

WHITEWATER VALLEY REMC Powerlines

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBERS OF WHITEWATER VALLEY REMC

Comments from your CEO



Boyd Huff, CEO

Electric Cooperative Members: 42 Million Strong

The *Our Energy, Our Future™* campaign helps unify electric co-op members across America

NRECA CEO, Glenn English, testified in April before the House Energy and Commerce Committee and the Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment on the climate change proposal recently offered by Chairman Henry Waxman and Edward Markey. He expressed concern over one of the possible options for a cap-and-trade program, and voiced strong opposition to the auction of carbon emission allowances on the open market.

When electric cooperatives began to spread across America 75 years ago, President Franklin D. Roosevelt made the point that electricity in this country was no longer a luxury. It had become, as it is today, a necessity.

In these difficult economic times, a lot of Americans are struggling to make ends meet. As not-for-profit, consumer-owned and controlled electric co-ops, we want to make certain that each and every citizen in this country can continue to receive affordable electric power. We want to make certain we don't step back from the commitment that FDR made.

Congress is currently working to address issues related to climate change and debating federal mandates regarding renewable energy development and energy efficiency. Even if Congress doesn't act, the U.S. Supreme Court has given the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency a green light to put new rules curbing emissions of carbon dioxide from power plants in place.

As a result of these efforts, there's little doubt electric bills are going to rise. The

only question is whether higher electric bills will be kept affordable.

Electric co-ops are dealing with a very different situation than we have in the past. Electric bills will go up because of the climate change and energy policy decisions of U.S. senators and representatives on Capitol Hill—or worse, unelected federal bureaucrats. Higher electric bills will become the norm as we are all forced to comply with these government mandates.

At Whitewater Valley REMC, we're talking to our members of Congress, trying to convince them to work with us to make sure that we not only deal with climate change, but do so in a way that keeps electric bills affordable. To accomplish this goal, we need your help.

Nationwide, 42 million consumers are served by electric cooperatives. If every co-op consumer contacted their senators and representatives, we could make a real impact on the final shape of any energy or climate change legislation.

Over the last year, electric co-op consumers have made their voices heard on keeping electric bills affordable through the *Our Energy, Our Future™* grassroots awareness campaign. More than 1.6 million messages have been sent to Congress so far—including over 240 members from Whitewater Valley REMC who signed up at the annual meeting. You can add to that list by visiting www.ourenergy.coop.

Make certain that those who lead us in Washington, D.C., hear from you today.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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Enjoy Your Summer!

Liberty Office Hours:

7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday
Closed Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays

To Report an Outage or Emergency:

Call 1-800-776-0493
24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Be ready to provide the following information:

- The name and account number under which your electric service is listed
- Map location number
- Your phone number—needed to call back or confirm power restoration
- The type of problem you are experiencing—flickering lights, complete power outage, etc.

We appreciate your call and will work promptly to assist you.

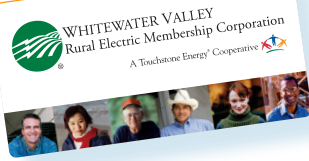


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For up-to-date information, visit us on the web at www.wwvremc.com.

President & CEO - Boyd Huff
Powerlines Editor - Sandy Cason



Whitewater Valley REMC is launching a new Co-op Connections offer which allows their members to obtain savings on the cost of dental, vision and hearing needs. The offer is now available for a nominal monthly fee to hundreds of Co-op Connections cardholders who participate in the program.

Through this new offer, members will save 15% to 50% on dental services at thousands of participating Aetna dental offices nationwide; 10% to 60% savings on eye exams, eyeglasses, contact lenses, even LASIK surgery; and 15% to 50% discounts on hearing aids and hearing care products. Similar discount benefit programs can be found for as much as \$5.50 to \$9.50 per month. The special pricing available to co-op members through Co-op Connections Program is only \$4.25 per month for the

Co-op Connections® Program

Offers Dental, Vision & Hearing Savings

entire family. Cooperative members receive huge savings on the monthly membership price, but an even bigger savings at the dentist's office, optical stores and more!

"In these financially challenging times, we want to offer a program to help our members save money on costly healthcare products and services," said Sandy Cason, Executive Assistant & Communications Specialist. "This is just one more way you can benefit from being a part of Whitewater Valley REMC." (The hidden acct. no. is 484407.)

Because of the tremendous success of the Co-op Connections prescription drug discount program launched in 2008, the Cooperative decided to offer the Dental, Vision and Hearing benefit as another way to help members save on healthcare products and services.

Cooperative members who sign up for the Dental, Vision & Hearing Savings program will receive a membership guide booklet and discount card from Cooperative Healthy Savings to present at participating dentists as well as vision and hearing care professionals to receive instant discounts that can add up to significant savings! More information is available for members at the Cooperative office or www.wvwremc.com.

