

The SOUTHEASTERN Light

SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative Eldorado, Illinois

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

President's Comments



Dustin Tripp
President/CEO

As we begin the New Year, I would like to take this opportunity to briefly reflect on the year 2008 and inform you of what the year 2009 may have in store for all of us as energy consumers.

The year 2008 will be remembered for many things including the economic recession, the bailout of the financial industry and the increased costs in virtually all forms of energy. In early 2008, the global supply of coal was tightening due to decreasing supply from other countries and increasing demand by developing countries such as China and India. This decrease in supply combined with increasing demand resulted in the cost of Illinois Basin coal increasing from \$36 per ton in February to a peak of \$93 per ton in late August representing a 158 percent increase in cost. The market price of coal has declined slightly since August and is currently averaging \$84 per ton, which is still a 133 percent increase in cost during 2008.



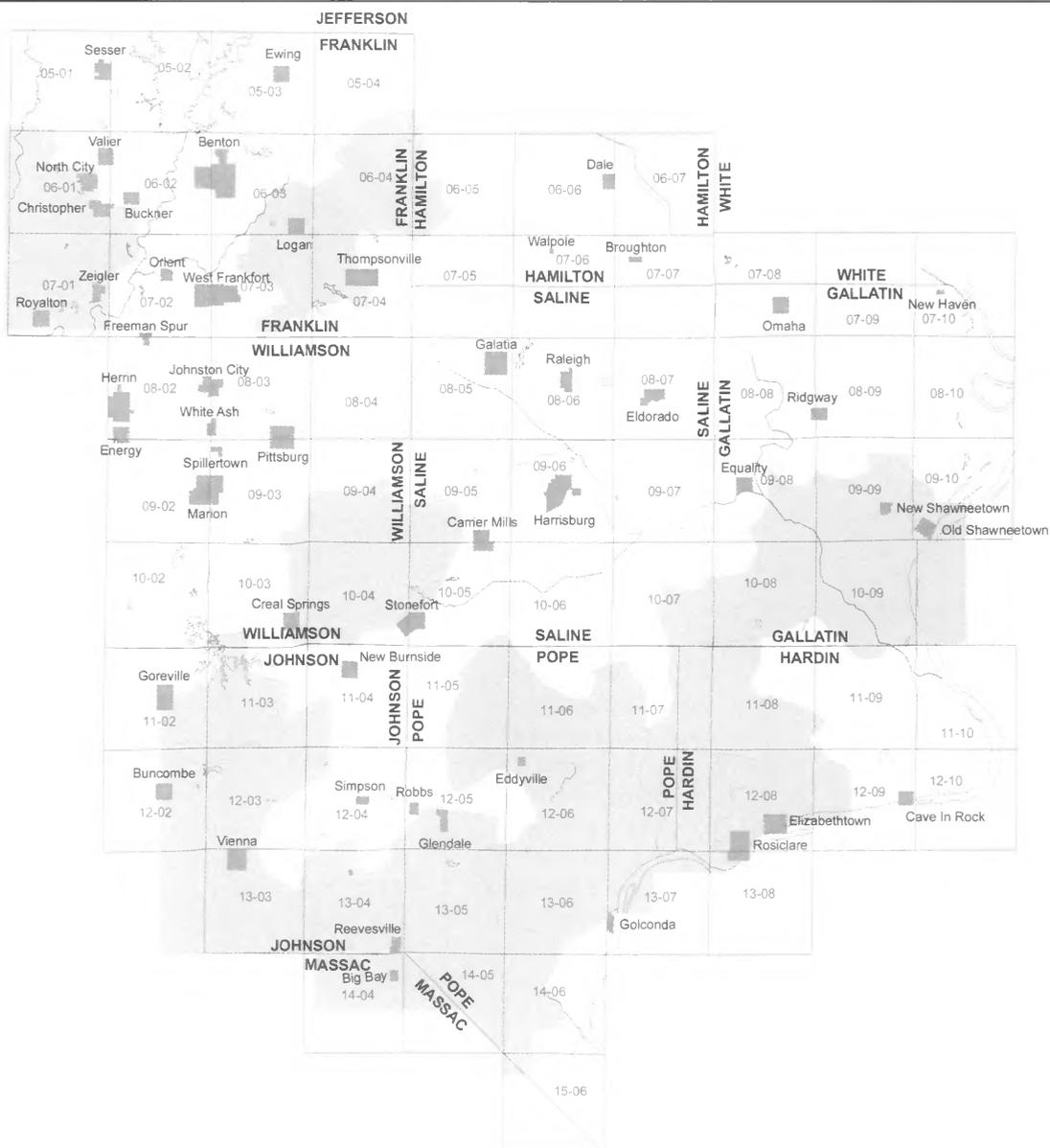
Although your Cooperative's wholesale power supplier is working diligently to find cost effective solutions during this time of increasing costs, the average member will likely experience an increase in the charge titled "Wholesale Power Cost Adjustment Charge" that equates to a 6 to 9 percent increase in the retail rate in 2009 due to the increased cost of coal and carbon. In addition, the Cooperative will increase the base rates by 3 percent on invoices received in April 2009.

As we begin the New Year and the new administration takes over in Washington, it is very likely that the U.S. Congress will pass federal climate change legislation in 2009. Cooperative's are asking members of Congress to work closely with the energy industry and the consuming public to create legislation that is based upon a realistic approach, economic realism and balances the need to a cleaner environment with what consumers can afford. Any climate change legislation requirements that supersede the technological capabilities of the industry and results in increasing energy costs at alarming rates is not acceptable, especially given the current state of the economy. You may voice your concern about this legislation by visiting your Cooperative's website at www.seiec.com and click on the

(Continued on 16d)

READERSHIP PRIZE WINNER:
Sara O'Neal, Vienna, Illinois





DURING THE YEAR OF 2009
 SOUTHEASTERN ILLINOIS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
 FORESTRY CREWS WILL BE PREFORMING
 TRIMMING OF TREES, APPLYING CHEMICAL
 HERBICIDE TREATMENT, AND MOWING OF BRUSH
 TO THE POWER LINE RIGHTS-OF-WAY
 IN THE ABOVE SHADED AREA.

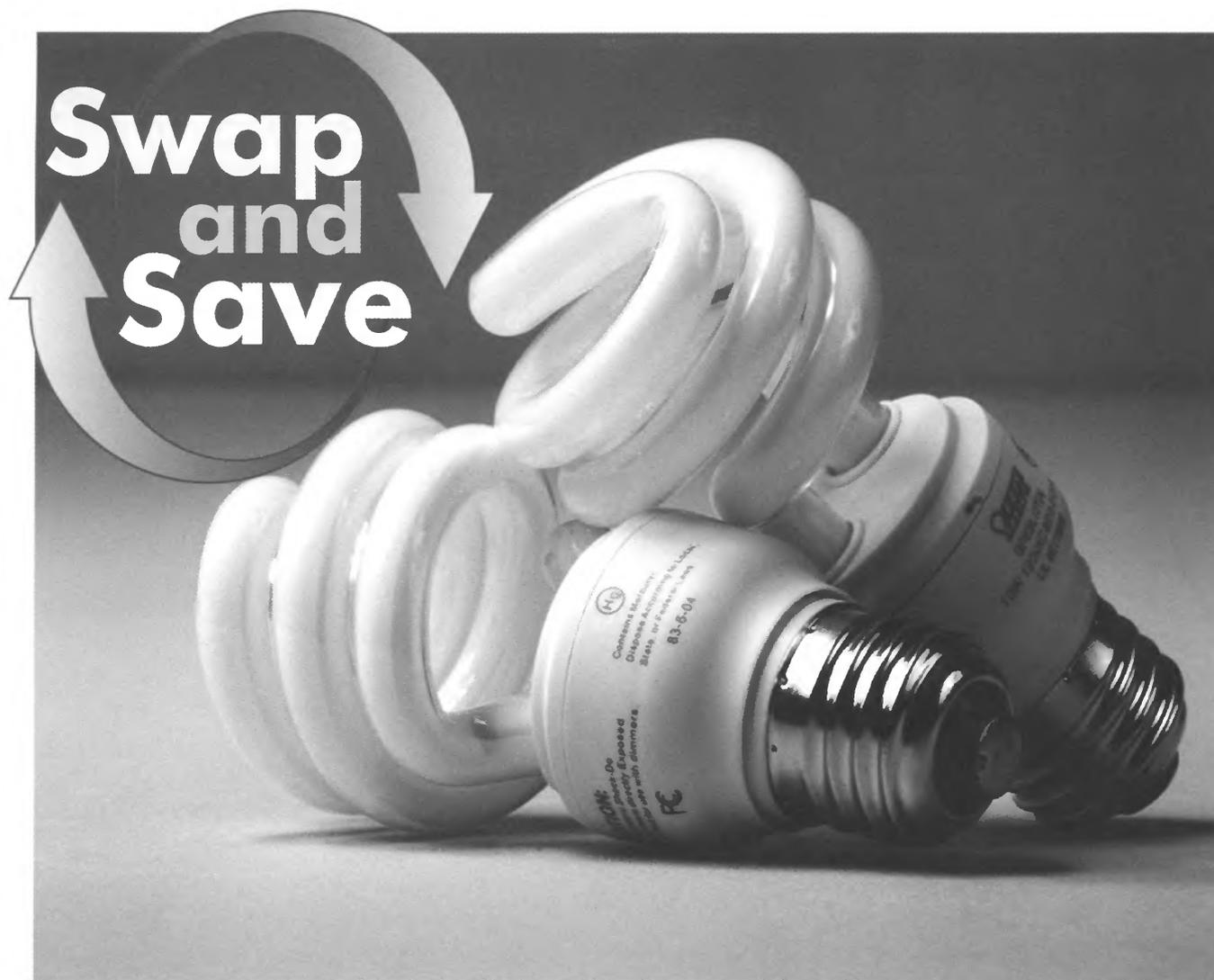


A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



The power of human connections





Replacing each incandescent light bulb in your home with a compact fluorescent lamp (CFL) can cut lighting costs significantly. Log onto the Energy Tools section of www.touchstoneenergy.coop under "CFL Calculator," plug the number of incandescent bulbs in your home into the online calculator and see how much money you can save each year by swapping out light bulbs. It just makes cents.

For more energy saving ideas visit our website @ www.seiec.com and click on the Touchstone Energy Savers link.



SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative

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(Continued from 16a)

link to www.ourenergy.coop and complete the letter that is available.

Lastly, your Cooperative will continue to work diligently to improve and enhance the level of service and reliability that you receive. Your Cooperative will continue to make the necessary investments in the distribution system and maintenance

activities to help ensure a reliable electric supply. In addition, your Cooperative is continuing the significant investments in the vegetation management program to improve the quality and reliability of electric service to members.

See you next month and as always, "We'll keep the lights on for you."

Office Closing

Martin Luther King Jr.
JAN. 19

Our office will be closed on Monday, Jan. 19 for Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday.

POWER OUTAGE

If your power goes off, we offer these suggestions

1. Check the fuses or circuit breakers in your service panels. If you have breakers, make sure they are in the "ON" position.
2. If you have a meter pole, check the main breaker panel just below the meter socket. If the breaker is in the "OFF" position, check all of your wiring from the meter pole to your various buildings. If the wiring appears to be okay, reset the breaker to the "ON" position.
3. If you still do not have power, check with neighbors to see if they have power.
4. To report a power failure or other emergency, please phone 1-877-399-8405. This phone number is monitored around the clock, 365 days per year to accept your outage and emergency calls.
5. Your phone call will be handled by SouthEastern's automated outage reporting system and will be identified automatically through ANI (Automatic Number Identification). An outage record will then be generated for your location. Please note that the phone number from which you place the call will be the number used to generate the record. If the system fails to recognize your phone number, members having touch-tone phones may simply enter their seven-digit phone number (without area code) in order to report the outage. Members not having touch-tone phones will be asked to leave a message. It is important you leave your name, phone number and location of the outage. Retrieving messages and entering them into the system is time consuming; therefore, please leave only a message that will help in restoration of electric service. Do not remain on the line for an operator because a live operator is not there to respond. In order to keep a current listing of all numbers, it is important that you notify the Cooperative of any changes in your telephone number.
6. Handling outage calls electronically allows you to report power failures very quickly. Once your outage has been reported, it will be dispatched to repair personnel who will restore your outage as soon as possible. Calling back repeatedly will not shorten the length of the outage, but may hinder the efforts of other members who are trying to report outages.

