

BARC News



BARC Electric Cooperative Board of Directors Taps New CEO

BARC Electric Cooperative's board of directors recognized that identifying a new CEO to lead the cooperative would require a lot of work and effort. BARC's innovative focus in providing reliable and affordable electric service, renewable energy options and world-class broadband service to its members required a strategic leader who would be up to the challenge of current organizational efforts, while also looking to future needs.

In April, the BARC announced its Board had appointed Bill Buchanan as chief executive officer of the cooperative, effective May 9, 2022. Buchanan replaces Michael Keyser, who departed the co-op

in December 2021 after 11 years of service. Chris Botulinski, interim chief executive officer and chief operations officer will continue in his role as chief operations officer for the cooperative.

"The board of directors conducted an exhaustive search in partnership with Carter-Baldwin to find a new CEO for BARC," said Board chair Keith Swisher. "We are confident that Bill will bring much expertise and leadership to the cooperative, continuing its mission to improve the quality of life in the communities it serves. BARC will remain focused to bring reliable and affordable electric service, solar opportunities, and expand broadband deployment to best meet the needs of our consumers."

Buchanan comes to BARC from Northwestern REC and is no stranger to cooperatives, bringing over 30 years of leadership experience to the role focused on strategic and financial planning and operations. He is a graduate of Western Illinois University, the University of Missouri's Graduate Institute for Cooperative Leadership and Stanford University's professional certification in Energy Innovation.

Buchanan has many years of service to cooperative telecom boards and



New CEO Bill Buchanan

community service organizations serving local communities. He has served as president and board member of both the Illinois and Colorado rural telecommunications associations as well as the Western Telecommunications Alliance, serving on the transition committee during the merger of two regional associations.

Bill and his wife, Mallore, are relocating to the area from Pennsylvania; they have two sons, Tyler, and Tanner. The family is actively involved in its church and volunteering in various capacities.

The BARC staff is excited to welcome Bill to our cooperative and we look forward to future opportunities for him to meet our members.

BARC ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

P.O. Box 264
Millboro, VA 24460-0264
1-800-846-2272

Office Hours: M-F, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
barcelectric.com
barconnects.net

Come join us on Facebook
facebook.com/BARCElectricCooperative



Chief Executive Officer
Bill Buchanan

BARC Electric Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

BARC Annual Meeting Announcement

BARC will hold its 2022 Annual Meeting on Wednesday, July 20th at 2 p.m. The meeting will take place at Millboro Elementary School located at 411 Church Street, Millboro, Virginia in the cafeteria.

If you are unable to attend the Annual Meeting, you may return a signed proxy, found on the back cover of this month's *Cooperative Living* magazine. Members returning a signed proxy prior to the meeting will be eligible to participate in a prize drawing for \$150 in free electricity.

On Tuesday, May 10, 2022, a district meeting was held in District 5. On Monday, May 23, 2022, a district meeting was held in District 1. The purpose of these meetings was to select nominees to serve on the board of directors for a period of three years.

Listed below are the names of the nominees from their respective districts whose names will appear on the official ballot. Members may make additional nominations from the floor at the Annual Meeting.

District 1 – C. Michael Sandridge

District 5 – Gary Johnson

Bylaws Pertaining to Election of Directors

Article IV, Section 4.5: Director Elections. Not less than seven days before an Annual Member Meeting or a Special Member Meeting at which Directors are to be elected, the Secretary of the Cooperative shall be responsible for mailing to each Member a list of the candidates selected at all District Meetings, the names to be arranged by districts. This list may be included with the notice of the meeting. At the meeting the Secretary of the Cooperative shall place in nomination the names of the official candidates of each district.

Additional nominations for Director for a particular district may be made from the floor. Election of the Directors shall be by printed or mimeographed ballot. The ballots shall list the candidates selected at the District Meetings, the names to be arranged by districts. A candidate nominated from the floor of the meeting may be voted for by writing in the name of the official candidate of the particular district. Each Member of the Cooperative present at the meeting in person or by proxy shall be entitled to vote for one candidate from each district. The candidate from each district receiving the highest number of votes at the meeting shall be considered elected as Director.

Article IV, Section 4.6: Director Terms. A Director's term is three (3) years ("Director Term"). The Cooperative shall stagger Director Terms by dividing the total number of authorized Directors into groups of approximately equal number and members will annually elect an approximately equal number of Directors. Decreasing the number of Directors or length of Director Terms may not shorten an incumbent Director's Director Term. Despite the expiration of a Director Term, the Director continues to serve until a new Director is elected, or until the number of Directors is decreased. Unless otherwise provided in these Bylaws, the Director Term of a Director filling a vacant Director's position is the remaining unexpired Director Term of the vacant Director's position.

