



Santee Cooper 2021 Year-End Review

On June 8, 2021, the South Carolina General Assembly gave Santee Cooper a fresh start. Based on extensive evaluation, legislators chose to retain state ownership of the utility as the best



Staton joined Santee Cooper on March 1, 2022, coming to the utility from Southern Star Corp., a leading transporter of natural gas in the Midwest



The year brought challenges in the fuels area, as it did to most utilities in the country, with COVID-19 effects hindering rail transport of coal, a Force Majeure event causing a prolonged shutdown at our largest coal supplier, a fire interrupting output at the V.C. Summer Nuclear Station for several weeks, and significant increases in the price of natural gas and purchased power. Coal and natural gas pressures have continued into 2022, and Santee Cooper is taking steps to mitigate financial impacts associated with those.

Santee Cooper's 2021 operating revenue was \$1.77 billion, up 9% from 2020 primarily due to higher energy sales and demand usage as the impacts of COVID-19 waned. A new contract with Century Aluminum and increased production requirements at Nucor also contributed to the 2021 increase. Energy sales for 2021 totaled approximately 24.6 million megawatt hours (MWh) as compared to approximately 22.2 million MWh for 2020.

Combined operating expenses for 2021 totaled \$1.5 billion, up \$232.6 million (18%) as compared to 2020. The main drivers were higher fuel and purchased power expenses (up \$172.5 million) due to the higher demand sales, increased use of purchased power because of plant outages and coal stockpile management, and higher costs in the energy markets due to higher natural gas prices. Non-fuel operating expenses increased \$61.2 million, largely from contract services and materials associated with plant outages at Cross, Rainey and Winyah, as well as a Cross spring outage that was postponed from 2020.

Santee Cooper's 2021 operating revenue was \$1.77 billion, up 9% from 2020 primarily due to higher energy sales and demand usage as the impacts of COVID-19 waned. A new contract with Century Aluminum and increased production requirements at Nucor also contributed to the 2021 increase. Energy sales for 2021 totaled approximately 24.6 million megawatt hours (MWh) as compared to approximately 22.2 million MWh for 2020.



- Santee Cooper supplied and installed new electric vehicle chargers at several publicly available government and education locations across Horry County.
- In December the S.C. Department of Natural Resources named Santee Cooper's Jamison Solar Farm the state's first Gold Certified Solar Habitat. Jamison is a 1.2-megawatt facility located on 5.4 acres in Orangeburg that is also home to a pollinator pathway. Santee Cooper has created other pollinator pathways along certain power line easements and in the Camp Hall commerce park.
- In terms of wetlands restoration, Santee Cooper had two key projects underway in 2021: planting of native hardwood seedlings at our Camp Hall commerce park, and continuing restoration of 380 acres, including an industrial cooling pond and two excavated ash ponds, at the former Grainger Generating Station site in Conway. Crews planted 80,000 oak seedlings on 165 acres at Camp Hall in the winter, with plans to plant a total of more than 400 acres as part of our commitment to protect over 1,200 acres of wetlands at the park. At Grainger, Santee Cooper planted larger tree seedlings and cattails at the former ash ponds as part of our work to return those areas to wetlands.
- The year brought two milestones in our renewable energy program: the 20th anniversary of Horry County Landfill Green Power Station, which introduced renewable power to South Carolina electric consumers in September 2001, and the 10th anniversary of dedicating the state's first utility-scale solar installation, the Grand Strand Solar Station.
- Santee Cooper continues to excavate ash from storage ponds at the former Jefferies

