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P.O. Box 338 Carthage, Illinois 62321 www.wiec.net 800/576-3125

### New Rate Structure Begins April 1

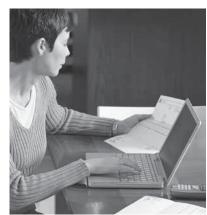
t the December 29, Board AMeeting, the Directors of WIEC approved a new rate schedule that will take effect on April 1, 2010. Members will see this increase on the bills they receive around May 10. This increase of three-quarters of a cent per kWh will be for all rates except separately metered heat and geothermal rates.

This rate increase will mean a 5-10 percent increase on our member's bills. For the member who

uses 1,000 kWh per month, this represents a 6 percent increase.

This decision to increase rates was not an easy one for the board. However, after looking at several factors, including the increases in the price WIEC pays for wires, poles and our wholesale power, it could not be ignored that a price increase was necessary.

More specific information about the new rates will be in the March issue of the WIEC News.



## **Reminder..**

### The Youth to Washington essays are due at the WIEC office by: February 16





Call toll free 800-576-3125

ILLINOIS COUNTRY LIVING • February 2010



524 North Madison P.O. Box 338 Carthage, IL 62321 www.wiec.net 800/576-3125

#### OFFICE HOURS 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday

#### DURING OFFICE HOURS, OR AFTER HOURS TO REPORT OUTAGE 217-357-3125 800-576-3125

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS Rob Gronewold — President, Carthage

Jay Morrison —

- Vice President, Niota Janet Spory —
- Secretary/Treasurer, Sutter
- William R. Newton Assistant Secretary/Treasurer, Burnside
- Dave Biery Director, Carthage
- Calvin Baumann Director, Basco
- Mike Ford Director, Lomax

#### STAFF

- Paul Dion Manager
- Tommie Long Manager of Operations
- Becky Dickinson Office Manager
  MAP LOCATION CONTEST

Every month we are printing four member's map location numbers in the newsletter. If you find your map location number call the WIEC office by the 25th of the following month, tell us where it is and we will give you a \$10.00 bill credit. Keep on reading the WIEC News.

## Capital Credit Checks Remain Outstanding

ast November, Western Illinois Electrical Coop. mailed capital credits checks to members who lived on WIEC lines during the years 1972 through 1973.

Below is a list of the members' names whose checks have not been cashed. Due to the advance printing of the WIEC News, any

Agrico Chemical Co Akers Ruth Allaman Loren Altheide Kenneth Anderson James P Annegers Betty I Annegers Raymond R Antes Russell Arco Pipe Line Co Arledge James M Arnold Ila M Aten Ralph Austin John E Barker Gerald Barker Michael L Barnes George E Belknap Frank Belshaw Doris Bennett Donald E Berlett John E Black Roy L Blue Grass Cooperage Co Bollin Leo M & Clara L. Bolton Floyd D Bowen Emogene Bowen Rodney Bowles George D Boyce Penny T Boyd Raymond Boyer Mary Brewer Kenneth A Bridger John T Bundy Don BUnte Ray L Burnett Floyd V Burrell Edward E Burtalo Lilv C Buss John D Butcher Kenneth Butler L D Butterfield Carrol Cable Richard R Cain Helen Cale Robert H Carl Karel S Carnes Donald R Carnes Iames D Carroll Darel Casady Joel Ned Cassett Ioe Chatten Walter Clover Richard E Cochran Arlene Coker G E Conrad Victor W

Cook James M Cooper Benjamin F Cox Dixie L Crank Gary M Crank R L Crear Dean Creasy Ronnie L Curl Helen Czepull Lerov Daniels Arthur W Danner James E David Kenneth J Davis Lval A Davis Marie DaviS Virgil Davis William Dawson Jean Dean Shirley J Decker Grace H Denholm James Detrick Sandra E Dobson Donald Doherty Carol M Dolbeare Steven W Dollar Daryl Donaldson Ronald Dowell Roger A Doyle Donald Doyle William H Elgin George R Endres Gene Eppley Dale Evans Clifford G Farris Donald B Ferrill William G Ferrill Woodrow Finch Brad K Foresman Anna L Foster Gilman Foster Thelma Fowler Dennis M Franke Dennis W Freeman Ronald L Fry Ralph E Fuller Harry Galbraith Max B Gavlord Alice Gerhardt Alelia Gerling GraNt H Germann Fred Gillaspie Pearl A Gittings Charles V Gittings Gail L Gooding Robert Goodman Harold N Gordon Dixie Gordon Michael B

checks cashed after January 1 will still appear on the list. (7812-17)

If you see your name listed below, please cash your check as soon as possible. If you see a former member's name, contact them and have them call our office to give us their correct address.

