



The official
publication
of the members of
Indian Electric
Cooperative

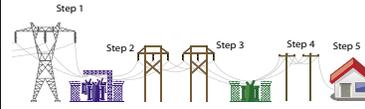


2



Co-op Helps with Storm Repairs...Again

The Method Behind Restoring Your Service



3

IEC Web Site, Newsletter Win Awards

4



Bob Stephens Retires, Ending 28-Year Career with IEC

How many retirees does it take to change a light bulb? Only one, but it may take all day.

How many days in the week of a retired person? Six Saturdays and one Sunday.

What is the common term for someone who enjoys work and refuses to retire? NUTS!

Bob Stephens is chuckling when he hears these jokes, because he knows they're true.

As of March 1, Bob is retiring and bringing to a close his 28-year career with IEC.

Bob came to work at the co-op in May, 1979 as a groundman in the Engineering Department. He made numerous contributions through the many positions he held, which include staking foreman and staking engineer. In February 1992, he was named supervisor of engineering.

In November 1995, Bob moved to Fairfax as district manager and oversaw the operations of the co-op's district office. In November 2005, he was named special projects coordinator.

He and his wife Janet have four children and nine grandchildren.

"Bob has been a good, solid employee the entire time he has worked at IEC," says IEC General Manager Jack Clinkscale. "He enjoys working with both the members and his fellow employees and has been an active, enthusiastic member of the community in both

Cleveland and Fairfax.

"Everyone at IEC wishes Bob and Janet the best as they begin this new adventure in their lives," he says.

The co-op hosted a reception for Bob and Janet at both the Cleveland and Fairfax offices during Bob's final work week. In addition to cake, punch and the many well wishes of his fellow employees and friends, the IEC Employee Club presented him with a gold watch.



IEC Lends a Helping Hand Once Again

by Jack Clinkscale, General Manager

When I wrote February's column, we had employees and equipment working in Kansas helping other rural electric cooperatives recover from a devastating snow storm. Several crews were there for almost two weeks and could have spent even more time restoring service to customers and repairing the vast amount of damage. However, our first responsibility is always to the members of IEC and with the impending forecast of freezing rain, we brought our crews home and prepared for the worst.

Once again, Mother Nature was very kind to IEC and while we had our share of bad weather conditions, it was not the kind that damages electric lines. Unfortunately, other utilities in northeastern Oklahoma were not so lucky. Numerous systems, including Northeast Oklahoma EC in Vinita, Lake Region EC in Hulbert, Cookson Hills EC in Stigler and Kiamichi EC in Wilburton, suffered massive damage. Preliminary estimates indicated cooperatives in Oklahoma lost almost 5,000 poles and had over 48,000 customers without power at the height of the storm. It will cost

over \$37 million to repair this damage. In addition, the two generation & transmission cooperatives in Oklahoma suffered significant damage. KAMO Power in Vinita, the G & T that provides power for IEC and 16 other electric cooperatives in Oklahoma and



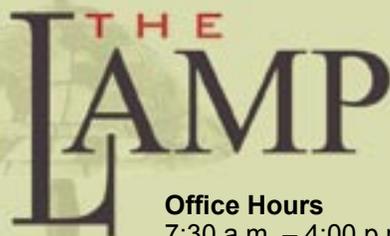
Missouri, had 13 substations without power during the storm and significant damage to many miles of transmission line.

Since we were fortunate and suffered no damage, we sent numerous crews to help Northeast Electric in Vinita – one of the

most heavily damaged systems in the state. Our crews spent over two weeks helping to restore power to cooperative members. As with most storm damage situations, your employees went the extra mile.

You can be proud of your work force at IEC. I have talked to several managers and directors of the co-ops where we sent crews and they were unanimous in their praise of the quality of work and work ethic displayed by your IEC employees. The employees who remained at IEC also went the extra mile in maintaining service and keeping up with our system with a limited number of people.

A devastating storm tests the true character of a system. It affects all employees from the front office to the back door. People must shoulder additional duties while working long hours under the most grueling conditions. Although we have been fortunate this year to avoid the devastating weather, you can rest assured you have a quality work force that will do what it takes to "get 'er done" and keep the lights on.



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

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

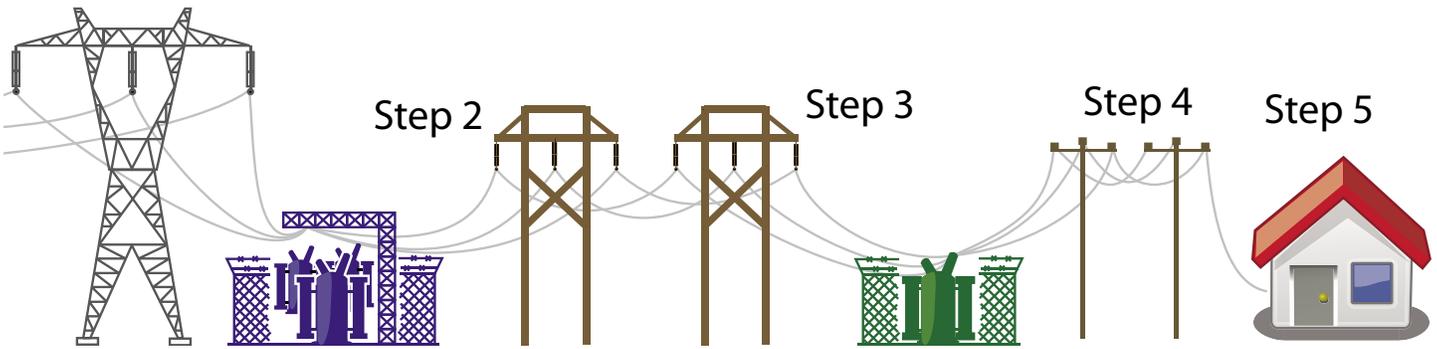
Jack Clinkscale, General Manager
Kay Rabbitt-Brower, Editor

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 2006. Periodical postage paid at Cleveland, Oklahoma and additional mailing offices.