Unclaimed Capital Gains

In accordance with Section 7.4 of the bylaws of BARC Electric Cooperative, notice is hereby provided that BARC is making payment available to members for certain previously allocated and/or retired capital credits. Current active members will get a credit on their bill during the month of June for these capital credits. The following inactive members are required to contact our office to claim these capital credits. Checks will only be issued to inactive members who verify their identity and provide a physical mailing address. Our desire is to make sure every eligible member gets their share of this refund. Please call member services at (800) 846-2272 with questions or to submit a claim.

ABELL JO ANN
ALLEN CARL R
ALLEN JAMES L
ARGENBRIGHT SARAH W
BROSCHART NATHANIEL
COLLINS ASHLEY N
CRESWELL JR ROBERT C
CROSBY RICK D
DEMERS JOHN N
GRAHAM CORA V
HENRY FRIEDA
JINENEZ PEDRO A
KISAMORE RAY E
PENDELTON JOHN R
RATCLIFFE WILLIAM J
REED CRESTIE B
RYDER NIKOLAS E JR
SCOTT ROSA C
SHEPHERD BELINDA W
SMITH KIRK R
SMITH MAGGIE E
STEELE RALPH E
TERRY BENJAMIN S
TODD JESILYNN D
VEST KIMBERLY A
WRIGHT HEATHER R

Storms and Power Outage Preparation

Tish Blackwell, Director of Communications

As we approach summertime, warmer weather and longer days mean opportunities to enjoy the outdoors and all that is fully in bloom and bursting with life. This time of the year also increases risk for severe storms that can potentially create power outages. None of us like power outages and that includes your cooperative team. Our field crews are always prepared with tools and equipment to respond to all power outages at any time. While we are prepared as your electric utility, we do ask, are you prepared?

Some outage restorations take longer than others to repair. Depending on the situation and need to cut and remove downed trees or pull new lines that have been torn down from wind or tree damage, or locating the outage area in our steep terrain, repairs can take anywhere from several minutes to several hours. With this in mind, it is always

better to be prepared for any outage situation that may arise.

Some tips for items to have on-hand in case of a power outage:

- water (1 gallon per person per day, for several days)
- food (three-day supply of non-perishables)
- flashlights
- first aid kit/prescriptions
- extra batteries/wireless phone chargers
- manual can opener
- moist towelettes
- extra pet food

If you experience a power outage, please report it to BARC.

• Download the BARC mobile app to your iOS or Android devices where an outage can be reported.

• Call 800-846-2272. Have your account number ready to report the outage through BARC's Autocue system.

• If you are able to access the online Customer Portal on barcelectric.com, you can also report an outage there.

When large outages occur, BARC provides notifications and updates on its Facebook page and website, as well as with Allegheny Mountain Radio. As a reminder, social media should not be used to report power outages. Please do not leave comments in outage posts/notifications with your address — this is a security risk and allows anyone looking at the social media post to have this information.

When outages occur, our lineworkers are the first responders out in the elements working hard to restore power as safely and quickly as possible. BARC appreciates all electric consumers' patience and understanding when outages occur and wants you to know that your cooperative is here working for you

The Steps to Restoring Power

When a major outage occurs, our crews restore service to the greatest number of people in the shortest time possible - until everyone has power.



1. High-Voltage Transmission Lines

These lines carry large amounts of electricity. They rarely fail but must be repaired first.



2. Distribution Substations

Crews inspect substations, which can serve hundreds or thousands of people.



3. Main Distribution Lines

Main lines serve essential facilities like hospitals and larger communities.



4. Individual Homes and Businesses

After main line repairs are complete, we repair lines that serve individual homes and businesses.

Are you familiar with BARC's SolarizeBARC program? Renewable energy options are one way we strive to improve the communities we serve bringing our electric members access to affordable solar opportunities through community solar and onsite systems.

You can visit solarizebarc.com to learn more or call us at 800-846-2272.



BARC Electric Cooperative has subscriber **openings** with our **Community Solar!** Through our **SolarizeBARC** program enjoy the benefits of solar without financial or physical barriers. .

Contact BARC Electric Customer Service:

800-846-2272

HOW COMMUNITY SOLAR WORKS

- The monthly subscription rate is \$4.95 per block of solar energy.
- The \$4.95/block rate is fixed for 20 years, provided that you continuously remain a subscriber.
- Community solar energy replaces the "grid power" that BARC would have purchased at its substation for your behalf.
- **Customers can subscribe in blocks of solar energy produced from the project. We limit subscriptions to 25% of a customer's average monthly energy consumption.**



Learn more: www.solarizebarc.com

OWNING SOLAR PV JUST GOT EASIER

BARC Electric Cooperative in partnership with local solar contractor, Tiger Solar in Staunton, offers both our residential and business consumers the opportunity to install their own onsite solar photovoltaic (PV) systems, through our **SolarizeBARC** program.



