



■
*The official
publication
of the members of
Indian Electric
Cooperative*



2 Rates
to Increase



3

The Governor,
Legislators and
Awards at
Annual Meeting



4
It's Home
& Garden Show
Time!

IEC's Wholesale Power Rates Will Increase in April

The cost of producing electricity is increasing and that increase is being passed from IEC's wholesale power supplier to IEC and ultimately to the co-op's members.

Associated Electric Cooperative, who produces and supplies electricity to co-ops in several states including Oklahoma, is having to pay more to generate and deliver electricity. That is part of the basis for AECE's rate increase to systems such as KAMO, who is IEC's wholesale power supplier. KAMO is then increasing IEC's power rates by approximately 8 percent beginning with the April usage.

"We know an increase isn't what anyone wants to hear," says IEC General Manager Jack Clinkscale.

"It's a 'good news, bad news' situation. The good news is that on average, the increase shouldn't be as severe as increases we've seen recently in other areas such as gasoline costs. The bad news is most analysts agree we could see several years of rate increases."

Clinkscale says a complicated set of factors – everything from increased demand for power to dramatic increases in fuel costs in the U.S. to long-term economic growth in the Far East – is causing an increase in the cost of making and delivering electricity.

He says there are steps the power industry, the government and every consumer can take to help keep costs down. "But a large part of the problem is simply that the world faces a new era of increased global competition for limited energy and other resources. And that competition is affecting the cost of electricity in northeastern Oklahoma."

In light of the increased costs at the generating level, IEC is having to look closely at the

co-op's current rate structure to make certain each rate class is covering the costs associated with it.

"We are currently completing a cost of service study which will tell us how inadequately each class is recouping the expenses associated with it. We know each class is going to require an increase of some amount, but the study will give us guidance on how much will be needed," says Karen Davis, IEC's manager of finance and accounting. She goes on to say the results of the study will be presented to IEC's board as soon as possible. "We will try to have the new rates in place to co-incide with the KAMO increase."

"One of the unique things about co-ops is we have knowledgeable personnel on staff who can not only help answer questions about our rates, but who can also help members use electricity efficiently. This enables members to use only what they need and pay for only what they're using," says Clinkscale.

Anyone with questions about how the increase could affect their monthly bills or how to use electricity efficiently, is encouraged to call IEC at (918) 358-2514.

(Right) Coal-fired generating plant in Chouteau.



Electric Bills to Increase

by Jack Clinkscale, General Manager

We strive to keep you informed about major happenings at your cooperative, primarily through this publication, area newspapers and the annual meeting. Unfortunately, not all the happenings we report on at IEC are pleasant. As we informed you at the annual meeting in October, IEC will experience a wholesale rate increase from our power supplier in April of this year. Some of this 8 percent wholesale increase will be passed on to you, the members, through an increase in IEC rates. At the time I am writing this, the specific amount and timing of the IEC rate increase has not been determined. As soon as the details are known, we will pass this information on to you.

While the price of everything seems to be increasing, including your electric bill, it is still a

good value when compared with the rising prices of related commodities. Regular grade gasoline prices in the United States, according to the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration (EIA), increased 43 percent between October 2004 and October 2005, and since 1999, natural gas prices have risen 400 percent. There is really no single source to blame for these increases. Strife in the Middle East can be blamed for the sudden increase in gasoline prices, but the long term problem lies in the developing world economy. Developing Asian countries such as China are using more and more of the world's energy. The world has a finite supply of natural resources for energy production and with the developing countries now in the market for these resources, prices are spiraling upward.



I wish I could say these increasing prices will stabilize and we will have long periods with little or no increases. If you have watched the news, you know that is not the case. Energy experts believe more fuel increases are on the way. We must use energy wisely and budget accordingly. IEC will continue to strive to provide our members with reliable power at the lowest possible cost.



INDIAN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Office Hours

7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Monday - Friday)
(918) 358-2514
www.iecok.com

To Report an Outage

(918) 358-2514 or 1-800-482-2750

24-hour Service Center

(918) 295-9520

Board of Trustees

Berry Keeler, President	District 9
Leon Day, Vice-President	District 4
Bill Boone, Sec.-Treas.	District 7
Robert Burk	District 1
Mike Spradling	District 2
	District 3
Wanda Foster	District 5
Loris Peckenpaugh	District 6
Greg Fielding	District 8
Gary Moore	District 8
Rock Reese	District 9

Jack Clinkscale, General Manager
Kay Rabbitt-Brower, Editor

The Lamp (USPS 942-940) is published monthly by Indian Electric Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 49, Highway 64 Southeast, Cleveland, Oklahoma 74020 for the interest of its membership. Subscription price was \$0.17 per month in 2005. Periodical postage paid at Cleveland, Oklahoma and additional mailing offices.

- Postmaster: Send address changes to *The Lamp*, P.O. Box 49, Cleveland, OK 74020.

IEC Receives Recognition, Awards at Statewide Annual Meeting

Each February trustees, managers, and key staff persons from Oklahoma's electric cooperatives gather in Oklahoma City to attend the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives' (OAEC) annual meeting. This year the meeting was held Feb. 6 and 7.

