

Current REPORT

For Members of Lynchess River Electric Cooperative

Technology Plus Great Service Equals a Satisfied Member

Cindy McDonald, a Lynchess River Electric Cooperative member, was surprised and appreciative when she received a call from marketing representative Bow Burch in April.

Burch called to tell McDonald her account showed higher than normal electricity usage and thought the McDonalds might have a leaking water heater. They actually had two leaking water heaters.

Back in March, Doris Taylor,

AMR system operator, noticed a dramatic spike in the amount of electricity usage at the McDonald home on Lake Wateree. Lynchess River's automated meter reading (AMR) system identifies unusually high or low readings,

which was the case with the McDonald's account.

Typically in the 40 kilowatt-hour (kwh) per day range, the McDonald's account usage suddenly began to fluctuate from 150 to 200 kwh per day, and at one point rose to over 250 kwh.

Taylor knew there was a problem and alerted Burch, a certified energy auditor. Burch called the McDonald's home using the number in the cooperative's billing system, but was unable to reach them so he turned to the Internet for help. Fortunately, Burch was able to find a listing for the McDonalds.

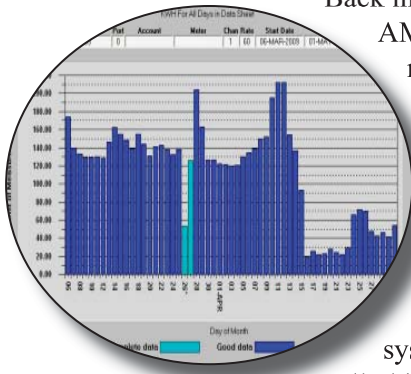
When Cindy McDonald answered the phone, Burch explained who he was and why he was calling. He explained how the AMR system had alerted them to the extremely high usage at her home. Because the

McDonalds were not currently staying at their lake house they were unaware of the problem.

The same day Burch talked with McDonald, Taylor visited the home and found hot water leaking out of the water heaters under their house. McDonald drove from out of town to the lake house and immediately called a plumber.

Once the problem was fixed, the electricity usage at McDonald's lake house dropped dramatically.

"I'm very appreciative," said Cindy McDonald. "Mr. Burch was nice to go to such extremes to find me. He could have said just forget it and let it go, but instead he went above and beyond the call of duty."



Why we need your phone number

- The adjacent article explains one of the reasons why it's important we have your correct phone number. We may need to contact you about unusually high electricity usage.
- You can report an outage more quickly. The outage reporting system uses your phone number to automatically record your outage and send your outage information directly to the dispatcher.
- Occasionally we plan a scheduled outage for regular maintenance or to make repairs. If we have your phone number we can alert you to a planned outage.
- We may give you a friendly reminder call to let you we have not received a payment if you bill is not paid by the due date.
- You can update your phone number online at www.lynchessriver.com. Login to View/Pay Bill. Click on Account Information and enter your home or mobile phone number.

Climate change bill primer

How new policy will decide increases in electric bills



Our Energy, Our Future
A Dialogue With America

Congress and the federal government are focused on prioritizing climate change policy. Given the long list of environmental impacts and expensive solutions, any action taken to

address the issue will certainly increase the cost of electricity we use everyday.

Climate change proposals seek to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, carbon dioxide in particular. In the United States, power plants that burn fossil fuels produce about 2.4 billion tons of carbon dioxide every year. That works out to about 39 percent of the nation's man-made output of the gas—the largest single source.

Electric cooperatives are involved in cutting edge work to develop new technologies to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from power plants, but those options aren't yet ready for prime time. They're limited, largely untested, and expensive. Yet potential legislation would rely on them to make significant carbon dioxide cuts nationwide.

A key committee in the U.S. House of Representatives has announced plans to consider a climate change bill this summer, one that may for the first time classify carbon dioxide as a pollutant and impose a cap-and-trade tax to limit carbon emissions. Cap-and-trade systems work by setting a specific limit on airborne pollutants from sources like power plants, factories, and refineries, and require those sources to account for all emissions with issued allowances.

Cap-and-trade has worked well during the past 15 years to reduce emissions of acid rain-causing sulfur dioxide nationwide and over the last decade to curb smog-creating nitrogen oxides in the eastern half of the country. However, some cap-and-trade tax proposals for carbon dioxide contain a new twist: pricey allowances.

Allowances would be auctioned off at undetermined prices, leading to huge cost burdens for any source of carbon dioxide emissions. In the case of power plants, those costs would ultimately be passed on to consumers using the power, in some

Viewpoint



Robert G. Wannamaker
Interim CEO

PRESIDENT AND CEO

Robert G. Wannamaker

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REMOTE PAYMENT SITES

Chesterfield

Piggly Wiggly Market of Chesterfield

33 West Boulevard

Chesterfield, SC 29709

Jefferson

The General Store

360 N. Harold Ingram Hwy.

Jefferson, SC 29718

Kershaw

Quality Appliance

407 South Hampton Street

Kershaw, SC 29067

Lancaster

The Energy Center, Inc.