Outage Calls Only 1-877-399-8405

SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Inc.

585 Highway 142 South • P.O. Box 251 • Eldorado, Illinois 62930
618-273-2611 or 800-833-2611 • Office hours: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. M-F

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President's Comments



Dustin Tripp
President/CEO

Currently all of us in Southern Illinois are experiencing the coldest winter months of the year and are consuming more energy than any other time of the year to heat our homes and businesses. For many of us, this is the time of the year with the most energy consumption and subsequent highest electric bills that we will face for the entire year. In this article, I would like to explain what your money is paying for and how your rate will change in the coming year.

Many of you already realize this but approximately 74% of your electric bill is to cover the cost of generating and transmitting your electricity over high-voltage power lines to your regions. Your cooperative along with five other electric cooperatives in Southern Illinois own Southern Illinois Power Cooperative (SIPC) located at the Lake Of Egypt just south of Marion, Illinois. This is where the electricity that we consume is generated and then transmitted over high-voltage power lines to the Cooperative substations located throughout Southern Illinois. The fact that your Cooperative is part owner of its own generating plant is a strategic advantage and has saved Cooperative members

a significant amount of money over the years. Unfortunately, the costs to generate electricity over the past year have increased primarily due to the increased cost of fuels consumed. In fact, the current cost of Illinois Basin coal is 117% higher than one year ago. In addition, your Cooperative incurred a 5% wholesale



power rate increase from SIPC on October 1, 2008. These cost increases show up on your electric bill in the charge titled "Wholesale Power Cost Adjustment". This charge was developed to only collect the needed increases in the cost of generating and transmitting your electricity through high-voltage power lines.

The remaining 26% of your electric bill is to cover the costs in distributing the elec-

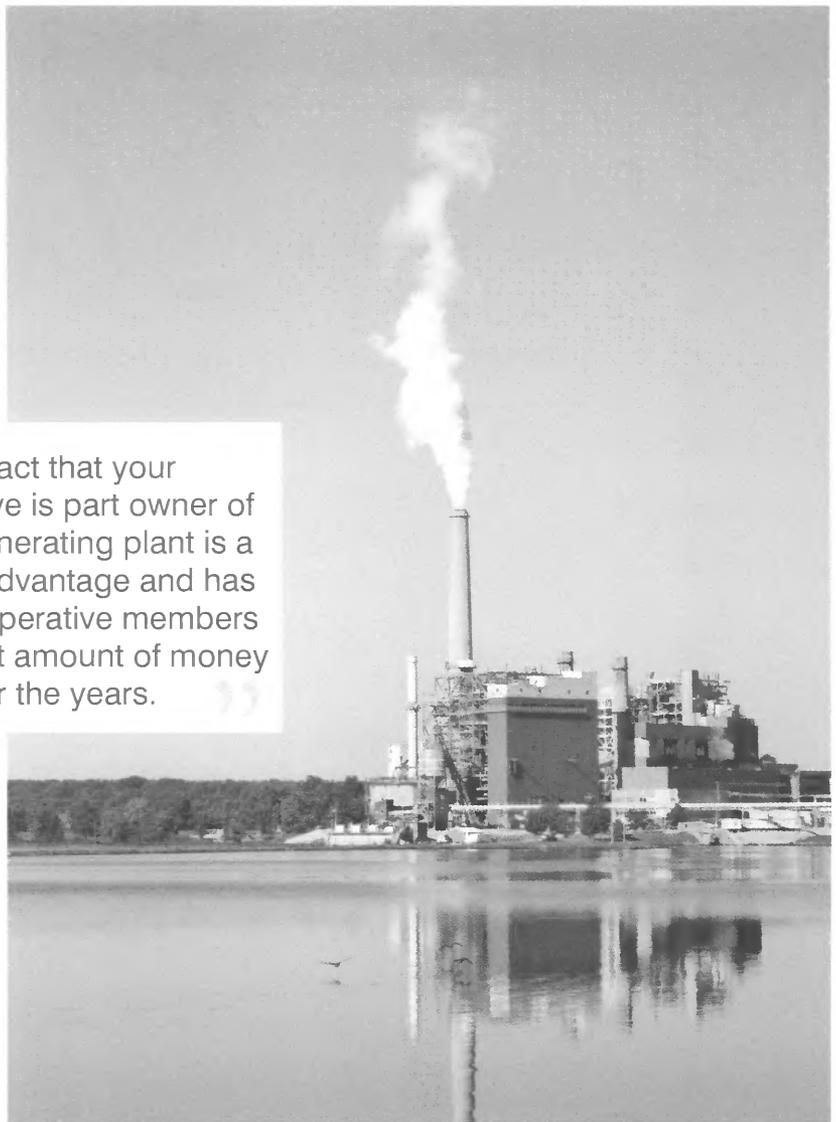


READERSHIP PRIZE WINNER:
Hershel Palmer of Rosiclare, Illinois

tricity that members consume from high-voltage substations to all of the 23,500 Cooperative members served. This includes constructing and maintaining a distribution facility that includes 35 distribution substations and 3,300 miles of distribution line (enough distribution line to stretch across the United States from Portland, Maine to Los Angeles, California and still have approximately 200 miles remaining). This distribution system includes approximately 70,000 poles, 20,000 distribution transformers, 1,500 circuit reclosers and 180 voltage regulators. As you can see, it takes a considerable investment to operate and maintain your Cooperative's distribution system. In fact, in 2009 your Cooperative will need to invest approximately \$5 million to operate and maintain the distribution system and approximately \$4.1 million to trim and clear trees away from power lines in order to maintain and improve electric service reliability to Cooperative members.

Although your Cooperative has not increased the base rate to Cooperative members for the past two years, it has become necessary to implement a 3% base rate increase in 2009. Your Cooperative realizes that members face their highest electric bills in the winter months due to high energy consumption and has forgone the necessary rate increase until April of this year. Therefore, there will be a 3% base rate increase on all invoices received in the month of April.

“ The fact that your Cooperative is part owner of its own generating plant is a strategic advantage and has saved Cooperative members a significant amount of money over the years. ”



Your cooperative along with five other electric cooperatives in Southern Illinois own Southern Illinois Power Cooperative (SIPC) located at the Lake Of Egypt just south of Marion, Illinois.

Unlike other electric utility business structures that strive to produce profits for investors, your cooperative is a not-for-profit organization that strives to provide the highest level of reliable, quality service at rates just high enough

to cover the costs of operation. Your Cooperative will continue to strive to provide reliable electric service at the most reasonable cost.

See you next month and as always, “We'll keep the lights on for you!”



**Our Cooperative will be closed on
Monday, February 16
in observance of President's Day.**





The economy. Saving energy. Climate change. All the things
YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT
—— we're already working out. ——

At your electric co-op, we don't simply send electricity to your home. We look out for you and your entire community. And we do so for a very simple reason—it's our community too. That's why we are always working to keep the lights on and our costs down. Because we pay the same bills you pay. Your hometown is our hometown. And together, we can't go wrong.



Touchstone Energy[®]

Looking out for you.

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Dustin Tripp
President/CEO

I'm sure that many of you have heard the phrase "lightning doesn't strike twice"; well I wish I could say the same for ice storms. In the previous 12 months, your Cooperative has experienced two ice storms and each of these two storms could be considered the most severe storms in your Cooperative's 70-year history. The most recent ice storm began on January 27 and continued through the 28th.

As the storm approached, the weather forecast called for a wintery mix of ice, freezing rain, sleet and snow that began falling on Tuesday, January 27. Your Cooperative recognized the potential damage of this storm and prepared for yet another severe storm. By 4 p.m. on Tuesday, your Cooperative had all internal line and forestry crews along with additional crews from two other Illinois Cooperatives ready to respond as outages were reported. Members began reporting outages on the evening of January 27. As the storm continued through the night, your Cooperative called for additional assistance from local line and forestry contractors to assist in restoring power. At 2 a.m. on January 28, the Cooperative called for more additional line and

forestry crews from Illinois Cooperatives across the state to assist in the restoration process. By Wednesday morning, January 28, the storm had blanketed much of the Cooperative's southern and eastern territory with over 1 inch of ice along with several inches of sleet.



During the course of this storm, all your Cooperative employees along with 120 additional line and forestry personnel from 13 other Illinois Cooperatives and 4 area contractors worked 17-18 hours per day in very extreme conditions in order to restore power to approximately 9,500 members. Transmission outages resulted in loss of power to 12 of the Cooperative's 35 substa-

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READERSHIP PRIZE WINNER:
Shelley Quinn, Thompsonville, Ill.



► Continued from page 16b

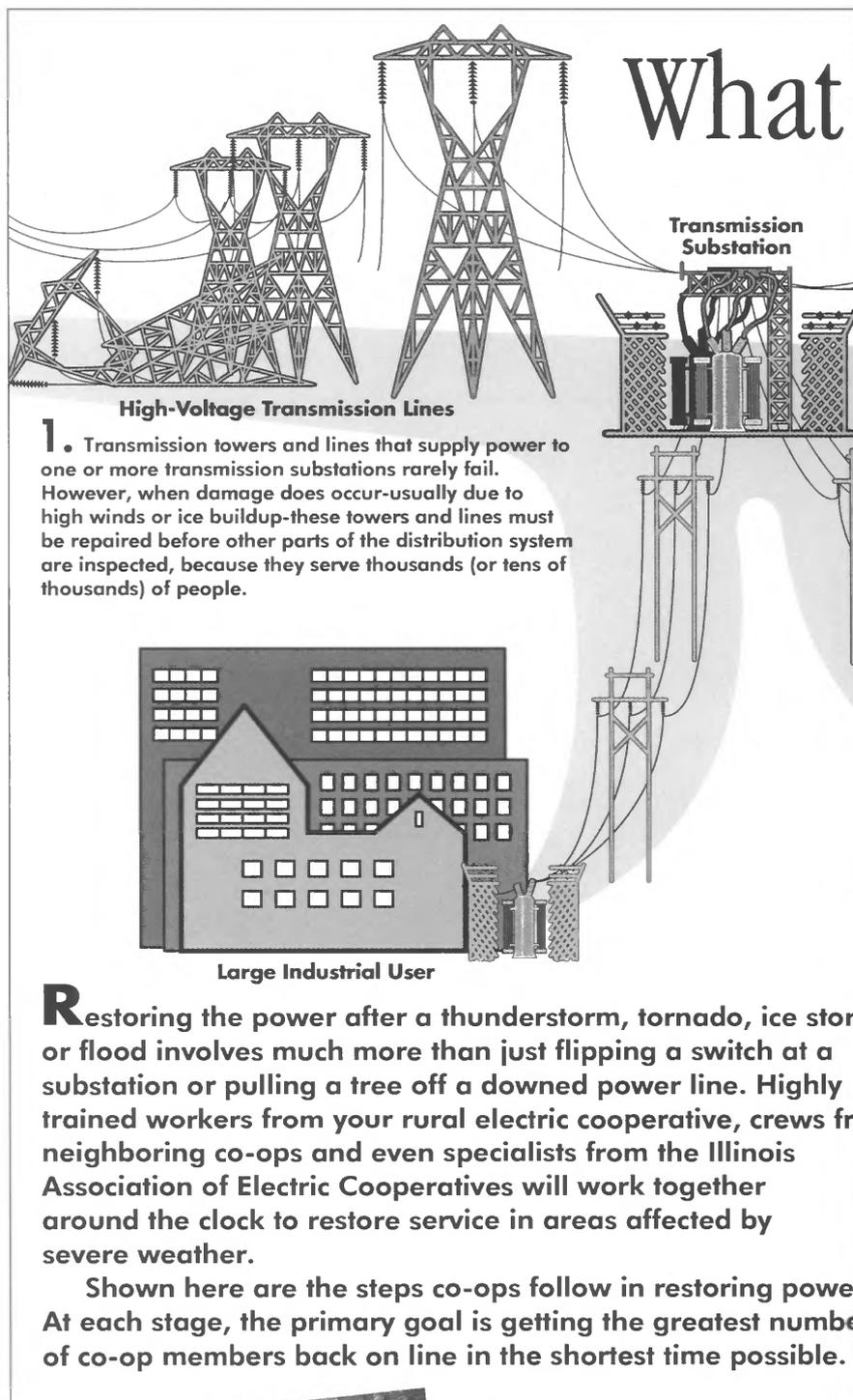
tions. The hazardous road conditions along with numerous downed trees and limbs across the roads made the process of traveling to damaged areas very difficult and time consuming. In order to accelerate the restoration process, a helicopter was utilized to fly the transmission lines and report areas of damage so line and forestry personnel could travel directly to the areas that needed repair.

