

Energy Partners

A monthly look at the happenings of and related to:



New-Mac Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner The power of human connections

Climate change isn't the *only* issue

Pressure is mounting in Congress to do something about climate change. And while political debates in Washington, D.C., may seem far away, the outcome will have a direct impact on our cooperative – and on you, the co-op member and other electric consumers.

Climate change is but one aspect of a looming energy crisis created by increasing demand and decreasing capacity to meet that demand. Experts now say some areas of the country will be short of power within one or two years.

And yet energy supply isn't an issue our elected representatives are spending a lot of time on. These forces – the desire by government to reduce greenhouse gas emissions quickly and the growing demand for power by consumers – are about to collide.

Some people say we can meet demand through efficiency and renewable energy. The reality is we need all the efficiency and renewable energy we can get, but that will not be enough.

To avert an energy crisis, the federal government must exercise true leadership,

the same leadership that got Americans to the moon in the 1960s. Without that leadership – without a sound, responsible plan – government risks not only the reliability of our electric system, but literally the ability of many Americans to be able to afford to pay their electric bill.

We, as electric co-op members and constituents, must call on elected officials to provide this leadership, and we need to do it now!

You don't need to be an energy expert to ask questions. Asking questions helps find the answers to solve the problem of balancing climate change goals with keeping your lights on and your electric bills affordable.

Right now, members of Congress as well as state elected officials are hearing from lots of different interest groups who have

The 3 Questions

Our Energy, Our Future poses three questions to legislators:

- 1 Experts say that our nations' growing electricity needs will soon go well beyond what renewables, conservation and efficiency can provide. What is your plan to make sure we have the electricity we'll need in the future?
- 2 What are you doing to fully fund the research required to make emissions-free electric plants an affordable reality?
- 3 Balancing electricity needs and environmental goals will be difficult. How much is all this going to increase my electric bill and what will you do to make it affordable?

ideas about how to address climate change. No one is talking to consumers, however. We need a plan people can live with today while we deal with the climate change problem of tomorrow.

To make things easy, our nation's electric

See *Our Energy*, page 3



Our Energy, Our Future
A Dialogue With America

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- E-Conference upcoming.....page 2
- Recipe of the monthpage 3
- Doug Rye says*page 4



New-Mac Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner The power of human connections

Energy Partners is a monthly publication of New-Mac Electric for the purpose of informing members of the programs, services and happenings of, and related to, the cooperative.

NEW-MAC ELECTRIC'S 2008 ANNUAL MEETING

• 10 a.m., Sat., Oct. 25 @ Crowder College Gymnasium • Registration 8-10:15 a.m.

It's New-Mac Annual Meeting time again, and we are excited about all we have planned this year.

We will have gift drawings for all ages, and babysitting is provided.

The meeting also features a free luncheon. Please help us in planning the food. If you are planning on attending, please clip and fill out this form, and mail it to P.O. Box



310, Neosho MO 64850. You may also return it with your bill payment.

We will place our meal order based on the number of forms we receive.

See you all at the meeting!

Mitch McCumber,
CEO/General Manager

Yes, I/we are planning to attend the 2008 Annual Meeting.

There will be _____ family members attending.

Please circle one: For lunch, I/we would prefer: **Pork** or **Beef**



Please detach and send in or return with your bill payment.

Please call before you dig
Digging in areas where there may be an underground electric line can be dangerous! So, before any project that requires digging, call the Missouri One Call System at 800-DIG-RITE.

Those who fail to make this call not only face the chance of electric shock; they also will be held responsible for any repairs that may be necessary if a line is accidentally cut or damaged.

New-Mac members can also call the New-Mac office to receive assistance in locating lines up to the meter. To take advantage of this service, call 417-451-1515, ask for dispatch, and talk to Chad Gaines.

Moving advice
When moving out of the New-Mac Electric service area, please don't forget to leave a forwarding address. You could be leaving capital credits behind.

Please don't lock us out
Even though automatically read meters make monthly visits to each location unnecessary, New-Mac still needs access to each meter for periodic checks and outages. So, make sure the co-op can get to your meter, and any existing lock arrangements with New-Mac need to be maintained.

New-Mac once again co-sponsor of E-Conference

New-Mac Electric is pleased to once again be a sponsor of the E-Conference, which will be held Sept. 26-27 at Crowder College's Elsie Plaster Center in Neosho.

This marks the E-Conference's third year, however for the first time, it will be a two-day event. The E-Conference gives attendees the opportunity to be informed on a variety of topics regarding energy, energy efficiency and the environment.



