

COLD WEATHER RULE

The provisions of the Cold Weather Rule (CWR) allow for special payment, disconnection, and service limitation procedures for any residential member with unpaid arrearages to retain or restore electric service throughout the cold weather period, which extends from November 1 through March 31.

DSO shall not disconnect a member's service when the local National Weather Service office forecasts the temperature to drop below 35 degrees within the next 24 hour period unless:

1. It is at the member's request; or
2. The service is abandoned; or
3. A dangerous condition exists on the member's premises; or
4. The member violates any DSO rule that adversely affects the safety of the member or other persons, or the physical integrity of DSO's delivery system; or
5. The member causes or permits unauthorized interference with, or diversion or use of (meter bypass), electric service situated or delivered on or about the member's premises.

To avoid being disconnected when the temperature is 35 degrees or above, or to get reconnected regardless of temperature, a member must comply with the provisions of the "Good Faith Test." To meet the Good Faith Test, the member shall:

1. Inform DSO of the member's inability to pay the bill in full; and
2. Apply for federal, state, local or other funds for which the member is eligible; and
3. Agree to be switched to a prepaid account, including completing a service application, if needed (any outstanding balance will still be owed to DSO, but will not be due to be paid to DSO until immediately after the cold weather period). Any existing deposit on the account would be addressed in Section 3.D.

DSO shall provide the following CWR notices:

1. Mail a written notice of the CWR or publish a notice in the Kansas Country Living once a year at least 30 days prior to the CWR period to each residential member who is currently receiving service.
2. Send one written notice mailed first class at least 10 days prior to termination of service. A member shall not be disconnected until a 24-hour forecast above the activating temperature is predicted by the National Weather Service.

DSO may notify, as a courtesy, members by telephone at least 24 hours before they are to be disconnected. For purposes of this section, notification by telephone may be by electronic notification equipment to the member's telephone number on file and may include delivery to automated answering equipment, electronic mail or answering services.

The CWR does not apply to prepaid accounts. If the account balance is \$0.00 or below during inclement weather, then it shall not postpone disconnection of a prepaid account.