

Santee Cooper 2025 Year-End Review

Santee Cooper stepped up in 2025. We answered South Carolina’s urgent call for more power with bold plans to expand our resource portfolio. We implemented our first rate adjustment since 2017, which included options that help customers reduce their bills. We worked with our partners to deliver economic development success across the state. The Santee Cooper team served our communities in record numbers. And we did it all with a strong focus on environmental stewardship.

Powering A Growing Customer Base

Santee Cooper set six new peak power demand records in 2025 – clear proof of South Carolina’s rapid growth and its impact on our electric system. As your state-owned public power utility, Santee Cooper is answering the call for continued reliable, affordable power to serve that growth.

In October 2025, the Board of Directors voted to advance projects that will add more than 5,500 megawatts (MW) of power for the state over the next 10 years. For perspective, Santee Cooper’s current electric system is approximately 5,700 MW.

The resource portfolio includes natural gas generation, nuclear power, solar power and what will be South Carolina’s largest battery energy storage project. These projects offer resource diversity that combines reliable baseload power and flexibility.

To bring these projects online efficiently and cost-effectively, Santee Cooper has prioritized innovation, collaboration and “doing more with what we have.” The examples below highlight these priorities:

- Natural Gas
 - Santee Cooper and Dominion Energy South Carolina are building 2,200 MW of highly efficient natural gas generation in Canadys, repurposing the site of a former coal station. The Canadys Station project features state-of-the-art environmental technology that minimizes impacts on air and water. This site also has the advantage of existing nearby transmission infrastructure. Community benefits include construction and permanent jobs in rural Colleton County and additional potential natural gas capacity for other economic development projects in the region. The Public Service Commission approved this project in mid-May, and a final order is due by June 12, 2026.
 - Santee Cooper is adding 250 MW of capacity at Rainey Generating Station in Anderson County, primarily through new equipment that will capture waste heat from two simple-cycle combustion turbines and generate additional power from that heat capture process.

- Combustion Turbines
 - Santee Cooper is adding two dual-fueled simple cycle combustion turbines on a cleaned-and-closed ash pond at Winyah Generating Station in Georgetown. The CTs together can generate approximately 100 MWs and can run on natural gas or fuel oil, adding fuel source flexibility.
- Nuclear
 - We are partnering with Brookfield Asset Management to potentially complete construction of two AP1000 units in Fairfield County, which would be done at no additional cost to our customers. Subject to Brookfield’s assessments of feasibility, we would sell an interest in these partially built units to Brookfield, use the proceeds to pay down debt, and upon completion own a targeted 25% of the units – and their power – power we can provide to our customers. Brookfield was chosen as our partner after a comprehensive review of bidders who participated in an RFP process throughout 2025. We signed a Memorandum of Understanding in December 2025 that governs due diligence and other processes, with a final investment decision expected in 2027.
- Solar
 - In December, a 200-MW project developed by Silicon Ranch came online in Georgetown County. Santee Cooper and our largest customer, Central Electric Power Cooperative, each own a proportionate share of the solar power output from the project.
 - We have approved contracts for another approximately 200 MW of solar power. Developers currently are undergoing the feasibility and permitting processes.
- Battery Storage
 - We contracted with industry leader Aypa Power for them to build and own the 300-MW Pinopolis Reliability Project at our Jefferies Generating Station, with a planned in-service date of December 2027. Locating the project on a former coal generating station qualifies it for federal incentives that help lower the project cost.

Powering Safe, Potable Water

Santee Cooper provides wholesale water to several counties and municipalities from the Lowcountry to the I-95 corridor. The two regional water systems maintained 100% availability throughout the year.

At our Lake Marion Regional Water Plant, we completed a significant upgrade to the treatment plant in replacing the membranes used for filtration across the system. We also completed the system’s tank and water main extension in Winding Woods Commerce Park to support growth and new industry in Dorchester County.

The Lake Marion and Lake Moultrie regional water systems will meet area growth with additional expansion and upgrades in 2026.

Powering Affordability

In April 2025, Santee Cooper implemented its first base rates adjustment since 2017. To help customers understand changes to both pricing and rate structure, we launched a comprehensive awareness campaign focused on shifting major appliance use away from peak hours. This award-winning “Defeat The Peak” campaign offered a win-win proposition: the potential for a lower monthly bill for the customer, and for Santee Cooper, a lower system demand peak that, over time, could help us delay the need for new generation and further save money for all our customers.