Aetna Dental Access®, a respected leader in the health care industry for decades, provides the dental network. The discount vision network includes top national optical chains such as LensCrafters, Pearle Vision and JCPenney Optical. Plus, the hearing aid program offers discounts at Beltone locations as well as convenient mail order products.

New Co-op Connections Card Businesses

B & E Bike Shop

Winchester, IN
10% off all parts.

Baumbachs Pit BBQ & Grill

New Paris, OH
10% off first time catering orders.

Broke Brother's Truck & Auto

Winchester, IN
10% off on labor.

Days Inn

Richmond, IN
\$45.99 + tax with co-op card. 10% discount on regular room rate. Not valid on special event weeks and not valid on Friday & Saturdays.

Grimm Automotive

Winchester, IN
\$1 off an oil change or service.

Harris Bank

Richmond, IN
FREE checking account, FREE checks, FREE savings account with \$20 gas card FREE. Loan rate discounts along with CD rate bumps, FREE financial check up. New customers only.

Highland Lake Golf Course

Richmond, IN
4-some plays for \$100. Not valid on weekends, during tournaments, or on holidays. Call in advance for tee times.

J & J Winery

Richmond, IN
10% off gift shop purchases or FREE salad with purchase of pizza.

Kessler's Team Sports

Richmond, IN
10% off any regular priced item.
Excludes Uniforms & league orders.

Lilacs & Laughter

Brookville, IN
Large 16oz. Pure Soy candles-Save \$1.50 off current pricing. Save 10% off all other Pure Soy products we offer. FREE delivery within city limits of Liberty, Brookville & Oxford.

Maria Mitrione's Italian Market

Richmond, IN
\$1 off a large pizza or an Italian sub. One coupon per purchase. Not to be combined with any other offers.

Mark's Auto Repair

Liberty, IN
15% off labor.

McDonald's of Richmond

Richmond, IN
FREE small fry with any drink purchase.

Northbrook Healthcare Aids

Richmond, IN
10% off regular priced merchandise.

Olympian Candies

Richmond, IN
10% discount on any purchase of \$10 or more.
Excludes Wedding invitations already discounted.

Richmond Carpet Outlet

Richmond, IN
10% off pad with carpet purchase.

Richmond Furniture Gallery

Richmond, IN
20% off all Giftware & accessories. Huge selection!
Some restrictions apply. See store for details.

Richmond Gymnastics Training Center

Richmond, IN
\$5 discount on monthly fees.

Old National Road Welcome Center & Gift Shop

Richmond, IN
20% off one gift shop item.

Stone Plans

Richmond, IN
5% discount for all retail sales on granite monuments.

The Antique Vault

Winchester, IN
15% off everything in the store.

The Historic Lantz House Inn and Gathering Place

Centerville, IN
10% off.

The Office Shop

Batesville, IN
15% off showroom furniture new or scratch-n-dent.

Whitewater Valley REMC 16th Annual Meeting of the Members



Whitewater Valley REMC members face drastically rising energy costs in the next decade. That was the clear message given by Whitewater Valley REMC President and CEO Boyd Huff at the Cooperative's annual meeting held in Richmond on April 7th. Huff said dramatic increases in energy prices are undermining our nation's economic recovery and hurting household budgets for many of our members.

"Not since the great depression have we seen such economic uncertainty," Huff said in a video produced by Hoosier Energy for the Cooperative's annual meeting. "As consumers we may be facing challenges we haven't seen in many years due to a dramatic downturn in the economy and ailing credit markets. Many households are already feeling the effects of unemployment and increased cost."

In the video, Huff discussed the factors driving electricity costs higher particularly carbon control regulation. The government's Congressional Budget Office estimates the annual cost of climate change legislation at \$50 billion to \$300 billion annually by the year 2020. Charles Rivers Associates, a respected independent utility analysis firm, predicts a 25 percent to 40 percent increase in U.S. retail electricity rates by 2020.

The Indiana Utility Forecasting Group predicts residential electric rates in the state will increase by 13 percent by 2012 and 28 percent by 2020. These are in addition to the group's projections of a 22 percent increase by 2012 due to higher fuel costs, power plant construction costs, and new environmental regulations.

With nearly 94 percent of Indiana's electric power generated from coal, the impact of possible legislation limiting coal generation will be much greater on our electric rates.

Huff told the audience that we need a unified voice to Washington D.C. One that lets them know who we are and what we need. "If we are going to be ready to voice our collective concerns, we need to begin to organize our efforts now," Huff stated. "When you arrived this evening, you received a card asking you to participate in the Our Energy, Our Future Grassroots Campaign. By filling out the card you are making the decision to become involved and make a difference at the local, state and national level." Over 240 members signed up to send e-mails at the annual meeting.

