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Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday - Friday

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



March 2014

Mission Statement:

Improving the quality of life of our member-owners.

James B. Riddle Executive Vice President/ General Manager

Board of Directors

Kevin Liefer, President Randall Campbell, Vice President Ken Jarrett, Secretary-Treasurer Larry Ebers Allen Haake Paul Hicks Gilbert Kroening Steven Prest Paul Pyatt

Remember

Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 9, 2013, at 2:00 a.m. You need to set your clocks ahead one hour.

What to do if the power goes off

- 1. Check your main fuses or circuit breakers to ensure none of them have tripped.
- 2. Look at your meter. If you can read the numbers on the LCD display, there is power to the meter; you will need to check further for a breaker that has tripped or a fuse that has blown. If there are no numbers present on the display, there is no power to the meter.
- **3.** To report an outage, call 800-606-1505
- 4. Make sure you have the name as listed on the account and if possible, the account number.



Action Network

any are blaming the bonechilling weather we've had this winter on a polar vortex. No matter what what is causing the cold temperatures this winter, I'm sure each of us have experienced higher than normal utility bills. If the U.S. EPA continues on the path they are headed, the bills we've all seen this winter will be mild compared to what may lie ahead.

While the Administration has publicly endorsed an 'all of the above' energy strategy which included coal, nuclear, natural gas and renewables, recent rules published by the EPA will remove coal from the plan. Proposed rules would require new coal power plants to use carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) equipment to meet new carbon dioxide standards. While CCS does work on the micro level, there are no commercial scale CCS systems in operation.

Before new plant owners invest in CCS technology, maintenance, operating and life expectancy costs must be known. New power plants are expensive. Using technology that is experimental on a new plant would cause financial institutions to shy away from these projects, making the new plant even more expensive.

If we don't build new power sources soon, there will be a shortage of energy in the near future. Numerous coal power plants have been shuttered in the last couple of years as the cost of complying with new clean air standards is too costly and

Just recently, Southern Illinois Power Cooperative (SIPC) at the Lake of Egypt received a letter from MISO, the organization responsible for coordinating generation and transmission systems in the Midwest. MISO ensures there is adequate generation on-line to meet demand and that transmission systems do not become over-loaded. The letter stated that MISO anticipates being 8 GW short of generation in the Midwest in 2016.

While 8 GW doesn't sound like a large number, let's put it into perspective. Building 8 GW of new generation would require 5 new Prairie State Energy Campuses (PSEC) and it took over 6 years to build PSEC. Does eight still not sound like a big number? How about 5,333,333 hair dryers on the highest setting.

What happens when there isn't enough power to go around? First, the price goes up. If that doesn't reduce the demand, there becomes a shortage. A shortage of milk just means there isn't any on the shelf. A shortage of electricity means voltages start to drop. Low voltages burn out equipment and cause other issues. Remember the big outage on the east coast in 2003? This was a

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Jim Riddle

Executive Vice President/ General Manager



Integrity: We are credible, trustworthy, honest and believable.

■ Continued from page 16a cascading power system failure that darkened several states. To prevent a similar event, reliability counsils like MISO require transmission and generation grid systems to isolate themselves in the event voltage falls below a certain level.

If we cannot generate enough electricity to meet our internal system loads, we would be forced to instigate rolling blackouts, turning areas off for a period of time to reduce electric demands on the system.

Your ACTION is needed to help us prevent the scenario I've just described. Southern Illinois Power Plant has made large investments in the generation system to reduce emissions as much as possible so that we can continue to use southern Illinois coal. It is unfair to ask the members of Egyptian Electric and the other SIPC system cooperatives to shoulder an even larger burden.

We need you to let EPA know we don't agree with these proposed rules and the impact they will have on you. Go to www.action.coop to send an electronic message to the EPA. You can also access the site from our website, www.eeca.coop.

We must let EPA and the Administration know that increased costs will be an economic burden that is unacceptable.

System Growth

While many of our members have taken steps to be more energy efficient, increasing insulation levels, air-sealing attics and duct work, and installing high efficiency geothermal and air-air heat pumps, our system continues to grow.

