A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

201 Dakota Drive, P.O. Box 286
Solomon, KS 67480
www.dsoelectric.com



DSO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

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CAO

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Operations Manager

Ashley Pfizenmaier
Communications Manager

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OFFICE HOURS

8 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday

PAYMENT LOCATIONS

CENTRAL NATIONAL BANK IN WALMART SUPERCENTER
521 E. Chestnut St., Junction City, KS 66441
FARMERS STATE BANK
447 Harrison, Lindsborg, KS 67456

OUTAGE INFORMATION

IN CASE OF AN OUTAGE, CALL 800-376-3533. After-hours calls will be answered by dispatch and forwarded to standby personnel.

FIND OUT MORE

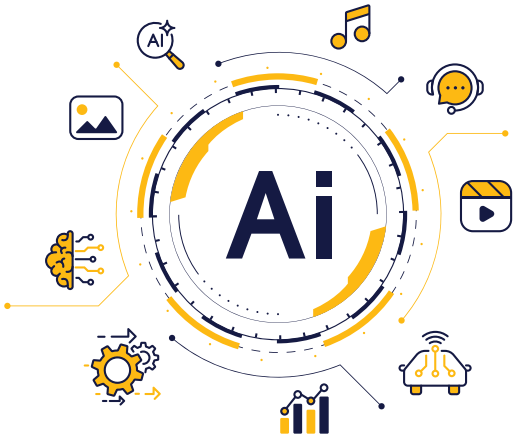
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The Rise of AI

BY MARLA MARSHALL, CFO

Disclaimer: The opinion presented here is the author's and does not necessarily represent DSO, its employees or members.



It may or may not be appropriate for me to speak about the rise of AI (artificial intelligence) because I am probably one of the least enthused about it. But, like it or not, we have all already experienced it. From weather forecasts to directions to advertising, it has permeated our world.

At work, an AI tool pops up every time I open a document, offering to "read" it to me. No thanks. But AI is built into search engines and program help menus. It's already a normal part of how we do our jobs, whether we use it extensively or not.

As of today, there is only "Narrow AI." Narrow AI can be trained to perform a single task, but is often far faster and better than the human mind in performing that task. Virtual assistants such as Siri, generative AI such as ChatGPT, and self-driving cars are examples of Limited Memory/ Narrow AI. "Strong" or "Super" AI are currently theoretical. The concept of these types of AI is to use previous learnings and skills to accomplish new

Continued on page 12C ▶

TO THE MEMBERS OF DSO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

The Board of Directors of DS&O Electric Cooperative, Inc. (DSO), will meet on **SEPT. 28, 2026, AT 6:30 P.M.** at the cooperative's headquarters office, located at 201 Dakota Drive in Solomon, to discuss and vote upon proposed changes to the Parallel Generation Rider.

To review the proposed changes, visit our website at www.dsoelectric.com.

This meeting is open to any member who wishes to attend. K.S.A. 66-104d(g) provides that members may petition the Kansas Corporation Commission to review of any rate change. Any member with questions may contact the DSO office during business hours at 800-376-3533.

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH



Be ready before the storm.



Stay connected during an outage.



Learn how to use your backup generator safely.



Create a plan for your loved ones.

SOURCE: NATIONAL RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

Don't Wait for the Warning: Severe Weather Safety Starts Now

September is National Preparedness Month

It is easy to become complacent about the weather, but severe weather claims hundreds of lives each year.

From tornadoes and floods to lightning, high winds, extreme heat and cold, severe weather can cause destruction and power outages. Many people end up in dangerous situations because they think they can outrun or outsmart a storm, extreme temperatures or other hazardous conditions. Being prepared with supplies, a plan, and safety knowledge can help protect you and your family.

WATCH VS. WARNING

When severe weather is approaching, many people turn on the TV, check a weather app or go online for updates. It is important to know the difference between a watch and a warning.