BENEFITS OF SOLARIZEBARC PROGRAM

- Reduces long-term energy costs
- No upfront costs for installation
- Provides clean, renewable energy
- Savings from net metering helps you pay for your loan
- Qualifies for tax breaks and incentives
- Increases property value

CONTACT BARC TO START THE PROCESS



Answer a few questions and BARC will pull your energy usage history.



BARC will contact Tiger Solar to conduct a remote assessment using satellite imagery.



From there, an onsite visit will be scheduled to take measurements and provide you with a free cost estimate.



Tiger Solar will create a custom plan for your home or business with a detailed proposal.



Finance your project through BARC with **no upfront costs**

The **SolarizeBARC** program offers PV system financing at competitive rates for qualified consumers, finally making solar accessible!

Contact Billy Reid, Director, Business Development today and get started on your solar moment.

Call 800-846-2272

Email B Reid@barcelectric.com

**NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF AN APPLICATION BY BARC ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE,
FOR APPROVAL OF A GENERAL INCREASE IN ELECTRIC RATES • CASE NO. PUR-2022-00048**

On April 1, 2022, BARC Electric Cooperative ("BARC" or the "Cooperative") filed an application ("Application") with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") for approval of a general increase in electric rates. BARC filed this Application pursuant to §§ 56-231.33, 56-231.34, 56-236, 56-238, and 56 585.3 of the Code of Virginia ("Code") and 5 VAC 5-20-80 A of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the Commission.

In support of its Application, BARC states that a rate increase is needed to pay expenses, service debt, fund capital additions, retire patronage, and maintain the financial goals established by BARC's Board of Directors. BARC requests a two phase rate increase that would generate \$1.93 million in revenue over a two-year period. The Cooperative proposes to increase its jurisdictional revenue by \$1.16 million in Phase 1, beginning January 1, 2023, and by an additional \$0,767 million in Phase 2, beginning January 1, 2024, to achieve a \$25,405,240 annual revenue requirement. BARC states that the proposed increase would result in total rate year jurisdictional margins of \$1.78 million and a 2.24x jurisdictional TIER.

BARC proposes to introduce a demand charge to the distribution service portion of proposed Schedule A-U and Schedule B-U of \$0.05 per kW with billing deferred until new metering technology is installed for all affected members. The estimated \$55,844 demand charge revenue is included in the proposed rate year revenue, but BARC is proposing to forgo that revenue until the demand charges can be billed with the new metering technology. The Cooperative states that recovering demand costs by applying demand charges is a more cost-based method than recovering demand costs through energy consumption charges.

BARC is also seeking approval of Schedule ROW, a temporary rider to Schedule A-U, which it states is designed to pass through the portion of right-of-way cost included in base rates that will be transferred to BARC Connects in 2023. Specifically, Schedule ROW is designed to credit \$767,045 to Schedule A-U customers in 2023, the first year that the proposed rates will be effective.

The Cooperative also requests approval of a new Schedule EF-Excess Facilities, which is designed for use when excess facilities are requested by members. The Cooperative states that Schedule EF includes fixed charged rates designed to recover the Cooperative's carrying costs for excess facilities based on the type of plant installed and depending upon whether the Cooperative or the customer is the source of the initial capital for construction.

The Cooperative requests that its proposed rates and charges be approved and that the Commission authorize such rates to be put into effect for bills rendered on and after January 1, 2023, as interim rates subject to refund, if necessary, as provided in Code § 56-238. Under the Cooperative's proposed increase, a typical residential customer using 1,000 kWh of electricity each month would experience a monthly Phase 1 bill increase of \$8.22 (5.87%), from \$140.01 to \$148.23, and a Phase 2 bill increase of \$5.77 (3.89%), from \$148.23 to \$154.00.

For more detailed information about the Cooperative's proposals, interested persons are encouraged to review the Application and supporting documents for the details of these and other proposals. While the total revenue that may be approved by the Commission is limited to the amount produced by the Cooperative's proposed rates, TAKE NOTICE that the Commission may approve revenues and adopt rates, fees, charges, tariff revisions, and terms and conditions of service that differ from those appearing in the Application and supporting documents and may apportion revenues among customer classes and/or design rates in a manner differing from that shown in the Application and supporting documents.

