



## Regular Board of Directors MEETING NOTES | July 10, 2023

### Underground Utility Locating Services

The Board approved a contract with Private Solutions, LLC for underground utility location services.

### Purchase of a Rotating Telehandler

The Board approved the purchase of a rotating telehandler, a specialized forklift, from Central Texas Equipment.

### Lake Bryan Dam Repairs

The Board approved a contract with Rebel Contractors, Inc. for repairs to the Lake Bryan Dam.

### FY2024 Non-Competitive Capital Improvement Project and Operating & Maintenance Budgets

Mr. William J. Smith, Chief Financial Officer, presented Resolution BTU-P-29 recommending BTU's FY2024 budget appropriation to the Bryan City Council. The Board approved the resolution recommending the budget appropriation.

### Purchase of Steel Poles for RELLIS Project

Mr. Randy Trimble, Executive Director of Energy Delivery, presented the bid tabulations for the purchase of steel poles for a construction project for the RELLIS Campus. The Board approved the purchase of the steel poles from Meyer Utility Structures, LLC.

### Construction of the RELLIS Substation

Mr. Randy Trimble, Executive Director of Energy Delivery, presented the bid tabulations for the construction of the RELLIS Substation. The Board approved a contract with Lambda Construction Company for the project



**BRYAN TEXAS UTILITIES**  
205 East 28th Street • Bryan, TX 77803  
email: ContactBTU@btutilities.com

**btutilities.com**

**Hours of Operation**  
Monday - Friday, 8 AM - 5 PM

### Board of Directors

Mr. A. Bentley Nettles, Chairman  
Ms. Rosemarie Selman, Vice Chairman  
Mr. Pete J. Bienski, Jr., Secretary  
Mr. John A. Bond  
Mr. Paul Madison, Sr.  
Mr. Andrew Nelson  
Mr. Buppy Simank  
Mr. Jason Bienski, Ex-Offic  
Mr. Kevin Boriskie, Ex-Offic

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Gary Miller

### Executive Directors

Doug Lyles  
Randy Trimble  
Wes Williams  
David Werley, Chief Business Offic

### Division Managers

James Bodine  
Nick Cook  
Shawndra Curry  
Ken Lindberg  
Clay Lindstrom  
Gary Massey  
Mary Downs

### City of Bryan

Kean Register, City Manager  
William J. Smith, Chief Financial Offic




### Important Numbers

**Billing/Collections/Connects**  
(979) 821-5700

**Electrical Outage/Lines Down**  
(979) 822-3777

**Line Design**  
(979) 821-5770

### Social Media

BryanTexasUtilities   
BTU\_BryanTX   
cityofbryan 

**BRYAN TEXAS UTILITIES**



## BTU KIOSKS

Pay using cash, card or check at any one of our three convenient locations by entering your account number, listed on either your bill or your reminder letter, or by scanning a keycard provided by BTU. Keycards can be requested in the BTU main office.

### KIOSK LOCATIONS

- BTU Drive Thru – open 24 hours
- HEB at Texas Ave. & Hwy 21 – open 6am-12am
- HEB in the Tejas Center – open 6am-12am

# WHAT IS?



RENEWability is a rate-rider option that allows residential and commercial customers to receive 100% of their power from renewable sources, such as wind and solar.



## How much does RENEWability cost?

Customers enrolled in this rate will have approximately \$0.01 per kilowatt-hour (kWh) added to the fuel portion of their rate. For example: a residential customer who uses 1000 kWh per month, this would add about \$10.00 per month to their bill. Since BTU is a municipally owned utility, we are not-for-profit and charge only the actual cost of power supply for each rate.

## Why is renewable energy more expensive?

Wind and solar farm operations are not as predictable as traditional fuel sourced power plants. Because the wind doesn't always blow, and the sun doesn't always shine, they are inconsistent suppliers as compared to fossil fuel generation sources. This makes wind and solar more costly from a production standpoint. However, the cost of new renewable development has been on the decline in recent years.

## Where does this power come from?

BTU has utility scale wind and solar generation in different parts of Texas. The wind resources BTU purchases from are located in south Texas, and the solar facilities are located in far west Texas and northeast Texas.

## How do I know that the power is truly renewable?

Energy is certified as "renewable" by the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT). For every megawatt-hour of electricity generated by a renewable resource there is a serial numbered Renewable Energy Credit (REC) created and held at ERCOT as proof that the energy represented by the REC was generated via renewable sources. These RECs are retired by BTU through ERCOT when the energy is sold to an end-use customer.

## How do I sign up for this program?

You can register easily online at [btutilities.com](http://btutilities.com) or by calling our Customer Care department at 979.821.5700.

## Can I withdraw from the program at any time?

Customers who sign up for RENEWability must remain on this rate for a minimum of one year. After that year, you may elect to participate by enrolling for the next 12-month period, or not, at your discretion.



