

Inside

CFL Safety.....2

Power Supply continued.....3

Right of Way.....3

Scholarship Form.....4

Hot Watts

PUBLISHED BY COOKSON HILLS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

RETRACTION!

There was an error in the Tip of the Month in the January Hot Watts issue. The Tip of the Month should have read as follows:

Fighting winter chills? A crackling fire in the hearth warms the house, but don't let it heat up your electric bill. To cool energy costs, keep the fireplace damper closed when not in use. Caulk around the fireplace hearth. Double up on wood-earned warmth by lowering the thermostat setting to between 50 degrees and 55 degrees Fahrenheit. Learn more at www.energysaver.gov.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

Congratulations!

Dena Clay is our online survey winner.

Cookson Hills to Offer College Scholarship

Area high school seniors whose parent or guardian is a member of Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative (CHEC) have an opportunity to apply for a \$500 scholarship. Each year the Herman Driscoll Memorial Scholarship committee awards four scholarships to help deserving seniors pay for college or technical school.

To be eligible for consideration, students must have a GPA of 2.0 or better, good character, good citizenship, financial need, and a desire to further their education. Additionally, seniors must enroll as a full-time student at a college or technical school.

High school seniors may complete the application on page four of this Hot Watts issue or obtain an application from the CHEC website www.cooksonhills.com.

Please return your application, along with two letters of recommendation, by **April 4, 2014**, to the following address:

*Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Scholarship Committee
Attention: Felicia Williams
PO Box 539
Stigler, OK 74462*

Diverse Resources Comprise Power Supply

Have you ever wondered what mixtures of resources are used to generate your electricity? Your electricity is produced using a mix of fuels and technologies: coal, natural gas, hydropower, oil, wind and energy efficiency. This allows for flexibility while providing reliable and affordable energy.

Cookson Hills Electric (CHEC) purchases our wholesale power from Associated Electric Cooperative (AECI) in Springfield, Missouri. AECI is a wholesale power generation and high-voltage transmission cooperative.

For more than 50 years, AECI has provided reliable, wholesale power generation and transmission to its six transmission co-op member-owners. They supply 51 local electric cooperatives



Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc. Power Plant at Chouteau, Oklahoma

in Missouri, Iowa and Oklahoma serving about 875,000 customers.

Continued on Page 3

Photo by: AECI

Hot Watts

is published monthly by **Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc.** **Hot Watts** informs members in parts of seven Eastern Oklahoma counties about Cookson Hills' programs and issues. Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative continually strives to provide quality electrical service at a reasonable cost for its members.

Headquarters: P.O. Box 539
Stigler, OK 74462
Phone: 800-328-2368

Branch Office: P.O. Box 587
Sallisaw, OK 74955
Phone: 918-775-2211

Toll-Free: 1-800-328-2368

Pay-by-Phone: 1-888-678-1937

Home Page: www.cooksonhills.com

E-Mail: drhodes@cooksonhills.com

Cookson Hills Staff

Kendall Beck
General Manager

Eric Johnson
Assistant General Manager

Dalen Garner
Director of Operations

Brett Orme
Director of Engineering

Juli Orme
Chief Financial Officer

Amy Smith
Manager of Accounting Services

Kristie Cash
Manager of Office Services

Cookson Hills Board of Trustees

William T. Mills President / District 4
Joe Falleur Vice President / District 3
Kenneth Kelley . Sec.-Treas. / District 5
William R. Wilson.....Trustee / District 2
Rocky Woods, Sr.Trustee / District 1
Joe OgleTrustee / District 6
Ronnie Pevehouse....Trustee / District 7

Bill V. Wilkinson - Attorney

Donna Rhodes - Editor

Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc. welcomes members to submit photos, and articles which will be subject to editing. Cookson Hills reserves the right to publish or modify any article. Companies and individuals featured in the Hot Watts newsletter do not necessarily reflect the official policy, position, or view of Cookson Hills.

If You Find Your Account Number
Hidden in This Issue of the *Hot Watts*
You'll Receive a \$25 Credit on
Your Electric Bill

CFLs Can Be Dangerous in Extreme Temperatures

Oven lights are handy. Curious if a casserole's ready? Flip the switch; no need to open the oven and release heat to get a baking update. But be careful when replacing this little light. Never put a bulb in the oven that's not built for high heat.

Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) use less energy than classic incandescent bulbs, but they're not safe in extreme temperatures. Most lighting labels designate safe temperatures, but warnings may be in fine print.

Need to replace your oven light? Look for appliance light bulbs. These bulbs are designed for extreme temperatures in ovens and refrigerators. These hardy bulbs are here to stay; 40-watt appliance bulbs are exempt from federal lighting efficiency standards.

Why won't CFLs work? Instead of heating a filament until white-hot to produce light like an incandescent bulb, a fluorescent lamp contains a gas that produces (UV) ultraviolet light when excited by electricity. The UV light and the white coating inside the bulb result in visible light. Since CFLs don't use heat to create light, they are 75 percent more energy efficient. But the technology that cuts energy use doesn't stand a chance in an oven's 400+ degree heat. CFLs are good for the pocketbook but not perfect in every situation. Keep these tips in mind:

1. Don't dim unless it's dimmable. Buy a specifically designed CFL for a dimmer switch application.

Replacing lightbulbs with efficient CFLs or LEDs saves energy, but not every bulb works under extreme temperatures.



This melted CFL bulb was removed from inside an oven.

2. Don't flip too fast. CFLs work best if they are left on for more than 15 minutes each time they are turned on. Older bulbs take 30 seconds to three minutes to reach efficient operation. Frequently switching them on and off shortens bulb life. Newer CFLs feature an 'Instant on' capability; look for that on the lighting label if you expect frequent flipping.

