Outage Occurs: A Lineworker's Timeline

- 1. Notification:** Local lineworkers receive a call from our Operations Center with outage information to determine its scale (individual or line).
 - 2. Travel:** Responding from work or home (if after hours), lineworkers drive to the reported location, which can take time.
 - 3. Identify:** Lineworkers visually inspect the power lines to identify the cause, such as fallen trees, damaged equipment, or accidents, and verify if a protective device has tripped, such as fuses or breakers.
 - 4. Safety Procedures:** Once the cause is identified, a job briefing is performed to discuss a plan of action and identify any hazards associated with the job. Other safety measures, such as work zones and grounding procedures, are implemented to protect against backfeeding.
 - 5. Repairs:** Depending on the issue, lineworkers clear obstacles and replace damaged components to ensure the infrastructure is safe.
 - 6. Verification:** Once repairs are made, lineworkers guarantee the scene is safe before energizing the repaired line or equipment.
 - 7. Re-energize:** Lineworkers contact the Operations Center, obtain clearance, and close the protective device to restore power.
- This process can vary in time, and lineworkers are dedicated to restoring power as quickly and safely as possible, understanding the impact of outages on the community.
- From the first call about an outage to the final moments of restoration, a linemen's dedication ensures that our lights return, bringing comfort and normalcy to our homes.



LAZY DAY SLOW COOKER LASAGNA SOUP

Serves 8

Source: www.carolinacountry.com

INGREDIENTS

- 1 pound lean ground beef
- 1 pound ground sweet Italian sausage
- 5–6 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 large sweet onion, chopped
- 4 cups low-sodium beef broth
- 1 can (28 oz) petite diced tomatoes, undrained
- 2 cups V8® juice
- 1 carton (8 oz) sliced mushrooms
- 1 large green and red bell pepper, chopped
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 6 tablespoons Italian seasoning
- Wedge of Parmesan cheese, grated and rind reserved
- 8 lasagna noodles, broken
- 2 cups mozzarella cheese
- 1 container (15-ounce) ricotta cheese
- ¼ cup minced fresh parsley

DIRECTIONS

1. Combine meats with garlic and onion in the pot. Using a big spoon, break apart the meat. Add remaining ingredients including Parmesan rind, except for the pasta and cheeses. Cook about 4 hours on high or 6–8 hours on low. During the final 30 minutes, stir in broken pasta and cook until tender. The soup will be thin, but the pasta will need that liquid to cook.
2. Top with grated parmesan and mozzarella. Cover and let the cheese melt. Ladle into bowls. Stir the ricotta and parley together and top the soup with a dollop.

Balancing Electricity Supply and Demand



Gary Ray, CEO

Electricity is essential for nearly every aspect of daily life—so essential that we rarely think about how it's produced and delivered to our homes. You might be surprised to learn that behind the scenes, a network of experts works daily (and even by the minute) to anticipate how much electricity you need before using it.

We're all connected to the electric grid, so ensuring the right amount of electricity for all involves a complex process of forecasting energy demand, planning for capacity, and securing enough supply to meet Americans' needs.

Powerful sources

First, electricity must be generated at a power plant using either traditional sources, such as coal, natural gas, or nuclear energy, or renewable sources, such as solar, wind, or hydropower.

At JOEMC, we work closely with North Carolina Electric Cooperatives, our local wholesale power partner,

to secure enough electricity for our communities. We use a diverse mix of energy sources to generate the power we deliver to your home or business. By maintaining a diverse energy mix—nuclear, natural gas, renewables (including hydro), and coal—JOEMC has options to ensure reliable power at a competitive cost.

On a larger scale, electricity supply and demand across the country are managed through a market that includes long-term planning agreements, where electricity is bought and sold, just like other common goods and services. Because JOEMC works with our wholesale power partner, which is also a cooperative, we can pool resources and expertise to deliver affordable power to our local communities.

Electricity supply changes throughout the day because demand fluctuates based on consumers' needs. For example, the co-op knows that we need to ensure more electricity in the mornings when you start your day and in the evenings when you cook dinner, run appliances, and watch TV. Demand also increases when weather patterns change, such as extremely warm or cold temperatures.

Managing supply and demand across the grid

Other electric utilities

across the country are managing the same task of balancing supply and demand, which is why we have a larger network of key players in place to ensure enough power is delivered across the grid.

In most cases, the amount of electricity generated and how much is sent to specific areas are coordinated and monitored by regional transmission organizations (RTOs) and independent system operators (ISOs). In other places, individual electric utilities perform these tasks. These RTOs, ISOs, and electric utilities act as air traffic controllers for the electric grid. They forecast when you, your neighbors, and communities across a large region will need more power and take measured steps to ensure there's enough supply to meet demand.

Looking ahead

As the energy sector undergoes rapid change, all consumers need to understand the basics of electricity supply and demand.

Electricity use in the U.S. is expected to rise to record highs this year and next, with the demand for electricity expected to at least double by 2050. At the same time, energy policies are pushing the early retirement of always-available generation sources, which will

undoubtedly compromise reliable electricity.

JOEMC remains committed to providing affordable, reliable energy to our members. That's why we are actively preparing now for increased demand and other challenges that could compromise our local electric supply.

Managing the balancing act of electricity supply and demand is complex. We have a network of utilities, power plant operators, and energy traffic managers to direct the electricity we need and keep the electric grid balanced.

Our offices will be closed on January 20, Dr. MLK Jr. Day.



Taking steps to help your home heating system run more efficiently can reduce energy use and lower your bills. Are air vents around your home blocked by furniture, curtains or other items? Obstructed vents force your heating system to work harder than necessary and can increase pressure in the ductwork, causing cracks and leaks to form.

Source: energy.gov