Huff also recognized employees celebrating service anniversaries. Mike Waltz was recognized for 20 years of

service and Rodney Robertson for 10 years of service. Whitewater Valley REMC Community Trust, Inc. President Kevin Smith gave a report on grants given away in 2008 through the Operation Round Up program.

New Officers Elected

At the regular board meeting in April the following directors were elected officers for the coming year:

- Gary Stokes – Chairman
- Mark Singer – Vice Chairman
- Dale Walther – Secretary-Treasurer
- Jim Doerstler – Assistant Secretary-Treasurer

Whitewater Products, LLC officers are:

- Jim Doerstler – Chairman
- Duane Smoker – Vice Chairman
- Sharon Howell – Secretary-Treasurer

ANNUAL MEETING ELECTION RESULTS

Board of Directors

The cooperative members elected the following three individuals to the three year terms as Board members for the Cooperative:

- North District** Myron Moyer
- Central District** Jodi Creek
- South District** Terry Hillman

The Cooperative has a total of nine directors and the other six are as follows:

- North District** Sharon Howell
Jim Doerstler
- Central District** Duane Smoker
Dale Walther
- South District** Mark Singer
Gary Stokes

Nominating Committee

The Cooperative members elected the following three individuals for three year terms on the Nominating Committee:

- North District** Robert Nocton
- Central District** David Stanley
- South District** Odell Calihan

The Cooperative has a total of nine Nominating Committee members and the other six are as follows:

- North District** Duane Cates
David Williamson
- Central District** Sherri Gettinger
Robert Westover
- South District** Gary Ruf
Robert Wagner

For Your Information OUTAGES BY CAUSE

March 2009



Cause	#	Outages %
Animals	11	18.97
Equipment	11	18.97
Decay/Corrosion	8	13.79
Member Caused	8	13.79
Trees	7	12.07
Lightning	7	12.07
Unkown	3	5.17
Vehicles	3	5.17
Total	58	100



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Don't keep your refrigerator or freezer too cold. Recommended temperatures are 37° to 40° F for the main refrigerator compartment and 5° F for the freezer. If you have a stand-alone freezer, it should be kept at 0° F. Appliance settings may vary, so an easy way to check the temperature is to use a meat thermometer.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

Protecting Your Personal Identity with "Red Flags"

To protect your personal identity, Whitewater Valley REMC is going the extra mile to prevent identity theft.

Starting May 1, 2009, Whitewater Valley REMC, and all utilities, must comply with the Federal Trade Commission "Red Flags" Rule. A red flag is a pattern, practice or activity that indicates the possible existence of identity theft.

For our members this means we will take more time to authenticate your identification. Perhaps we will ask you to verify some additional information when you call or ask you for photo ID when you come in to start or change an account.

These extra steps may take a few more minutes. Protecting your identity is worth it. (The hidden acct. no. is 433100.)



Find the Hidden Account Number!

No one found the hidden account number from April. Keep reading your *Powerlines* each month or browsing our website—the next hidden account number could be yours!



With long distance and Internet from Whitewater Valley REMC, receive reliable service and affordable rates! Sign up today and start enjoying the freedom to save on your long distance and Internet.

Enjoy these benefits:

- **Great Rates** - long distance as low as 4.5*¢ per minute with a one-year term, ebill and dial-up Internet!
- **Reliability** - no dropped calls!
- **Trustworthy** - backed by a name you know!
- **FREE PowerUp Accelerator** with dial-up Internet service!
- **Tell your friends and family** - you don't have to be a Whitewater Valley REMC member to sign up!



call Today!

1-877-808-5000

*Taxes and other regulatory charges not included. Certain restrictions and early termination fees may apply. Rates stated are for Indiana. Please call for details. In partnership with TransWorld Network.

June Due Dates

During June the due dates for payment of your electric bills are June 3, 10, 19 and 26.

Remember, we recommend that you allow five business days for the mail to reach the payment processing center. That way, you'll never run the risk of being late.

Payment Options

US Mail: Send your payment to:
Whitewater Valley REMC
P.O. Box 3199
Martinsville, IN 46151-3168

Internet: Log-on at www.wvremc.com

Liberty Office: In person or in the drop box

Automatic Withdrawal: Simply request a form and submit it to our office

FCN or Franklin County

National Bank:

In person or in the drop box (Please bring your payment stub with you)

First Merchants Bank both Richmond

Locations: In person or in the drop box (Please bring your payment stub with you)

If you would like more information about payment options, call 765-458-5171 or 1-800-529-5557.