667 Lancaster Bypass 9 E

Lancaster, SC 29720

Climate Change - cont'd on next page

Co-op Promotes Modern Conveniences

Lynches River Electric Cooperative was incorporated July 1939. The first 150 miles of line were built between 1940 and 1941 to serve 500 co-op members. By Lynches River's 20th anniversary the co-op was serving 6,400 members and had 1,560 miles of line.

Over time memories of the years of hardship began to fade. Members' homes on an electric co-op line increasingly featured modern lighting, a water system, electric range, refrigerator, freezer, water heater, television, space heaters, radio and an increasing number of air conditioners.

In the late 50's Lynches River for a limited time offered a \$15 allowance to members who installed an electric pump and running water in their homes. With an electric pump the well was closed preventing impurities from entering the water. Two advantages of running water in the home were the automatic clothes washer and water heater. Electric dryers were also promoted as a better drying method for clothes than outdoor line drying or gas dryers.

Farmers used electricity to power fans for dehydrating hay, welders for tractor repair and infra-red lamps for chicken brooding. The result was increased operating efficiency leading to greater productivity.



Early photo of Lynches River Electric Cooperative lineworkers.

Climate Change - cont'd from previous page

cases adding \$50 or more to electric bills each month. In late February, the Obama Administration pointed to such a system as a new, substantial source of revenue for the federal government—effectively muddying the initial environmental argument for regulating carbon dioxide.

Such a backdoor tax increase would force electric cooperatives to essentially become tax collectors for the federal government, and allow Wall Street investors to set allowance prices and determine how much you pay for electricity.

We need to help Congress draft an energy solution that accomplishes environmental goals while taking affordability into account. But time may be tight: if Congress fails to act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency stands ready to step in, leaving decisions that affect consumers' pocketbooks up to unelected bureaucrats.

Electric cooperatives want to work with Congress to address climate change in an affordable and environmentally responsible fashion. We're ready to

provide insight into how various policy proposals will impact consumers, and urge lawmakers to reach the right answers.

National energy and climate change policy must focus on reducing emissions, not on "revenue enhancement" for federal government. Money generated, through a cap-and-trade tax or otherwise, must be used wisely: devoted to developing related technology or returned to those who foot the bill. And Congress should take the lead on climate change, not regulators or Wall Street speculators.

In unity with 42 million other electric co-ops consumers around the country, urge your U.S. representatives and senators to work with electric cooperatives to keep electric bills affordable.

Get involved in this effort by participating in the Our Energy, Our Future™ grassroots campaign at www.ourenergy.coop.

Robert S. Wannamaker

Stay cool and save money too this Summer

There are many ways to keep your home cool in the summer without breaking the bank.

- Close drapes or shades to keep rooms cool during the day.
- Use a microwave instead of the oven to prepare meals.
- Run the clothes dryer and dishwasher at night to avoid heating up the house during the day.
- Switch to CFL bulbs, which are cooler than incandescent bulbs, and use less electricity.
- Set the thermostat to 78 degrees.
- Use fans to move air through the house. Turn the fan off before leaving the room for an extended time.
- Change AC filter once a month.
- Seal air leaks around windows and doors, spaces where plumbing enters the home and behind electrical outlets.
- Install awnings over south and west facing windows. Awnings reduce heat gain 65 percent on south facing windows and 77 percent on west facing windows.
- Apply tinted or reflective film on east and west facing windows to reduce heat gain.

Visit Us On the Web

Storm safety is important this time of year when storms are likely. Learn how to protect yourself and your family safe at:

www.lynchesriver.com



Crews ready to work around the clock

We hope major storms will avoid our service area, but experience tells us Mother Nature has a mind of her own. In the summer, severe thunderstorms can cause isolated outages. In the fall, hurricanes are often a factor.

Rest assured Lynch River Electric Cooperative is prepared for major storms outages.

We continually monitor the weather and crews are on call 24-hours a day, seven days a week. Our crews are ready to work around the clock if necessary.

Regardless of the cause, crews will work days, nights and weekends to restore your power. During a major power outage the office is open after hours as a command post.

Supervisory personnel direct repairs to damaged equipment. Dispatchers coordinate outage reports coming in through the



automated outage reporting system while customer contact representatives handle members' inquiries.

Report an outage at 675-LREC (5732) or 1-866-675-LREC.

Notice of Annual Meeting

The Lynch River Electric Cooperative 2009 Annual Meeting will be held in Pageland at Central High School Gym on Saturday, September 26.

The bylaws of Lynch River Electric Cooperative state the Board of Trustees shall be composed of nine persons. A specified number will be elected at each annual meeting of members for three-year terms.

Qualifications for trusteeship and the election process are detailed in the cooperative bylaws. A copy of the bylaws is available at the cooperative office or can be found online at www.lynchesriver.com.