



JANUARY ■ 2008



REAL PEOPLE. REAL POWER.

Tideland Topics

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE MEMBER-OWNERS OF TIDELAND ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

RESOLVE TO SAVE: New rates can be offset with efficiency

February Bills Will Reflect New Rates

New rate schedules will be effective with all Tideland bills rendered after January 31, 2008. Published rates will increase an average of 3.52%. However, the co-op anticipates a decrease in its wholesale power cost adjustment (WPCA) so the net increase to members is expected to average **0.14%**. The average WPCA in 2007 was 1.2¢ per kilowatt hour (kWh). In 2008, we anticipate the WPCA to drop to 0.8¢ per kWh barring unforeseen generating expenses. For more information see pages B and E of this special Tideland Topics section.

YOU HAVE THE POWER TO LOWER ENERGY BILLS

When it comes to what you pay for electricity rates are only half the story. As important as the rate you pay is the amount of energy you consume. In 2006, the average Tideland member used 1,010 kilowatt hours (kWh) per month. In 2007, that average rose to 1,040 kWh. Therefore, the average Tideland member dealt themselves a 3% power cost increase through increased consumption.

Tideland looks far and wide for ways to keep rates as low as possible. You and your family or business must do the same to keep energy bills affordable by looking for ways to increase efficiency and avoid wasteful energy habits. A good way to start dealing yourself energy savings is to read your electric meter daily. Track your daily kWh readings. Learn how and when you use electricity and look for opportunities to save. You'll be surprised how much you can save when you make energy savings a priority.

REAL YUMMY:



It's Girl Scout Cookie Time

Area Girl Scouts will begin taking cookie orders in January. Here's an easy dessert recipe using the Girl Scouts' all time best seller the Thin Mints.

Mini Grasshopper Cheesecakes

Ingredients:

- 12 Girl Scout Thin Mint cookies
- 2 8-ounce packages of cream cheese, softened
- ½ C sugar or Splenda
- ½ t mint flavoring
- 2 eggs
- 3-4 drops green food coloring

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COOKIE TIME

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Line muffin tin with cupcake paper liners. Place one cookie in each liner.

Mix cream cheese, mint flavoring and sugar at medium speed until well blended. Add eggs and food coloring; mix well.

Pour over cookies, filling ¾ full. Bake 25 minutes at 325 degrees F.

From our Chief Executive Officer: Focusing on what we can do



William H. Stacy

**God grant me the serenity
to accept the things
I cannot change;
courage to change
the things I can;
and wisdom to
know the difference.**

It occurred to me recently that the serenity prayer is in some ways about energy...personal energy. It encourages people to direct their efforts in ways that can affect change. It's a proactive prayer rooted in the power of possibilities.

Rising costs will be a long term part of our energy outlook. The annual electric power report released by the Energy Information Administration (EIA) found that electric prices increased in all regions of the country from 2005-2006. The

largest increases occurred in the East.

According to the report, 14

states and the District of Columbia saw the average price of electricity rise by 10 percent or more. Additionally, another 14 states experienced increases between 5 to 10 percent.

The study also indicated that average residential electric rates increased to 10.4 cents per kWh, approximately 10 percent more than 2005.

Tideland can not change many of the factors that influence electric rates. We also know renewable energy mandates and requirements to reduce CO₂ emissions will further increase costs in the years ahead. Increasing costs will have to be shared by rate payers.

What we believe we can change however is the way you think about energy consumption. Tideland will increasingly focus on energy education so you

can make wise energy decisions.

You'll hear us emphasize time and time again how important it is that you analyze your own energy use. Most households could easily reduce energy consumption without incurring any inconvenience or compromising comfort.

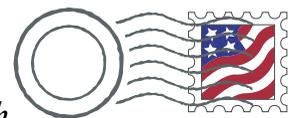
Tideland is committed to giving you the encouragement and knowledge you need to change the things you can. We truly believe that any rate increase can painlessly be offset through increased energy efficiency and less waste.

We can do it. You can too.



Special delivery

Member refund checks and credits issued last month



Tideland EMC's board of directors approved a general retirement of capital credits totaling \$119,413. The refund applied to members served during the years 1984 and/or 2006. Active account holders were mailed a check if their electric account was current at the time of the distribution and if their refund totaled at least \$10.00. All other active members

received a credit on their December electric bill.

As a not-for-profit, member-owned cooperative, Tideland provides service at cost. Any funds left over after expenses are eventually returned to members through a series of capital credit refunds. The amount returned to each member is based on the total

amount they paid for electricity during the year for which the refund is made.

During the first 11 months of 2007 Tideland also refunded capital credits totaling \$151,301 to the estates of deceased members.