3. Give them air. CFLs may be used in enclosed fixtures as long as the enclosed fixture is not recessed. Totally enclosed recessed fixtures create temperatures too high for CFLs.

4. Protect CFLs outside. Look at the package or bulb for temperature restrictions before using a CFL outdoors.

5. Don't shake. Don't use CFLs in vibrating environments such as a ceiling fan or garage door opener.

6. Do the twist. Always screw and unscrew the lamp by its base. Never forcefully twist the CFL into a light socket by the glass tubes.

To learn more about using and recycling CFLs, visit www2.epa.gov/cfl

Source: NRECA

Use your Co-op Connections Card this Valentine's Day

Several local businesses offer discounts on goods and services when you show them your Co-Op Connections Card. For a complete list of local discounts, as well as state and national deals, please visit our website at www.cooksonhills.com and click on the "Co-op Connections Card".



Power Supply Continued.....

AECI uses the lowest-cost resources first to serve member load. Resources include hydropower, coal, wind or natural gas. AECI also looks for opportunities to purchase power from other utilities at a cost that is lower than it can generate.

Hydropower

AECI receives supplemental and peaking power from Southwestern Power Administration, the federal power marketing agency that supplies power from 17 reservoirs across Oklahoma, Arkansas and Missouri. While hydropower is one of our cheapest resources, it is a limited commodity dependent on rainfall and the capacity of lakes and dams to store the water.

Coal and natural gas

Coal generation supplies the bulk of members' electricity, typically about 80 percent, although lower natural gas prices have led to increased natural gas generation. While not as inexpensive as supplemental hydropower, coal and natural gas are typically less expensive fuels for electricity generation than intermittent wind or solar sources. Because power plants can operate around the clock, are not intermittent and do not depend on the ability of storage like wind, water and solar power, fossil fuel-based generation is currently the most reliable form of electricity for members.

Wind

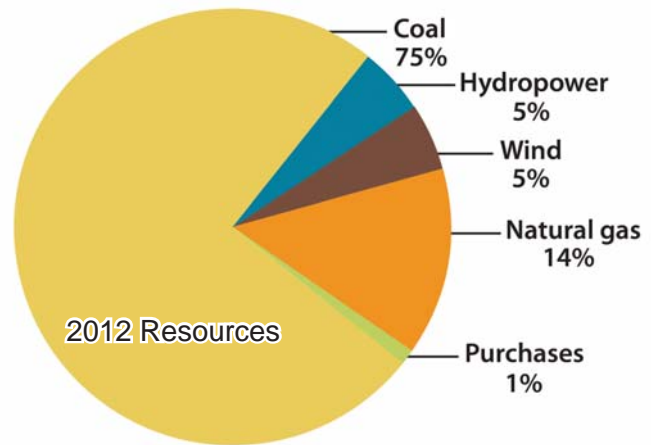
Rural electric cooperatives took the lead in Missouri wind power when AECI teamed up with Wind Capital Group to bring four wind farms to Missouri. The four farms total 300,000 kilowatts and can supply enough electricity for about 53,000 cooperative member households.

Associated's signing of these long-term agreements, as well as Associated's high-voltage transmission system, made these wind farms a reality.

Associated has signed two more long-term wind power purchase agreements, contracting from BP Wind Energy's Flat Ridge 2 farm, and from Wind Capital Group's planned Osage County wind farm being developed in northeast Oklahoma.

Locking in long-term, economical fixed-cost wind power helps Associated mitigate expected fuel cost increases, as well as expected increases in the market price for wind as more utilities are required to meet renewable portfolio standards. In addition, the Kansas and Oklahoma wind farms add geographic diversity to Associated's Missouri's wind farms and will bring its contracted wind power from 300 MW to 750 MW.

Because it is intermittent, however, wind cannot be relied on to produce electricity during periods of peak demand. Some form of electric generator that can be relied on to produce electricity when it is called for, such as coal or natural gas, backs up wind generators to ensure reliable power for members.



AECI is always open to evaluating economical options for adding power supply to the system. To satisfy electricity demand, they look at all cost-effective 2450000 generation resources that are available. In addition, they continue to implement energy efficiency and equipment rebate programs that reduce energy consumption, as well as reduce the need for new electricity plants.

Source: Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc.

CHEC Contracts with Wolf Tree in 2014

Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative (CHEC) has contracted with Wolf Tree Inc. to clear right-of-way areas in Haskell County and Sequoyah County during 2014.

Wolf Tree will complete the clearing of 200 miles of distribution power lines from the Stigler substation in Haskell County. Later in the year they will move to the Liberty substation in Sequoyah County where they will clear 150 miles of right-of-way.

Regular inspections and maintenance of all overhead distribution

lines in our seven county service area is a major ongoing project. CHEC's goal of decreasing power outages and outage duration time is directly linked to maintaining proper clearances with our right-of-ways. If you have any questions concerning right-of-way issues, please contact your local office at 800-328-2368 (Stigler), or at 918-775-2211 (Sallisaw).



Application for the Herman Driscoll Memorial Scholarship

Name _____

Social Security # _____ Telephone # _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Parents' (guardians') name(s) _____

Number of children at home or in college _____

Family income last year (check one): Below \$35,000
 Above \$35,000

GPA Score _____ ACT Score _____

Currently attending school at _____

List your involvement in school, community, and vocational groups. Also include any work experience:

In 75-100 words tell why you are applying for the scholarship and share your goals and ambitions:

List scholarships you have earned and their value: _____

Choice of Schools: _____

Note: Please attach two letters of recommendation.