A watch means conditions are favorable for severe weather, such as a severe thunderstorm or tornado. Stay alert, monitor conditions and take precautionary steps, such as unplugging electronics and checking your emergency kit.

A warning means severe weather is occurring, is imminent or is indicated by radar. Take shelter immediately in the safest part of the building, such as a basement or an interior room on the lowest floor, away from windows.

FOLLOW THESE TIPS TO STAY SAFE:

- Install a weather app and enable severe weather alerts.
- Remember that a warning means it is time to act.
- Have an evacuation plan for hazards such as floods or wildfires.
- Establish a family communication plan, including each person's responsibilities and a meeting place in case you are separated.
- Keep emergency kits stocked and up to date. Include a first-aid kit, portable phone charger, flashlights, batteries, food, water, and enough supplies to last at least three days.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions when using a generator.
- Use a generator only outdoors in an open area, never in a garage, carport or other enclosed space.
- Keep portable generators at least 20 feet from doors, windows and vents.

KNOW HOW TO KEEP OTHERS SAFE

Storms can be unpredictable and can damage the power grid. Severe weather may also make utility equipment harder to access. During and after major weather events, line crews may be out restoring power and making repairs.

Everyone should do their part to help keep lineworkers and utility crews safe:

- Slow down and move over in work zones.
- Do not distract crews while they work.
- Direct service questions to your utility.
- Check your utility's social media channels or text alerts for outage updates, if available.
- Never plug a generator into a wall outlet. Doing so can cause backfeed, which sends electricity from your home back onto power lines.

STAY ALERT DURING CLEANUP:

- If the power is out, stay indoors unless you must leave to remain safe.
- Be alert for downed power lines that may be hidden by ice, snow, standing water or storm debris.
- Never approach a downed power line. Call 911, then keep others away.
- Do not trim trees or branches within 10 feet of an overhead power line.

Power outages, downed lines, and generator misuse can create serious risks during and after severe weather. To learn more about keeping loved ones safe, visit www.SafeElectricity.org.

The Rise of AI

Continued from page 12A ▶

tasks without the need for humans to train the models.[1]

There is no argument that AI is doing amazing things. In the medical world alone, we see more confident diagnoses, personalized treatment options, and greater support in research and innovation.[2] But, as usual, with the good comes the bad. For example, consider the following from the list of 10 AI Dangers and Risks and How to Manage Them:[3]

- Bias — Humans are biased and the AI that we develop can reflect our biases.
- Cybersecurity threats.
- Intellectual property infringement — who "owns" the content generated by AI?
- Job losses.
- Lack of accountability — AI can be wrong.
- Lack of explainability and transparency.

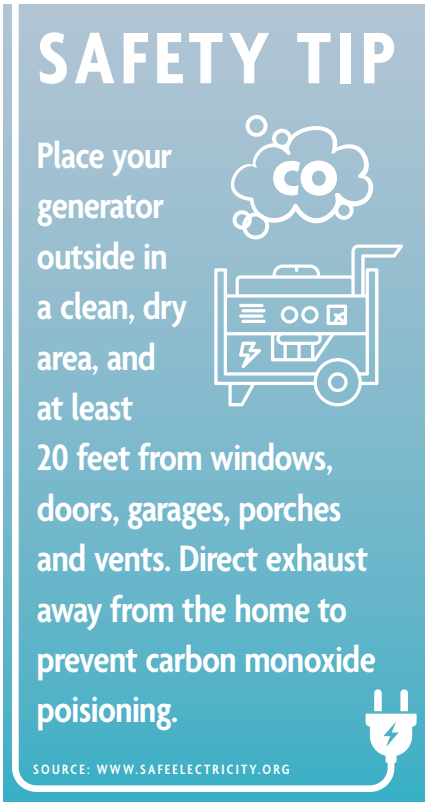
I think we must remember that AI is an intelligence designed by humans. Humans are flawed, so AI will be flawed. It's limited by the logic it uses and the sources it references. Importantly, AI is a machine that "learns" by analyzing and organizing infinite amounts of data. The hope is that AI's creators can ensure AI is a responsible and reliable tool (emphasis on "tool") for unraveling complexities humans struggle with, but that will require those creators to be the ethical, responsible humans we need them to be.

