

THE LAMP



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NEVER PAY FOR A DISCONNECT AGAIN

Beginning May 1, 2011, accounts that are disconnected for non-payment will not be reconnected until the account is paid in full. Currently IEC will reconnect upon payment of the past due

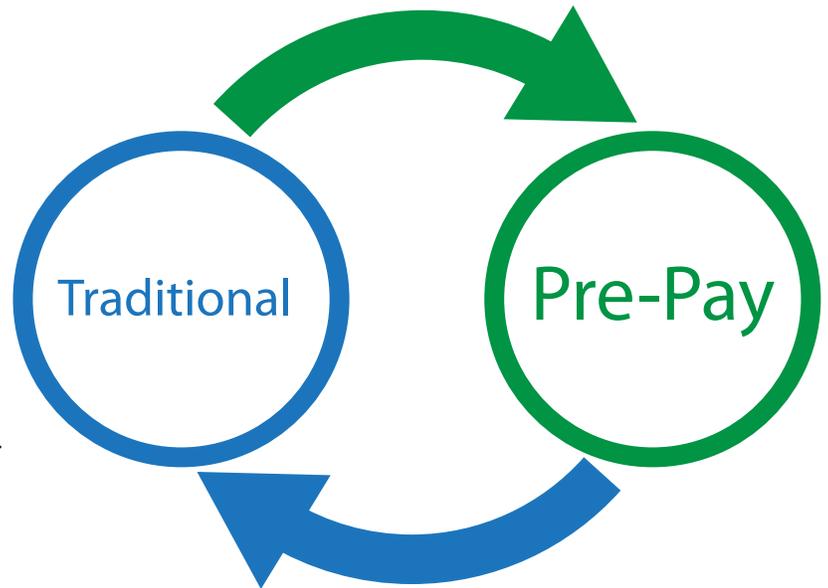
amount plus a \$100 reconnect fee. With the new procedure, no account will be reconnected unless the member pays the past due amount, the current amount plus the reconnect fee. For example a member has been disconnected for non-payment. The past due amount is \$200.00 the current bill is \$150.00 and there is a \$100.00 reconnect fee. The cost to reconnect this account will be \$450.00.

To some this may appear harsh. How can a member come up with the additional money when they struggle to pay only the past due amount? IEC works with members each month that have been disconnected for non-payment. If a member pays only the past due amount, they will face disconnection again in as little as three weeks. The new procedure will keep members connected for at least another month.

However the best option for members having trouble paying their electric bills is IEC's Prepay program. Members that sign up for IEC's Prepay will

their deposit will be applied to the past due and current amounts, greatly reducing the cost to reconnect.

There is no cost to use Prepay and members on IEC's Prepay no longer receive a bill. To keep the power on all that needs to be done is to keep a positive balance on the IEC account. The amount could be as little as \$2.00 or whatever amount the member chooses to maintain. Notification of the account balance is delivered either by email or phone call. If the account is disconnected for a negative balance all that is needed to reconnect the account is the payment of the small past due amount plus bringing the balance to \$25. The \$25 is not a fee but the minimum balance needed to reconnect a Prepay account.



IEC members have a choice, if you would like additional information contact an IEC CSR in Cleveland at 918-358-2514 or in Fairfax at 918-642-3314. ♦

Keep your IEC account connected with a balance as little as \$2.00

Energy Efficiency - Reducing Your Bill	2	have their
Live Wire - Copper Theft.....	3	\$100 recon-
Operation Round-Up® Report	4	nect fee
		waived plus

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Helping You Take a Bite Out of Your Electric Bill

When I go to the grocery store, I carry a list with me. Otherwise, I'm bound to forget something.

The same goes for the hardware store when I want to undertake some projects around the house. What materials do I need? And if the work involves weatherization, will it really help me save money on my electric bill?

Generally, the answer to that last question is a resounding "yes." Even small energy efficiency measures will save money. For as little as \$2, the cost of an outlet and switch plate insulator kit, you can begin to drastically improve comfort around your residence.

What areas should you focus on? Start with the basics: applying weather stripping and caulk around doors and windows; replacing traditional incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs); and insulating your water heater. Then look at some bigger expenditures: adding insulation to your attic, installing a programmable thermostat, and sealing duct work. You can find even more ways to save

on the U.S. Department of Energy's EnergySavers.gov or visit togetherwesave.com to find out how little changes around the house add up to big savings.

We at IEC are committed to doing everything possible to keep your electric bills affordable. And we're controlling costs through innovation—our energy efficiency programs are just one way we can help you manage your energy use.

