



NEW YEAR, NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR SAVING

The start of a new year is the perfect opportunity to think about small changes you want to make in your daily life. If one of your resolutions for 2017 is to lower your monthly energy bill, Piedmont Electric is here to help! We offer a variety of ways for our members to manage their energy use and their bill.

ENERGY SAVING PROGRAMS

Want to take advantage of that new programmable thermostat you got for the holidays? If so, sign up for our time-of-day rate.

With a time-of-day rate, you pay a lower rate for the energy you use during off-peak hours. During the winter months, avoid using excess energy from 6am–10am, M–F and during the summer, save energy from 1pm–6pm on weekdays. Making a concerted effort to save energy during these peak times can have an impact on your bill.

Similar to time-of-day rates, our voluntary Beat the Peak program alerts you by email during peak times, reminding you to conserve energy during that time. When our members decrease demand during peak periods, we can reduce Piedmont Electric’s power costs and save our members money as a result.

HOME ENERGY AUDITS

If you feel like you’re already making energy efficient choices regularly and your bill is not reflecting that as much as you’d like, it may be time for an energy audit on your home. A free

home energy analysis is available to all Piedmont Electric members. The audit is performed by one of our experienced energy specialists who can suggest how to make your home more efficient and which projects offer the most return your investment.

OTHER WAYS TO SAVE

Don’t forget to regularly log in to SmartHub to monitor your daily usage. You can use this information to determine how to make adjustments to your energy consumption and see the effects of those changes immediately. SmartHub is one of the best tools you have to track your energy usage.

While you’re online, sign up for our monthly e-newsletter. It gives you access to energy saving tips, information about our programs and more. You can sign up to receive our monthly email newsletter at pemc.coop/newsletter.

We look forward to helping you make energy efficient choices in 2017! For more information about energy and money saving programs available to our members, visit pemc.coop/save-energy-money.

IMPORTANT DATES

**JAN
2**

New Years Day observed

Our offices will be closed for the holiday. Employees will be on call.

**MAR
31**

College Scholarship Applications due

Local high school seniors can apply for this funding toward their college education online at pemc.coop.

**MAR
31**

Basketball Camp Applications due

Rising 6–8th graders are eligible to apply for this all-expense-paid scholarship to attend summer basketball camp at UNC and NC State. Visit pemc.coop to apply.

**APR
7**

Annual Meeting

Yearly business meeting of Piedmont Electric.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

The year ahead

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STEPS TO RESTORING POWER

Find out how we work during outages

PAGE 19

SAVE ENERGY AND GET PAID TO DO IT!

Learn more about our Load Management program by visiting pemc.coop and typing “Load Management” in the search bar.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A new year has arrived and our mission will continue to be to enhance the quality of life in our communities by empowering and partnering with you, our members. I'm excited to share with you some of our plans for the upcoming year that will help us accomplish that mission.

Piedmont Electric has been growing slowly but steadily in recent years and we are prepared to meet the needs of our membership in this ever-changing energy environment.

Your cooperative has an ambitious construction plan for 2017 which includes completion and energizing of the new Mebane Oaks substation by this spring. This, along with other improvements and routine maintenance of our current system, will continue to improve reliability throughout our service area.

Over the next two years we will continue with the installation of new fiber optic cable between our offices and substations. This amazing cable is about the width of your thumb and will primarily be placed on existing infrastructure. This cable will dramatically improve the flow of data and communications allowing us to better serve you.

In certain parts of our system we will be updating our easement



Keeping members first, each and every year

Stephen B. Hamlin
President & CEO of Piedmont Electric Membership Corporation

documentation. We will be mailing a new easement document to each affected property owner and we request that these be signed, notarized and returned.

We will continue to help you better manage your energy use and your bill by providing you with the information you need to make informed energy choices at your home and business.

Members should continue to receive a rate reduction thanks to the combined efforts of your cooperative and member participation in our Load Management programs. The 2016 rate reduction averaged 5.7 percent.

With your continued help we hope to continue this reduction into the future.

I believe our success derives from our deep commitment to serving you, our member-owners. When I assumed my role as your President & CEO last July, I promised to uphold our cooperative's mission and vision and to create superior value for our members through a focus on reliability, member engagement and safety, coupled with financial prudence.

I, along with our management team, look forward to upholding that promise and serving you well in 2017.



CO-OP CONNECTIONS® CARD DISCOUNTS

GET 25% OFF APPETIZERS AT Clarksville Station Restaurant

A steak house inside an old train car and station.

Roxboro, NC



Visit Connections.Coop/PEMC for discount details and a complete list of participating local businesses, national businesses, dentists, chiropractors, vision care centers and pharmacies.

Can't find your Co-op Connections Card?

Visit Connections.Coop/PEMC to print a new one or call our office at **800.222.3107** for a replacement.

Steps to Restoring Power

Hurricanes and ice storms. Tornadoes and blizzards. Electric cooperative members have seen them all. And with such severe weather comes power outages. Restoring power after a major outage is a big job that involves many steps.

