

A member-first approach

Managing growth responsibly

Fleming-Mason Energy has a proud history of serving the members of our not-for-profit cooperative. For nearly 90 years our cooperative has provided reliable power to the rolling hills of Eastern Kentucky. From early farmhouses that welcomed the convenience of electricity for the first time to large industrial loads that provide jobs and economic benefits to our communities, we have adapted to transformational growth.

While the world around us has changed dramatically over the decades, one thing has never changed: our commitment to protecting the members who own this cooperative.

Today, a new chapter of growth is emerging across the country and within our region through the development of large-scale data centers. These facilities power the digital world we rely on every day from online banking and healthcare systems to streaming services and artificial intelligence. With that growth comes new opportunities for investment, jobs and long-term economic development within the communities we serve.

But growth alone is not enough. Growth must be managed responsibly.

That is why Fleming-Mason Energy

has proactively adopted a specialized data center rate schedule designed with one priority in mind: protecting our existing members while responsibly serving new large-scale loads within our service territory.

Data centers require substantial electric infrastructure and system capacity. Without the proper safeguards in place, those costs and risks could potentially impact other members of the cooperative. Our rate schedule is specifically structured to ensure that does not happen.

The rate schedule agreement clearly identifies and allocates costs between new data center loads and our traditional residential, commercial and industrial members. Simply put, existing members should not bear the financial responsibility for infrastructure and/or upgrades required to serve these new facilities.

The agreement also provides important financial protections for the cooperative in the event a data center closes or significantly reduces operations before the end of its contract term. These safeguards help protect our members from stranded costs and reduce financial risk to the cooperative as a whole.

Just as importantly, this approach allows Fleming-Mason Energy to thoughtfully embrace responsible growth opportunities that can strengthen our system over time. Large new loads can help create additional revenue that remains local, supports the long-term financial health of the cooperative and benefits the membership we serve.

Energy is a key driver of economic development, and our cooperative has supported opportunities because they lead to jobs and tax base that sustain the communities we serve. We want to do our part to offer a bright future for the next generation.

As a member-owned cooperative, every decision we make is guided by fairness, accountability and the responsibility to protect the communities that depend on us. Our goal is not simply to grow, but to grow in a way that preserves reliability, maintains financial stability and safeguards the interests of every member we serve.

At your service, 24/7

Should you experience an electric outage, cooperative employees are standing by to respond 24/7. To report an outage, call (800) 464-3144.

Brandon Hunt
PRESIDENT & CEO



Contact us:

In Fleming County:

(606) 845-2661

Other Counties:

(800) 464-3144

Hours:

7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

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Ensuring reliability

Providing reliable power to our members 24/7, 365 days a year, is our job here at the cooperative. It's also why our wholesale power supplier, East Kentucky Power Cooperative, is in the process of building four electricity generation projects. Fleming-Mason Energy and 15 other Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives are excited about the new generation that will come online in the next few years because it will ensure reliable power for our communities.

EKPC, in partnership with its member co-ops, is investing more than \$2 billion in a range of new projects meant to address Kentucky's growing demand for electricity and to safeguard reliability and competitive rates.

EKPC forecasts the need for electricity will continue growing and exceed the capacity of its current generation facilities by the end of this decade. During the winters of 2022-23 and 2023-24, EKPC set new all-time peak demand records due to extreme cold events when large amounts of electricity were being used for heating.

Projects coming soon to serve co-op members include:

- A new 214-megawatt, natural gas-fueled power plant called Liberty Station in Casey County. Targeted operation: December 2028.
- A new 745-megawatt natural gas unit at EKPC's Cooper Station near Somerset. Construction is expected to begin later this year.
- Co-firing with natural gas, a 225-megawatt unit at Cooper Station to generate power from both coal and gas. Targeted operation: December 2029.
- Converting the 1,340-megawatt, four-unit Spurlock Station in Maysville to generate power from both coal and gas. Targeted operation: December 2029.

"We're building for the future," says Brandon Hunt, president and CEO. "These innovative, flexible electric generating facilities will help Fleming-Mason Energy ensure our continued ability to deliver the energy you need, when you need it."



MARTINZANDRA/UNSPLOSH

Grill smart

Celebrate National Grilling Month with safe outdoor cooking practices

July marks National Grilling Month, the height of summer and the perfect time to celebrate the art of outdoor cooking. Beyond great tasting food, outdoor grilling can cut down power use by keeping the stove off, which keeps your home cooler during the hottest months. Your air conditioning doesn't have to work as hard when the kitchen stays cool. That helps lower your usage in the hotter months.

