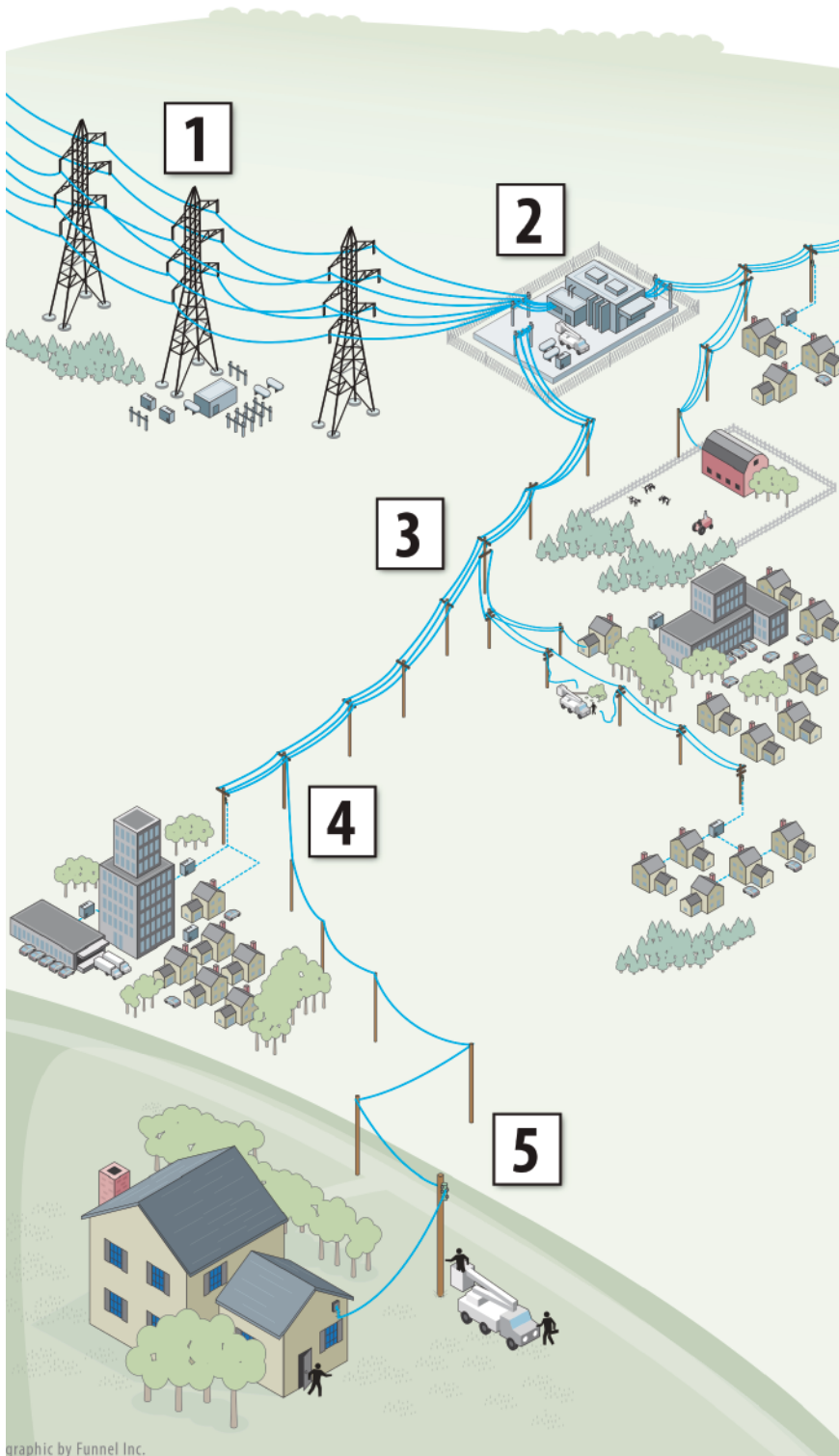


Powering Up

When electricity goes out, most of us expect power will be restored within a few hours. But when a major storm causes widespread damage, longer outages may result. Co-op line crews work long, hard hours to restore service safely to the greatest number of consumers in the shortest time possible.

Here's what's going on if you find yourself in the dark.



1 High-Voltage Transmission Lines

Transmission towers and cables that supply power to transmission substations (and thousands of members) rarely fail. But when damaged, these facilities must be repaired before other parts of the system can operate.

2 Distribution Substations

Each substation serves hundreds or thousands of consumers. When a major outage occurs, line crews inspect substations to determine if problems stem from transmission lines feeding into the substation, the substation itself, or complications down the line.

3 Main Distribution Lines

If the problem cannot be isolated at a distribution substation, distribution lines are checked. These lines carry power to large groups of consumers in communities or housing developments.

4 Tap Lines

If local outages persist, supply lines, called tap lines, are inspected. These lines deliver power to transformers—either mounted on poles or placed on pads for underground service—outside businesses, schools and homes.

5 Individual Homes

If your home remains without power, the service line between a transformer and your residence may need to be repaired. Always call to report an outage to help line crews isolate local issues.

graphic by Funnel Inc.

Don't Post Signs on Utility Poles

ALTHOUGH SEEMINGLY INNOCENT enough, putting signs or other items on utility poles creates serious safety hazards. Staples, nails and tacks used to hang signs—as well as the signs themselves—pose dangers to Coleman County Electric Cooperative's lineworkers who must climb poles when restoring power after storms or while performing routine maintenance to ensure system reliability.

Posters and other objects, such as birdhouses, balloons, flags and even basketball goals, can be dangerous obstacles. Also, the nails and tacks left behind from signs can snag utility workers' boots or puncture safety clothing, putting lineworkers at risk of slipping or even electrocution.

In addition to being hazardous, tampering with utility poles can be costly. Posting signs or attaching other objects to utility poles is illegal and can carry a fine of up to \$500 per day.

Coleman County EC appreciates your help in keeping utility poles clear and our linemen safe. ■



It doesn't take a crack shot to hit an electric insulator or transformer, just a crackpot. Careless shooters taking potshots at electric equipment can cause major problems for your electric cooperative. Here's why:

You are inconveniencing your fellow member-customers whose electricity has been disrupted.

It could even be a matter of life and death to someone on a life-support system or who is hit by a stray shot.

Damage to electrical equipment is very expensive to repair. Lines may be cut or weakened from a shot, and they may sag or break, becoming a severe hazard for anyone who comes in contact with the line.

Broken insulators can cause power outages that are hard—and expensive—to find.

Enjoy your sport, but be a responsible hunter.

Coleman County EC encourages you to always practice safety.

Coleman County Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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Toll-Free 1-800-560-2128
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24/7

**Outage
Hotline
Number**

For information and to report outages, please call us.

TOLL-FREE
1-844-727-4840

ABOUT COLEMAN COUNTY EC

CCEC owns and maintains more than 3,700 miles of line to provide electric service to more than 4,500 members in Brown, Callahan, Coke, Coleman, Concho, Runnels, Taylor and Tom Green counties.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

- Online bill payment
- Automatic payment
- Average billing

VISIT US ONLINE

colemanelectric.org

TEXAS CO-OP POWER

CCEC provides *Texas Co-op Power* and TexasCoopPower.com to give you information about events, safety, special programs and other activities of your cooperative.