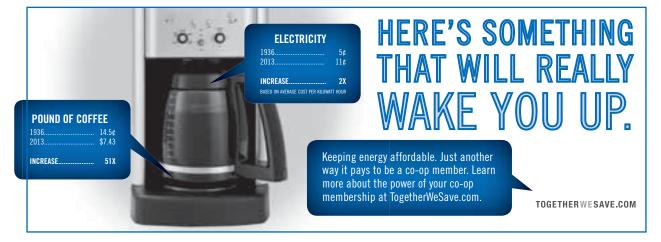
If you travel around the Jackson County area this summer, you're likely to run across a couple of growth related system improvements. Most of this is transmission system improvements to either increase load capacity or to improve system integrity. While much of it is transmission related, it is also an opportunity for us to improve our distribution system.

Here are some of the projects that are on-going:

- Wood Road on the west side of Carbondale. SIPC is rebuilding the line from our Carbondale West substation to the Southern Illinois Airport, increasing the capacity of this line. This will provide more opportunities to feed our substations in the Carbondale area in the event a portion of the transmission system is damaged in a storm.
- Reed Station Road. SIPC is building a new line along Reed Station Road that will tie our Carterville substation to transmission lines west of Royalton. Jackson County will be rebuilding Reed Station Road in the near future, so there will be a

- lot going on along here. This tie line will provide a transmission loop feed for our Carterville substation.
- Southern Illinois Airport. As the airport grows, their need for additional land and air space clear zones is also increasing. Airport road will be moved to the south in the near future and will require SIPC to move the existing transmission line southward as well. While this project is not on-going right now, it will be in the near future.
- Cardinal Road northeast of Carbondale. This project does not involve SIPC but is a rebuild of our existing three phase feeder circuit. There has been considerable load growth in this area, including the new cancer treatment center under construction by Southern Illinois Healthcare. The increased wire size and new poles will ensure there is system capacity and reliability for these new loads.

We understand that sometimes projects like this can cause local traffic congestion and inconvenience. Just as we need your assistance in getting a message to the EPA, we also need your understanding and patience as these projects proceed. In the long run, they will all improve our quality of life.



Accountability: We act in accordance with our core purpose and values.

16b • Illinois Country Living • www.icl.coop

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Residents Drop-off electronics for recycling at

Egyptian Electric Cooperative Murphysboro Office: Friday, April 4, 8 a.m.-- 4 p.m & Saturday, April 5, 8 a.m.--Noon

Steeleville Office: Friday, April 11, 8 a.m.-- 4 p.m. & Saturday, April 12, 8 a.m.--Noon

Items Accepted:

- Computers (desktop, laptop, & tablet)
 - Monitors -
- (CRT & flat screen)
 Printers and Scanners -
 - Fax machines -
- Electronic Keyboards & Mice -
 - Televisions -
- Cable & Satellite Receivers -
 - Digital Converter Boxes -
- Portable Digital Music Players -
 - VCR & DVD Players -
 - Video game Players -

The electronic items listed above were banned from Illinois landfills on January 1, 2012.

- Radios & Stereos -
- Cameras & Camcorders -
- Answering Machines -
 - Copy Machines -
 - Typewriters -
 - Calculators -
 - Phones -
 - Power Tools -
 - Clocks -
 - Cords & Cables -
 - Holiday Lights -
 - Microwaves -
 - Blenders (without glass)
 - Coffee Makers -
 - Toasters -
 - Fans -
- And other like items -

Items Not Accepted:

- Washers & Dryers -
 - Stoves -
 - Freezers -
 - Water Heaters -
 - Refrigerators -
- Smoke Detectors -
 - VHS Tapes -
 - Humidifiers -
 - Dehumidifiers -
 - Lamps -
 - Light Bulbs -

No electronics (including parts) are available through this program for local reuse, refurbishment or resale.

If participants wish to recycle more than 10 items, contact the Recycling Coordinator at Jackson County Health Department for permission prior to dropping off items at Southern Recycling Center.

Program Sponsored by:





Contact:

Bryce Cramer, 618-965-2445, ext. 1112

Funding provided by Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Commitment to Community: We show compassion, care and courtesy to our members and the communities we serve.

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WANT TO MAKE YOUR HOME ENERGY EFFICIENT?







If you want to cut your energy bills at your present home or are planning to build a new home, you should attend our energy efficiency seminar. You'll learn how homes lose energy and what you can do. You'll even learn about the new residential energy codes in Illinois.

When: Thursday, March 20 at 6:30 p.m.

Where: Murdale Baptist Church 2701 West Main Carbondale

There is no charge for attendance, but please register by calling 800-606-1505 or sending an email to info@eeca.coop.

Teamwork: We work together to provide excellent service.

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