



WATT'S HAPPENING

SCENIC RIVERS ENERGY COOPERATIVE

LANCASTER, DARLINGTON AND GAYS MILLS, WISCONSIN

Climate Change

This summer, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Waxman-Markey Climate Change bill. Committees of the U.S. Senate are scheduled to take the bill up this fall, hoping to send it to the President for his signature by the beginning of the new year.

The Waxman-Markey bill seeks to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, carbon dioxide (CO₂) in particular. Carbon dioxide is the main greenhouse gas that comes from burning fossil fuels, including the use of coal to make electricity. Because more than half of the nation's overall electric production, and more than two-thirds of electric cooperative generation is from coal, Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative has a keen interest in proposals to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions.

Protecting our members and the environment, together

The commitment that Dairyland Power Cooperative, our wholesale power supplier, and Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative have towards environmental protection, stewardship and renewable energy is proven every day. Dairyland is already spending hundreds of millions of dollars on the installation of state-of-the-art environmental control equipment for its highly efficient coal-fired power plants. Dairyland is a national leader in renewable energy production, with a growing and varied portfolio of renewable energy resources includ-

ing wind, animal waste, landfill gas and hydroelectric power.

Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative and Dairyland also have a key obligation to protect your financial well-being. Many of our members are coping with economic hardships, reduced pay or job loss, increased health care costs... the list goes on and on.

The Waxman-Markey climate change bill could **significantly increase your monthly electric bill** if the legislation is not done right. Under the Waxman-Markey climate change bill as it passed the House, electric bills could end up increasing by \$3,900 to \$9,800 for the average homeowner from 2012-2030, over and above rate increases for inflation. For the average farm, bills in that period could increase from \$37,000 to \$93,000. These added costs would pay for necessary credits under the "cap and trade" proposal.

What is cap and trade?

A national limit or "cap" would be placed on annual greenhouse gas emissions. The cap lowers incrementally from 2012 to 2050. The "trade" element refers to any CO₂ emissions purchased on a new energy market. Emissions are traded by one party selling "allowances" to another party who has need of them, and the market sets the price of allowances. Some allowances would be granted under the bill, but many of the allowances necessary to meet the caps of Wax-

man-Markey would be auctioned off at undetermined prices, potentially leading to huge cost burdens for any source of CO₂ emissions.

Waxman-Markey bill allowances unfairly burden Midwest consumers

The allowance factor is a primary concern with the Waxman-Markey bill because utilities mainly operating power plants that emit very little CO₂, such as hydro-power or nuclear, receive a higher proportion of allowances than those relying on coal, a generating resource which is prevalent in the Midwest. Midwest utilities have traditionally utilized coal for energy production since it has historically been the most affordable, available and reliable source of energy. Compare that to utilities in the Pacific Northwest, for example, which have had greater access to large federal hydro projects. As a result, utilities based in the Midwest would not receive a fair share of CO₂ allowance allocations, based upon the current Waxman-Markey bill formula.

Therefore, while energy users in some areas of the U.S. will suffer little or no burden from the proposed cap and trade system, we in the Midwest will pay substantially more just by virtue of where we live. Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative is joining Dairyland and 42 million electric cooperative consumers in crying foul over that system, on behalf of our member-consumers.

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Let Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative Help Save You Energy & Money this Holiday Season

Did you ever wonder what it costs to light up your home, business or facility with that colorful cascade of twinkling holiday lights? Are you looking for ways to save money without sacrificing the spirit of the season?

Dairyland Power Cooperative, our wholesale power supplier and Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative are trying to make your holiday season a little "greener" by helping replace conventional holiday lights with energy-saving LED (Light Emitting Diode) lights. It's good for your pocket book...and good for the environment.

Benefits of Energy-Efficient LED Lights

Up to 60 times more efficient than incandescent lights, reducing energy consumption by as much as 90%, which benefits both you and the environment.

Last 8 times longer, so you'll replace lights less frequently. LEDs can burn brightly for up to 50,000 hours compared to only 6,000 hours for incandescent bulbs.

Produce very little heat, reducing the risk of fire and making them safer to use. Traditional screw socket bulbs use either 5 or 7 watts per bulb, such that a 25 light string consumes between 125 to 175 watts, of which less than 10 percent is used to create light (the rest is lost as heat).

Constructed of weatherproof materials, making them impervious to moisture.

Don't contain fragile filaments, so not easily broken or damaged.

Since LED lights are available in different styles, sizes and colors, you can keep the twinkle in your holiday season, while conserving energy.



Tips on Decorating with LED Holiday Lights

Add an energy-conscious twinkle by stringing LEDs on mantles, fireplaces, shelves, and banisters or woven into wreaths and garland.

Welcome friends and family to your home by using LED lights around doors, windows and porches, as well as on

2009 Rebate Coupon

How to apply:

1. Must purchase LED Christmas lights by **November 30, 2009**.
2. Cut out and submit the entire proof of purchase (UPC) label from the product box. **No photocopies will be accepted.**
3. Complete and submit this form to your cooperative by Jan. 10, 2010 along with your UPC label and a **copy of the sales receipt.**

Customer information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Account Number: _____


Rebate: \$2 per string. (Limit of 12 strings.)

of strings: _____ X \$2.00 = _____



SCENIC RIVERS ENERGY COOPERATIVE

Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative
Attn: LED Rebate
231 N Sheridan St.
Lancaster, WI 53813

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

your trees, shrubs, mailbox or light post.

Add a glimmer to your holiday table and buffet by including LED light strings or decorations in your table setting.

