



IS SOLAR A WISE INVESTMENT?

By Boyd Lee, V.P. of Strategic Planning

At CKenergy, we get calls almost daily from people with solar questions. Is an investment in solar a wise decision? How large of a system do they need? Can they recover a \$40,000 investment? How much life is left in the solar system after they pay it off?

Homeowners should do a lot of research before purchasing any unfamiliar technology. CKenergy actively promotes geothermal heating and cooling systems because they are often a better investment than solar. Here's why: The earth collects and stores solar energy 24/7, providing geothermal homeowners with a steady, reliable source of geothermal energy. Solar systems depend on steady sunlight. The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) finds the sun shines roughly 12 hours per day in our area, providing only 5.5 hours of optimal solar production. If you'd like more proof, visit the NREL at <https://www.nrel.gov/gis/assets/images/solar-annual-ghi-2018-usa-scale-01.jpg>.

You don't have to take our word on geothermal or solar, but before investing in either technology, take the time to visit with homeowners with similar systems to see what they think. Right now, you can find over 1,300 geothermal systems in the CKenergy service area, but only 30 solar installations. You might ask yourself why that is.

And why would a solar vendor recommend sinking \$40,000 into a system to save you money when that system does nothing to improve your home's efficiency? Adding \$1,200 worth of insulation in your attic and a \$10,000 to \$12,000 geothermal system will make your home warmer in the winter, cooler in the summer, heat your water, and save you as much or more than solar for less than half the investment! And a geothermal system isn't susceptible to hail, it doesn't mount on your roof, and it doesn't lose two percent of its efficiency every year.

A solar vendor will argue that their system helps save the environment, and that should be the main focus. But reducing your energy use through improved insulation, more efficient windows, geothermal heating, cooling, and water heating provides the very same benefit.

So, when the solar salesperson comes to your home, don't automatically accept their word as gospel. Ask the following questions: How long has their company been in the business? How many sales do they have? Did your salesperson work in an unrelated profession last month, but now claims to be a solar expert? You're about to finance a significant amount of money for a very long time. Do yourself a favor and do your research.

At CKenergy, we aren't anti-solar, but we are pro truthful advertising. Our power supplier, Western Farmers Electric Cooperative (WFEC), owns a large amount of solar capacity and is currently constructing the largest renewable resource facility in the United States; 250 megawatts of that power is solar.

There is a vast difference between commercial solar and at-home solar, so be careful. At CKenergy, our members mean everything to us, and we try to provide the most professional and knowledgeable advice. Shifting your utility costs from one company to another won't do much good if your overall costs go up after your solar purchase.

In the coming weeks, we will post more information on this topic on the CKenergy website under the Energy Efficiency tab. Feel free to challenge us with questions at any time. Please direct your questions to marketing@ckenergy.coop or visit our website at www.ckenergy.coop.



PO Box 70 • Binger, Okla. 73009
PO Box 100 • Cordell, Okla. 73632

tele: **(405) 656-2322**
(580) 832-3361

www.ckenergy.coop

OFFICE HOURS:
Monday-Friday,
8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

POWER OUTAGE
HOT LINES
800-868-8243

888-832-3362

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- Gary Brewster, President
- Jack Sawatzky, Vice President
- Dr. Fred Reuter, Secretary
- John Schaufele
- Mark Slemp
- Robert Travis
- Tony Setzer
- Steve Sweeney
- Walter Hrbacek
- Greg Little
- Glenn Propps
- Don Payne

John Garland, Attorney

Clint Pack, CEO

PAYMENT OPTIONS

- Pay online at www.ckenergy.coop
- Pay by phone by calling **405-656-2322**, available 24 hours a day. Visa, Mastercard, Discover, or American Express.
- Pay in person at any of our offices: Binger, Cordell, Mustang, and Anadarko.
- Pay via automatic draft of your checking or savings account. To sign up, please visit www.ckenergy.coop or call **405-656-2322** or **580-832-3361**.
- **Pay through our CKenergy App available for iPhones or Androids.**



inside this issue | March 2020

- 3** Go Geo
- 4** Operation Round Up
- 5** Co-op Legislative Day
- 6** Saving Energy
- 7** Swap'N Shop



MARCH

Winning CKEC Members

- Rex Barger
- Brad Elder
- Larry Gabel

If your name is listed above, please call us at **405-656-2322** to claim a \$25 credit on your electric bill.