For more information about these projects and other energy efficiency programs, visit IEC at www.iecok.com or call 918-358-2514. It's just one more way we're looking out for you. ♦



LIVE WIRE

Metal Theft Threatens Safety, Lives

Would you risk being hit by lightning for \$100? Seems a bit ludicrous, but hard economic times cause folks to do foolish things. It's hard to understand why people would put their life on the line for a few dollars.

Thefts of copper, aluminum, and bronze are on the rise. The cost for scrap copper goes up and down, but recently it's been on the rise—and so has theft. In January 2011 scrap copper sold for five times the amount it went for in 2001.

Thieves take copper from abandoned commercial buildings, empty homes, and—most dangerously—at power substations. The thefts are very damaging to our infrastructure and equipment, causing outages and costly repairs. IEC needs your help to keep our equipment safe, prevent outages, and save lives.

At an electric co-op here in Oklahoma last year, metal thieves took off with about \$100 worth of wire from a substation, but left behind a \$1 million repair bill after a fire destroyed regulators, switches, and a \$600,000 transform-

er. More than 3,500 consumers were temporarily left in the dark.

There's also the potential for loss of life. Our linemen are highly trained professionals who understand the dangers of working with electricity and take proper safety precautions. To protect the public we surround our substations with secure fencing and post warning signs. But some thieves will not be deterred. In 2010, metal theft-related deaths occurred in North Carolina, West Virginia, Illinois, and Ohio. Many law enforcement officials believe that methamphetamine users are responsible for much of the problem.

We use copper in a wide variety of ways in the electric industry. We use copper to ground our equipment and even in the equipment we install. We use a lot of copper wire in our substations, where we step-down high-voltage electricity arriving from AECEI power plants before it travels to your neighborhood. Then another transformer near your home—either mounted on a utility pole or in a green box on the ground—that lowers the voltage again so

you can use the power at your home. Copper is an essential component every step of the way.

Please help us prevent these thefts. If you notice anything unusual, such as an open substation gate, open equipment, or hanging wire, call IEC immediately at (918) 358-2514. If you see anyone other than our utility personnel or contractors around substations or other electric facilities, call the police. ♦

...metal thieves took off with about \$100 worth of wire in a substation, but left behind a \$1 million repair bill...



OPERATION ROUND-UP® REPORT

YOUR PENNIES MAKE THE DIFFERENCE FOR SO MANY LIVES.

Operation Round-Up awarded assistance grants to one non-profit organization and 8 families in need during February. The grants ranged from \$65.00 to just under \$700.00. The assistance provided from these grants was for glasses (\$65.00), multiple mortgages and rent payments (\$ 376.00 - \$600.00), dentures (\$260.00 - \$695.00), household appliances to assist an uninsured family recovering from a house fire (\$300.00) and baby diapers (\$100.00). The Cleveland Fire Department received a grant for \$471.00 for fire prevention education materials to benefit school age students.

The majority of the funding for the program is provided at present, by the generosity of 6,198 IEC member volunteers. These gracious members allow IEC to round-up their electric bills to the next dollar contributing the pennies to the IEC Foundation, Inc. The maximum rounding contribution per month is .99 per account. Additional contributions are realized from personal donations and by the \$1.00 donation for each 75 watt equivalent, compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL) distributed from both IEC customer service locations.

The total grant funds generated in February were \$3,337.60. IEC would like to thank all those who are contributing to Operation Round-Up® and invite each of our members to participate. Your opportunity to help is just a phone call away.

Applications are available in customer service at both IEC offices, or by contacting Clara Eulert, (918) 358-2514. ♦

Recipe: Kiwi Fruit Fool

1 cup (240 ml) kiwi puree (recipe follows)
1 cup (240 ml) heavywhipping cream
1 tablespoon (12 grams) granulated white sugar

Kiwi Puree:
4 kiwis 4-5 tablespoons (48 - 60 grams) granulated white sugar

Peel and cut the kiwis into quarters, place in a food processor and process until you have a rough puree (approx. one cup of pureed kiwi). If you end up with less than one cup of pureed kiwi either puree another kiwi or simply adjust the amount of whipping cream to equal that of the pureed kiwi. You use equal amounts of puree to whipping cream so adjustments are easy. Transfer to a bowl and stir in the sugar. Add sugar to taste. Refrigerate for several hours or overnight.

Cleveland Office
P.O. Box 49
Cleveland, OK 74020
(918) 358-2514
or
(800) 482-2750

Fairfax Office
P.O. Box 545
Fairfax, OK 74637
(918) 642-4813

Account Information
(918) 295-9597
Automated Outage Reporting
(918) 295-9598
On the Web @
WWW.IECOK.COM

Office Hours
7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Monday - Friday)

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Greg Fielding District 4
Vice-President
Wanda Foster District 5
Secretary-Treasurer
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Assistant Secretary Treasurer
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