

Understanding the 2026 Rate Increase

In September, the Basin Electric Board of Directors authorized a Class A rate increase of approximately \$6 per megawatt-hour, or 10%, beginning Jan. 1, 2026. We understand and recognize the impact this has on our members and their communities. This decision was not made lightly. Basin Electric is thoughtfully working to balance our goals of reliability, financial performance, and affordable rates.



Growth in traditional load

To serve this growth, Basin Electric is investing in new generation and transmission projects, which are at higher costs than our existing fleet.



Commodity price variability

Fluctuations in commodity prices affect the cost of fuel for Basin Electric and sales revenue at our subsidiaries.



Increase in planning reserve margins

Southwest Power Pool will require Basin Electric to have higher capacity reserves, increasing capital expenditures, operating costs, and purchase power.



Investments in reliability

Basin Electric will continue to make investments in system reliability, including upgrading existing facilities and reducing outage cycle times.

Responsible Planning for a Reliable Future

Rolling financial forecasts: Basin Electric is adopting a rolling financial forecasting model that will be updated several times each year. This will also provide an opportunity for more collaboration with the membership.

Diversifying resources: The cooperative's diverse generation fleet, alongside market purchases, is key to keeping rates affordable. As of Dec. 31, 2024, Basin Electric has over 5,526 megawatts (MW) of dispatchable resources (ex: coal and natural gas units) and approximately 2,901 MW of non-dispatchable resources (ex: wind and solar) in its portfolio. With the addition of Pioneer Generation Station Phase IV in August 2025, Basin Electric now has over 6,000 MW of dispatchable, reliable power for its members.

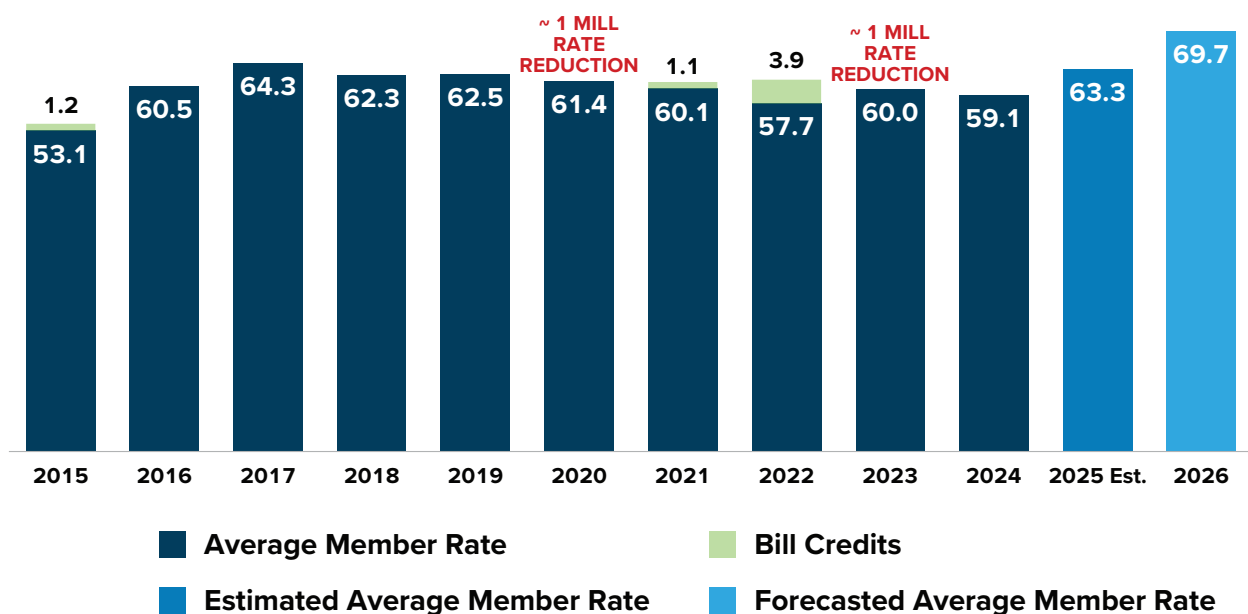
Utilizing generation across the divide: The geographical location of Basin Electric means its member load and generators exist on both the West and East Interconnection. Basin Electric's access to Direct Current (DC) ties enable it to move electricity back and forth across the divide as needed, helping to keep power reliable and prices stable for members.



What this Means for Members

As a member of a cooperative, every dollar is either reinvested into the system or returned to members. When Basin Electric earns higher margins, it builds financial strength and helps maintain appropriate equity levels, both of which contribute to reducing borrowing costs.

Basin Electric Average Member Rates



Understanding the 2026 Rate Increase – Member Q&A

What are the primary drivers behind the rate increase?

Growth in traditional load, commodity price variability, increased planning reserve margins, and continued investments in reliability.

What factors are NOT behind the rate increase?

While large loads (data centers, crypto mining, AI, etc.) are a hot topic across the nation, they are not behind the 2026 rate increase. In collaboration with its membership, Basin Electric developed a Large Load Program designed to insulate our existing members from the costs and risks associated with serving new large electric loads.

How was member input used to make this rate decision?

After months of communication with the members, Basin Electric carefully evaluated feedback from members and market conditions before deciding to implement a multi-year phased approach.

How will this rate increase help ensure reliable electricity for members in the future?

A rate increase helps provide the resources needed to invest in infrastructure, technology, and maintain and upgrade equipment. These investments ensure the system stays strong and reliable, providing members with dependable electricity for their homes and businesses.

What if actual results are better than the budgeted rate increase in '26 or beyond?

Basin Electric has a history of pulling a variety of levers in situations when results are better than expected, including providing bill credits in 2021 and 2022; implementing rate decreases in 2020 and 2023; and adding to the rate stability fund to offset the financial impact of unexpected events that would otherwise result in rate increases.

How has inflation impacted Basin Electric?

Rising costs from inflation have made it more expensive to build and maintain infrastructure. Our current generation fleet has an average cost on our books of approximately \$800/kW, with future costs predicted to be \$2,700/kW. Likewise, our current transmission has an average cost on our books of approximately \$400,000/mile of line, with future costs predicted to be \$2 million/mile of line.

Why are higher margins necessary?

Basin Electric is growing, and part of the money for new projects must come directly from its members. This is similar to the concept of homeowner's equity in that a homeowner is required to provide a certain level of equity in their home to secure a mortgage at acceptable and reasonable interest rates.