Socialize with us!

Stay up-to-date with your co-op and your community by following us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and SnapChat. Get the latest news on co-op events, services, energy saving tips, and more. During a power outage, stay connected with us for updates on the restoration process.

Questions or comments about your newsletter should be directed to Lisa Willard, Director of Communications, CKenergy, PO Box 100, Cordell, OK 73632, email: editor@ckenergy.coop.



You Can Afford To “Go Geo”

Who needs solar when you can “go geo?” With CKEnergy’s innovative geothermal program, the cost to “go geo” is no longer a problem. CKEnergy members get the loop installed for no upfront cost and an additional cash rebate of \$1,000 per ton on geothermal heat pumps. A 26% tax credit is also available for qualified members.

Geothermal is the most energy efficient and economical resource for heating and cooling your home and it is right in your own backyard. The concept is simple. A water-based solution circulates through plastic pipes (called a loop) placed underground or submerged in a pond. Heat is absorbed and carried to the geothermal unit, which extracts the heat, compresses it to higher temperatures and distributes it through the home. The process is reversed in the summer by removing heat from the home and providing very comfortable air conditioning.

CKEnergy’s geothermal loop is installed and maintained by the co-op. Excluding new homes, all customers who retrofit geothermal systems also receive a professional home energy audit free of charge after completed geothermal installation.

These advantages add up to dramatically reduced installation costs as well as monthly savings. According to Energy.gov, geothermal heat pumps typically use 25-50% less electricity than conventional heating or cooling systems.

CKEnergy has approximately 1,300 geothermal systems installed across our system. This includes three geo-exclusive housing additions as well as new homes and retrofit homes.

If you have questions about CKEC’s geothermal program, please contact Dwayne Hurliman at 405-656-9176 or Keith DeVaughan at 405-656-9115.

Geothermal FAQ’s

What is a geothermal heat pump?

A geothermal or “ground-source” heat pump is an electrically powered device that uses the natural heat storage ability of the earth and/or the earth’s groundwater to heat and cool your home or business at very high efficiencies.

How does it work?

Like any type of heat pump, it simply moves heat energy from one place to another. A geothermal heat pump is like a refrigerator because they work using the same scientific principle. By using refrigeration, the geothermal heat pump removes heat energy stored in the earth and/or the earth’s groundwater and transfers it to the home.

Do I need separate ground loops for heating and cooling?

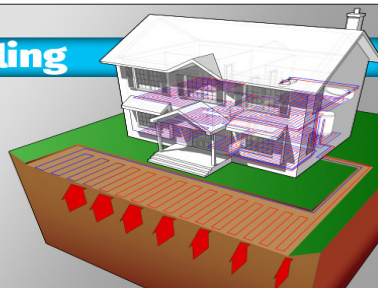
No, the same loop works for both. When changing from heating to cooling, or vice versa, the flow of heat is reversed by a mechanism inside the unit.

Where should I locate the loops?

That depends on land availability and terrain. Closed-loops are trenched horizontally in yards adjacent to the home if the yard is large enough. Or, for smaller yards, the loops can be installed vertically using a drill rig, much like a water well installation.

Geothermal Heating & Cooling

- Environmentally Friendly
- Improved In Home Air Quality
- No fumes or carbon monoxide poisoning
- Life expectancy of 50-100 years



Your Spare Change Can Make a **Big Difference** through Operation RoundUp

Even during tough economic times, it's important that we continue to support our local communities. That's the philosophy behind Operation RoundUp, a charitable program governed, funded and supported by CKenergy Electric Cooperative members like you.

