



**Applications
Open for
2026 Electric
Cooperative
Youth Tour to
Washington,
D.C.**



Are you a high school junior who is ready to build leadership skills, make new friends, and explore our nation's capital? This June, join students from across North Carolina and the United States on the 2026 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour to Washington, D.C.!

Each year, JOEMC selects four rising high school seniors to take part in this unforgettable experience. Participants learn how electric cooperatives work, visit historic and cultural landmarks, and gain leadership skills that last a lifetime. Many past delegates have gone on to become outstanding leaders in their schools, communities, and future careers.

JOEMC representatives will visit local high schools this month. For more information, contact Krystal Phillips, Youth Tour Coordinator, at (910) 353-1940 or visit joemc.com/community/youth-programs/.

Don't miss your chance to be part of this incredible opportunity!

JOEMC's 2026 Annual Meeting Goes Virtual—Again!

As we head into a new year, Jones-Onslow EMC is excited to share that our Annual Meeting will once again be held virtually in 2026. This decision reflects our continued commitment to accessibility and convenience, ensuring all members—no matter where they are—can easily take part in this important cooperative event.

Mark your calendars!

The virtual meeting will stream live on Friday, March 27, at 10 a.m. During the meeting, we'll highlight the cooperative's accomplishments over the past year, share updates on ongoing initiatives, and discuss plans for the future. And yes—just like in previous years—members can look forward to some great prizes!

Keep an eye out for registration details coming soon. By registering, you'll be

automatically entered into our prize drawings and receive everything you need to tune in and participate.

We can't wait to connect with you online as we reflect on another successful year of serving our members and communities.

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



joemc.com



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1225 Hwy 210, Sneads Ferry

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 Le-

noir 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. ♦

2026 Nominating Committee

A Nominating Committee has been appointed to nominate candidates for Director in District One, District Two, and District Three. The committee will meet on February 19, 2026. Committee members are:

DISTRICT I

- Michael Davis
407 Nautical Ct.
Sneads Ferry, NC 28460
- Steven Pasquantonio
115 South Oak St.
Surf City, NC 28445
- Gary Johnson
267 Grandview Dr.
Sneads Ferry, NC 28460

DISTRICT II

- Leland Brown
731 Jim Blake Rd.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
- Ronald Pittman
1079 Gregory Fork Rd.
Richlands, NC 28574
- Susan Thomas
PO Box 222
Richlands, NC 28574

DISTRICT III

- Tyler Griffin
1102 Island Creek Rd.
Pollocksville, NC 28573
- Deanna MacIntosh
2585 Oak Grove Rd.
Trenton, NC 28585
- Bobby Smith
168 Sutton Ln.
Trenton, NC 28585



We're Making a Name Change on Your Bill

Starting with your January bill, you'll see the Facility Charge listed as the Basic Charge—same amount, just a clearer name that better reflects what it covers: the foundational investment each member makes to keep our electric system operating safely and reliably.

	01/06/26 Payment-Thank you
	01/07/26 NC Renewable Energy Mandate
➔	01/07/26 Basic Charge
	01/07/26 Sales Tax @ 7.00%

The Basic Charge helps cover fixed costs like maintaining poles, wires, substations, co-op equipment, and protecting the system against cybersecurity threats. These costs are necessary for every home or business, but the charge may differ slightly depending on your rate class to reflect differences in service requirements. Regardless of your rate class, your monthly investment continues to support safe, reliable, and affordable electricity for our entire community—just as it always has.

Understanding the Rising Cost of Power

From 2020 to 2026, the way we live and rely on electricity has evolved quickly. Homes are using more connected devices, workplaces depend on technology more than ever, and reliable power remains essential to our daily routines.


During this same period, the entire energy industry has experienced rising costs. Fuel prices, wholesale power supply, and the expenses of generating and delivering electricity have all increased nationwide—affecting every utility, large and small.

As a distribution cooperative, JOEMC doesn't generate power—we purchase it and deliver it to your home or business. This means the cost we pay for power

is one of the most significant factors in our operations. When wholesale power costs rise across the industry, it impacts cooperatives like ours, just as it does utilities everywhere.

We're sharing this information because we believe in transparency. Understanding where costs come from in the energy industry helps members see the full picture of what goes into keeping the lights on reliably, day in and day out.