Our main goal is to restore power safely to the greatest number of members in the shortest time possible. That means we work first on the issues that have the biggest impact to the most members.

1

Transmission towers and lines.

Tens of thousands of people can be served by one high-voltage line, so we start here first.

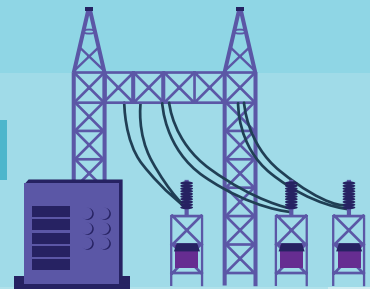
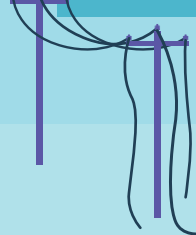


10,000+ members affected

2

Local distribution substations. If we can correct problems at the substation level, we can potentially restore electricity to several thousand people.

1,000+ members affected



3

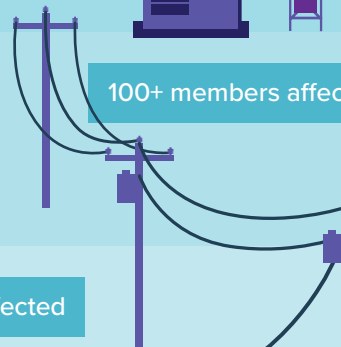
Main distribution supply lines. These lines come from the substations and typically serve hundreds of people.

100+ members affected

4

Supply/tap lines. These lines carry power to utility poles or underground transformers. Fixing a problem here can turn the lights on for an entire street or several streets.

10+ members affected



5

The service line between your house and the transformer. When you have damage on this line, it can explain why your neighbor has power and you don't. These issues affecting individual members are the last to be fixed because they impact the fewest members.

1 member affected



How does Piedmont Electric prepare for storms?

Our right-of-way maintenance program is our best defense against storm related outages. Right-of-way maintenance involves trimming tree limbs back so they do not interfere with power lines. That's why we focus on this effort throughout the year. In addition, we also conduct routine inspections of all of the physical assets that make up our grid, from transmission lines to power poles.

We are also part of a strong network of more than 900 cooperatives nationwide. When a cooperative is hit by a

storm, the other cooperatives pitch in to help restore power quickly and safely. When Hurricane Matthew struck, we sent crews to help other co-ops in the path of the storm. We know that if a severe storm were to hit our area we would have the strength of the co-op nation to help restore your power quickly in our time of need.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEETS JANUARY 7

Four seats on the Piedmont Electric Board of Directors are up for election at this year's annual meeting of the members. These seats are currently held by Paul Bailey (District 5), Randy Kinley (District 2), David Poythress (District 1) and Richal Vanhook (At Large).

The annual meeting will be held Friday, April 7, 2017 at Orange High School in Hillsborough.

The members serving on the nominating committee are:

- SYLVIA WADE, ROUGEY MURPHY, BLANCHE OAKLEY, JOE CURRIN, ADAM SARVER, ALVIS LONG, GREG MARTIN, CLEOTIS LAWSON JR., SUSAN GRAY, GREGORY RUDD

The cooperative's bylaws provide an alternative to the nominating committee. Any fifty (50) or more members of the cooperative, acting together, may make additional nominations in writing over their signatures...

Any member nominated by petition as a candidate for any Directorate must meet the qualifications to serve as a director set forth in section 4.02 before the nominee's name may be placed on the ballot for election at the annual meeting.

YOUTH PROGRAM APPLICATION DEADLINES. BASKETBALL CAMPS MARCH 31, 2017. COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS MARCH 31, 2017. FOR MORE INFO, VISIT PEMC.COOP/COMMUNITY OR CALL 800.222.3107

PROJECT HELPING HAND. Piedmont Electric members can round their monthly electric bills to the next dollar to help fund this program...

PIEDMONT ELECTRIC CONNECTION

Published monthly for the members of Piedmont Electric Membership Corporation

2500 NC Highway 86 South, PO Drawer 1179, Hillsborough, NC 27278

OFFICE HOURS Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. 800.222.3107

Piedmont Electric is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Stephen B. Hamlin President and CEO

- DIRECTORS: Bill R. Barber, Paul L. Bailey, Sam T. Woods, Richal Vanhook, Glennie C. Beasley, J. Randy Kinley, Stephen C. Long, David Poythress, Cyrus Vernon & Talmadge W. Yancey

IF YOUR POWER GOES OUT, CALL US AT 800.449.2667

Our automated outage reporting system uses your phone number to determine your service location.

That's why it's important to update the number connected to your account. If your number has changed, let us know by completing the form that comes with your monthly bill or by calling 800.222.3107.

Pay account and access account information by phone 24 hours a day by calling 877.999.3394. Voice instructions will direct you through the system.