SOURCES:

1 HTTPS://WWW.IBM.COM/THINK/TOPICS/ARTIFICIAL-INTELLIGENCE-TYPE

2 HTTPS://HEALTH.CLEVELANDCLINIC.ORG/AI-IN-HEALTHCARE

3 HTTPS://WWW.IBM.COM/THINK/INSIGHTS/10-AI-DANGERS-AND-RISKS-AND-HOW-TO-MANAGE-THEM





SAFETY DEMONSTRATIONS

Hands-on learning. Real-life safety.

SAFETY STARTS WITH AWARENESS.

Bring electrical safety to your school, business, first responders, or community group with a free demonstration from DSO Electric.

Our interactive presentations help you recognize hazards, make smart choices, and stay safe around electricity.



OUR DEMONSTRATION INCLUDES:

- Live simulations of unsafe vs. safe behaviors
- Real-life scenarios
- Emergency response tips
- Q&A sessions with trained professionals







PERFECT FOR:

- Schools & youth groups
- Bus drivers
- Workplace safety meetings
- First responders
- Community events

DSO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

We're here to help keep you safe.

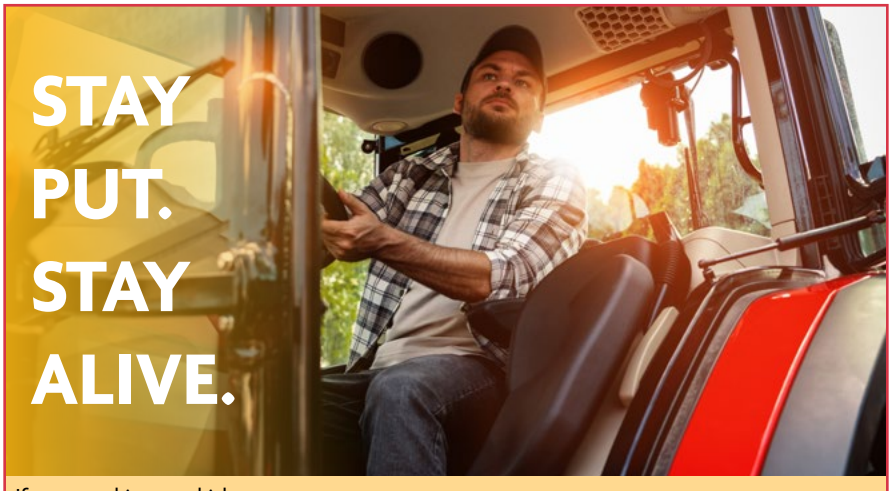
BOOK A SAFETY DEMO TODAY!

marketing@dsoelectric.com | 1-800-376-3533

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

September marks the start of fall's shoulder season, often bringing temperatures mild enough to give your HVAC system a break. Open windows and use ceiling fans when weather allows. It's also a great time to schedule annual HVAC maintenance, as fall often offers better appointment availability. Regular tune-ups can improve efficiency, reduce the risk of breakdowns and keep your home comfortable year-round.

SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY



STAY PUT. STAY ALIVE.

If your machinery, vehicle or other equipment makes contact with a power line, guy wire or electrical box, do not get out of your cab. Stray power could energize your equipment and the ground.

TO AVOID ELECTROCUTION:

- Call 911 and wait for us to arrive to cut the power.
- Wait to exit your cab until the power is de-energized.

If you need to exit to escape smoke or fire, jump out without touching any part of the tractor or vehicle, and hop away as far as you can, keeping both feet together as you hop.

SOURCE: WWW.SAFEELECTRICITY.ORG