

# WIEC NEWS

P.O. Box 338 ■ Carthage, Illinois 62321 ■ [www.wiec.net](http://www.wiec.net) ■ 800/576-3125

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

## Facility charge to increase

Many of the conveniences we enjoy in our daily life are possible because of the availability of electricity. We don't typically think about what is involved by flipping the switch. We trust the power will be there when we need it.

On a WIEC monthly bill, members are charged for the number of kilowatt hours they use each month. The facility charge is broken out separately. But what is facility charge?

To make sure the power is readily available; WIEC has invested in a system to transmit those kilowatts to your home. The system includes the wires, poles, transformers, and connectors. It includes the trucks and the buildings. It is the hardware and the software. It is the voice on the phone that says hello when you call. It is the servicemen who are there 24/7 standing by if by chance you flip the switch and nothing happens. These costs remain the same no matter if a member uses 10 kilowatt hours or 1,000. Because we are such a small coopera-

tive, there are only 2.9 members per mile of line to share these fixed costs. All these expenses represent the facility charge.

Back in 2009, we had a study done by the Association of Illinois Electric Coop. to see what the actual fixed costs were to WIEC. At that time, we raised our facility charge knowing that the increase didn't cover the true costs, but our board hoped it would be enough.

When it became apparent that these fixed costs were not being adequately covered by incoming revenues, the WIEC Board decided that WIEC would have to raise our facility charge effective April 1, 2012. For most of our residential members, the facility charge will rise to \$26 per month. For members who have a separate heat meter, that charge will increase to \$6 per month. See the chart below for other rates.

	Current	New Facility Charge
<b>Rate 1</b>	<b>\$18.75</b>	<b>\$26.00</b>
<b>Rate 3</b>	<b>\$28.75</b>	<b>\$40.00</b>
<b>Rate 4</b>	<b>\$60.00</b>	<b>\$80.00</b>
<b>Rate 5</b>	<b>\$75.00</b>	<b>\$105.00</b>
<b>Rate 10</b>	<b>\$40.00</b>	<b>\$55.00</b>
<b>Rate 11</b>	<b>\$60.00</b>	<b>\$80.00</b>
<b>Rate 40/41</b>	<b>\$4.00</b>	<b>\$6.00</b>
<b>Rate 60/61</b>	<b>\$4.00</b>	<b>\$6.00</b>

## Welcome New Members

Philip S & Jennifer R Brevick, Hamilton  
 Ron & Dana Gallahue, Nauvoo  
 Robert & Stacie Haynes, Gladstone  
 Mark Kissinger, Carthage

Iris G Miller, Carthage  
 Ross Reidner, Burnside  
 Nathan Todd, LaHarpe  
 Daniel Treadwell, Hamilton



**Western Illinois**  
ELECTRICAL COOP.  
A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

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

Last November, Western Illinois Electrical Coop. mailed capital credits checks to members who lived on WIEC lines during the years 1975 through 1976.

Below is a list of the member's name whose checks have not been cashed. Due to the advance printing of the

(3926-57) WIEC News, any checks cashed after February 1st will still appear on the list.

If you see your name listed below, please cash your check as soon as possible.

Thank you for your assistance.