REAL INSPIRING TEACHERS: 2007-08 BRIGHT IDEAS GRANT RECIPIENTS



ENERGY SAVING RESOLUTIONS

IN 2008 I WILL:

1.

ONLY INSTALL
ENERGY SAVING
LIGHTBULBS

2.

ONLY WASH
CLOTHES IN COLD
WATER

3.

INSTALL A TIMER
ON MY WATER
HEATER

4.

CHANGE HVAC
FILTERS MONTHLY

5.

TURN OFF OR
UNPLUG ALL
ELECTRICAL ITEMS
WHEN NOT IN USE

6.

MAINTAIN
ENERGY SAVING
THERMOSTAT
SETTINGS

TEACHERS INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR THE NEXT ROUND OF BRIGHT IDEAS FUNDING MAY VISIT OUR WEBSITE WWW.NCBRIGHTIDEAS.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION. HERE ARE OUR MOST RECENT WINNERS. CONGRATULATIONS!

Dawn Landen, Donna Gargara & Kristen Peed
P.S. Jones Middle School
"Geocaching for Knowledge"

Students will use GPS handheld devices to locate caches (hidden objects linked to curriculum) on and around the grounds of the school. It's a modern day treasure hunt!

Alida Sawyer
John Cotten Tayloe Elementary
"This Math Is Over (my) Head!"

This grant will fund materials that can be used with an overhead projector. Miniature dry erase boards, letters for math vocabulary, overhead clocks, money, metric and customary measurement materials, shapes and place value manipulative items will also be purchased.

Donna Johnson
Pungo Christian Academy
"What's Under Your Feet?"

With a talking globe, ethnic dolls & costumes, a world rug & even their own passports students will become world travelers learning geography without ever leaving the classroom.

Sharon Paszt Jankowski
Washington High School
"I Can't Get No Satisfaction Because I Can't Get No Science Action"

Working in small groups students will participate in hands-on activities to enhance their knowledge and appreciation of physical science. One of the activities is called bungee jumping eggs!

Jennifer Murray & Marcia Harris
Southside High School
"Hours-n-Enterprise"

Special needs students must acquire 300 school based hours through the Occupational Course of Study. This project will expand their occupational opportunities by providing materials to start their own school-based enterprise. Through this entrepreneurial outlet students will acquire new skills such as creating a product, managing money and interaction with others in a "job-like" setting. Items, such as beaded jewelry, key chains, custom frames, doorknob hangers, sand art and loomed potholders, will be created and sold by the students in the school store.

Sheri Matthews
Chocowinity Primary
"Open Your Eyes! Experiencing Our World Through Art"

Students will explore three specific cultures through art. Students will create original

CONTINUED ON PAGE D OF TIDELAND TOPICS

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS: TIME TO APPLY FOR TIDELAND SCHOLARSHIPS



Tideland EMC is accepting college scholarship applications from all high school seniors in Beaufort, Hyde, Washington, Pamlico, Dare and Craven counties. The co-op will award eight \$500 scholarships. Applications are scored using the following criteria: Financial Need 45%; Scholastic Achievement 35% and Extracurricular Activities 20%. In addition to the application, scholarship candidates must include 1) a letter detailing their reasons for applying for the scholarship and their future plans; 2) a letter of recommendation from their principal, guidance counselor or academic advisor; 3) a complete transcript of high school courses and grades; and 4) SAT or ACT scores if applicable. Students have until Friday, March 7, 2008 to apply. Please see your guidance counselor for a copy of Tideland's scholarship application or visit our website: www.tidelandemc.com and click on the Bright Ideas tab. For more information call Heidi Jernigan Smith at 252.944.2410.

works of art echoing the techniques and themes of the African, Native American and Mexican cultures.

Larry Hodgkins, Anita Rish & Beth Michael
Washington Montessori
"Algebra I Integration for Middle School Students"

Algebra will come to life with a Bright Ideas funded weather monitoring station, water testing equipment and TI 83 Plus graphing calculators. Students will monitor the water quality of the campus' on-site pond. The overall goal is to make students verbally fluent in algebraic concepts by making the subject matter come to life through hands on activities.

Jeannie Boyd
Northside High School
"Thoreau Comes to Life"

Northside High School has implemented a school wide learning theme entitled "Plug Into Rural Life" which encourages students to reconnect with the outdoors, the environment and the cultural and natural resources of their own community. This project will allow students to build their own "Thoreau-like" cabin and to

experience life in its simplest terms. The objective is to generate reflective writing, self-sufficiency, an appreciation for nature and one's own environment, and to enhance understanding of Henry David Thoreau's works.