Here's how the program works: As a member of Operation RoundUp, the Cooperative will "round up" the amount due on your electric bill to the nearest dollar. These donations are placed in an account from which an independent panel of CKenergy Electric members makes grants to support various community projects across the Cooperative's service territory. This program has assisted a wide variety of organizations, including local food pantries, senior centers, fire departments and schools. We are happy to continue this program as CKenergy.

For more information call Boyd Lee at 405-656-2322.



AT A GLANCE

Operation RoundUp

- Round up your monthly electric bill to the nearest whole dollar.
- Contributions will range from \$0.01 to \$0.99 per month.
- Your contributions, pooled with those made by fellow Cooperative members, will help fund charitable projects in the community.
- You can cancel or resume participation at any time.



Small change
Big Difference

Out of the Gate

OAEC hosts legislative reception for 57th Oklahoma Legislature



Each year, the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives (OAEC) invites elected officials, legislators and staff to visit with delegates from Oklahoma's rural electric cooperatives at the "Out of the Gate" Legislative Reception.

On Monday, February 3, 2020, CKenergy staff and board members met with legislators that represent different portions of CKenergy's service territory.

We appreciate these types of events that allow us to talk one-on-one with legislators about current events and new laws that could potentially affect electric cooperatives.

Our directors, CEO and staff consistently make their voice heard in the halls of the state legislature, ensuring the protection of safe, affordable and reliable electricity for all of our members.

We have an opportunity to greatly impact the outcome of legislation affecting Oklahoma rural electric cooperatives.

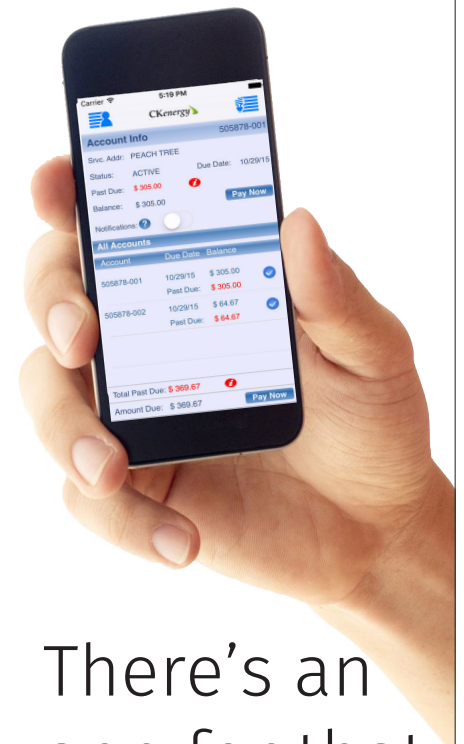
CKEC would like to thank all the Oklahoma legislators that joined us at the "Out of the Gate" Legislative Reception. We wish you the best during this year's session.

Legislators Who Represent CKEC's Service Territory

Trey Caldwell, Rep. District 63
Rhonda Baker, Rep. District 60
Toni Hassenbeck, Rep. District 65
David Perryman, Rep. District 56
Todd Russ, Rep. District 55

Mike Sanders, Rep. District 59
Harold Wright, Rep. District 57
Darcy Jech, Sen. District 26
Lonnie Paxton, Sen. District 23
Brent Howard, Sen. District 38

View, Pay,
Create,
Update,
Alert,
Report,
Send &
Receive?



There's an
app for that.

Look for the CKenergy EC app on Google Play or the App Store.



Remodeling?