The keynote speakers for this year's conference include Doug Fine, journalist and National Public Radio correspondent, and Bob Dixon, mayor of Greensburg, Kan. – a town that has received international attention for its green rebuilding following a devastating tornado in May of 2007. Fine will address the conference on Friday, and Dixon will be featured on Saturday.

Each day, the conference offers breakout sessions, including hands-on workshops, relating to the "E" topics, and participants can choose which sessions they would like to attend.

The cost is \$15, which includes lunch on Friday. The event will run from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Friday and from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday. For more information or to pre-register, contact the Neosho Area Chamber of Commerce office at (417) 451-1925.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF THE NEW-MAC ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

The Nominating Committee, elected at the Annual Meeting held October 27, 2007, did on August 20, 2008, meet at this office of the Cooperative, Highway 86, Neosho, Missouri, pursuant to Section 3, Article III of the by-laws of the Cooperative, to nominate a slate of candidates to be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Membership of the Cooperative, October 25, 2008, and did at such meeting nominate the following persons for Director of the Cooperative.

- District #1**
Northeast Section Richard Shull
Newton County
For three (3) year term Martin Youngblood
- District #3**
Northwest Section Bobby Fields
Newton County
For three (3) year term Wayne McGuire
- District #6**
Northeast Section Edmond Lauderdale
McDonald County
For three (3) year term Paul Sprengle

Published in accordance with Section 3, Article III, of the by-laws of the New-Mac Electric Cooperative, Inc., Neosho, Missouri.

Signed Dwayne W. Miller
Teresa Carlin
Lester Shuey
Roger P. Haan
Donald Donoho



A visitor looks over New-Mac Electric's exhibit at the 2007 E-Conference. This year's event is slated for Sept. 26-27 at Crowder College's Elsie Plaster Center in Neosho.

○ Our Energy

Continued from page 1

cooperatives have a website that will send an email for you. Go to www.ourenergy.coop and plug in your address. There you'll be able to ask a series of questions to your representatives in Washington. Currently, we're asking the question: What are you doing to fully fund the research required to make emissions-free electric plants an affordable reality?

Or even better, *if you didn't already notify your legislators at the county fairs or bring in the card from last month's newsletter*, clip the card located on this page, fill out the requested information, and **bring it in person** to either New-Mac office (Neosho or Anderson) during normal business hours **Sept. 15-19** to receive three CFLs for your home or business.

Far too often questions don't get asked by policy makers until plans go wrong. We believe it makes sense to know the answers before the laws are passed. You can help your elected officials and yourself by having this conversation. The electric bill you save will be your own.



Start The Dialogue

NAME _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE (_____) _____

EMAIL _____

I AM A MEMBER OF _____ CO-OP

SIGNATURE _____



**America's Electric
Cooperatives**

For more information visit
www.ourenergy.coop



If you didn't bring this card in last month and missed us at the county fairs, fill this out and bring it in Sept. 15-19 for three CFL bulbs!

Meter tampering illegal and dangerous

Nothing good can come from tampering with your electric meter.

First, the likelihood of getting away with altering or bypassing a meter's recording of energy use is becoming increasingly slim, if not impossible.

Over the years New-Mac has developed a number of effective measures to deter meter tampering, but perhaps the greatest safeguard is now coming from the meter itself. New-Mac's meters are *Turtle*[®] meters, which automatically report usage to the co-op. These *Turtle*[®] devices are extremely accurate and have foiled the efforts of many tamperers.

In Missouri, meter tampering is a Class A misdemeanor, and repeat offenders face a Class D felony charge.

New-Mac treats each tampering incident as a serious matter. Not only are meter tamperers breaking the law, they're also stealing energy from their fellow electric cooperative members.

And foremost, tampering with a

meter is extremely dangerous, as it could result in severe electrical burns, shock, or even death by electrocution. Meddling with the meter base can be just as deadly, even if the meter has

been removed. Also, keep in mind these hazards are not limited to the tamperer; others are put at risk if a meter that has been tampered with is left exposed.

Energy Partners'

Recipe of the Month:

EASY PECAN PIE

Submitted by New-Mac member: **Dixie Lankford**

4 eggs
1/2 tsp. salt
1 cup. sugar
1 Tbs. flour
1 tsp. vanilla

1 1/2 cup white syrup
1/3 cup melted butter
3 oz. chopped pecans
1 unbaked pastry shell

Place pecans in pastry shell. Mix the rest of the ingredients and pour over pecans. Bake 50 min. to 1 hour at 350°.