## What is the difference between enrolling in this program and putting solar panels on my roof?

BTU customers are welcome to install solar panels at their home or business, although installations must be inspected and approved by BTU to assure the safety of our line workers. For customers who are not interested in the cost associated with purchasing and installing the panels, or who rent their residence or commercial space, the RENEWability rate allows you to enjoy renewable energy without the investment and challenges that come with solar installations. And, unlike solar panels, you can take the RENEWability rate with you should you move to another home or commercial facility in BTU service territory.



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## SmartHOME

saving makes sense

Everyone knows how satisfying a good set of “before and after” project photos can be. Wouldn’t it be nice to get a little money back from your next home do-it-yourself venture? BTU has made it easier than ever for our customers to receive a rebate on residential energy efficiency improvements.

The SmartHOME Incentive Program encourages customers to focus on the building envelope of their home. The building envelope, consisting of the roof/attic, windows, and exterior walls, is your home’s barrier against the outside weather. The insulation and weatherproofing qualities of these areas determine how well your home maintains the desired indoor temperature and humidity. Thus, it is important that you have measures in place to ensure your home is protected against the elements. You can have the most efficient air conditioning unit on the market, but if the heating or cooling effect is lost through poor insulation or inefficient windows, you are still wasting money. To combat this, BTU offers a rebate of 10 to 25 percent of total project costs to customers who install one or more of the following energy efficiency measures:



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### Attic/Exterior Wall Insulation

Insulation effectiveness is measured in units of R-value, which is the level of thermal resistance provided. To qualify, customers must not have more than an R-22 level of insulation existing in the attic, and must raise the value to R-30 or greater. To qualify for exterior wall insulation rebates, customers must not have any existing insulation and must raise the value to R-13 or greater. Most types of insulation are accepted, including spray foam, fiber glass batts, rock wool, and blown in cellulose or fiber glass.



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### ENERGY STAR® Windows

The Department of Energy certifies certain high-performing appliances and materials that save the user money on energy costs and help protect the environment. ENERGY STAR® windows lessen the effect of the sun’s ultraviolet rays heating your home in the summer, and help keep warm air from escaping your home in the winter. To qualify, customers must replace old, inefficient, or single-paned windows with ENERGY STAR® rated windows.



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### Solar Screens

Solar screens fit on the outside of our windows to help reflect the sun’s ultraviolet rays, keeping them from heating up your home. These are different from standard bug screens found on many windows. To qualify, customers must add solar screens to windows that did not originally have solar screens. The screens must be rated to block at least 65% of the solar heat gain, and be installed on predominately west or south facing windows.

Any one of these three measures can be installed by a contractor or by the homeowner, and must have been installed within the current BTU fiscal year (October 1 through September 30). Invoices for the work and materials must be submitted along with before and after pictures of the project to display the differences made.

Visit [btutilities.com](http://btutilities.com) to apply or for more information!

# Discover the Convenience of Our BUDGET BILLING PROGRAM!



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Are you tired of fluctuating energy bills, where one month you are pleasantly surprised by a lower balance, and the next, you are hit with a higher-than-expected bill? BTU has just the solution: the Budget Billing program, a stress-free method designed to provide customers with predictable and manageable monthly energy bills.

## What is Budget Billing?

Budget Billing is a practical payment plan offered by BTU that allows residential customers to spread out their annual energy costs into equal, predictable monthly payments. Rather than dealing with seasonal variations and unexpected spikes in usage, budget billing provides peace of mind by smoothing out the expenses over a 12-month period. This means that regardless of the season or changes in energy usage, you will pay the same fixed amount each month. The budget amount is recalculated annually to reflect any changes in consumption patterns or energy rates.

## How Does it Work?

Eligible customers have their annual energy consumption history analyzed, and the total cost is divided into 12 equal payments. The account is monitored throughout the year for actual usage that may exceed or be less than the previously calculated amount. A true-up of the account is performed once per year prior to calculating the next year's equalized monthly payment. Customers must have been at the location for at least 12 months, and have satisfactory credit history.

## How to Enroll:

Enrolling in BTU's budget billing program is easy. Simply visit [btutilities.com](http://btutilities.com) or give our customer service team a call.

## Online Enrollment Step-by-step | Go to [btutilities.com](http://btutilities.com) *Layout will vary due to screen sizes.*

**1**  
Select the Residential / Commercial Service button on the home page.

**2**  
Select the Residential button on the Start or Stop Services page.

**3**  
Select Budget Billing from the listed services under Residential Services.

**4**  
Fill out billing information form on the Budget Billing Eligibility page.

With budget billing, you won't have to worry about sudden spikes in your energy bill during extreme weather conditions. Your monthly payments remain consistent, making it easier to manage your household budget. Sign up today!