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

How We Restore Power

Step 1



When a storm causes widespread outages like those suffered by neighboring co-ops during the recent ice storm, you may wonder how we restore your power. We determine where the damage is and then we begin prioritizing repairs to get the largest number of consumers back in service the quickest.

Here's how:

STEP 1 – KAMO Power repairs any damage to its transmission lines. These lines bring high voltage power to our electrical system through substations and electric transmission lines.

STEP 2 – KAMO makes any necessary repairs to its substations, which transfer 69,900 volts of power through transmission

lines to 17 of IEC's 19 substations.

STEP 3 – After we repair damages to equipment in our substations, we concentrate on our main distribution lines. Here we may find trees blown into lines, broken utility poles or damaged equipment on the poles, or broken electric lines.

STEP 4 – Once all distribution lines and tap lines are repaired, we begin working on individual service lines, which typically bring power to only one or two locations, such as homes and businesses.

Restoring power after a major storm can be a big job. Although we can't always restore everyone's power in an hour or two, you can be assured we're working as quickly as possible to get your lights on.

A Day at the Capitol

Each February the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives holds its annual meeting in Oklahoma City. Trustees, managers and key co-op personnel attend the meeting where they study issues affecting not only Oklahoma electric cooperatives and their members, but the electric cooperative industry.

On the final day of annual meeting, which is the first day of the new legislative session, the group gathers at the State Capitol to visit with legislators from their respective districts. They visit with the senators and representatives about legislation to come before them and what impact that legislation could have on co-ops and their members.

"This is one of the most important responsibilities of a co-op trustee," says IEC Trustee Mike Spradling, who is IEC's representative to the OAEC Board of Trustees.

"It's important not only that we are knowledgeable on upcoming legislation, but that we make our representatives knowledgeable about how that legislation can affect our members," he says.



The first day of the new session is always busy, but these legislators took time to visit with some of IEC's representatives. Pictured above, left to right, are trustees Greg Fielding, Mike Spradling, Rep. Lucky Lamons, Rep. Rex Duncan, Beverly Clinkscale, trustee Wanda Foster, Sen. Brian Bingman, and IEC General Manager Jack Clinkscale.

Trustees Mike Spradling and Wanda Foster (far right) visit with Rep. Skye McNeil at the entrance to the House chamber.



RECIPE



Crock Pot Pepper Steak

- 1 lb. boneless beef round steak, cut 3/4 to 1 inch thick
- Salt
- Black pepper
- 1 Tbsp. cooking oil
- 1 14.5-oz. can Italian-style stewed tomatoes, undrained
- 3 Tbsp. Italian-style tomato paste
- 1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 1 16-oz. pkg. frozen pepper stir-fry vegetables, (yellow, green, and red sweet peppers and onion)

Trim fat from meat. Cut into 4 pieces; sprinkle lightly with salt and black pepper. In a large skillet, brown meat on both sides in hot oil. Transfer to a 3.5- or 4-quart slow cooker. In a bowl, stir together undrained tomatoes, tomato paste, and Worcestershire sauce; pour over meat in cooker. Top with frozen stir-fry vegetables.

Cover and cook on low-heat setting for 10 to 12 hours or on high-heat setting for 5 to 6 hours or until meat and vegetables are tender.

IEC Web Site and Newsletter Win Awards

IEC's Web site – www.iecok.com – and newsletter *The Lamp*, recently received Awards of Merit and Excellence from the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives (OAEC). The awards are presented each year during OAEC's annual meeting in Oklahoma City.

The Web site received an Award of Merit and *The Lamp* received an Award of Excellence for Best Annual Report in the large cooperative category and an Award of Merit for Best Promotion of Cooperative Services, and Best Layout and Design.

The communications



competition is held each year and is open to all Oklahoma electric cooperatives.

"We participate in the competition to fine tune our Web site and newsletter by comparing them with those of other Oklahoma electric cooperatives," says Don Lawrence, Webmaster and IT administrator for the cooperative.

"Being recognized is always rewarding," says Kay Rabbitt-Brower, editor of *The Lamp*. "But the comments and suggestions from the judges are what we look forward to."

Don't Discover Electricity When Flying Your Kite

Flying kites is one of the few spring pastimes that has survived in the video-game era and can still captivate children. But when electric lines and telephone poles dot the skyline, kids need to take special care when flying their kites.

Parents should supervise kite-flying children. Fly kites only in a clear, open and level field, well away from any overhead power lines. If a kite gets caught in a utility line, don't try to untangle it. Instead, call



IEC to report the tangled kite—and leave it to the experts to get it away from the power line.

For safe kite flying, follow these rules:

- Remember Ben Franklin? He discovered electricity when his kite was struck by lightning. He was lucky; you might not be. Never fly a kite in stormy weather, as wet kites and string can conduct electricity.

- Use a strong, dry cord for string, and do not buy or make kites using metal or wire parts or cotton-wrapped wire string. Metal parts will conduct electricity if they touch an electrical wire.

- Keep your eyes on the ground when running with a kite to avoid tripping over rocks and in holes.

- Choose an area away from highways or streets when flying.

- Do not fly kites on rooftops.