

EMPIRE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.



PRESS RELEASE

May 14, 2021

“Our primary mission is to safely, responsibly, and reliably meet the electrical energy needs of our member-owners.”

**Energy Experts
Working for You!**

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EEA Rate Decrease on the Horizon

Settlement Reduces Wholesale Power Rate

Empire Electric Association, Inc (EEA) is pleased to announce that Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association (Tri-State), EEA’s wholesale power provider, is continuing to deliver on promises made in its Responsible Energy Plan. On April 30, Tri-State’s Board of Directors approved a proposed settlement of its wholesale rate and contract filings made with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Under the terms of the settlement, which requires FERC approval, Tri-State will immediately reduce its wholesale power rates 2%, followed by another 2% wholesale rate reduction in 2022.

EEA’s largest expense is for purchased power from Tri-State and EEA staff is working on a proposal to present to the EEA Board of Directors that will pass these savings on to all members of the co-op. The savings will likely come as a reduction in rates that will go into effect on September 1, 2021, and another reduction in rates in early 2022.

Cooperation among cooperatives is the sixth cooperative principle, and EEA appreciates Tri-State’s focus on providing affordable, reliable power to our members. After the 2022 rate decrease takes effect, EEA’s purchased power expense is expected to decrease by over \$1.7 million annually. As a cost-based, non-profit cooperative, EEA can share these savings and lower the cost of electricity for every EEA member.

The rate reduction proposal is expected to be presented to the EEA Board of Directors in their June 2021 meeting. As always, EEA members may attend any EEA monthly Board meeting and meeting minutes are posted at eea.coop once they are approved. Board meetings are scheduled the second Friday of each month. Find the latest EEA news by visiting us at eea.coop or following us at facebook.com/EEACortez and on Instagram @[eeacortez](https://instagram.com/eeacortez).

Josh Dellinger, General Manager, Empire Electric Association, Inc.