Send your recipe, along with your name and customer number, to: Recipes, c/o New-Mac Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 310, Neosho, MO 64850; or recipes@new-mac.com. If your recipe is selected, New-Mac will apply a \$15 credit to your bill.

Use CFLs & save

A few months ago, my wife and I had the opportunity to visit six European countries. I quickly noticed that almost every light bulb there was more energy efficient than most regular incandescent bulbs in America. I remember looking at her and saying, "Honey, they are a lot further ahead on energy-saving light bulbs than we are."

Well, 10 months later, I am happy to say that we in America are rapidly adapting to the use of compact fluorescent lights (CFLs). CFLs are getting more dependable, and there are more classes of the light spectrum being offered (soft white, bright white, etc.).

Some are now being made for use with a dimmer switch, and there are far more sizes and designs than in the past. In fact, I believe that I could totally light any new or existing house with CFLs. The only exception would be an appliance light for a refrigerator or oven.

As interest in CFLs grows, I find myself getting a lot of questions at my seminars, in letters and on the phone about the proper way to dispose of a CFL. At first I didn't know why folks were asking that question. Then I learned it had been mentioned on television that CFLs contained mercury. Well, we learned from our mother and teachers in school to never touch mercury and certainly never to put it near our mouth, except when our temperature was taken with a thermometer that has mercury in it. Because of your question concerning this matter, I went out and did some research. Here, to the best of my ability, is the answer.

First, man does not make mercury (unless you are talking about the auto-

mobile). God made mercury as one element of the earth, as evidenced by the element chart on the wall of a chemistry class. Minute traces of mercury can be found in many places and many soil types.

You may actually come into contact with some mercury while you are working in your garden. It appears that contact with minute amounts of mercury poses no health threat whatsoever.

OK. Just how much mercury is in a CFL anyway?

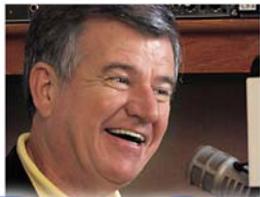
Well, take your ballpoint pen and make a dot, like the period at the end of this sentence.

That is about how much mercury is in a regular CFL. It is miniscule, folks.

There are a few locations that recycle CFLs, and if you are near one, by all means recycle them. However, if you are not near such a center, I see no reason why you can't dispose of a CFL in the trash as you would a regular incandescent bulb. And just as you would with any bulb, I suggest that you be careful not to break or crush the bulbs because you could cut yourself.

So, I hope this column will put your mind at ease about CFLs. In these days of rising energy costs, CFLs are a cost effective way to save energy. So, if you haven't already, go out and replace those old incandescent bulbs today with CFLs and start saving on your electric bill.

For additional information on CFL recycling, visit:
www.serviceconcepts.biz/products_recycling.htm



Doug Rye
says ...



P.O. Box 310 — 12105 East Highway 86
 Neosho, Missouri 64850
Telephone: 417/451-1515 800/322-3849
Fax: 417/451-9042
Office Hours: Neosho — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Anderson — 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Or visit us on the Web at
www.newmac.com

Management

CEO/General Manager Mitch McCumber
 Controller David Childers
 Manager of Administration Mary Hatfield
 System Engineer Stan Irsik
 Manager of Operations Alan Loehr
 Manager of Marketing Mark K. Rakes
 Billing Supervisor Vickie Stuart

Board of Directors

District 1 Martin Youngblood
 District 2 Kenneth Daniels
 District 3 Bobby Fields
 District 4 Beryl Kennedy
 District 5 Billy P. White
 District 6 Paul Sprenkle
 District 7 Maurice Mailes
 District 8 Virgil Winchester
 District 9 Dewey Allgood

Services Provided to Members

Call our consumer services department for information on the following services:

- Autowithdrawal Payment**
- Levelized Billing**
- Rental Light**
- Meeting rooms available at both locations**
- Credit Card Acceptance**
- Safety Programs (upon request)**
- Trade-A-Tree Program**
- Surge Protection**
- Green Power**

Questions? Comments?

Contact: Mark K. Rakes
 P.O. Box 310, Neosho, MO
mrakes@newmac.com

Doug Rye, a licensed architect living in Arkansas and the popular host of the "Home Remedies" radio show (as heard on KQYS 1420 AM), works as a consultant for the Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas to promote energy efficiency to cooperative members statewide. To order Doug's video, call Doug at 1-888-Doug-Rye. More energy-efficiency tips can also be found at www.ecark.org.