As the week continued, your Cooperative focused on re-energizing lines that would restore power to as many members as possible. After restoring power to the main distribution lines, restoration efforts focused on restoring power to devastated secondary lines. Your Cooperative restored power to the last residence on Tuesday, February 3.

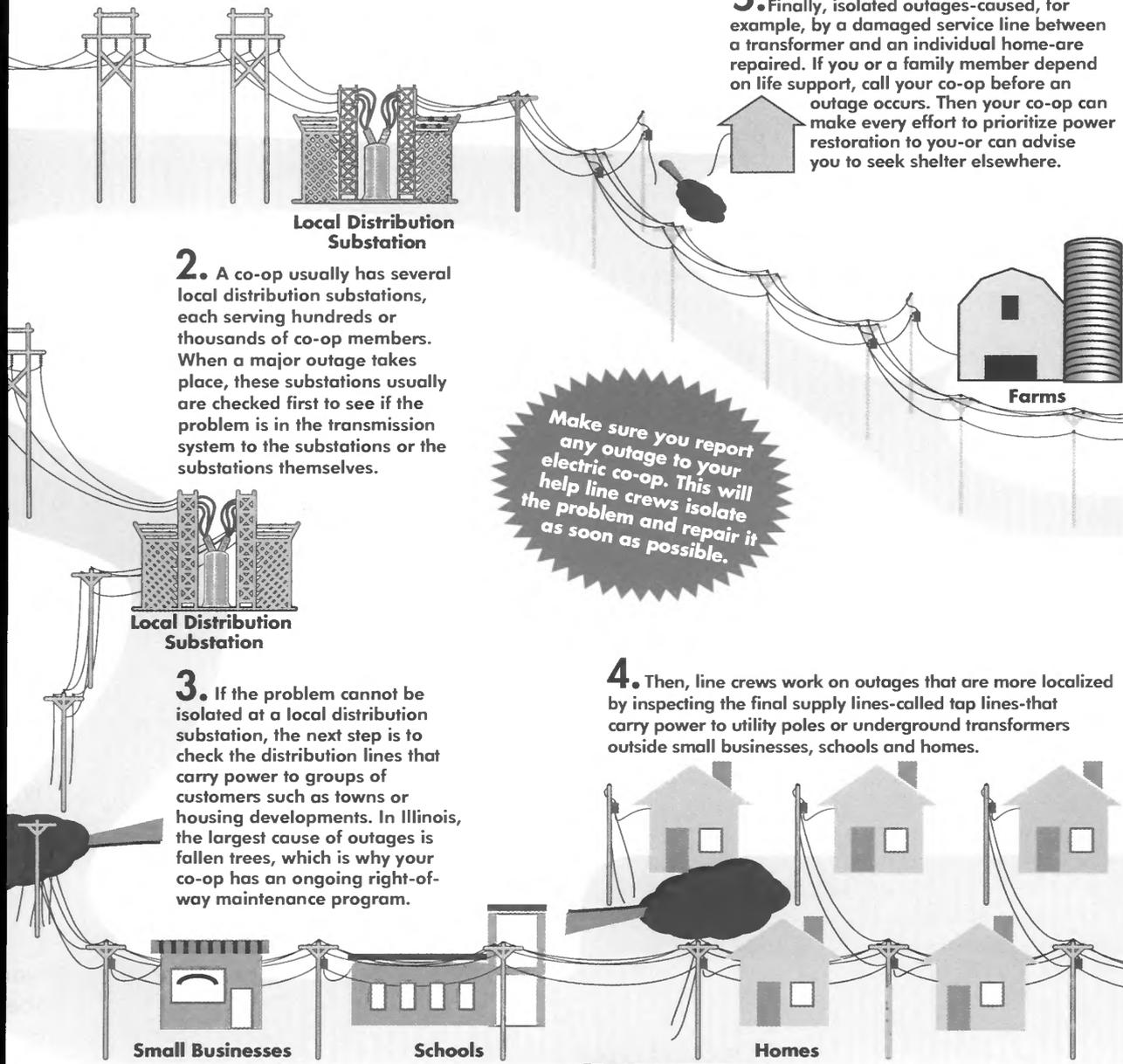
As I think about the two ice storms that have plagued our Cooperative in the past 12 months and the devastation that they have caused, I look across the river into Kentucky and must realize that although what we have experienced is truly devastating, it could have been much worse as many of them are expected to be without power for a month or longer.

At the conclusion of this storm, I would like to thank all of you as Cooperative members and owners for your understanding of the magnitude of this extreme storm, your patience, your assistance and your thank you letters that have been received. I would also like to thank all of the hard working and dedicated employees, other Illinois Cooperative employees and contractors who made this restoration possible.

As many of you already know, all of my articles normally end with the slogan "We'll keep the lights on for you." However given the magnitude of this severe ice storm, my slogan this month will be "We turned the lights back on for you".



What happens during a power outage?



5. Finally, isolated outages-caused, for example, by a damaged service line between a transformer and an individual home-are repaired. If you or a family member depend on life support, call your co-op before an outage occurs. Then your co-op can make every effort to prioritize power restoration to you-or can advise you to seek shelter elsewhere.

2. A co-op usually has several local distribution substations, each serving hundreds or thousands of co-op members. When a major outage takes place, these substations usually are checked first to see if the problem is in the transmission system to the substations or the substations themselves.

Make sure you report any outage to your electric co-op. This will help line crews isolate the problem and repair it as soon as possible.

3. If the problem cannot be isolated at a local distribution substation, the next step is to check the distribution lines that carry power to groups of customers such as towns or housing developments. In Illinois, the largest cause of outages is fallen trees, which is why your co-op has an ongoing right-of-way maintenance program.

4. Then, line crews work on outages that are more localized by inspecting the final supply lines-called tap lines-that carry power to utility poles or underground transformers outside small businesses, schools and homes.



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President/CEO

In last month's article, I informed members about the ice storm that plagued much of Southern Illinois on January 27th thru the 29th, which caused outages to approximately 9,500 members. As mentioned in my article, in the past 12 months your Cooperative has been hit by the two most damaging ice storms in our 70-year history. At the conclusion of the storm, your Cooperative has determined that the approximate cost of the January ice storm damage and restoration efforts totaled \$3.5 million. This article describes the efforts to obtain financial assistance thru state and federal agencies to help pay for the damage associated with the storm.

In order to qualify for financial assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the damages from an ice storm in 2009 must total \$1.31 per capita of the state. Given that Illinois contains the third largest city in the United States and the FEMA assistance is based upon per capita numbers, storm totals in Illinois need to total approximately \$16.3 million in order to qualify for assistance while surrounding states have a much lower requirement.

As many of you may recall, the cooperatives of Southern Illinois did not receive any financial assistance from FEMA last year for the February 2008 ice storm due to the fact that this ice storm primarily hit

the most southern and southeastern areas of Illinois and the damage totals did not meet the required per-capita totals.

The most recent January storm is similar in that the damage occurred in the most southern and southeastern areas of Illinois, however the damage was more severe this year. At the conclusion of the storm restoration efforts, your Cooperative along with two other Illinois cooperatives began working with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and local legislators in an attempt to encourage the governor of Illinois to request FEMA assistance for this ice storm. The governor did in fact declare a State of Emergency in Illinois and then submitted a request to FEMA for financial assistance. The Southern Illinois Cooperatives then worked with Illinois Congressmen in an attempt to get the FEMA declaration approved at the federal level.

I am pleased to inform you that on March 2, 2009, nine Southern Illinois counties were declared disaster areas making federal disaster aid available for emergency work and the repair or replacement of facilities damaged by the January 2009 ice storm. Your Cooperative will be working with FEMA representatives over the next several months and may receive up to 75 percent of the total cost associated with the storm through financial assistance from FEMA. Although your Cooperative will still incur

(Continued on 16d)

READERSHIP PRIZE WINNER:
James Raben, Ridgway, Illinois



Become an Air Evac Lifeteam Member through SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative

SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative has partnered with Air Evac Lifeteam to allow our residential customers the opportunity to join the Air Evac Lifeteam Membership program through an affordable billing plan. You have the option to choose the convenience of paying a monthly fee or an annual fee. Each plan is offered at a discounted rate through your Cooperative. Your options are as follows:

Option 1: The monthly fee is \$5 per month per household with a discount of \$0.50 per month per household from SEIEC. Should you choose the monthly plan your electric bill will reflect an additional \$4.50 per month per household.

Option 2: The annual fees include a \$10 discount through the Cooperative program; however unlike the monthly option these fees will vary with the number of individuals living in your household and will not be reflected on your electric bill. The annual fees are as follows:

\$40 – For a 1 member household

\$45 – For a 2 member household

\$50 – For a 3 or more member household

Your Cooperative wanted to make both options available for you, as cooperative members, to make the selection that best suits your needs. In order to

receive these discounted options you must contact the Cooperative to obtain the appropriate membership form.

When you are faced with a medical emergency, your best hope for a good outcome rests in the ability to act quickly. Your Cooperative



realizes that it is often difficult to receive prompt medical attention due to the remoteness of southeastern Illinois. Air Evac Lifeteam provides fast, safe and courteous emergency medical service. Their professionally trained crews of nurses, medics, and pilots operate medically equipped helicopters that rapidly transport patients who have suffered a critical illness or injury.

They now have over 80 bases serving 13 states, and our Cooperative area is being served by five of those bases. This much needed network of emergency medical personnel work with 911, local emergency medical crews and local hospitals. Air Evac crews have



flown over 100,000 patients since 1985.

The Air Evac Lifeteam Membership offers significant benefits, which will save you money. Air Evac will work with your benefits provider to secure payment for your flight. Whatever your benefit provider pays will be considered payment in full, no matter how many times a year you use the service for limb or life threatening emergencies, even

if you have no insurance. Furthermore, your membership is valid in ALL Air Evac Lifeteam service areas. This is an important feature for people who travel in the Midwest.

Since a typical flight may cost \$14,000, the savings can be significant. You have the right to receive the emergency medical care you need; SEIEC along with Air Evac Lifeteam want to ensure that you attain it. For more information contact SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative at 1-800-833-2611 or visit our Eldorado Headquarters located at 585 Highway 142 South, Eldorado, IL.

Trees And Power Lines Don't Mix

Trees are wonderful gifts of nature. They are beautiful and they improve our air by transforming carbon dioxide into oxygen. They also provide shade to keep us cooler in summer and deflect winter's chilly winds.