Keep energy efficiency in mind



Spring is prime season for remodeling, upgrading and repairing your home. If you're planning a remodeling project this season, make a point of adding energy-efficient features along the way. **Here's a Top 10 list:**

1. Add insulation around recessed lights so no heated or air-conditioned air can leak out of them and the outdoor weather can't sneak in.
2. If you're replacing your water heater, consider a heat pump water heater for up to 75% savings. Save energy and money on water heating bills.
3. Install programmable thermostats when you add rooms to the house. While you're at it, have the thermostats in the rest of the home upgraded to programmable models.
4. Your contractor will install more insulation in any new spaces you're adding than your builder did during the original construction of your home. Consider adding insulation to already insulated areas, like the basement or crawlspace and attic to match new energy efficiency standards.
5. A new kitchen means shiny new appliances. Select those rated as energy efficient by Energy Star, which guarantees that the appliance will use less energy than unrated models.

6. If your older home still has single-pane windows, put an upgrade at the top of your remodeling wish list. Double-pane windows are more energy efficient because they shield your home from the outdoor weather—and keep your conditioned air indoors.

7. Change the light fixtures in your most-used rooms to LED models. They last 10 years or longer, save considerable energy when compared to regular light bulbs and you never have to change bulbs.

8. Work with a contractor who understands how geothermal can lower your energy bills. Geothermal is the most energy efficient and economical resource for heating and cooling your home and it is right in your own backyard. The concept is simple.

9. Add or upgrade ventilation fans in bathrooms. This can improve air quality throughout the home—not just in the bathrooms—by removing moisture from the air.

10. Consider having a home energy rating or an energy audit conducted on your home. A professional will evaluate your home for energy-wasters, suggest ways to fix them and recommend additions that will make your house more comfortable and cheaper to heat and cool.

YOUTH POWER 

ENERGY  CAMP

First call for Energy Campers!

If you are an Eighth grader, don't miss your opportunity for Energy Camp. Essays and cover sheets are due April 13.

Energy Camp is set for May 26-29 at Canyon Camp and Conference Center near Hinton. Each year, CKEC sponsors up to four students to attend the camp, where they will join 80 of their peers from across the state. Energy Camp helps develop leadership skills and promotes teamwork while teaching about cooperative principles, rural electrification, and safety.

While Energy Camp offers many traditional summer camp activities like swimming, hiking, basketball and a ropes course, teens also have the unique opportunity to climb an electric pole like a lineman, ride in the basket of a bucket truck and learn about electrical safety measures. They'll take home a new-found confidence and a host of new friends—like-minded peers from all over Oklahoma.

Students currently enrolled in the eighth grade are encouraged to apply. Teams of two must submit an essay over "What I would miss most without electricity," along with a cover sheet. The essay must be at least 100 words in length. Two teams will be selected to represent CKEC at Energy Camp.

For more information, contact Member Services at 405-656-9174 or visit www.ckenergy.coop.

Automotive

1978 Chevy pickup. 4 wheel drive, 3 inch lift, new tires, battery and blue tooth radio. \$7500 cash only. 405-818-9011.

1955 Chevy 2 door post 350 engine. 4 speed munci transmission, power steering, new paint, electric wipers. \$28,500 405-818-9011.

2006 Saturn Vue V6, cold air, new plugs, both belts and idler/tensioner pulleys, front bearings, intermediate shaft bearing and alt. \$4,000 Call 405-410-1922.

Farm/ Equipment

Marrow's tractor tire, repair, sales, & service 405-668-0248.

Miscellaneous farm equipment for sale. Call 405-929-7243.

10ft JD front end dozer blade (40 series tractor), twin cylinder 3 way blade (\$1500.00) OBO, MF 2705-1979 (\$3500.00) OBO, 2 JD-5 bottom semimount plows (\$500.00)OBO, Filson working chute (\$3500.00)OBO. 405-388-7669.

567 John Deere Baler, string & net wrap, new PTO shaft, around 8,000 bales. \$10,000 firm. 405-542-7328.

Swap 'N Shop

For Sale or Trade

Note: CKEC does not endorse or guarantee any of the products or services in these ads.

