



WATT'S HAPPENING

SCENIC RIVERS ENERGY COOPERATIVE
LANCASTER, DARLINGTON AND GAYS MILLS, WISCONSIN

What is a Power Cost Adjustment?

Electricity is measured and billed in kilowatt hours (kWh). The retail rate per kWh is set following a lengthy and detailed cost analysis. During times of rapidly changing costs, a Power Cost Adjustment is used as an interim way to provide flexibility to the cooperative's existing retail rates without having to completely restructure the existing rate plans. The Power Cost Adjustment is used to ensure that expenses to the cooperative will be recovered each month.

As the expense of generating electricity changes, these costs must either be passed on to consumers or absorbed by the distribution cooperative. However, it is not always feasible to continue absorbing additional expense. It is during such times that the Power Cost Adjustment becomes an important tool to ensuring your cooperative's financial strength.

How is it Calculated?

A Power Cost Adjustment is shown as a mill rate, or a fraction of a cent, that is assessed per kWh consumed. The mill rate is based on a threshold cost of wholesale power, thereby allowing flexibility as conditions change. When the wholesale cost of power exceeds a specified level, it results in a corresponding Power Cost Adjustment factor.

Where Does it Show on my Bill?

The actual monetary amount of the Power Cost adjustment assessed to your monthly electric bill will increase or decrease according to the changing amount of kWhs consumed at your service location. It is shown as a charge in the *Current Statement* section of your bill.

Control Times for Off-peak Heat

As demand for electricity grows, Dairyland Power Cooperative must purchase power on the open market to meet members' needs. Purchased electricity on the market is higher because most other generating facilities use natural gas, and the price of natural gas has risen substantially. Dairyland Power is controlling more often to reduce the need to buy high priced power on the market.

Controlling heat can occur at any time, as needed. On peak days this winter, expect evening control periods for a minimum of four to six-hour durations and possible three to four hours the following mornings.



If you're disturbed by upsetting news, close your eyes, breathe deeply, relax your neck and shoulders and concentrate on a wonderful moment in your life. This will help moderate your mental and physical responses to stress.

—The Oprah Magazine

Standby Generators Need Transfer Switches

It's an Issue of Extreme Safety

Many people already have or are thinking about installing gas-powered backup generators to use during untimely power outages. These generators are an excellent source of emergency power in order to provide electricity to run refrigerators, furnaces, water pumps, critical medical equipment, and other essential equipment. However, if you are using a backup generator, it is imperative that it is installed with an approved transfer switch. The transfer switch prevents electricity from traveling back through the power lines. This is known as "back feed" and creates extreme danger for anyone near the power lines—especially the line workers who may be working to restore the power. At Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative we strive to make life safe for our employees, our members, and the public. Please contact us if you have any questions about this issue.

Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars for April 6, 2006. This is when our annual member meeting will be held at the Youth and Ag Building at the Lancaster Fair Grounds. Plan on attending. There will be a great meal, elections for directors and prizes. We even have a fun room for the kids attending.

APRIL 2006						
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Currently Cooking



This is the season for soup. If you like Mexican food, you might like this recipe.

Chicken Enchilada Soup

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2 (10-oz) cans cream of chicken soup | 2-3 chicken breasts |
| 2 (10-oz.) cans fiesta nacho soup | sour cream |
| 1 (10-oz) can enchilada sauce | shredded cheddar cheese |
| 2 C. milk | chips (corn chips are good) |
| 1 jar salsa | |

Place all ingredients, (except sour cream, cheese, and chips) into a crock-pot on low for a couple hours, or until chicken is cooked through. Once chicken is done – shred chicken and place it back in soup. Serve with sour cream, cheese, and chips.

Note: You can put frozen chicken in crock-pot and cook overnight on low. Then you can add the soup ingredients and finish cooking.

—Taste and See Cook Book

Just For Fun

To The Kids Who Survived the 40's, 50's, 60's and 70's



- First we survived being born to mothers who smoked and/or drank while they carried us.
- They took aspirin, ate blue cheese dressing and didn't get tested for diabetes.
- Then after that trauma, our baby cribs were covered with bright colored lead-based paints.
- We had no childproof lids on medicine bottles, doors or cabinets and when we rode our bikes, we had no helmets, not to mention, the risks we took hitchhiking.



- As children, we would ride in cars with no seat belts or air bags. Riding in the back of a pickup on a warm day was always a special treat.
- We drank water from the garden hose and NOT from a bottle.
- We did not have Play Stations, Nintendo's, X-boxes, no video games at all, no 99 channels on cable, no video tape movies, no surround sound, no cell phones, no personal computers, no internet or internet chat rooms...WE HAD FRIENDS and we went outside and found them!
- Little league had tryouts and not everyone made the team. Those who didn't had to learn to deal with disappointment. Imagine that!!
- We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility, and we learned HOW TO DEAL WITH IT ALL! And if you are one of them! CONGRATULATIONS!

EARTH NOTES

I have always loved trees. I was raised between North Andover and Beetown and went to school at a one-room schoolhouse called Muscalloung. I was surrounded by lots of trees.

I was pleasantly surprised to discover in a Wisconsin magazine that a sycamore tree on Sycamore Road in Bloomington Township is listed as one of Wisconsin's Famous and Historic Trees. I don't know if it is still there or not. Maybe one of our members will check it out.

It was planted by Joseph Orr. He brought the tree from Ohio while returning the body of his son home to Bloomington from the Civil War. He planted the tree in his yard south of the cemetery where his son was buried.

If you want to plant a famous tree be sure and plant it far enough away from our power lines so we don't have to trim it or cut it down.



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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 Joan Wagner, 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.

Richard E. Kolb Manager
Joan Wagner Editor

Our board of directors include Dale Bevan, Don Walters, Sandy Davidson, Norman Gordon, Gerald Koeller, David Stude, Merlin Kvigne, Tom Bennett, and Ellen Conley.

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