When trees come into contact with power lines, bad things happen. Branches can tangle with power lines, snapping them or simply causing short circuits that make your lights blink and damage sensitive electronic equipment like computers.

Squirrels can use trees to climb on power lines, where they nibble on the wires and cause outages. Snow and ice can cause long lasting outages as experienced recently.

That's why SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative works hard to make sure trees don't interfere with our power lines. We do that in two ways. First, we encourage you to be careful where you plant trees. Second, if a tree has grown to the point of endangering a power line, we may arrange to have it trimmed back or removed.

If you're planning to plant a tree, take a moment to think of how large it will become when fully grown. If you plant the tree under or close to power lines, it might not present any problems for a few years, but once the tree has grown to



maturity, its branches might interfere with the power lines, and that can be dangerous.

There are ways in which you can help. As a start, be sure that you don't plant the tree in an area where it might grow into a power line. The other thing to do is choose a species that isn't going to grow tall or wide enough to threaten power lines.

If we determine that a tree presents a safety problem because it has either grown too close to a power line or is in a position where a limb could break off and damage a power line, we may request that it be trimmed or removed.

We know that homeowners are proud of their trees and don't want to see them damaged. But a tree that gets too close to a power line can endanger

both the homeowner, line crews and service reliability, so we need to address the situation.

If you're thinking about planting trees near a power line, or if you're wondering whether an existing tree's location is safe, contact our Right-of-Way manager Jeff Crisp at 618-273-2611 ext 165 for free advice and assistance.



(Continued from 16a)

approximately \$900,000 in storm damages that will not be reimbursed, the costs incurred without the FEMA assistance would have been approximately \$3.5 million.

At this time, I would like to thank all of the local state representatives and senators for their assistance in obtaining the Illinois declaration. In addition, I would like to thank all of our Illinois congressmen for their assistance in obtaining the FEMA declaration at the federal level.



Office Closing

The office will be closed on Friday, April 10th in observance of Good Friday.

POWER OUTAGE

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Dustin Tripp
President/CEO

READERSHIP PRIZE WINNER:
Deana Shaw
Johnston
City, IL

As all of you know, scientific study of global temperatures has gained significant media coverage over the past few years. Scientists have studied the issues and developed theories about the causes of some increases in global temperatures. However, these scientific studies and theories continue to evolve as scientists have revealed that global temperatures have actually declined over the past decade.

As the science continues to unveil, the new Administration in Washington D.C. is not waiting to change our nation's energy infrastructure and is using Climate Change as the foundation for such legislation. In fact, the regulatory strategy includes a potential endangerment finding by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to urge Congress to pass the Administration's proposed legislation very quickly. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (California) and Senate Environment and Public Works Chairwoman Barbara Boxer (California) want to act on legislation in 2009. In addition, Chair of the House Energy and Commerce Committee Henry Waxman (California) has indicated he wants to move a bill out of committee by Memorial Day.

Time is running short and your Cooperative needs your assistance to help raise concerns with Congress. Your Cooperative is an

Cost of CO2 Emissions/metric Ton	Added Cost Per kWh	Increase per month for 1000 kWh
\$80	\$0.10940	\$109.40
\$60	\$0.08206	\$ 82.06
\$40	\$0.05471	\$ 54.71
\$20	\$0.02735	\$ 27.35

advocate and strongly supports energy efficiency and conservation. In addition, your Cooperative's wholesale power supplier has joined the National Renewable Energy Cooperative in an effort to implement more renewable energy supply at a reasonable cost. However, your Cooperative is very concerned about the increased energy costs that will result from the legislation that is currently being proposed.

The proposed legislation is calling for a **carbon cap and trade policy** but I want you to know this is just another term for a "carbon tax" that would be imposed on all of us as energy consumers. The cap and trade philosophy seems to be preferred by some lawmakers because it doesn't have the title of a "tax" and Congress wouldn't have to set the price of the tax, it would be determined by Wall Street and

(Continued on 16d)

Please e-mail Congress at www.ourenergy.coop or complete this form and return it to your local cooperative office.

Name _____ E-mail _____

Home Address _____ I am a member of _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ _____ co-op

Home Phone _____ Signature _____

Know What to do in Vehicle Accidents Involving Power Lines

Stay inside until help arrives or do the bunny hop

Instincts tell us to flee danger. Unfortunately, in vehicle accidents that bring down power lines, these natural inclinations can lead to tragic results.

If your car hits a power pole, or otherwise brings a power line down, SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative and Safe Electricity urge you to stay inside the vehicle until help arrives. Getting out of the vehicle, with few exceptions, is the wrong thing to do until the line has been de-energized.

"You are almost always better off to stay in the car, especially if the line is in contact with the vehicle," says SouthEastern's Operations Manager, Robin Holloway. "If the power line is still energized and you step outside, your body becomes the path for that electricity and electrocution is the tragic result."

It is best to wait until SouthEastern Illinois Electric arrives to make sure power to the line is cut off. The only exception would be if fire or other danger, like the smell of gasoline, is present. In that case, the proper action is to jump – not step – with both feet hitting the ground at the same time, as if doing a bunny hop. Jump clear, without touching the vehicle and ground at the same time. Shuffle or hop to safety keeping both feet together as you leave the area.

Even if a power line has landed on the ground, there is still the potential for the area near your car to be energized. Stay inside the vehicle



Photo by Kevin Bernson

unless there is fire or imminent risk of fire.

The same rules apply to situations involving large farm and construction equipment that come in contact with overhead lines. Those working with large equipment should stay inside the cab or remain in the vehicle if equipment extensions come in contact with power lines. Warn others who may be nearby to stay away and wait until the electric utility arrives to make sure power to the line is cut off.

While driving, if you encounter a down wire on the road, always assume it is an electrical wire and energized, and stay in your car. If you come upon, or witness an accident involving toppled power poles

and lines, don't leave your vehicle to approach the accident scene.

Often our inclination is to step in and help those in danger and offer assistance to the injured. But in accidents involving power poles, call for help. Wait for trained assistance to arrive, or you could become an additional victim in need of rescue.

Accidents and fires involving electricity cause more than a thousand deaths and tens of thousands of injuries each year. The vast majority are preventable if people understand the dangers and steps they can take to be safe around electricity.

For more electrical safety information, visit www.SafeElectricity.org.

The office will be closed in observance of Memorial Day on Monday, May 25th.

Before You Buy A Water Heater Of Another Brand... Save your energy!



Plastic Tank

- *Can't rust or corrode*
- *No smelly anode rod*
- *Stronger than steel*

Lifetime Tank Warranty

- *Warranted not to leak "for as long as you own your home"*

Envirofoam Insulation

- *The most energy efficient & environmentally friendly*

Plastic Jacket

- *No nicks, dents or scratches*

Reliability

- *Six years Parts & Labor*

Marathon[®]

SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative is now offering Marathon Water Heaters for sale at its Eldorado Headquarters. Please call 618-273-2611 for more information.

President's Comments *(Continued from 16a)*

the markets. This policy will allow Wall Street traders/investors, entrepreneurs and other special interest groups to buy and sell (trade) these credits at profits, driving the cost of these credits even higher, causing you as an energy consumer to pay even more in your electric bill. This proposed legislation will add significant costs to all of us as energy consumers and increase profits for some Wall Street traders/investors at a time when our economy is weak and layoffs are increasing.

The proposed carbon cap and trade policy will generate billions of dollars for government spending at the expense of energy consumers. One would think that if Climate Change was the reason

to implement such a costly "tax" on all energy consumers, then the proposed legislation would use the billions of dollars generated to develop needed technologies to remove emissions from generating plants and automobiles. However, the proposed legislation's plan is to use the vast majority of generated funds for other purposes and not fully fund needed technologies to reduce emissions. Why would proposed Climate Change legislation not fully fund the needed technologies to reduce emissions?

According to a study conducted by our wholesale power supplier, emissions control mandates in proposed legislation could increase your monthly electric bill each month between \$27.35 and \$109.40

which equates to \$328.20 and \$1,312.80 annually for every 1,000 kilowatt hours of electricity consumed (see chart).

Your Cooperative's goal is to inform you and members of Congress about the associated costs with the proposed legislation. Your Cooperative also needs your help. I would like for every reader who shares your Cooperative's concern to go to our website, www.seiec.com, click on the link to www.ourenergy.coop and send an email to your member of Congress and your U.S. Senators expressing your concerns about affordability. You may also complete the form on page 16a and return it to your Cooperative office. We will send an email to Congress on your behalf.

POWER OUTAGE

If your power goes off, we offer these suggestions

1. Check the fuses or circuit breakers in your service panels. If you have breakers, make sure they are in the "ON" position.
2. If you have a meter pole, check the main breaker panel just below the meter socket. If the breaker is in the "OFF" position, check all of your wiring from the meter pole to your various buildings. If the wiring appears to be okay, reset the breaker to the "ON" position.
3. If you still do not have power, check with neighbors to see if they have power.
4. To report a power failure or other emergency, please phone 1-877-399-8405. This phone number is monitored around the clock, 365 days per year to accept your outage and emergency calls.
5. Your phone call will be handled by SouthEastern's automated outage reporting system and will be identified automatically through ANI (Automatic Number Identification). An outage record will then be generated for your location. Please note that the phone number from which you place the call will be the number used to generate the record. If the system fails to recognize your phone number, members having touch-tone phones may simply enter their seven-digit phone number (without area code) in order to report the outage. Members not having touch-tone phones will be asked to leave a message. It is important you leave your name, phone number and location of the outage. Retrieving messages and entering them into the system is time consuming; therefore, please leave only a message that will help in restoration of electric service. Do not remain on the line for an operator because a live operator is not there to respond. In order to keep a current listing of all numbers, it is important that you notify the Cooperative of any changes in your telephone number.
6. Handling outage calls electronically allows you to report power failures very quickly. Once your outage has been reported, it will be dispatched to repair personnel who will restore your outage as soon as possible. Calling back repeatedly will not shorten the length of the outage, but may hinder the efforts of other members who are trying to report outages.

Outage Calls Only 1-877-399-8405

SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Inc.

585 Highway 142 South • P.O. Box 251 • Eldorado, Illinois 62930
618-273-2611 or 800-833-2611 • Office hours: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. M-F

The SOUTHEASTERN Light

SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative Eldorado, Illinois

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

President's Comments



Dustin Tripp
President/CEO

With the struggling economy, we are all looking for ways to reduce our expenses. On February 17, 2009, the American Recovery Reinvestment Act (ARRA), better known as the Economic Stimulus bill, was signed into law providing individuals with funds to weatherize homes and make energy efficiency improvements. Your Cooperative is joining electric cooperatives across the nation in finding ways to connect you, our members, with energy efficiency help from the federal stimulus bill.

Weatherizing your home and increasing energy efficiency has never been more critical. Congress is considering climate change legislation that will undoubtedly raise electricity bills. Increasing energy efficiency at home can help decrease your energy use and, most importantly, your electric bills.

The Weatherization Assistance Program reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety. In the past, only households that earned up to 150 percent of the national poverty level income were eligible to participate. The ARRA has extended

eligibility to those with incomes below 200 percent of the national poverty which equates to an annual income of \$44,100 for a family of four.

Your Cooperative has partnered with your local Community Action Agencies (CAA's) to provide you with information regarding the Weatherization Assistance Program and where to apply. Eligible participants may receive up to \$6,500 in funding for weatherization and energy efficiency improvements. If you are eligible for the program, a professionally trained staff member of the Community Action Agency will assess your home and conduct an energy audit that will determine the work to be done such as insulating walls and roofs, sealing air leaks and installing more efficient heating and cooling systems. The work to be done will then be placed on a schedule for a contractor to complete. When the weatherization work is complete, the staff member will return to inspect the improvements. Below is a list of CAAs in the Cooperative's service territory. Please contact your local CAA to see if you are eligible.

