



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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## **BLUEBONNET SETS RECORD FOR JUNE ELECTRIC CONSUMPTION; NEARLY SURPASSES ALL-TIME HIGH POWER PURCHASED FOR ONE MONTH**

**(BASTROP)** - Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative purchased 196.2 million kilowatt hours of electricity in June, a record-high consumption for that month. The record-setting June purchase was just below the all-time high of 196.8 million kilowatt hours purchased in August 2006.

“August-like temperatures in June led to a record month, and came very close to the all-time high for Bluebonnet,” said Mark Rose, Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative general manager. “Unfortunately, high temperatures and recent cost increases for wholesale power mean higher electric bills for our members.”

Bluebonnet purchases most of its wholesale power from the Lower Colorado River Authority, one of the state’s lowest-cost power providers. Bluebonnet passes Wholesale power cost increases to its members through a power cost recovery factor (PCRF), which is charged per kilowatt hour. Bluebonnet adjusts the power cost recovery factor as needed based on increases and decreases in the wholesale power market. Bluebonnet’s base wholesale power and distribution costs, both of which are per-kilowatt hour charges, and the flat-rate member fee that varies by rate class, have not changed since January 1, 2006.

“With soaring energy costs and hot summer months ahead of us, it is more important than ever for our members to conserve energy and manage costs,” Rose said. “Simple steps can lead to substantial savings on residential and commercial electric bills.”

In an effort to conserve energy, Bluebonnet is encouraging its members to try some of the following tips:

- Check insulation levels in attics, exterior and basement walls, ceilings, floors, and crawl spaces. Visit the [Consumer's Guide](#) for instructions on checking insulation levels.
- Check for holes or cracks around walls, ceilings, windows, doors, light and plumbing fixtures, switches, and electrical outlets that allow air to leak in or out of the house.
- Check for open fireplace dampers.
- Make sure appliances and heating and cooling systems are properly maintained. Check owner's manuals for the recommended maintenance.
- Study specific lighting needs and use patterns, paying special attention to high-use areas such as the living room, kitchen, and outside lighting. Look for ways to use lighting controls—like occupancy sensors, dimmers, or timers—to reduce lighting energy use, and replace incandescent light bulbs and fixtures with compact or standard fluorescent lamps.

Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative serves nearly 80,000 meters and owns and maintains about 11,000 miles of power lines, located across more than 3,800 square miles within 14 southeastern Texas counties. Bluebonnet’s service area stretches from Travis County to Washington County and from Milam County down to Gonzales County. For more information about Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative go to [www.bluebonnetelectric.coop](http://www.bluebonnetelectric.coop).