Thank you for your assistance.

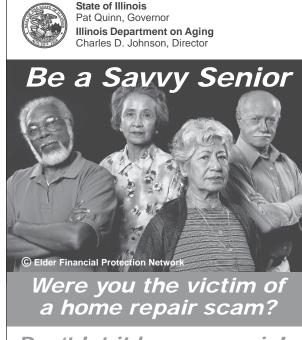
Grace W R Grafton Emery R Grignon Leonard R Haigh Mike T Hammond Joseph Hanks Wayne Harman Florence Mae Harman Frederick M Harms Stanley H Harms Walter Harris Ronald Harrison Larry Heisler Beatrice Hensley Carl L Henson Dorothy Henson Harold L Herrin O.L. Higgins Joseph I Hitz Loretta Hoffman Lee Horton Edward L Hoskins Hazel W Hoskins Leo I Hoskins Leslie W Housewright Terry W Housewright William Howard Ira Hoyt Lawrence E Hughes Marie Huls Irene Hussey Dixie Huston Peter W Hutchinson Claude Hutson James J Inman Kenneth Jackson Raymond F Jackson Roger Johnson Dale Johnson Dorothy Johnson Gertrude Iones Randy L Kappmeyer B C Kent Mary M Kepple Ralph King Melvin Kirchherr Arthur L Kirchherr Charles E Knisley Henry T Kraft David Kreie Genevieve Laffoon Wendell E Laharpe Cattle Grazi Ng As Langford Bruce L Larkin Larry Larner Fred E Launer Lec

Laws Marjori Lawson Michael W Lee Jerald G Leisureland Home Park Lentz James E Lightle Kenneth Ir Lillard Leora Limkeman John Link Jerry Lipcamon Donald M Little Garv D Little Rodney I Little Stanley Londrie Ivan Louden James P Lovitt Edwin Lukens Glen A Lukens Laurel Lunt Chrystine G Luton Beverly Luton Maurice Luttrell Lucille Magorian Larry E Maiden Ray Marano Gail E Markey Ronald F Marmion Everett Marquith Laveta F Marshall Fred L Martens James M Martin Lewis Martin Lloyd M Mason Harold W Massaro Thomas Mathena Russel Maxwell Eugene Mccombs WAyne E Mcconnell Bessie Mcconnell J W Mccord Glen O Mcdowell Duane Mcdowell Ronnie O Mckeown Ralph Mcpherson Edna Meyay Fanny M Means James I Mekemson Harold Melton Viola Meyer Julia A Michael Herman Miller Danny L Miller David S Miller Dick Miller Henry D Miller Hermol Millizer Clarence E Mills Raymond E

Mitchell Charles Moon Demming L Moore Everett Moore Phillip F Moormann Carman B Morin William S Morris J C Morris Wiley Morrow Blaine Moser Edna Mower Ralph W Moves Paul V Mt Mariah Golf Course Neff Estel G Neff Ralph C Nicholson Frank R Nielsen Conrad E Norris Earl Northup Harry Oaks Earl M Ir Oberly Roy Oconnell John T Olson Arnold Olson Glen D Olson M L Olson Raymond L Osborn Lee Owen David B Owens Onie A Pahen Terry Palm Charles Parlier Richard E Parsons James Wm Jr Parsons Ross B Paulas James R Paulek David Peacock Inn Peasley Farms Inc Peck Gladys L Pence Jack W Peters Karl L Peterson James L Peterson Larry M Peterson Lois Peterson Roylene Petty Gary Phillips Deetta Pindell Roma Polson Ovid F Polson WaLter E Porter Raymond Price Betty L Prichett J R Printy William Pulse Phyllis Quackenbush D Van Qualls Gerald L Queen Frank W Ouincy Harold F Radestock Floyd J Raid Quarries Corp Ralph Kenneth Rampley Wm A Randolph Seldon Ratcliff Vern R Reatherford James C