(Continued on 16d)

AGENCY NAME	COUNTIES SERVED	CITY LOCATED	PHONE
Wabash Area Development (WADI)	Saline	Harrisburg	618-252-2680
	Gallatin	Shawneetown	618-269-6486
	White	Enfield	618-963-2387
	Hamilton	McLeansboro	618-643-2161
Shawnee Development Council	Hardin	Elizabethtown	618-287-7071
	Pope	Golconda	618-683-2107
	Johnson	Vienna	618-658-6131
	Massac	Karnak	618-634-2201
Crosswalk Community Action	Williamson	West Frankfort	618-937-3581
	Franklin		
	Jefferson		

READERSHIP PRIZE WINNER: Gary Tatman Creal Springs, IL

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHOSEN

As provided by the bylaws of SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Inc., a Nominating Committee was chosen April 28, 2009, consisting of the following Cooperative members:

District No. 1

Michael Sevenski, Benton, IL
62812

District No. 2

David E. Goss, Macedonia, IL
62860

District No. 3

Carl L. Smith, R., McLeans-
boro, IL 62859

District No. 4

Jon Ward, Thompsonville, IL
62890

District No. 5

John M. "Jack" Jackson, Ridg-
way, IL 62979

District No. 6

Walter Lee, Marion, IL 62959

District No. 7

Rick Butler, Harrisburg, IL
62946

District No. 8

Leroy Capeheart, Shawnee-
town, IL 62984

District No. 9

Arlen Leslie, Tunnel Hill, IL
62972

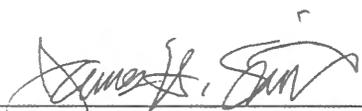
District No. 10

Sandra L. Potts, Rosiclare, IL
62982

District No. 11

R. C. Davidson, Jr., Golconda
IL 62938

The Committee will meet at the office of the Cooperative on Tuesday, May 12, 2009, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., for the purpose of nominating candidates for three-year terms as Trustees of SOUTHEASTERN ILLINOIS ELECTRIC CO-OPERATIVE, INC. Trustees whose terms are expiring include: William Richardson, Ewing, Illinois, 62836 (District 2); Kenneth Hathaway, Harrisburg, IL 62946 (District 7); Jack Logsdon Jr., Shawneetown, IL 62984 (District 8); Gary Hise, Golconda, IL 62938 (District 11)



James H. Smith, Assistant Secretary
Board of Trustees

Spring showers bring ... power outages?

What to do when the lights go out



If you experience a power outage at home:

- Determine if the power is off throughout your home.
- Check with neighboring homes or businesses to see if they have power.
- Check your meter to see if the digital reading is displayed. If you don't see a display, call SEIEC and report the outage.
- Look for downed power lines or trees falling on wires near your home or business. **DO NOT TOUCH THEM** or try to move them.
- Wait for SEIEC to come out and restore your power.

If you see a downed power line:

- Assume fallen wires are live wires and might be dangerous. Don't touch anything that may be in contact with the downed wire. Driving over fallen lines can result in damage to your car's tires.
- Make others in the area aware of the situation.
- Call SEIEC immediately to report this problem.

If you are in a car and a wire falls on your car:

- Stay inside the automobile if possible.
- Use your cell phone to call the authorities.
- If you absolutely have to get out of the vehicle, jump clear of the car with both feet together. If one foot is in the energized car and the other foot is in contact with the ground, your body will act as a conductor of electricity which can cause injury or death. In addition, contact with overhead wires, or an object touching the line, can cause serious injury or death.

President's Comments *(Continued from 16a)*

Members not eligible for the assistance program can receive a tax credit for 30 percent of the cost (credit not to exceed \$1,500) for qualified energy efficiency projects completed on existing homes in 2009 and 2010. From replacing windows, doors and insulation to installing an energy-efficient heating and cooling system, there are many ways you can use the tax credit to offset some of the costs for efficiency upgrades.

A renewable energy tax credit also exists for members investing in solar water heaters, geothermal heat

pumps and other green technologies. The credit covers 30 percent of the cost for approved projects completed on any type of home between 2009 and 2016. ENERGY STAR's website, www.energystar.gov (keyword: "Tax credits") provides a great overview of what qualifies for tax credits and includes guidance on how to apply for them.

As you know your Cooperative is a non-profit organization that is driven, not by profits, but by our members' bottom line. Your Cooperative is working to keep your electric

bills as low as possible while providing quality, reliable service. The federal stimulus bill provides a new set of tools to help fulfill this mission. Please consider taking advantage of these energy savings programs and together, we can help keep electric bills affordable.

See you next month and as always, "We'll keep the lights on for you."

POWER OUTAGE

If your power goes off, we offer these suggestions

1. Check the fuses or circuit breakers in your service panels. If you have breakers, make sure they are in the "ON" position.
2. If you have a meter pole, check the main breaker panel just below the meter socket. If the breaker is in the "OFF" position, check all of your wiring from the meter pole to your various buildings. If the wiring appears to be okay, reset the breaker to the "ON" position.
3. If you still do not have power, check with neighbors to see if they have power.
4. To report a power failure or other emergency, please phone 1-877-399-8405. This phone number is monitored around the clock, 365 days per year to accept your outage and emergency calls.
5. Your phone call will be handled by SouthEastern's automated outage reporting system and will be identified automatically through ANI (Automatic Number Identification). An outage record will then be generated for your location. Please note that the phone number from which you place the call will be the number used to generate the record. If the system fails to recognize your phone number, members having touch-tone phones may simply enter their seven-digit phone number (without area code) in order to report the outage. Members not having touch-tone phones will be asked to leave a message. It is important you leave your name, phone number and location of the outage. Retrieving messages and entering them into the system is time consuming; therefore, please leave only a message that will help in restoration of electric service. Do not remain on the line for an operator because a live operator is not there to respond. In order to keep a current listing of all numbers, it is important that you notify the Cooperative of any changes in your telephone number.
6. Handling outage calls electronically allows you to report power failures very quickly. Once your outage has been reported, it will be dispatched to repair personnel who will restore your outage as soon as possible. Calling back repeatedly will not shorten the length of the outage, but may hinder the efforts of other members who are trying to report outages.

Outage Calls Only 1-877-399-8405

SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Inc.

585 Highway 142 South • P.O. Box 251 • Eldorado, Illinois 62930
618-273-2611 or 800-833-2611 • Office hours: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. M-F

SouthEastern Electric
Cooperative's

ILLINOISTM

COUNTRY LIVING

July 2009

The
SOUTHEASTERN *Light*

Published by SouthEastern Illinois Electric
Cooperative, Inc.

— Attend the —

SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative

ANNUAL MEETING

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2009

Little Chapel Church

(3 ½ miles north of Harrisburg on route 34)

■ Registration begins
at 6 p.m.

■ Entertainment by
BLEND

■ Business meeting
begins at 7 p.m.

■ Numerous
attendance prizes

■ Four \$250 cash
prizes

■ Children's drawing
for 10-\$25 "Toys R Us"
gift certificates

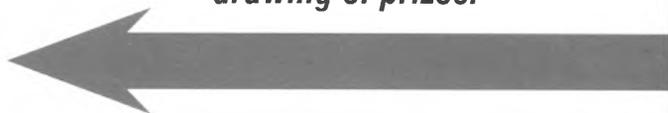
Official Registration

Phone Number (____) _____

(Please provide current phone number)

Please Bring This Card To The Meeting

*Please cut out and bring to the
meeting for registration and
drawing of prizes.*



\$15 credit

*on your next electric bill for
all members attending
the Annual Meeting!*

SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Inc.

P. O. Box 251, Eldorado, Illinois 62930

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF 2009 ANNUAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That the Annual Meeting of the Members of SOUTHEASTERN ILLINOIS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., will be held at Little Chapel Church, 3859 Highway 34 North, Harrisburg, IL on August 4, 2009; that the period of registration for said Meeting of Members will be from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m.; business meeting of said Members will convene at 7 p.m. for the purpose of taking action upon the reports of Officers, Trustees, and Committees of said Cooperative, for the election of four (4) Trustees for terms of three (3) years each, for amendment of the Bylaws, and for such other matters as may properly be considered at such meeting.

You are further notified that the number of Trustees to be elected at the 2009 Annual Meeting is four and that one Member is to be elected from each of Districts 2, 7, 8, and 11.

REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

As provided by the bylaws of SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Inc., a Nominating Committee, consisting of the following Cooperative members:

- Michael Sevenski (District #1)
- David E. Goss (District #2)
- Carl L. Smith (District #3)
- Jon Ward (District #4)
- John M. "Jack" Jackson (District #5)
- Walter Lee (District #6)
- Rick Butler (District #7)
- Leroy Capeheart (District #8)
- Arlen Leslie (District #9)
- Sandra L. Potts (District #10)
- R. C. Davidson, Jr. (District #11)

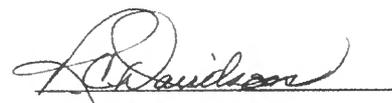
met at the office of the Cooperative on May 12th, 2009, at the hour of 10 a.m. for the purpose of nominating four (4) candidates for three-year terms as Trustees of SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Inc.

The undersigned presided as Secretary of the meeting.

The following candidates were nominated:

- William Richardson (District #2)
- Kenneth Hathaway (District #7)
- Jack Logsdon, Jr. (District #8)
- Gary Hise (District #11)

Dated at Eldorado, Illinois this 12th day of May, 2009.



R. C. Davidson, Jr.
Secretary of the Nominating
Committee Meeting

DATED at Eldorado, Illinois
this 1st day of July, 2009.



Richard Rister, Secretary
Board of Trustees



ENTERTAINMENT

BLEND is the A cappella quartet that brings back all of those fun loving memories of the 50's and 60's. You'll be amazed at the unbelievable sound while four young men take you back with songs such as "Come, Go With Me" and "In the Still of the Night."

BLEND originates from the small southern Illinois town of Energy. The group was brought together in 2005 for the purpose of a talent show directed by Karen Sala of Herrin, Illinois. From that talent show the group decided that singing was a must and that the thrill of the 50's and 60's was enough to give them the drive to pursue this as a career.

The group has opened for Aaron Tippin, Confederate Railroad, The Platters and The Van-Dells.

BLEND



Notice To Churches, Schools, And Other Public Buildings, And Organizations

SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Inc. now requires a "LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION" for churches, schools, hospitals, clubs, etc ... naming the individual person assigned to act as the registrar and/or voting representative during the Annual Meeting of Members on Aug. 4, 2009. A "Letter of Authorization" should be on your company or organization's business letterhead, and should contain the following:

1. Organization's Name and Address

2. Name of Authorized Representative who will attend the annual meeting
3. Current Date
4. Title and Signature of the Organization's Officer who is designating the Representative named in Item #2 above.
5. The Authorized Representative named in Item # 2 will be asked to sign the letter upon presentation when registering at the Annual Meeting.

LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION IS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION AT THE MEETING - DO NOT MAIL THE LETTER TO OUR OFFICE

For your convenience, you may choose to complete the form below rather than composing the above letter. Be sure to complete the form and have it signed by the proper Officer.

LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION

Name of Organization: _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Name of authorized representative who will be presenting this document at the time of the annual meeting for the purpose of registration and/or voting on behalf of the organization named above.

Date (must be within 30 days of annual meeting date)

Title and signature of officer granting authorization to the above named representative

**BRING THIS FORM WITH YOU TO THE ANNUAL MEETING - DO NOT MAIL TO OUR OFFICE
THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION**

Become An Air Evac Lifeteam Member Through SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative

SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative has partnered with Air Evac Lifeteam to allow our residential customers the opportunity to join the Air Evac Lifeteam Membership program through an affordable billing plan. You have the option to choose the convenience of paying a monthly fee or an annual fee. Each plan is offered at a discounted rate through your Cooperative. Your options are as follows:

Option 1 : The monthly fee is \$5 per month per household with a discount of \$.50 per month per household from SEIEC. Should you choose the monthly plan your electric bill will reflect an additional \$4.50 per month per household.