The Commission takes judicial notice of the ongoing public health issues related to the spread of the coronavirus, or COVID 19. In accordance therewith, all pleadings, briefs, or other documents required to be served in this matter should be submitted electronically to the extent authorized by 5 VAC 5-20-150, Copies and format, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice"). Confidential and Extraordinarily Sensitive information shall not be submitted electronically and should comply with 5 VAC 5-20-170, Confidential information, of the Rules of Practice. Any person seeking to hand deliver and physically file or submit any pleading or other document shall contact the Clerk's Office Document Control Center at (804) 371-9838 to arrange the delivery.

Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-140, Filing and service, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, the Commission has directed that service on parties and the Commission's Staff in this matter shall be accomplished by electronic means. Please refer to the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing for further instructions concerning Confidential or Extraordinarily Sensitive Information.

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Hearing that, among other things, permits BARC to place its proposed rates, charges, and terms and conditions of service into effect, subject to refund, for bills rendered on and after January 1, 2023.

The Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing scheduled public hearings on BARC's Application. On November 15, 2022, at 10 a.m., the Commission will hold a telephonic hearing, with no witness present in the Commission's courtroom, for the sole purpose of receiving the testimony of public witnesses. On or before November 10, 2022, any person desiring to offer testimony as a public witness shall provide to the Commission (a) your name, and (b) the telephone number that you wish the Commission to call during the hearing to receive your testimony. This information may be provided to the Commission in three ways: (i) by filling out a form on the Commission's website at scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting; (ii) by email to SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov; or (iii) by calling (804) 371-9141. This public witness hearing will be webcast at scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting.

On November 16, 2022, at 10 a.m., in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, the Commission will convene a hearing to receive testimony and evidence related to the Application from the Cooperative, any respondents, and the Commission's Staff.

An electronic copy of BARC's Application may be obtained from BARC by submitting a written request to counsel for the Cooperative, Eric M. Page, Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellot, LLC, 919 East Main Street, Suite 1300, epage@eckertseamans.com. Interested persons also may download unofficial copies from the Commission's website: <https://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information>.

On or before November 9, 2022, any interested person may submit comments on the Application by following the instructions on the Commission's website: scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments. Those unable, as a practical matter, to submit comments electronically may file such comments by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. All comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00048.

Any person or entity may participate as a respondent in this proceeding by filing, on or before July 22, 2022, a notice of participation with the Clerk of the Commission at scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling. Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a notice of participation electronically may file such notice by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel. The respondent simultaneously shall serve a copy of the notice of participation on counsel to the Cooperative at the address set forth above. Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, Participation as a respondent, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation, or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by 5 VAC 5-20-30, Counsel, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00048. Interested persons should obtain a copy of the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing for further details on participation as a respondent.

On or before September 2, 2022, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission and serve on the Commission's Staff, the Cooperative, and all other respondents, any testimony and exhibits by which the respondent expects to establish its case, and each witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. In all filings, respondents shall comply with the Commission's Rules of Practice, including 5 VAC 5-20-140, Filing and service, and 5 VAC 5-20-240, Prepared testimony and exhibits. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2022-00048.

Any documents filed in paper form with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, except as modified by the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, Copies and format, of the Rules of Practice.

The Cooperative's Application, the Commission's Rules of Practice, the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, and other documents filed in the case may be viewed on the Commission's website at: scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information.

BARC ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

INGREDIENTS

6 large yellow squash	½ teaspoon salt
3 slices bacon	⅛ teaspoon pepper
1 medium onion, chopped	2 tablespoons softened butter
3 tablespoons, chopped green pepper	¼ cup breadcrumbs
	¼ cup grated cheddar cheese



BARC's Bites

SQUASH BOATS

DIRECTIONS

Boil squash in salted water for 15 minutes. Drain. Cut in half and scoop out pulp, leaving ¼ inch shell. Fry bacon until crisp, then crumble. Mash squash pulp and mix with onion, green pepper, salt, pepper, bacon, and butter.

Fill shells with mixture; top with breadcrumbs and cheese, and dot with butter. Bake at 375 degrees for 20 minutes.



Your New Broadband Experience is Here



Let's Get You Connected!

- Education
- Telehealth
- Remote Work
- Connect with Family & Friends
- Security

FREE MODEM | FREE HOME WIFI

UNLIMITED STREAMING | NO DATA CAPS

Free Service Drop* with a \$100 Prepaid Installation Fee

*Terms and Conditions apply

A BETTER BROADBAND EXPERIENCE

High-speed Internet and Phone from your Reliable | Local | Accessible Provider

Why settle for anything less?

SIGN UP TODAY:
SHOP.BARCCONNECTS.NET

OR CALL: 800 846 2272

Let us welcome you to an entirely new customer experience.