Livestock/Pets

Registered black angus, spring bred heifers and cow for sale. 405-929-9205.

Gentle, genetic superior bulls. Easy calving, more growth and muscle. Make money with Kusel Limousin bulls. Call John, 580-759-6038.

Red angus bulls, service age, gentle, several A.I. sired. Call or text 580-450-1735.

Business

Jeans & pants hemming & minor alterations. Tuxes & accessories sales & rentals. Settle Studio. Call for appointment. 405-247-5142.

Welding & fabrication, call Tony at 405-834-1128.

6:11 Welding & construction. Pipe fencing, metal buildings, farm equipment, & all your welding needs. No job too big or small. Bill Smith, 405-320-8379.

Welding & fabrication, call Tony at 405-834-1128.

Harrison Auction & Realtor, David Harrison. Equipment- Real Estate-Minerals. 405-779-5792.

Custom quilts and quilting. Over 40 years quilting experience. Longarm quilting, custom and edge-to-edge. Located in Crows Roost on the north side of Lake Fort Cobb. Quick turn around. Batting furnished. Call or text 405-229-4933.

Mooters water well serivces, water well drilling, pump installs, agriculture, residential and irrigation. 405-668-0213 or 405-668-2336. Mooters trucking, hay and cattle hauling call 405-668-0213.

Miscellaneous

Clean canning jars with rings. Qt. size \$3/ doz. Pt size \$2/doz. No boxes. Call Nona at 405-376-0566.

A dozen candles that lost their scent. Free jars with lids. Call 405-542-6458 or 405-542-7699.

Chest of drawers 58x37x19. Dresser 69x30½x19 with mirror. Solid Oak \$300 each piece. Call 580-309-4621.

Swap 'N Shop Ads are continued on page 8

You may submit classified ads, businesses, or services to Swap 'N Shop, P.O. Box 100, Cordell, OK 73632, ads@ckenergy.coop, or fax to 580-832-5174. One ad per member unless there is additional space available.

Circle category:

Autos Farm/Equip Furn/Apl Hay/Wood Livestock/Pets Misc
Real Estate Wanted-Notices Business

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone # _____

CKEC Acct # _____

Swap 'N Shop is a classified advertisement service that we provide to our members at no cost.

- Members are able to submit written ads through the mail, fax, drop off, or by email.
- Ads are **NOT** taken over the phone.
- Ads need to be received by the 5th of each month to appear in the next month's issue.
- Ad space is limited to a 25 word maximum. **ONE** ad per member.
- Contact the editor at 580-832-3361 for information about availability of ad space.
- CKEC reserves the right to reject any ad deemed inappropriate.
- Ads will automatically run for 2 months, additional run time must be requested **before** the 5th of the month.

Real Estate

For rent: 2bd/1.5ba \$850/mo. \$850 deposit. Application fee, proof of income, references required. No pets/smoking. No utilities. Leave msg. 405-823-4819. Minco.

3bd, living room, dining room, kitchen, den, laundry room, & one bathroom, with garage. Almost 2 acres. Fort Cobb, OK. 405-933-3454.

Nice rural home 3bd/2ba, C/H&A, 2 car garage, storage shed. SE of Colony, OK. \$139,000. Call 405-777-3156.

Apartment/duplex (2 cabins) located on 1.625 acres, both 2bd/1 ba, that could be converted to 4bd/2ba near Ft. Cobb Lake. Close to Sunset Cove Marina. Stained concrete floors. Fully furnished. Fantastic condition and new metal roof. Newly built 2008 on the North Lake Estates. All electric w/ water well. \$122,900. 580-772-0606.

Country living, close to town—3600sq' metal barn home, log cabin style w/ approx. 2100sq' wrap around porch on 3 sides. 3bd/2ba, office 23' ceilings in living room. Sits on 40 acres. Comes with 30x60 metal barn w/ lean to, insulated with living quarters, in ground cellar. 20 KW generator. Located ½ mile S of Burns Flat golf course. Call 580-799-7369.