Option 2 : The annual fees include a \$10 discount through the Cooperative program; however unlike the monthly option these fees will vary with the number of individuals living in your household and will not be reflected on your electric bill. The annual fees are as follows:

- \$40 – For a 1 member household
- \$45 – For a 2 member household
- \$50 – For a 3 or more member household



Join Air-Evac Lifeteam through your Cooperative today and choose which option best suits your needs.

Visit our Booth at Annual Meeting for more information and to sign up!

Our office will be closed Friday, July 3, for

INDEPENDENCE DAY

The SOUTHEASTERN Light

SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative Eldorado, Illinois

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

President's Comments



Dustin Tripp
President/CEO

I'm sure you've heard the proverbial saying "when it rains, it pours", this certainly seems to be the case with storms in Southern Illinois. Over the past 18 months, your Cooperative has experienced three of the most damaging and devastating storms in your Cooperative's 71-year history. The most recent storm, which most have referred to as an "inland hurricane", swept through Southern Illinois on May 8 with average sustained winds of 86 mph and gusts estimated to be between 106 mph and 121 mph causing extensive damage to the western and central counties in your Cooperative's territories.

Your Cooperative began receiving calls from members the afternoon of May 8 and by the evening approximately 12,500 members were without power. At that time, all of the Cooperative employees were working on the restoration process and additional Illinois Cooperative crews and contract crews were called in to assist in the restoration process.

During the course of the storm, all your Cooperative employees along with 107 additional line and forestry personnel from other Illinois Cooperatives and area contractors worked 17-18 hours per day to restore power. Numerous downed trees and limbs across the roads made the process of traveling to damaged areas very difficult and time consuming. In order to accelerate the restoration process, a helicopter was utilized to fly the high-voltage transmission lines and report areas of damage so line and forestry personnel could travel directly to the areas that needed repair.

As the week continued, your Cooperative focused on re-energizing lines that would restore power to as many members as possible.

After restoring power to the main distribution lines, restoration efforts

focused on restoring power to devastated secondary lines. Your Cooperative restored power to the last residence on Friday, May 15.

Shortly after the storm, Illinois' Governor Pat Quinn declared Franklin, Jackson, Randolph, Saline and Williamson counties as state disaster areas. On June 2, Governor Quinn formally requested federal assistance for local governments, businesses and individuals in a letter to President Obama. On July 2, the President declared these counties disaster areas making federal disaster aid available for emergency work and the repair or replacement of facilities damaged by the May 2009 storm. Your Cooperative will be working with FEMA representatives over the next several months and may receive up to 75 percent of the total cost associated with the storm through financial assistance from FEMA. Although your Cooperative will still incur approximately \$650,000 in storm damage expenses that will not be reimbursed, the costs incurred without the FEMA assistance would have been approximately \$2.6 million.

Again, I would like to thank all of you as Cooperative members and owners for your understanding of the magnitude of these extreme storms, your patience, your assistance and your thank you letters that have been received. I would also like to thank all of the hard working and dedicated employees, other Illinois Cooperative employees and contractors who made this restoration possible.

As many of you already know all of my articles normally end with the slogan "We'll keep the lights on for you." However given the magnitude of this severe ice storm, my slogan this month will be:

"We turned the lights back on for you"



READERSHIP PRIZE WINNER:
Dave Valentine, Harrisburg, IL

Saving Money as You Keep Cool

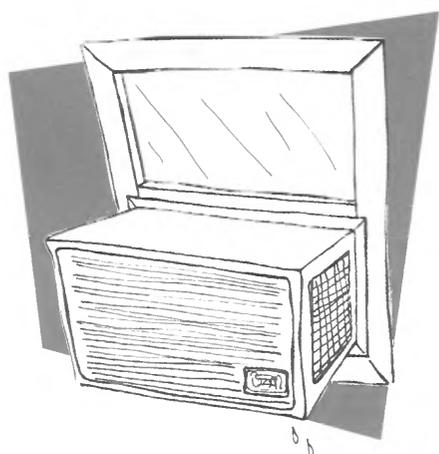
Not that long ago, air conditioning was considered a luxury. These days, nearly two-thirds of American homeowners use either central or window air conditioners to beat summer's heat. The U.S. Department of Energy estimates that air conditioning alone uses about 5 percent of all of the electricity generated in the U.S.

Both central systems and window unit air conditioners operate in much the same way. They remove heat and moisture from air in your home by blowing it across a coil filled with a liquid called a refrigerant. That lowers the temperature of the air and makes it drier, so it feels more comfortable.

The efficiency of central air conditioners is rated by SEER (seasonal energy efficiency ratio) numbers — the higher the number, the more efficiently the air conditioner operates. The most efficient room air conditioners earn ENERGY STAR certification. With both types, it's important to select equipment that's the right size for the area to be cooled.

Seasonal Energy efficiency ratio (SEER) is the industry's measurement of the efficiency of central air conditioners: The higher the number, the more efficient the air conditioner. In addition to a high SEER, units that have earned the ENERGY STAR certification are built to be more energy efficient than those without the certification. Finally, whether you're considering a window unit or a central air conditioner, selecting equipment that's the right size for the job is paramount.

If your home has central air conditioning, there are several things you can do to improve its efficiency, resulting in more comfort for less money. One of the most important is having your air conditioner cleaned and checked by a technician each year to ensure that it's operating as efficiently as possible. Clean or replace the filter every month or according to the manufacturer's recommendations, and make sure the outside unit is free of dust and debris at least once a month.



One of the easiest ways to keep cooling costs under control is to ensure that your air conditioner doesn't have to work too hard. Set the thermostat at 76 degrees or higher when you're at home, and set it higher when you're

going to be away. Close drapes and blinds to keep bright daytime sunlight from heating up the house. Try not to use the dryer, dishwasher, stove or oven during the hottest part of the day. Finally, turn off any electronic devices that you aren't using, because they generate heat.

To improve efficiency with room air conditioners, choose a unit with a variety of fan speeds, so you can select the amount of cooling that you need for the situation. If your air conditioner has a timer, set it to turn the air conditioner on an hour before you come home. In addition, be sure that your air conditioner is properly sealed in the window opening, so that hotter outside air won't find its way into your home. Finally, when fall arrives, remove the air conditioner from the window and properly seal the opening to prevent chilly drafts.

Cool Facts About Air Conditioner Efficiency

- Nearly two-thirds of American homeowners use air conditioners to beat summer's heat.
- Air conditioning alone uses about 5 percent of all of the electricity generated in the U.S.
- Air conditioners remove heat and moisture from air in your home by blowing it across a coil filled with a liquid called a refrigerant.
- Central air conditioners are rated by SEER (seasonal energy efficiency ratio) numbers — the higher the number, the more efficiently the air conditioner operates.
- The most efficient room air conditioners earn ENERGY STAR certification.
- Have your central air conditioner cleaned and checked by a technician every year to ensure that it's operating efficiently.
- Clean or replace the filter according to the manufacturer's recommendations, and make sure the outside unit is free of dust and debris.
- Make sure your room air conditioner is properly sealed in the window opening to prevent unwanted air infiltration.

Before You Buy A Water Heater Of Another Brand... Save your energy!



Plastic Tank

- *Can't rust or corrode*
- *No smelly anode rod*
- *Stronger than steel*

Lifetime Tank Warranty

- *Warranted not to leak "for as long as you own your home"*

Envirofoam Insulation

- *The most energy efficient & environmentally friendly*

Plastic Jacket

- *No nicks, dents or scratches*

Reliability

- *Six years Parts & Labor*

Marathon[®]

SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative is now offering Marathon Water Heaters for sale at its Eldorado Headquarters. Please call 618-273-2611 for more information.

POWER OUTAGE

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585 Highway 142 South • P.O. Box 251 • Eldorado, Illinois 62930
618-273-2611 or 800-833-2611 • Office hours: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. M-F

The SOUTHEASTERN Light

SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative Eldorado, Illinois

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

President's Comments



Dustin Tripp
President/CEO

On June 26, 2009, the U.S. House of Representatives narrowly passed (219 – 212) a contentious federal climate change bill that calls for a cap-and-trade tax to limit carbon emissions beginning in the year 2012. I am pleased to inform you that your U.S. Congressmen representing all of Southern Illinois opposed this legislation in the House of Representatives. Your Cooperative adamantly opposes the legislation that has passed the U.S. House of Representatives. This legislation has now moved to the Senate for consideration and ultimately a vote to determine the future of this legislation.

At this time, I would like to share some details of the climate change legislation and what it means to you, all energy consumers and our country. First of all, let me explain the cap-and-trade tax plan. The current legislation calls for a "cap" in emissions that equate to a 3 percent reduction in carbon emissions below 2005 levels by the year 2012. At first, this doesn't seem to be a stringent reduction but I must tell you it is misleading because it doesn't account for the growth in energy consumption between the years 2005 to 2012. This "cap" that is being publicized as a 3 percent reduction below 2005 levels actually equates to an approximate 25 percent reduction in carbon emissions in 2012 for your Cooperative. One may ask – Why is this not achievable by the year 2012?

 The answer is simple – There

is no proven, commercially available, technology that utilities can purchase and install on coal-fired generation plants that captures the carbon emissions and sequesters it. Industry experts predict that it may be some 8-10 years before this technology is proven and commercially available. So we have legislation that has passed the U.S. House of Representatives that put a cap on emissions that is currently not possible to meet due to the technology not being available.

Given that utilities can't meet the cap on emissions, utilities would be forced to purchase emissions credits to meet the cap. Our government officials recognized the catastrophic impact this would have on electric rates and the economy so the legislation calls for issuing a portion of the allowances to utilities to soften the rate impact. Unfortunately, the allowance allocation formula implemented in the legislation is inequitable and creates extreme regional disparities across the country. West Coast states and the Northeastern States would receive 100 percent of the allowances needed while the rest of the country, including the Midwestern states, would only receive a portion of the allowances needed.

The next issue is that utilities across the Midwest will have to purchase the needed allowances to comply with the legislation. This

(Continued on 16b)

READERSHIP PRIZE WINNER:
Henry Walker, Golconda, Illinois



(Continued from 16a)

would require your Cooperative to purchase the needed allowances from a new trading system (very likely CCX in Chicago) for gas emissions.

This carbon trading system would provide yet another opportunity for Wall Street trading firms, investment banks, hedge funds and other special interest groups to buy and trade these allowances for massive profits, driving the cost of allowances higher, causing you as energy consumers to pay more in your electric bill so that others may profit. This carbon trading system will be controlled by the largest trading companies in the world and it wouldn't be long before they created derivatives, swaps and other trading schemes to make even more profits at our expense.

Supporters of this legislation like to predict that the price of each allowance will remain at \$15 each in the year 2012. The electric utility industry believes this number is extremely low

and the actual market price could easily be \$30, \$50 or even higher. Your Cooperative is very alarmed about and opposes the legislation that passed the U.S. House of Representatives. This legislation in its current form is extremely detrimental to our region's jobs and family budgets. Under the current legislation in its cap-and-trade tax plan, electric rates will certainly increase and could increase dramatically. Not only will consumers across the country pay more in their electric bill, but they will pay more for a variety of other products that use electricity in the process of manufacturing those products or fuel used to transport those products. The rise in electricity rates is only the beginning – it will cause many other cost increases as well.

Lastly, According to the CBO, this legislation would increase government revenues by \$873 billion dollars from 2010-2019. If this legislation was created to address Climate Change, one would

think that the vast majority of this \$873 billion dollars would be used to develop the technologies needed to capture CO2 and sequester it deep below the earth's surface. Unfortunately, the vast majority of the additional dollars that you would pay in your electric bill under this legislation will not be used to develop these needed technologies.

