

CATSKILL HI-LINE

Newsletter — May 2025

Drone Inspections:

provider and employer.

DCEC will be conducting drone inspections of our distribution lines and Rights of Way this summer, to enhance the safety and reliability of our infrastructure. As we work out the details with our Contractor, we will keep our members posted as to the areas that the drone inspections will take place.

Our Contractor, with decades of experience in aerial inspection solutions, will utilize aerial inspection technology to provide a comprehensive evaluation of each facility's components, hardware, and electrical equipment. This advanced approach identifies critical reliability issues such as damaged equipment, evidence of deficiencies, and other potential hazards.

By implementing an aerial inspection program, DCEC can proactively detect defects before failures occur, ultimately reducing unexpected outages and minimizing operational costs. The aerial inspection solutions leverage cutting-edge technology and expert analysis to deliver superior data, enabling DCEC to make informed, data-driven maintenance decisions that enhance system performance and longevity.

DCEC is leveraging State and Federal grant funding to accomplish this inspection, at no cost to our members. Small drones uncover issues that are not visible from the ground by getting a birds-eye perspective of the top of poles and along the Rights of Way.



Attaching Items to Utility Poles Present Safety Hazards:

Although it may seem innocent, placing signs and other items on utility poles creates a serious safety hazard. Driving down the road you'll see utility poles covered with a wide range of signs.

By attaching items to poles, from the tiniest of posters to something as large as a bird house, you are risking the lives of others, especially the line workers whose jobs are already dangerous. It may not sound like a big deal, but a small nail, tack, or screw partially driven into a pole can tear a line worker's glove and clothing, compromising their safety and making them vulnerable to electrocution. A secondary concern is that moisture and insects get into holes surrounding nails, damaging the poles and increasing maintenance costs. The Cooperative appreciates your help in keeping utility poles clear and our line workers safe.



Powering Our Rural Communities

5 North Depot Street

AUTOMATED LINE (payments & outage reporting): **(855) 939-3672**

PO Box 471 Office Phone: (607) 746-2341 Delhi, NY 13753 Fax: (607) 746-7548

DCEC's 81st Annual Meeting 2025

- 1. Q&A Sessions and Events:
 - Monday, March 31st @ 530pm, Delhi
 - Saturday & Sunday, June 7 & 8 10am-5pm Meredith Dairy Fest
 - Trout Creek, Date and Location TBD
 - Wednesday, August 6th @ 11am-2pm Delhi Telephone Company (DTC) Open House, Delhi
 - Monday, August 18th @ 530pm Member O&A.virtual
 - Jefferson, Jefferson Fire House, Fall, Date TBD
- 2. Welcome/Call to Order 8/23/2025, 9 am, Delaware Academy, Delhi
- 3. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance
- 4. Introductions & President's Report
- 5. Secretary's Report: Quorum Determination, Notice of Meeting & 2024 Meeting Minutes
- 6. Treasurer's Report
- 7. CEO's Report
- 8. Service Awards
- 9. Director Election Results
- 10. Unfinished Business/New Business
- 11. Wrap-up & Adjournment

Member Advocacy Committee:

DCEC is excited to host a meeting in June with our Member Advocacy Committee, and invites any members interested in participating. The June meeting agenda will be discussing charities in our communities, and choose three to support. We are looking to our communities to help us find the awesome charities in need of support, as they work so hard to support others!

If interested please email: memberadvocacy@dce.coop

Water Heaters

Our current water heater load control system runs on our retiring metering system, and will cease to function soon. Therefore, we will be discontinuing the current water heater program, and the associated bill credit, effective with the May bill. Stay tuned for more information about new programs for load control to be launched later this year.



A Notice to Our Members in the Jefferson/Gilboa area:

Beginning the week of 5/12/25 the Cooperative will have a contractor working in the Jefferson/Gilboa area doing pole and line inspections. This contractor will be walking and/or driving the lines with a UTV. He will have a DCEC emblem on his vehicle and DCEC logo on his hard hat. He will be starting his inspections at the substation and continuing to the end of the line in the town of Gilboa. This work is expected to take approximately one month but is weather dependent.

This pole and line inspection is a vital part of the Cooperative's Safety Program and very important to identifying and correcting issues prior to them becoming outages or safety hazards. If you should have any concerns, please call the office at 607-746-2341.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.