Lisa Godley
Chocowinity Middle School
"You, Me and Ecology"

Fifth graders will maintain a self-supporting, tank-based aquatic ecosystem in the school library that produces its own food and treats its own waste via a complex food web. Students will check the climate data, water properties and water chemistry several times per day and maintain data notebooks.

Melanie Simmons
Northeast Elementary
"I'll Take Polynomials for \$800 Please"

Students will become actively involved in the acquisition of mathematical and algebraic knowledge while playing the game of "Jeopardy." The game is set up with all the sounds and action of the TV game show which in turn holds the interest and attention of students.

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Tideland Topics

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ENERGY FACTS ABOUT HDTV: DID YOU KNOW THAT SOME HIGH DEFINITION TELEVISIONS CONSUME AS MUCH POWER AS A NEWER MODEL REFRIGERATOR? ONE OF THE WORST OFFENDING UNITS COSTS OVER \$220 A YEAR TO OPERATE. GET THE FACTS BEFORE YOU PLUG IN.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: [HTTP://REVIEWS.CNET.COM/4520-6475_7-6400401-3.HTML](http://reviews.cnet.com/4520-6475_7-6400401-3.html)



A WORD TO MEMBERS PAYING BY CREDIT CARD

Recent actions have been taken by the credit card industry to increase cardholder security. As a result the name of Tideland's payment processing vendor, Southeastern Data Cooperative (SEDC), will appear on your credit card statement when using a credit card to pay on your electric bill.

Please make note of this change to avoid an unwarranted charge dispute with your credit card company.

ALWAYS
CALL
BEFORE YOU
DIG



Tideland EMC Electric Service & Outdoor Lighting Rate Schedules

Effective With All Bills Rendered After January 31, 2008

All rates subject to NC State Sales Tax of 3% & Wholesale Power Cost Adjustment

Rates 1 & 3 - Residential

Basic facilities charge:

Overhead \$14.00

Underground \$16.18

Energy Charges:

Per kWh \$0.10078

Minimum monthly bill is \$19.40 overhead, \$21.58 underground.

Rates 2 & 4 - Residential Time-of-Use

Basic facilities charge:

Overhead \$20.45

Underground \$22.63

On-Peak Demand Charge:

Per kWd year-round \$9.65

Energy Charges:

Per kWh year-round \$0.053

Minimum monthly bill is \$25.90 overhead; \$28.08 underground.

Rates 5, 6, 7, & 8 - Small Commercial Service

Basic facilities charge:

Overhead Single Phase \$18.65

Overhead Three Phase \$27.20

Demand Charge:

First 15 kWd \$0.00

> 15 kWd \$4.10

Energy Charges:

0 - 800 kWhs \$0.1095

Next 1,200 kWhs \$0.1058

Over 2,000 kWhs \$0.0809

Minimum bill is the basic facilities charge plus \$1.30 per kVA of transformer capacity in excess of 15 kVA and an additional \$2.18 per month if facilities are underground.

Rate 9 - Large Power Service

Basic facilities charge: \$130.00

Demand Charge:

Per kWd \$8.75

Energy Charges:

Per kWh \$0.0608

Reactive Demand Charge:

Per KVAR \$1.25

Minimum bill is the basic facilities charge plus \$1.30 per kVA of transformer capacity in excess of 100 kVA.

Rates 13, 14, 15 & 16 - Small General Curtailable Service

Energy & demand charges are the same as small commercial service

Basic facilities charge:

Single Phase: \$34.65

Three Phase (<100 kVA): \$48.95

Demand Discount:

Per kW Curtailed Demand: \$9.24

Minimum bill is the basic facilities charge plus \$1.30 per kVA of transformer capacity in excess of 15 kVA and an additional \$2.18 per month if facilities are underground.

Rate 17 - Large Power Curtailable Service

Energy & demand charges are the same as large power service

Basic facilities charge: \$170.00

Demand Discount:

Per kW Curtailed Demand: \$9.24

Minimum bill is the basic facilities charge plus \$1.30 per kVA of transformer capacity in excess of 100 kVA.

Rate 18 - Large Power Time-of-Use Service

Basic facilities charge: \$170.00

Demand Charge:

On Peak kW \$20.25

Off Peak kW \$4.50

Energy Charges:

Per kWh \$0.0523

Reactive Demand Charge:

Per kVAR \$1.25

Minimum bill is the basic facilities charge plus \$1.30 per kVA of transformer capacity in excess of 100 kVA or the amount specified by contract

Outdoor Lighting

175-watt mercury vapor: \$9.16

400-watt mercury vapor: \$12.80

100-watt high pressure sodium: \$11.00

400-watt metal halide: \$13.50

Additional pole charge: \$1.55