If you share this concern, we urge you to call, write or email your U.S. Senators representing Illinois. Together, we have the power to make a difference. You can contact your U.S. Senators as follows:

Senator Dick Durbin

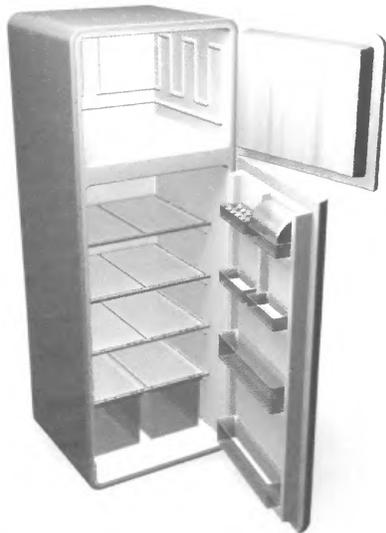
309 Hart Senate Building
Washington DC 20510
PH: (202)224-2152
Fax: (202)228-0400

Senator Roland Burris

387 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington DE 20510
PH: (202)224-2854
Fax: (202)228-3333

SECOND REFRIGERATORS: CONVENIENT OR COSTLY?

Many homeowners keep a second refrigerator in the garage or the basement. While that refrigerator may be convenient, it's probably pretty costly.



Refrigerators made before 1993 use roughly twice as much electricity as today's ENERGY STAR-qualified models. So that extra refrigerator could be adding an extra \$120 or more to your electric bills each year.

In most homes, the refrigerator is one of the biggest users of energy. If you replace a refrigerator that you bought in 1990 with one of today's ENERGY STAR-qualified models, you could save enough electricity to light your entire home for four months.

Whether you have just one refrigerator or keep a second one somewhere, there are several steps you can take to make them as energy-efficient as possible:

- Set the refrigerator temperature between 35 and 38 degrees Fahrenheit, and the freezer at zero degrees.
- Check that the door seals are airtight by closing the door on a piece of paper. If you can easily pull the paper out, replace the seals.
- Leave space between the coils and the wall so that air can circulate properly.
- Don't place a refrigerator next to a stove or in direct sunlight.
- If you use a second refrigerator only at times like the holidays, turn it off at other times.

**Before You Buy A Water
Heater Of Another Brand...**

Save your energy!



Plastic Tank

- *Can't rust or corrode*
- *No smelly anode rod*
- *Stronger than steel*

Lifetime Tank Warranty

- *Warranted not to leak
"for as long as you own
your home"*

Envirofoam Insulation

- *The most energy efficient
& environmentally friendly*

Plastic Jacket

- *No nicks, dents or scratches*

Reliability

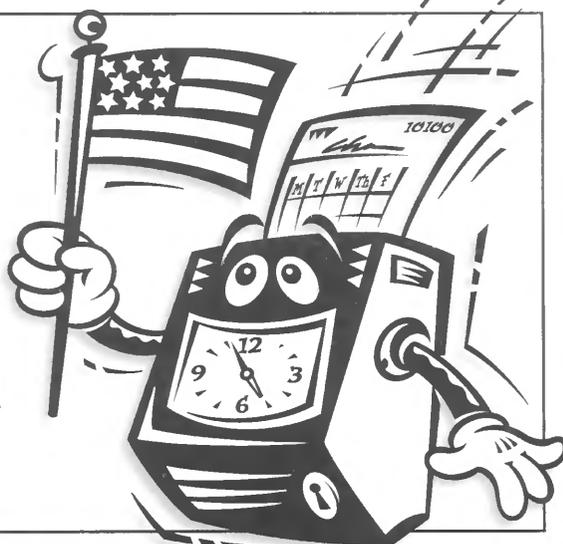
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Marathon[®]

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LABOR DAY

**Office Closed-
Monday, September 7th
for Labor Day**



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President's Comments



Dustin Tripp
President/CEO

SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative held its 71st Annual Meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2009 with 1,210 members registered and approximately 1,700 in total attendance. For those of you who were unable to attend your Cooperative's annual meeting, this article will summarize the report members received at the annual meeting.

During the year 2008, your Cooperative invested \$3 million in system improvements to replace aging infrastructure and invested \$5.7 million in maintenance activities in order to increase electric service reliability. Your Cooperative also constructed 353 new services, upgraded 167 services, rebuilt 26 miles of distribution line and replaced over 300 bad poles.

Over the past 18 months, your Cooperative has experienced three of the most severe and devastating storms in its 71-year history. The first was the ice storm of February 2008, which blanketed the southern part of our service territory with over one inch of ice and resulted in 11,700 outages and over \$ 2.5 million in damages. The second was the ice storm in January of this year, which blanketed the southern and southeastern areas of our service territory with over one inch of ice and resulted in 9,500 outages and over \$ 3.5 million in damages. The third and hopefully last major storm for some time to come occurred in May of this year with winds exceeding 100 miles per hour in our western and central territories resulting in 12,500 outages and over \$2.6 million in damages.

In summary, these storms caused damages in excess of \$ 8.6 million to your Cooperative, which has caused a significant strain on your Cooperative's finances. Your Cooperative applied for FEMA assistance in all three of these storms and has received or is in the process of receiving \$ 3.8 million in assistance to help pay for these major storms. This will truly be remembered as a remarkable time in our history.

Members were informed that the price of coal has been decreasing in 2009. The market price of coal began rising in early 2008 and peaked in August 2008 at \$93 per ton. The price of coal has declined to a current market price of \$42 per ton but that is still 23 percent higher than early 2008. As many of you know, the cost increases incurred due to higher coal prices are being collected in the wholesale power cost adjustment charge on your bill. Given that the market price of coal is decreasing, we also expect this charge on your bill to decrease as well.

There is no question that the major storms that have occurred in the past 18 months have increased your Cooperative's costs. Your Cooperative is taking steps in an attempt to avoid a general rate increase to members in 2010 but feel confident that if a rate increase becomes absolutely necessary, it will be limited to a rate increase of approximately 2 percent.

Continued on 16d ▶

READERSHIP
PRIZE
WINNER:
Roy Xanders
Golconda, IL



Harvest Workers Urged Caution To Yield Fewer Electrical Accidents



Be sure you have enough clearance between large machinery and power lines when harvesting.

Harvest season can yield higher numbers of electrocution, shock, and burn injuries. Nationwide, an average 60 agricultural workers are electrocuted and hundreds more injured in electrical accidents each year.

“Equipment contacting overhead power lines is the leading cause of farm electrocution accidents in the Midwest,” says Bob Aherin, University of Illinois Agricultural Safety Specialist. “Many of these accidents occur near grain bins, when augers make contact with power lines”

Dustin Tripp, President/CEO at SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative says, “All farm workers need to be sure to keep equipment 10 feet from power lines at all times. That’s 10 feet above, below and to the sides of the lines. Lower all equipment you can before moving it and use a spotter for large equipment.”

Some equipment safety considerations:

- Always lower portable augers or elevators to their lowest possible level - under 14 feet- before moving or transporting; use care when raising them.
- When moving large equipment or high loads near a power line, always use a spotter, or someone to help make certain that contact is not made with a line.
- Be aware of increased height when loading and transporting larger modern tractors with higher antennas.
- Never attempt to raise or move a power line to clear a path!

If equipment comes in contact with power lines, stay inside the cab and call for help. Tell others to stay away until a co-op lineman arrives at the scene to make sure power is disconnected. If there is risk of

fire and you must leave the area, the proper action is to jump – not step – with both feet hitting the ground at the same time. Do not allow any part of your body to touch the equipment and the ground at the same time. Continue to hop or shuffle to safety, keeping both feet together as you leave the area.

Once you get away from the equipment, never attempt to get back on or even touch the equipment. Many electrocutions occur when the operator dismounts and, realizing nothing has happened, tries to get back on the equipment.

It is very important that all farm workers and seasonal employees are informed of electrical hazards, and trained in proper procedures to avoid injury. For more information on farm and home electrical safety, visit www.SafeElectricity.org.

The King of ENERGY Ideas

Doug Rye. He's more than just caulk and talk.
Coming to Southern Illinois!

You've heard him on the radio ...

You've read his articles in the Illinois Country Living Magazine ...

NOW SEE HIM IN PERSON!

Nationally recognized energy consultant, DOUG RYE, will be visiting southern Illinois to help you lower your utility bills. Come see this home energy conservation expert and learn how residential energy improvements can make you money, not cost you money!

The electric cooperatives of southern Illinois are hosting FIVE can't miss events:

Residential Energy Audit Workshops

6:30 p.m. Please call to reserve seating.

October 26, 2009	Williamson County Pavilion, Marion - 800-833-2611
October 27, 2009	World Shooting Complex, Sparta - 800-606-1505
October 28, 2009	Hecker Community Center, Hecker - 800-757-7433
November 4, 2009	Holiday Inn, Mt Vernon - 800-244-5151
November 5, 2009	Shawnee Community College, Ullin - 800-762-1400

Free Admission



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Southern Illinois
Electric Cooperative



Monroe County
Electric Co-Operative



SouthEastern Illinois
Electric Cooperative



Egyptian Electric
Cooperative Association



Tri-County Electric
Cooperative, Inc.

President's Comments

(Continued from 16a)

Lastly, Cooperative members were informed about federal climate change legislation that is currently under review by the U.S. Senate. Your Cooperative adamantly opposes the legislation that passed the U.S. House of Representatives. This legislation in its current form is extremely detrimental to our region's jobs and family budgets. Under the current legislation in its cap-and-trade tax

plan, electric rates will certainly increase and could increase dramatically. Not only will consumers across the country pay more in their electric bill, but they will pay more for a variety of other products that use electricity in the process of manufacturing those products or fuel used to transport those products. The rise in electricity rates is only the beginning – it will cause many other cost

increases as well.

See you next month and as always "We'll keep the lights on for you."

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President's Comments



Dustin Tripp
President/CEO

SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative is very proud to be one of a number of businesses in our area that remain locally owned, locally governed and locally operated for the past 71 years in Southern Illinois. Although much has changed over the years, there are some things that remain unchanged such as your Cooperative's commitment to the communities that it serves. Your Cooperative remains committed to its communities and the following is just a few examples of how your electric cooperative is striving to make a difference, especially for our local students, right here in Southern Illinois.

Your Cooperative coordinates an education grant program known as the Touchstone Energy Classroom Empowerment Grant. Your Cooperative offers grants to fund innovative, unfunded projects or materials. Qualifying projects are those that improve the learning environment or increase educational resources for the school and the students. Every year, your cooperative sends grant applications to all of the schools in the 10-county service area and assists school administrators in applying for these grants. For the 2008-2009 school year SEIEC awarded Creal Springs School, Gallatin County Elementary, Marion High School, Galatia Junior-Senior High School and Eldorado Elemen-

tary School with Touchstone Energy Classroom Empowerment Grants.

SouthEastern is also participating in a statewide scholarship fund known as the Illinois Electric Cooperative Memorial Scholarship Fund as a means of honoring deceased members of the electric cooperative family. Every year, your cooperative sends information to all of the schools in the 10 county service area with instructions on how students can apply for these scholarships. The program will award seven scholarships in the amount of \$1,250 each. Five scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors who are enrolling in an accredited two-year or four-year college, university or vocational/technical school in the United States. The sixth and seventh scholarships will be awarded to a high school senior who will be enrolling full-time at a two-year Illinois community college. The scholarship must be used for educational costs, and the student must enter college within one year from the time the scholarship is awarded. Scholarships are awarded based upon grade point average, college entrance test scores, work and volunteer experience, participation in school and community activities, biographical statement and knowledge of cooperatives, as demonstrated by a short essay.

(Continued on 16d)



READERSHIP PRIZE WINNER:
Richard Yuengel, Sr - Creal Springs, IL

Prepare Your Home Now for a Safe, Energy-Efficient Winter

Before winter arrives, SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative and the Safe Electricity program encourage people to take steps now to improve both home energy efficiency and safety during the home heating season.