Fleming-Mason Energy shares these tips for safe grilling:

1. **Pick a safe spot.** Set up your grill at least 10 feet from your home, deck railings and tree branches. Choose a level spot away from foot traffic. Never use a grill in an enclosed area like a garage.
2. **Take care with charcoal.** Only use starter fluid made for charcoal grills and never add fluid to an open flame. After cooking, let coals cool completely before disposing of them in a metal container.
3. **Look for leaks.** When using a gas grill, test for a gas leak by applying an even mix of water and dish soap to the hose and connections. If bubbles appear, there is a leak. Always open the lid before lighting to avoid a buildup of gas.
4. **Pay attention.** Never leave a hot grill unattended. Keep children and pets at least 3 feet away.
5. **Clean regularly.** Dirty grills are one of the top causes of grill fires, according to the National Fire Protection



Association. Skipping regular cleanings can also affect how well your grill works.

This month, get grilling—safely—to save energy.

Electricity powers the internet

Our lives are based on electricity, as is the maintenance of our data like photos, important documents, banking and more.

Around 6 billion people—about three-quarters of the global population—use the internet an average 6.5 hours daily for work, communication and entertainment. In fact, nearly 139 million Facebook and Instagram reels have been viewed in the past minute. Approximately 294 million people, mostly smartphone owners, are added to the internet user count each year.

Each time you ask Alexa or Siri a question, a computer housed in a data center is supplying the answer. As data demand rises, so does the internet industry's consumption. The industry now accounts for an estimated 6% to 12% of all electricity use globally.

Electricity is the lifeblood of the internet. It powers servers, networking hardware, data centers and the world's 30 billion internet-connected devices. This includes the world known as the Internet of Things—personal computers, smartphones, TVs, tablets and “smart” devices like home systems and watches.

Internet-connected technologies also play a key role in energy efficiency by enabling real-time monitoring, automation

and intelligent control of power use. Key technologies include smart thermostats, intelligent lighting, smart meters and energy management systems that optimize power consumption.

None of it would be possible without electricity, and we work hard every day to keep the electrons flowing and your data moving.





POLE SAFETY

Routine checks are crucial

Wood utility poles are the backbone of the nation's electric grid. To ensure safety and reliability, electric co-ops perform periodic checks on each one.

On occasion, you may see a crew digging around and knocking on poles. Crews working for co-ops will always have identification on their truck or on themselves. The expected lifespan of a pole is about 20 years. If you notice signs of pole damage, please notify your cooperative.

IF YOU EVER HIT A POLE:

- **Stay in the vehicle.** If a power line has fallen onto your car and is still energized—as it may well be—it could be energizing your car. Electricity always seeks the path to ground.
- **Call 911** (or have a passerby call if you do not have a phone or cannot find it after the crash). Tell the responder you have struck a utility pole so the electric utility can be notified immediately.

Strategic savings

Think energy efficiency when using household appliances

Optimizing the operation of home appliances can significantly reduce electricity usage. Michael Parker, Fleming-Mason Energy's energy advisor, offers these 10 simple strategies for maximizing the energy efficiency of your most-used home appliances.

1. **Cook with smaller appliances.** Use microwaves, toaster ovens or slow cookers instead of the main oven for smaller meals. They use much less energy, and require less time to prepare food.
2. **Don't peek.** Opening the oven door drops the temperature by 25 degrees, causing it to waste energy reheating.
3. **Avoid overpacking the fridge.** Keep the refrigerator full to retain cold, but don't overpack and block air circulation.
4. **Use cold water.** A huge part of a washing machine's energy use comes from using heated water from your water heater; cold water is equally effective with modern detergents.
5. **Clean the lint trap.** Clean the clothes dryer's lint screen after every load to ensure proper airflow.
6. **Air dry.** Take advantage of summer's heat to dry clothes on a clothesline.
7. **Fill the dishwasher.** A dishwasher uses the same amount of water and electricity no matter how many dishes are inside, so make sure its fully loaded before running.
8. **Clean filters.** Check air conditioning filters monthly, replacing or cleaning as needed to improve airflow.
9. **Use power strips.** Connect TVs, computers and gaming systems to



10. **Look for the star.** When replacing appliances, look for models with the blue Energy Star label, which signifies superior efficiency.