5 acre tract of land, timber, wildlife, Minco, OK school district. Newer double wide trailers welcome. Financing available. 405-352-5190.

For Rent: 2bd/2ba north side of lake. \$500/month, \$00 deposit. No pets. 580-302-3051.

Country Living: 3bd south of Binger. 580-302-3051. No pets. \$600/month, \$500 deposit.

FOR RENT: Foss Lake, house weekends or weekly. Homey 5bd/2½ba or party barn, great for reunions, both cool, fully equipped. 580-214-0178. www.bigtretrat.com

43 acres mol, Minco. Gorgeous 4,025 sq. ft. home, Geothermal HVAC, inground pool, shelter, 50x50 barn, gated entrance. Call Diane Denison, 405-919-7457.

For Rent: Vacation Cabins at Foss Lake. Quiet neighborhood, no smoking, no pets. 580-515-6452.

Vacation Rental Cabin. Fort Cobb Lake, right on the edge of the water. Room to park boat and trailer. Rent by week or day. 580-243-8697, call or text.

House for Sale: 904 N Broadway Avenue, Hydro, Oklahoma. 1650 sq. ft. 3bd/2ba, all electric. Wood burning fireplace, 10 ft. ceiling in living room, large walk-in closets, bay windows in dining room look out onto a beautiful shaded, fenced in back yard. Cellar on patio, large storage building. Corner lot with mature trees and a garden spot. Asking \$180,000. 580-816-0293.

Farm for Sale: 640 acres (section). Approx. 50/50 cropland/pasture, 4 ponds, water well, corral with chute. 2 miles west of Roosevelt. Referred to as the "Braun Place." Cell 214-802-2584 or home 972-235-3682.

Want to run your own business? Roger Mills County's only newspaper is for sale! Thriving business with proven success. Be

your own boss. Call RE/MAX Gold Buckle Realty, 580-330-9090.

For Rent: 2 lg bd, lg kitchen, living room, den, ½ba, washroom, alarm & internet, carport. No Pets. \$600/mo. 580-302-3051.

For Rent: small 2bd/1ba, \$400/mo, \$300 dep. 580-302-3051. South Side Ft. Cobb Lake.

LAND SALE- 111 acres NE OKC, 5 min to I-44, 25 min downtown OKC or Edmond on paved rd. 405-376-4460.

Cabin for Rent: Great hunting, fishing, and vacation cabin. Right next to water, plenty of room in front for trailer or boat. Call or Text 580-243-8697.

Events

Clinton Country Jamboree: Showtime 7:00 p.m. Country & Western 1st and 3rd Saturday every month. All Gospel 5th Saturday. Admission \$9.00. Concession available. Family Entertainment. I-40 exit 71, Clinton, OK. 580-331-8377.

Irish Chicken

Ingredients:

4 slices bacon, thick
1 chicken - cut into parts, whole
½ head cabbage
½ tsp. garlic powder
1 onion
½ tsp onion powder
4 potatoes
1 ½ tsp. thyme
1 tsp paprika, sweet
¼ tsp pepper
½ tsp salt
¼ cup water



Directions:

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Mix together rub ingredients. Roll the chicken pieces in the spices and set aside. Fry the bacon. Drain most of the bacon grease from the pan leaving enough to brown the chicken in. Brown chicken pieces and set aside. Chop cabbage. Slice onion into thin slices. Peel potatoes and slice into rounds. When chicken is browned, add cabbage to the pan with 1/4 cup water, after a few minutes mix in potatoes and onions. Take off heat. Cut bacon into pieces and sprinkle over cabbage mixture. Add chicken pieces on top of cabbage mixture. Place the pan in the oven and cook until chicken is done, about 45-50 minutes. The juices from the chicken will help to cook the cabbage and potatoes.