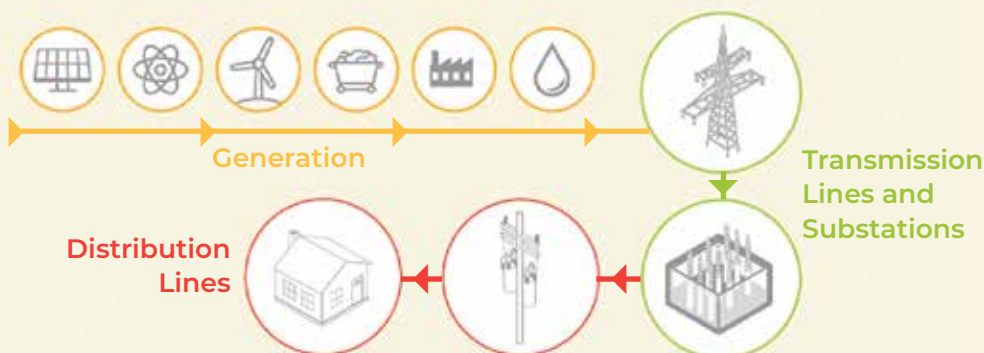
JOEMC remains committed to providing the safe, dependable service you count on. If you have questions about how the energy industry works or what impacts your electric service, we're always here to help.



QUICK TIPS
TO SAVE ENERGY

Winter weather can cause your home heating system to work overtime. Check for air leaks and drafts around doors and windows, then seal them with weatherstripping or caulk. Close fireplace dampers when not in use, and consider installing insulating curtains to help keep warm air inside. You can also save energy by lowering your thermostat a few degrees. Even small adjustments like these can reduce heating costs and improve comfort during the coldest months.

HOW ELECTRICITY REACHES YOU





Ricky Maready, CEO

A Message from the CEO

Understanding Your Power: How Electricity Gets to You

On these cold January mornings, there's something comforting about waking up to a warm home. You adjust the thermostat, flip on the lights, maybe start a pot of coffee—all without thinking twice about the electricity powering it all.

But here's the thing: behind every outlet, there's an incredibly complex network operating around the clock to make sure you have power exactly when you need it. Whether it's a frigid winter morning or a scorching summer afternoon, our teams are monitoring and adjusting things literally by the minute to keep your power flowing.

How We Keep Your Lights On (and Your Home Warm)

Electricity doesn't just happen. It starts at power plants where it's generated from various sources—traditional ones like natural gas and nuclear energy, or renewable sources like solar, wind, and hydropower. At JOEMC, we partner with North Carolina Electric Membership Cooperatives to secure the electricity our communities need, especially during winter months when heating systems run at full throttle.

We use a diverse energy mix because it gives us flexibility to keep your power reliable and your costs competitive year-round. Think of it like not putting all your eggs in one basket. Nuclear, natural gas, and renewables (including hydro) each have different strengths, and by using a combination, we can adapt to whatever comes our way—including those surprise cold fronts we get here in North Carolina.

On a broader scale, electricity works a lot like any other market—it's bought and sold through long-term agreements between utilities and power suppliers. Because we're a cooperative working with other cooperatives, we can pool our resources and expertise to bring you affordable power right here at home.

The Daily Balancing Act (Especially in Winter)

Here's something that might surprise you: the amount of electricity flowing through the grid changes constantly throughout the day, and winter makes those swings even more dramatic. We know you need more power in the morning when you're getting ready for work with the heat running, and in the evening when you're cooking dinner, doing laundry, and keeping your home cozy through the coldest hours of the night.

When temperatures drop into the teens and twenties—as they do in January—demand shoots up further as heating systems work overtime. All of this has to be predicted and planned for before you actually flip that switch or adjust that thermostat. It's like being asked to prepare the exact right amount of food for a party before knowing how many people are coming—except we're doing it for thousands of homes and businesses, every single day, in constantly changing winter conditions.

Why This Matters to You

The system that brings electricity to your home on cold winter nights involves a network of power plants, utilities, transmission operators, and countless experts all working together to keep things balanced. It's complicated and constantly evolving. But here's what I want you to know: JOEMC remains committed to providing you with affordable, reliable energy when you need it most. That's been our mission from day one, and it will continue to be.



WHITE TANGO PIZZA

Here's a pizza with a healthy boost thanks to chicken and four vegetables. White Tango Pizza substitutes a boring red sauce for a dressing from Little Black Dressing Co., "It Takes Three to Tango," containing ranch, 1000 island and blue cheese.

Serves: 8

Source: www.carolinacountry.com

INGREDIENTS

- 1 large Mama Mary's thin pizza crust
- 1 large chicken breast
- 1 small garlic clove
- $\frac{2}{3}$ cup It Takes Three to Tango dressing (from Little Black Dressing Co.)
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup Italian blend cheese
- 2 tablespoons red onions, diced
- 1 small green pepper, thinly sliced
- 1 cup broccoli, chopped

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 450 degrees.
2. Mince garlic and cube chicken breast. Cook both in skillet until chicken is no longer pink.
3. Spread crust with dressing. Put chopped chicken on top. Cover with cheese. Place onions and peppers on cheese. Top that with broccoli. Bake for 8 minutes and serve.