Its purpose is the same as any co-op annual meeting – to keep its members informed.

OAEC is owned by the Oklahoma co-ops and exists to provide services that would be too costly for each one to provide. It also works with the Oklahoma legislature to bring the co-ops' perspective to elected representatives when legislation is being created.

Annual meeting this year held special significance for IEC, as former trustee J.W. Perry was recognized with the OAEC Meritorious Service. J.W.'s widow Carla and their daughter Denise were on hand to accept his award at the annual banquet Monday evening.

Tuesday, Feb. 7 the group of more than 300 was honored as Gov. Brad Henry was the keynote speaker. He spoke not only on the state of Oklahoma, but of the vital role Oklahoma's electric cooperatives play in the continuing development and progress of

the state.

Before leaving the meeting to visit with legislators in their offices at the Capitol, individual co-ops were recognized for participation in co-op legislative support organizations, safety achievements and linemen proficiency along with excellence in Web site design and newsletter publication.

At the Capitol, co-op representatives met with legislators from their respective areas to visit about legislation that could be proposed and voted on during this legislative session.

Also honored were (right) Kay Rabbitt-Brower, editor of *The Lamp*, which won an Award of Excellence for Best Annual Report, and Don Lawrence, webmaster, who also won an Award of Excellence for Best Web site.



IEC General Manager Jack Clinkscale (above right) and his wife Beverly visit with Rep. Joe Sweeden.



OAEC Honors J.W. Perry

During the OAEC annual meeting, the association honored former IEC trustee J.W. Perry with the OAEC Meritorious Service award.

Perry passed away in August 2005 while serving as president of the OAEC board of directors.

The award is given to individuals who go above and beyond their original obligation and give generously of their time and talents to the electric cooperative program.

In addition to serving as an IEC trustee and OAEC director, J.W. was an officer on the KAMO and GRDA boards.

Pictured with Denise and Carla are (front left) Chris Cariker, KAMO CEO, Larry Watkins, OAEC general manager and Jack Clinkscale, IEC general manager.

RECIPE



Cherry-Glazed Chocolate Torte

1/2 cup (1 stick) butter or margarine, melted
1 cup sugar
1 tsp. vanilla extract
2 eggs
1/2 cup flour
1/3 cup cocoa powder

1/4 tsp. baking powder
1/4 tsp. salt
1/2 cup chopped nuts (optional)
Cream Layer (recipe follows)
1 12-oz. can cherry pie filling, divided

Heat oven to 350-degrees. Grease bottom of 9-inch Springform pan. In a large bowl, stir together butter, sugar and vanilla.

Add eggs, using spoon; beat well. Stir together flour, cocoa, baking powder, salt and nuts, if desired; gradually add to egg mixture, beating until well blended. Spread batter into prepared pan. Bake 25 to 30 minutes or until cake is set. (Cake will be fudgy and will not test done.) Cool completely in pan on a wire rack.

Prepare Cream Layer; spread over top of cake.

Spread 1 cup cherry pie filling over Cream Layer; refrigerate 3 hours. With knife, loosen cake from side of pan; remove side of pan. Serve with remaining pie filling.

Optional: garnish with mint leaves.

Cream Layer

1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese, softened
1 cup powdered sugar
1 cup frozen non-dairy whipped topping, thawed

In a small bowl, beat cream cheese and powdered sugar until well blended. Fold in whipped topping.

YIELD: 10 to 12 servings. Refrigerate leftover torte.

Come See Us at the Tulsa Home & Garden Show

Everything's coming up roses... and tulips...and water gardens...and home renovations. No, these aren't new lyrics to the song Ethel Merman made famous decades ago. They are just some of the things you can see at the 2006 Home & Garden Show, sponsored by the Tulsa Home Builders Association.

Indian Electric, along with five other Tulsa-area cooperatives, is a participant in the annual show scheduled for Friday through Sunday, March 9 -12 at the Expo Center on the Tulsa Fairgrounds.

"We will have knowledgeable staff on hand to visit with members," says IEC Member Services Director David Wilson. "And back by popular demand are the plastic hard hats for the kids and the gardening gloves for the ladies."

Wilson says the gloves will be available to the first 100 booth visitors each day.

There will also be information on co-op programs and services, and a digger truck will be on display.

Other co-ops participating include East Central Electric, Okmulgee; Cookson Hills Electric, Stigler; Lake Region Electric, Hulbert; Northeast Electric, Vinita; and Verdigris Valley Electric, Collinsville.

The show will be open from 10 a.m. until 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday and from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. on Sunday.

*Spring arrives
March 20!*

Youth Tour, Energy Camp Essays Submitted to Judges

Essays submitted by area students for entry in IEC's Youth Tour and Energy Camp contests are currently being judged.

A panel of three judges is reading each essay and scoring it according to each competition's criteria.

The Youth Tour program is for high school juniors. The two

winners will spend an all-expense paid, fun-filled week touring the nation's capital in June. Energy Camp winners will enjoy a week at Camp Canyon near Hinton learning leadership skills and forming their own cooperative.

IEC is hosting a banquet March 9 where Youth Tour finalists will give oral presentations of their essays and judges will select the winners. Energy Camp winners will be honored guests.