Reed Clarenc E Reimbold John J Research Corp Ridings Anna Robbins Robin G Roberts H Leroy Rocky Run Softball Asso Rodeffer William Rogers Paul J Rohn Donald R Rothert C Rodney Rothert Herman Roy A Morton Sons Inc Rupp Elizabeth Rush William Ruyle Zona Sal deen James R Salisbury A G Sanders Melvin Sargent Don Scheible Clelland Schmidt Gary R Schmitz Hildred Schroeder R W Schullian Clara A Schulte Bill H Schurman Henry K Schuttler Walter L Scott Elwanda Seigfried Dennis M Seward Floyd E Shannon Dewey Siefken Lee E Siegfried Cheryl R Siegfried Mary Siegfried Paul L Siegrist Celia Simmons Donald C Six Kevin Smith Marie C Smith Wyman Solomon Dale L Sparrow Chester Sparrow Harold Spiker Vilas Spory Erna Sprietler Thomas A Staff Hubert Staff Norman Stallard D Darlene Starbuck Martin T Stclair Paul Steagall Joyce Stephenson Howard Stevens Lynn E Stevenson Dennis Stevenson Kenneth Stevenson Mary Stigner James E Stoll Patrick W Stolp Mabel Stronghurst Twp Garage Stuller Alfred

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### Don't let it happen again!

- If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.
- Get estimates before doing home renovations.
- ▶ Do not pay for work in advance.
- Never do business without checking references.
- Don't be afraid to call the police and have them check out the credentials of someone who is working in your area.

### Welcome New Members

CBK Holdings, LLC, Plymouth Tim Farniok, Dallas City Kimberley Graber, Carthage Karl Gullberg, Gladstone Daniel & Angela Rathjen, LaHarpe Dawn Trelstad, Nauvoo Nichole Weber, Basco Jacob Woods, LaHarpe

### Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

When using your laptop computer at home, put the battery charger (an AC adapter) on a power strip that can be turned off.(771-15) The transformer in the charger draws power continuously, even when the laptop is not plugged in. *Source: U.S. Department of Energy* 

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# **Tracking the Electricity You Use**

Eat potato chips straight out of the bag and they'll be gone in no time. Pour them into a bowl first and they disappear a little slower.

The same goes for electricity. Learning to track how much electricity your home consumes remains a good way to start managing electric use.

Devices are appearing in stores that provide a constant, digital reading of how much electricity your home or even individual appliances are using. One type, like the Kill A Watt<sup>™</sup>, fits between an electrical outlet and (**751-9**) an appliance to give you an instant reading of how much electricity an appliance draws.

Another type connects to your electricity meter and wirelessly relays useful information to a small screen inside, called an in-home display. The device looks similar to a wireless weather monitor and can help make consumers more aware of energy being used day to day. Research conducted by the Arlington, VA-based Cooperative Research Network (CRN), the research arm of Arlington, Va.based National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, shows that most consumers who have an inhome display use less energy than those without one. And even after homeowners stop paying attention to the devices, most still use 1 to 3 percent less energy than before.

"The question of whether in-home displays catch on and become permanent fixtures in the American home is still open," explains Brian Sloboda, program manager with CRN. "However, for anyone wanting to take a proactive approach to understanding electric consumption, the in-home display may be worth exploring. You could use the knowledge that an in-house display provides to change the way you use electricity in your home and save some money."

There's also the old-fashioned way of tracking electricity use: reading your meter. As your home draws current from power lines, vour electricity meter keeps a steady record of every watt being used. Many meters today are digital, replacing the older — though still reliable — design that uses spinning disks and dials. Digital versions make tracking energy use a breeze: Jot down the number you see, and check it again in a month. The difference between the two represents the amount of electricity that has been used for that month or a typical billing period. The bottom line is your electric bill is based on your usage. The more kWh you use, the higher your bill. By being aware of how much electricity you use may help you become aware of wasteful habits and in the long run reduce your bill. (8611-10)

Sources: Scott Gates, Cooperative Research Network, U.S. Department of Energy

## Kill-A-Watt Monitors Available

If you think having a Kill-A-Watt monitor in your home would be a good idea, Western Illinois Electrical Coop. has them for sale at our office. Stop in and get one to easily track which appliances are costing you the most.