SEPTEMBER

# NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

## KEY STEPS TO ENHANCE ELECTRICAL RESILIENCE



### CREATE AN EMERGENCY KIT:

Assemble a comprehensive emergency kit that includes essential items such as flashlights, batteries, a battery-powered radio, first-aid supplies, medications and non-perishable food items. Having these supplies readily available can prove invaluable during emergencies.



### DEVELOP A FAMILY EMERGENCY PLAN:

Collaborate with family members to create a detailed emergency plan. Identify evacuation routes, establish meeting points and ensure everyone is aware of emergency contact information. Additionally, consider the needs of vulnerable family members, such as elderly or disabled individuals, when devising the plan.



### INVEST IN SURGE PROTECTION:

Power surges can occur during electrical storms or when power is restored after an outage. Installing surge protectors for sensitive electronics and appliances can safeguard against potential damage and data loss.

September marks National Preparedness Month, an essential time for communities and individuals to focus on proactive measures to enhance their resilience in the face of emergencies. Among the various aspects of preparedness, electricity stands as a vital lifeline. From powering homes to supporting critical infrastructure, our reliance on electricity is undeniable. Unfortunately, various events such as natural disasters, severe weather or unforeseen accidents can lead to power outages, disrupting daily life and posing risks to health and safety.

National Preparedness Month serves as a timely reminder for Bryan Texas Utilities customers to appreciate the importance of electrical preparedness. By taking proactive steps, individuals and communities can reduce the impact of power disruptions and quickly recover from potential electrical emergencies.



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## BACKUP POWER SOLUTIONS:

Consider investing in backup power solutions like generators or uninterruptible power supply (UPS) systems. These can keep critical appliances running during extended outages, providing a sense of normalcy until power is restored.



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## REPORT ELECTRICAL HAZARDS PROMPTLY:

If you notice downed power lines, damaged electrical equipment, or hazardous situations, report them to Bryan Texas Utilities immediately. Timely reporting can prevent accidents and expedite restoration efforts.



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## EDUCATE YOURSELF AND OTHERS:

Stay informed about potential hazards and electrical safety practices. Share this knowledge with family, friends and neighbors to build a more prepared and resilient community.

National Preparedness Month serves as a call to action for customers to embrace electrical preparedness. Likewise, BTU also plays a significant role by educating, assisting, and collaborating with its customers and local emergency services. Together, we can create a more prepared and robust community, ensuring that the lights stay on, even in the face of adversity.

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**LEGENDS EVENT CENTER**

**TENNIS AND MULTIPURPOSE FACILITY**  
*Future home*



## New indoor tennis and multipurpose facility coming to Midtown Park

At its special meeting on July 31, the Bryan City Council approved an interlocal agreement between the City of Bryan and Texas A&M University System for the development and operation of a shared-use, indoor tennis and multipurpose facility at Travis Bryan Midtown Park.

Texas A&M is currently the only school in the SEC without an indoor tennis facility.

The approximately 65,000 square-foot facility will be constructed to encompass six tennis courts that will meet United States Tennis Association and National Collegiate Athletic Association standards, and allow for other sport and event opportunities.



**Bobby Gutierrez**

*City of Bryan Mayor*

*“The indoor tennis and multipurpose facility will complement our Legends Event Center, that has already exceeded our performance and usage expectations. The facility will expand our local recreation and national sports tourism capabilities, and be the indoor tennis home for our phenomenal partner, Texas A&M.”*

**Ross Bjork**

*Director of Texas A&M Athletics*

*“We appreciate the innovative and collaborative approach the City of Bryan has taken with this project and for creating a win-win situation that will have long lasting benefits across Aggieland. The development of Midtown Park as a major destination and the proximity to the Mitchell Tennis Center made this a perfect place to create an indoor tennis complex.”*

Texas A&M will pay the City of Bryan a license fee in an amount not to exceed \$675,000 each year during the 30-year agreement. The City of Bryan will construct, own, maintain, and operate the facility.

The facility is expected to be completed 24 months after both parties sign the agreement.



**CITY OF BRYAN**  
*The Good Life, Texas Style.™*

**FREE**



**HISTORIC  
DOWNTOWN BRYAN**

# GAMEDAY SHUTTLE

**PARK, RIDE, & ENJOY THE GAME**

**HEADED TO  
KYLE FIELD  
THIS FOOTBALL SEASON?**



*Avoid the hassle of traffic and finding a place  
to park by taking our **FREE** gameday shuttle!*

Our shuttles are air-conditioned Texas A&M buses that run 3 hours pre-game, throughout the game, and 1 hour post-game to and from Roy Kelly Parking Garage in Historic Downtown Bryan and the Memorial Student Center on Texas A&M campus.

While visiting the only downtown in Aggieland, be sure to give yourself enough time to enjoy local cuisine, shopping, art, and entertainment.



A Texas  
Cultural  
District

LEARN MORE:  
**[gameday.bryantx.gov](http://gameday.bryantx.gov)**