“Most winterizing steps can pay for themselves relatively quickly with heating bill savings,” says Molly Hall, Executive Director of the Illinois Electric Council (IEC). “Weather stripping and caulking are inexpensive and among the simplest, most effective ways to boost efficiency and cut energy costs year round.”

“As you take steps to winterize your home, you can also inspect for electrical hazards and eliminate electrical fire and shock risks,” adds Jay Solomon, University of Illinois Extension Engineering Educator. “For example, as you check around outlets and other places where air can leak, also check for overloaded outlets and cover plates that are warm to the touch.”

Use these tips to help cut costs and improve home safety:

- Make sure attics and flooring above unheated spaces, such as crawl spaces and garages, are appropriately insulated.

- Find air leaks in homes by moistening fingertips and running them around doors or window frames to feel a draft or holding up a tissue to see if it waves. Check around fixtures that penetrate walls, such as exhaust fans and electrical outlets, and look for gaps near dryer vents, chimneys and faucet pipes. Seal them all with caulking or weather-stripping.
- Replace screens with storm windows and doors. Double-paned glass plays an important role in reducing heat loss. Double-pane windows with low-e coating can reduce heating bills by 34 percent in cold climates compared to uncoated, single-pane windows. If you have older or leaky windows that you cannot replace, consider temporary fixes, such as plastic film kits that create the effect of an interior storm window.
- If you are shopping for new windows, glass doors or skylights, look for the ENERGY STAR. Today's high-efficiency windows are 40 percent more energy efficient than standard windows and can cut heating and cooling costs by 15 percent.
- Consider replacing your furnace if it is more than 30 years old. Furnaces that old are usually less than 50

percent energy efficient.

- Install an automatic thermostat. An easy-to-install clock thermostat can automatically raise and lower home temperatures for energy savings day and night.

While you winterize, use this electrical safety checklist:

- Check outlets and make sure they are not overloaded. Have a professional replace worn and outdated circuitry, and add enough outlets for appliances and electronics.
- Examine electrical cords for cracks, frays and damaged plugs, and don't run them under rugs, furniture or behind baseboards.
- Check that light bulbs are proper wattage and securely screwed in light fixtures.
- Make sure ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) are installed in outlets in wet locations such as bathrooms, kitchen and laundry rooms. Test and reset them monthly.
- Test your smoke detector batteries. Replace them if they are more than six months old.

For more information visit www.SafeElectricity.org.



I THOUGHT I WAS TIGHT WITH MY MONEY. NOW I'M AIRTIGHT.

All it took was a tube of caulk and half an afternoon. Now, I'm saving \$212 a year by sealing a few cracks around the house. What can you do? Find out how the little changes add up at TogetherWeSave.com.



Touchstone Energy[®]
Cooperatives

TOGETHERWESAVE.COM

Lastly, SouthEastern also invites all 23 area high schools to participate in a program known as the "Youth To Washington Tour". Students are invited to participate by writing a one page essay on the subject, "Why I would like to visit Washington D.C." Participating schools select the best essay written by their students and forward that essay to SouthEastern for evaluation by

staff personnel. The composers of the two best essays are awarded the opportunity to participate in a one day tour of the State's capital in Springfield, Ill. and then on to a one week, expense-paid tour of our Nations capital in Washington D.C. SEIEC is proud to announce that Emily Tanner from Crab Orchard High School and Jacob Cantrell from McLeansboro High School were awarded

and have attended the "Youth To Washington Tour" in 2009.

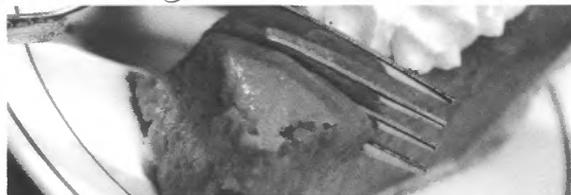
These are just a few examples of how your electric cooperative is striving to provide opportunities to improve conditions for local students and also providing them with unique learning opportunities.

See you next month and as always, "We'll keep the lights on for you."

Office closings



Wednesday, November 11 for Veterans Day



Thursday, November 26 & Friday, November 27 for Thanksgiving Day

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President's Comments



Dustin Tripp
President/CEO

Many of you know that I have written several columns this year trying to inform Cooperative members about the proposed Climate Change Legislation that is currently being considered by the U.S. Congress. This month, I am writing yet another column on this issue in an attempt to emphasize the importance of this very critical piece of legislation.

In June of this year, the U.S. House of Representatives narrowly passed a contentious federal climate change bill that includes a cap-and-trade (tax) provision beginning in the year 2012. As this legislation then moved to the U.S. Senate, your Cooperative mailed letters informing you as Cooperative members about the impacts of this legislation including how it could affect electricity prices. In addition, all Illinois Cooperatives mailed cards, addressed to each Illinois Senator, to their members regarding our concerns with the proposed legislation. Members were asked to voice their concerns by signing the cards and placing them in the mail. I am very pleased to inform you that at the time this article is being written, 198,561 cards signed by Illinois Cooperative members have been mailed to the Illinois Senators. This is an overwhelming response from Illinois members and indicates that many people in Illinois share your Cooperative's concerns about this legislation.

The U.S. Senate version of Climate Change Legislation has been renamed and is now known in the Senate as S. 1733 "Clean Energy Jobs and American Power Act". Unfortunately, the latest version of this bill, which was released on October 24th, does not ade-

quately address electric cooperatives' concerns. In fact, this Senate draft is actually worse than the previous, contentious, narrowly passed U.S. House Bill. The following is a brief summary of the key problems in the Senate draft version:

- **The caps on emissions and timelines are unachievable:** The new Senate version calls for a 20% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from 2005 levels by 2020 versus the House Bill that called for a 17% reduction. This leaves insufficient time to develop, commercialize and deploy the technologies needed to reduce emissions at this level.
- **Allocation of emissions allowances creates great regional disparities across the U.S. and specifically penalizes the Mid-West states:** The new Senate version retains the 50-50 allocation formula passed by the House that provides coastal states with more free allowances than needed while leaving mid-western states with far fewer allowances than needed. This type of allocation formula will result in mid-western states paying drastic penalties while some coastal states will not pay any penalties and could even profit from the sale of free allowances. Illinois ranks third lowest in terms of free allowances received based upon percentage of allowances needed. This means Illinois will be penalized severely.
- **Inadequate cost containment measures to help promote economic stability:** The cap-and-trade (tax) portion of this bill could cause drastic harm to our nation's economy

Continued on 16d ▶

READERSHIP
PRIZE
WINNER:
Alfred
Zedler,
Marion, IL



Bright Ideas for Safe Lighting This Season

Sparkling lights and dazzling decorations are hallmarks of the season. Make sure your holiday decorating is done with safety in mind.

Use only holiday lights that have been safety tested and have the UL label. Before decorating, check each light strand for broken sockets, frayed cords, or faulty plugs. Always be sure to unplug the lights when replacing a bulb. Don't string together more than three standard-size sets of lights or you could risk overheating the circuit.

Outdoors, use only lights, cords, animated displays and decorations rated for outdoor use. Cords should be plugged into outlets equipped with GFCI's. Use a portable GFCI if your outdoor outlets don't have them.

Take extra care not to throw strings of lights over tree branches that are near power lines and service connections.

Safe Electricity offers these additional tips for safe holiday decorating:

- Place fresh-cut trees away from heat sources, such as heat registers, fireplaces, radiators, and televisions, and water frequently.
- Match plugs with outlets. Don't force a 3-pronged plug into a 2-pronged outlet or extension cord, or remove the third prong.



- Keep electric cords out of high-traffic areas. Do not run them through doorways, staple, nail, or tack them to the wall, or hide them under rugs or carpets.
- Always unplug lights before going to bed or leaving your home.
- Make sure extension cords are in good condition and are UL-approved cords rated to carry the electrical load you will connect to them.
- Don't let children or pets play with light strands for electrical decorations.

Overloaded electrical systems are a major cause of fire. Flickering or dimming lights and monitors, sparks from appliances or outlets, and wall plates, plugs, or cords that are warm to the touch are warning signs that demand immediate attention.

If you spot an electrical danger, make sure to unplug the malfunctioning appliance immediately

SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative, Inc.

585 Highway 142 South • P.O. Box 251 • Eldorado, Illinois 62930
618-273-2611 or 800-833-2611 • Office hours: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. M-F



Happy Holidays

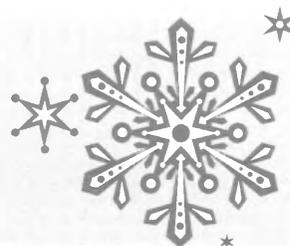
*from your Cooperative's
Board of Trustees and Employees.*



South Eastern Illinois Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

**The office will be closed
Friday, Dec. 25 for Christmas and
Friday, Jan. 1, 2010 for New Years.**



President's Comments

(Continued from 16a)

and could certainly hurt the economy in Illinois and locally. For the past several months, proponents for Climate Change Legislation stated that allowances would trade in the \$12 - \$15 range and have used these numbers in many studies to produce their results. The new Senate draft version calls for a market stability auction process which would auction off an additional 15% of annual allowances with a minimum auction price of \$28 for allowances, which is 100% higher than the original quoted price. This legislation fails to provide a strong cost containment mechanism to protect electricity consumers.

In addition, I want to emphasize that the vast majority of the additional dollars that you would pay in your elec-

tric bill due to this legislation will not be used to develop needed technologies to reduce carbon emissions.

Although this legislation was given a new name "Clean Energy Jobs and American Power Act", it is still approximately the same bill as the House version. It is interesting to note that according to a recent article on the study conducted by the government's Energy Information Administration (EIA), the proposed legislation, over time, would likely become a drag on

the economy and reduce job creation by hundreds of thousands of jobs under any of the 11 different sets of assumptions that it analyzed.

Given that the Senate version of the legislation currently fails to address the Cooperative's concerns as stated above, your Cooperative is urging Senators to oppose this bill. If you share these concerns, please contact your U.S. Senators (below):

See you next month and as always, "We'll keep the lights on for you!"

Senator Dick Durbin
309 Hart Senate Building
Washington D.C. 20510
Ph: (202)-224-2152

Senator Ronald Burr
387 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510
Ph: (202)-224-2854

POWER OUTAGE

If your power goes off, we offer these suggestions

1. Check the fuses or circuit breakers in your service panels. If you have breakers, make sure they are in the "ON" position.
2. If you have a meter pole, check the main breaker panel just below the meter socket. If the breaker is in the "OFF" position, check all of your wiring from the meter pole to your various buildings. If the wiring appears to be okay, reset the breaker to the "ON" position.
3. If you still do not have power, check with neighbors to see if they have power.
4. To report a power failure or other emergency, please phone 1-877-399-8405. This phone number is monitored around the clock, 365 days per year to accept your outage and emergency calls.
5. Your phone call will be handled by SouthEastern's automated outage reporting system and will be identified automatically through ANI (Automatic Number Identification). An outage record will then be generated for your location. Please note that the phone number from which you place the call will be the number used to generate the record. If the system fails to recognize your phone number, members having touch-tone phones may simply enter their seven-digit phone number (without area code) in order to report the outage. Members not having touch-tone phones will be asked to leave a message. It is important you leave your name, phone number and location of the outage. Retrieving messages and entering them into the system is time consuming; therefore, please leave only a message that will help in restoration of electric service. Do not remain on the line for an operator because a live operator is not there to respond. In order to keep a current listing of all numbers, it is important that you notify the Cooperative of any changes in your telephone number.
6. Handling outage calls electronically allows you to report power failures very quickly. Once your outage has been reported, it will be dispatched to repair personnel who will restore your outage as soon as possible. Calling back repeatedly will not shorten the length of the outage, but may hinder the efforts of other members who are trying to report outages.

Outage Calls Only 1-877-399-8405