ANDERSON ROGER	FINCH HENRIETTA	LAWSON INEZ	SHERMAN PAULINE
AYERS RICH D	FISHER JIM	LEE GARY K	SHIELDS MARY K
BARTON WILLIAM O	FLACK HAZEL	LEE RHONDA L	SHIREY ELI
BEBEE RICH L	FLESNER DONALD D	LINK LYLE A	SHRUM JAMES D
BEMIS RICHARD	FORD ROBERT	LITTLE ROBERT M	SIEGFRIED CHRIS L
BENNETT GARY	FULL GOSPEL C HURCH	LOUDEN FRANKLIN	SIEGRIST CELIA
BEVERIDGE CLIFFORD	GEIGER EMMA	LOWE R M	SILLS JERRY L
BIGGER GLADYS	GERHARDT GENE	LUFT LOUISE	SIMON MONTE K
BOLLIN JAMES L	GERLING GRANT H	MANLEY JAMES	SMITH KENNETH
BOLTON FLOYD D	GILPIN ERNIE	MARSDEN GARY L	SMITH RICHARD J
BOOTON EARL	GITTINGS CAROL	MARSHALL FRED L	SMOTHERS EUGENE
BOYD CHARLES	GREENSLAUGH LOUIS	MARTIN KATHLEEN M	W JR
BOYD KENT	HAINLINE GERALD L	MCCHESNEY SADIE	SMYSER BARBARA J
BRACKENSICK RICH	HALE DAVID F	MCCLINTOCK ALICE F	SNYDER DAVID R
BRAY OWEN	HALE PAUL E	MCMANUS LOIS	SPORY ERNA
BREITBARTH F A	HAMMA MICHAEL D	MCVEIGH JUNE	STARR DEAN
BRINK ROGER A	HARMS MARIE	MCVEIGH RAYMOND	TEEL STEVEN R
BROKAW STEVEN D	HARRIS GREG K	MEYER ROBERT E	TIMMERMAN BARBARA
BROOKS GUY	HASKINS CHRIS	MILLER EDWARD E	JEAN
BURGESS GARY	HEATON KENDALL	MOHR ALVIN D	TODD R D
BURT MAE C	HENSLEY BETTY	MORRISON GEORGE W	TRIPP WILLIAM M
CLAMPITT GARY L	HICKS HARRY R	NAIL JAMES	TWADDLE JOHN ROBERT
CLUCAS GENE	HILL GEROLD D	NELSON R M	UFKES ROSE
COFFMAN BETTY J	HILL J D	NICHOLS ROBERT E	VANAUSDALL JUNIOR L
CONOVER IDA BELL	HOLTSCLOW MAX	NICHOLSON MARTHA L	VANCE LARRY G
CORNWELL BETTY	HOPPING MARSHAL SR	OLSON ARTHUR L	VANFLEET DANNY
COX JANET U	HORN STEVEN E	OLSON DALE W	VANTINE GERALD L
CROSSLAND ARLO O	HOWALD MARLIN	OWENS ONIE A	VARNER ROBERT J
DECKER ANN K	HOWARD DANIEL A SR	PALM CLAUDINE M	VEACH MARGE A
DEIHL GEORGE L IV	HOWELL WILLIAM L	PATRICK LARRY	WALKER MARION E
DENNISON JOHN W	HUFFMAN BARBARA E	PENCE LARRY	WALKER RICK
DENNISON OTTO	HUFFMAN BERTHA	PHILLIPS AMBROSE	WARSAW GUN CLUB
DESHONG ULYSSES	HURLEY LOUISE	PLATH JOHN M	WATKINS WILLIAM D
DIETZ KATHLEEN J	HUTSON RONALD J	POLSON CLIFFOR D	WEIGERT JEFF L
DIEWOLD LOLA H	INGHRAM JANE	PORTER JOAN	WHITAKER DON
DRAKE DON	IRISH RALPH E	RAY RICHARD L	WILHITE CURTIS D
DUNHAM JAMES E	J J FARMS INC	REED RANDY K	WILLIAMS JOHN N
EDWARDS HELEN	JACKSON JOHN M	REEVES LOWELL E	WILLIAMSON GAIL A
EHMEN FLORINE	JACOBS IVAN	ROOST F GLENN	WILSEY GLENN R
EIMER KENNETH	JOHNSON JERRY D	ROSENDALE VIRGIL M	WISSLEAD THELMA A
ELDER TERRY	JONES GWYN	ROSSON HAROLD JR	WOLFE KATHLEEN
ENRIGHT ERNEST E	JONES VERA	SARTORIUS SHARON	WOODWORTH ALVA
EVANS DONNA J	JUSTICE ERNEST J R	SCANLAN WM R	WOOLVERTON DUANEM
EVANS LAROY A	KAYWOOD MARVIN I	SCHMITZ EDWARD	WOOLVERTON GARRY
EVANS M L	KELLY JUNE	SCHUBERT ROBERT	WORDEN GLADYS
EWING LENNA M	KELLY KEVIN D	SHAFFER BRADLEY R	WRIGHT ROLAND B
FERRILL GLORIA J	KNOCH PAUL	SHELTON GARITH	

## Blackout: Follow these safety tips

We depend on electricity to power our computers, lights, the coffee machine and the refrigerator at the flick of a switch. When a power failure strikes, we can feel helpless and frightened. Don't panic when the lights go out. Take these steps to keep everyone safe in the event of a blackout:

### Keep a light on.

Make sure that at least one light is in the on position so everyone can tell when the power comes back.

### Close the refrigerator.

Keep food safe by keeping the refrigerator and freezer closed. Most food will remain at cool temperatures for 24 hours.

### Rely on your landline.

Cordless phones may not operate during a power blackout, and cell phone reception could be undependable if the problem is widespread. Make sure your home or workplace has (3818-56) at least one reliable landline so you can communicate with the outside world.

### Hit the off switch.

Turn off and unplug your computers, microwave ovens, and other equipment to avoid damage due to power surges when electricity is restored.

### Know your emergency exits.

Have flashlights handy at home and battery backups in exit signs in the workplace so that exiting is safe. Keep hallways clear of clutter to prevent injuries in the dark when electricity is restored.

## Deadline nears for nominating your dad

Each year the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives sponsors a contest to recognize a deserving mother or father for his outstanding service to his family and community. Many have overcome obstacles in their lives that stand as true testaments to their fortitude and integrity. If you have such a father or know a man in the community deserving of this year's Father of the Year title, please write a letter to the Association of Illinois

Electric Cooperatives by March 15. It's not difficult. Fill out the form on page 15 of this month's Illinois Country Living and either mail your letter or (8516-19) e-mail it according to the instructions. A story on the winning father will be featured as an upcoming cover feature in the ICL. The father will also receive prizes and recognition at a community event held in his honor. Be sure to enter.





# Electric Cooperatives



## U.S. Senator Mark Kirk visited with WIEC Director Biery

**F**irst-term Republican U.S. Sen. Mark Kirk made a scheduled stop at the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives in Springfield on Thursday, Jan. 19. He addressed the AIEC Board of Directors on issues

related to energy. Board Director Dave Biery from Western Illinois Electrical Coop. spoke directly to the visiting senator (**10525-37**) about issues concerning electric cooperatives.

After returning to Chicago a few days later, Kirk suffered a debilitating stroke. We wish the Senator a full recovery.



## YOU'RE ONLY AS ENERGY EFFICIENT AS YOUR OLDEST APPLIANCE.

After I purchased a new ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> qualified refrigerator, I moved my old one to the garage to keep a few drinks cold. Turns out, that move was burning a pretty big hole in my wallet. Now I'm saving \$146 per year just by pulling the plug on my old fridge. What can you do? Find out how the little changes add up at [TogetherWeSave.com](http://TogetherWeSave.com).



Touchstone Energy<sup>®</sup>

[TOGETHERWESAVE.COM](http://TOGETHERWESAVE.COM)