Early results are positive: in July 2025, the peak of the summer, customer demand was 5% lower than the prior July 2024.

Santee Cooper launched an experimental rate for large load customers to ensure that these customers cover any costs for new generation or other infrastructure needed to serve them.

Santee Cooper also works to reduce customer costs for system improvements. Our Board approved a \$1 billion bond sale in February 2025. The transaction included \$421 million in tax-exempt bonds to refinance higher-cost debt issued in 2014 and 2015, yielding approximately \$41 million in gross debt savings for customers over the life of the bonds. The transaction also included \$542 million in tax-exempt bonds and \$58 million in taxable bonds, primarily for capital needs related to transmission, generation and distribution systems and environmental compliance. Access to tax-exempt financing helps reduce Santee Cooper’s debt service costs.

Powering Prosperous and Sustainable Communities

Beyond reliable power and water, Santee Cooper supports the communities we serve through economic development, environmental stewardship and direct involvement. In fact, environmental stewardship was a recurring theme in 2025, from our new generation projects to community outreach.

All the generation projects mentioned previously are strategically minimizing environmental impacts. We are locating them on existing active or closed generating sites and using existing infrastructure where possible, reducing needs for new land disturbance. Natural gas generation emits less than other fossil-fueled generation, and its operating flexibility pairs well with intermittent renewable power, helping us integrate solar into our portfolio. Canadys Station will use highly efficient turbines that generate more power with fewer emissions, and its air-cooled technology will require 90% less water than the former coal station it is replacing at that site. The battery storage project at Jefferies will help optimize our entire generating portfolio, using available electricity from our other resources to charge batteries for deployment during system peaks or system constraints.

We are moving forward with new technologies, and our older sites are getting new life. In May 2025, we joined Conway leaders to celebrate our donation of the former Grainger Generating Station site - roughly 800 acres of riverfront property that the city will develop for ecotourism. The city plans to build an extensive boardwalk system through wetlands we reestablished before making the donation, along with a swimming area, a beach, and more. Conway’s mayor called the donation a “once in a generation opportunity.”



Santee Cooper continues to succeed in economic development, with the Camp Hall commerce park being named the top industrial park in the nation by Business Facilities Magazine. Camp Hall is built around connections between workers, natural spaces and a modern infrastructure that supports cutting-edge industry. In 2025, Redwood Materials completed the first buildings for its innovative battery recycling plant. Refuel's market opened for business. Santee Cooper is developing athletic fields and 25 miles of multi-use trails across the park, and a daycare center is anticipated to open there in 2026.

Overall, in 2025 our economic development efforts helped facilitate project announcements with \$2.73 billion in capital investment and nearly 2,000 jobs statewide. These included Century Aluminum's announcement of an additional aluminum pot line and over 100 new jobs in Berkeley County, and Ocean Craft Marine's announced plans for Bucksport Marine Park in Horry County, with nearly \$11 million in capital investment and 93 new jobs.

In addition to our own programs to support economic development, Santee Cooper also serves as the state's administrator of a federal grid improvement grant program. In 2025, we secured U.S. Department of Energy approval for \$6.9 million in funding for 14 projects around the state. A strong grid is critical to attracting and retaining industries that support strong communities.

Santee Cooper's employees contribute to the communities we serve. Our team donated 36,000 hours to nonprofit agencies providing critical services advancing public health, education and more in the communities we serve. For example, nearly 25% of our workforce volunteered for United Way Days of Caring across the Grand Strand and Lowcountry.

In recognition for our efforts in the community, the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce presented its Community Impact Award to Santee Cooper.

Payment to the State

Santee Cooper does not receive any state appropriations and continues to make an annual payment to the state. In 2025, that payment was \$20.1 million. In accordance with statutory provisions, the payment reflects 1% of the projected electric and water revenues in Santee Cooper's 2025 operating budget and is paid through revenues collected from electric and water customers.

Safety

Santee Cooper had another strong year in safety in 2025, earning the American Public Power Association's Diamond Safety Award of Excellence.

Powering Our Future

In 2025, Santee Cooper advanced significant and necessary new power and water system projects and delivered economic development and other outreach in communities we serve, all while maintaining focus on affordability for our customers. In 2026, we will continue to work hard to power South Carolina's future.