



Member Update

Commercial/Industrial Edition



Welcome to the inaugural edition of VEC's Member Update specifically designed for our commercial and industrial members. We hope you find it useful. We welcome comments and story ideas any time - simply email jbrown@vermontelectric.coop. Thanks!

PS: Please forward this email widely to anyone who might be interested.

New year, new incentives!

VEC's offering an [expanded menu of financial incentives](#) this year to help members, including commercial and industrial members, move away from fossil fuels to electricity and advanced wood heating. Of particular interest to business members may be our Clean Air Program that can bring clean and convenient electricity to commercial facilities that currently rely on fossil fuels.

Holding rates steady, four years running

VEC is keeping rates in check. This year marks the fourth consecutive year that VEC [has kept rates flat](#), and at least one business owner says he was happy to receive the news.

Self-managed energy efficiency bill proposed

Vermont lawmakers are considering setting up a pilot program that would allow up to 20 businesses to run their own energy efficiency programs. Funds currently paid to the energy efficiency utility could instead be used by the business to make direct investments in electric and thermal efficiency and productivity measures. [Learn more](#) and/or email acohen@vermontelectric.coop.

You can be a charging destination

Do your employees or customers own plug-in hybrid or electric cars? Would you like them to be able to charge at your business? VEC is offering bill credits to businesses and public entities, like municipalities and schools, [that install charging stations](#) that are available to the public. The bill credit is \$500 per connection, i.e. \$500 for a one-head charger, \$1,000 for a two-head charger.

Save the date for the VEC Annual Meeting

Mark the calendar! On May 12 VEC will hold its [annual meeting](#) at Smugglers' Notch Resort in Jeffersonville. Participating in annual meeting is a great way for all of our members, including commercial and industrial members, to make their voices heard, get involved in the democratic process of the cooperative, and learn about what's happening at VEC.

Staying in-the-know on outages

When we can, we try to give members a heads up before outages. When the power goes out, we know VEC business members lose time and productivity so we try to keep [information flowing](#). If we anticipate an outage, or the possibility of one, we try to contact commercial and industrial members directly. And remember, we can use your help too. If the power does go out, please report it at 800-832-2667 any time of day.

If you generate, generate safely

Members who use portable generators to generate electricity during outages should be sure generators are installed properly and used safely. Otherwise, injury or death to you, an employee, a utility line worker, or someone else could occur. Here are some generator [safety tips](#).