When shopping for pre-lit decorations for inside or outside of your home, be sure to look for those with LED lights.

As LEDs go into wider use, they have the potential to make a significant dent in the electricity consumed for lighting, making LEDs a bright (and easy) way to save energy and money. To help you out, look for our rebate incentive, and contact your Touchstone Energy Cooperative professionals for more information. Together we really can save.

Census

Dear Resident,

Between February and early April 2010, everyone will be receiving a short form census questionnaire consisting of 10 easy questions. As part of the U.S. Constitution, a nationwide census is mandated every ten years. The population totals determine the number of seats Wisconsin has in the House of Representatives and are used to redraw legislative districts.

Approximately \$300 billion in federal funding is also allocated based on the census numbers. The totals, therefore; affect funding in

our state, county, and local communities.

As part of the Grant County Complete Count Committee, I am urging each resident to fill out and to return the questionnaire.

You DO make a difference. The numbers submitted from Wisconsin and Grant County will have an effect on funding for a number of government programs including: school districts, Head Start Programs, WIC (Women, Infants and Children), food grants, public transportation, road rehabilitation and construction, programs for the

elderly, emergency food and shelter, and so many others.

Please participate in the 2010 Census and make sure that Wisconsin, Grant County, and your local community all receive their fair share.

Thank you
Sincerely,

*The Grant County
Complete Count Committee*



Load Control Test November 18th!

Each year a test of the load management system is conducted for members of the Dual Fuel program. This year's test will take place on Wednesday, November 18th. Electric heat will be turned off at 5:00 p.m. and will be turned back on starting at 8:05 p.m., with everyone's electric heat scheduled to be back on by 11:15 p.m.

The test is done to ensure that your back up system to electric heat is working properly and that the cooperative's load management equipment is working properly. We would appreciate it if all Dual Fuel program participants would check their systems on November 18th during the test times and let us know if their electric heat does not turn off.



Please contact us if you have any questions. Thank you for your cooperation!

Who's Calling Please?

Utilities across the country, including a number of cooperatives, are warning consumers about phony employees probing for information that can be used for identity theft.

Multiple reports describe telephone callers posing as local utility representatives and threatening disconnection of electricity if a payment is not made immediately. The caller helpfully offers to take down

the consumer's credit card number to accomplish the "payment" and prevent disconnection.

Some scam artists have even suggested federal economic stimulus money will be made available to help pay a customer's utility bill, if only the consumer will give the caller his or her personal financial information in order to properly direct the payment. If you question the caller please ask for the name

of the person calling, hang up and call Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative to find out if someone at the cooperative is trying to reach you.



Continued from cover . . . **Climate Change**

Citizens of our region are no less interested in climate than others across the country, but climate change legislation will not be a success if people cannot afford to heat or cool their homes. If done right, legislation won't do further harm to our economy. However, if done wrong, power bills may spike and more American jobs will be lost. That is not something our country should risk.

Our Energy, Our Future™

Electric cooperatives such as Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative want to work with Congress to address climate change in an affordable and environmentally responsible fashion. We believe climate change legislation should be:

FAIR—New rules should recognize regional differences in how electricity is produced and balance costs fairly across all regions, especially the coal-dependent Midwest.

AFFORDABLE—The goal of legislation should be to reduce carbon emissions, while keeping energy affordable for all Americans.

ACHIEVABLE—Climate change goals must be in sync with available technology since only a realistic plan can ensure long-term success.

Please join us in urging members of the U.S. Senate to keep climate change legislation **fair**—recognizing regional differences in how electricity is produced; **affordable** for all Americans; and **achievable**, so that when goals for reducing emissions of CO2 and other greenhouse gases take effect the needed technology is commercially viable.

To get involved in this effort, consider participating in the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's (NRECA) Our Energy, Our Future™ campaign. You

can join the campaign at the Our Energy, Our Future website, www.ourenergy.coop. If you choose to participate, the website will help you ask members of Congress what they plan to do to ensure sufficient electric capacity, technology and affordability while addressing climate change.

Remember, while political debates in Washington, D.C., may seem far away, the outcome will have a direct financial impact on our cooperative and members. Far too often, questions don't get asked by policy makers until plans go wrong.

Power Your Mind – *Learn who is bringing you power*

Cindy Rooney

Title- Member Records

Family-

- **Husband:** Greg
- **Children:** Tara, Seth, Miranda, and Grant
- **Grandchildren:** Tayler, Tamerik, Jayden, and Emma

Hobbies-

Anything to do with my children and grandchildren. I also love music and dancing.

Why did you choose to become employed at SREC?

I chose to become an employee at SREC because when I was offered the job it was exactly what



I was looking for. I love working with numbers and paperwork in an office setting.

What do you enjoy most about your job at SREC?

I enjoy the people I work with the most. They have become my second family. I love how we all have each others' back with our work to make sure things are done efficiently.

Tree Maintenance

Tree Crew Locations for November-

Grant County -
Paris, Jamestown

Crawford County -
Marietta, Wauzeka



WATT'S HAPPENING


Watt's Happening is published monthly as an information service to the member-owners of Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative.

Any questions or comments can be directed to *Watt's Happening*, c/o Megan Graney, Editor, Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative, 231 North Sheridan, Lancaster, WI 53813 or telephone (608) 723-2121 or toll free Lancaster 800-236-2141, Darlington 800-236-6656, and Gays Mills 888-735-4314.

www.sre.coop

Richard E. Kolb. *CEO*
Megan Graney. *Editor*

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