



Your Electric Company
Since 1938

POWER SOURCE



"Owned By Those We Serve"

April 2011 Vol. 15 No. 04



FREE ELECTRICITY!

You could be the lucky winner of our **GRAND PRIZE**, (\$1,000 in free electricity), at Farmers' Electric Cooperative's 73rd Annual Membership Meeting

Registration:	9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Business Meeting:	10:30 a.m.
Lunch:	Following Business Meeting

Grady High School
100 Franklin St.
Grady, New Mexico

Saturday, April 30, 2011

To take action upon the following matters:

- The reports of Officers, Trustees, and Committees
- The election of Trustees from:
District 3 (Ft. Sumner)
District 5 (Tucumcari - Ragland)
- All other business which may come before the meeting or any adjournments thereof
- Door prizes for adults and children
- Grand Prize Drawing (\$1,000 IN FREE ELECTRICITY!)
- Two special drawings (\$50 Energy Certificates) for "First-Time" attendance
- Lunch, (provided by Farmers' Electric), will be served following the meeting by the Grady High School student body.



Touchstone Energy

For those of you following our teaser ads over the last couple of months, it is time to reveal... Farmers' Electric is now a Touchstone Energy Cooperative! Farmers' Electric is now part of a unique network of other like-minded electric cooperatives around the country. The Touchstone Energy brand represents a nationwide alliance made up of more than 700 local, member-owned, electric cooperatives in 46 states.

What does that mean, you ask? Farmers' Electric has always striven to provide the most reliable electricity at the lowest possible cost to our member/owners. Touchstone Energy provides the necessary tools to not only help Farmers' Electric continue to offer the best member service, but to elevate it to an even higher expectation for our members.

An example of this can be utilized even today by going to www.togetherwesave.com and experiencing, "the power of human connections."

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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Manager's Message... **Udall & the EPA Offer No Solutions...
Just Rhetoric**



Lance Adkins, GM

I was disappointed in the recent "Udall Update," a communication and video presentation I regularly receive from Senator Tom Udall's office. What immediately caught my attention were several statements by the Senator accusing the "Republicans in congress" of intentionally seeking to damage the environment and public health. Senator Udall's comments center around a budget proposal passed by the House of Representatives that would also restrict efforts at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on development and enforcement of new environmental regulations, including greenhouse-gas (GHG) regulations.

Readers may recall past articles in this publication about various attempts at both the national and state level to implement a GHG cap-and-trade program; and while cap-and-trade passed the House, it ultimately failed in the Senate. Readers can access the "Udall Update" and other information from Senator Udall on the Senator's website, www.tomudall.senate.gov.

Of great interest to me personally, was a bold statement by Senator Udall that *"The Environmental Protection Agency needs to be able to do its job. That's what I believe and that's what I've been hearing from New Mexicans."* While I have no reason to doubt that Senator Udall is hearing from New Mexicans in support of EPA efforts, I also know that many across our state, including members of Farmers' Electric, are asking Senator Udall to use his best efforts to slow down EPA efforts to regulate GHG. In fact, Board members George Dodge, Pat Woods, and I personally presented Senator Udall with a letter that was "larger-than-life" at three-feet wide by eight-feet in length. Our message, signed by 280 members of Farmers' Electric at our Annual Meeting in House, New Mexico, was clear, direct, and simple. Further, we asked for the same consideration from each of our Washington congressional delegation, 1) How is Congress going to help utilities meet the growing demand for electricity? 2) How is Congress going to help utilities develop new technologies to reduce GHG emissions? 3) Most importantly, how is Congress going to help keep electricity affordable for "all" Americans? I am also aware that almost 4,000 Coop members from across the State have sent similar messages to Senator Udall and our entire congressional delegation! As of the end of 2010, almost 1,200 members of Farmers' Electric have signed up in support of our national "Our Energy, Our Future" campaign, stressing that any legislation or regulation must be fair, affordable and achievable for consumers who pay the bill.

I have personally visited the state and Washington offices of Senator Udall to express my concern about legislative and EPA regulatory efforts far exceeding what current technology can deliver with regards to GHG reductions. Dramatic restrictions on the use of coal in the production of electricity is one of the primary targets of Senator Udall and the EPA. Readers should also understand that it was Congress, not utilities, that drove utilities to build coal generation in the late 1970s and early 1980s by prohibiting the use of natural-gas as a fuel source in new power plants. President Jimmy Carter signed the "Power-plant and Industrial Fuel Use Act" in 1978, mandating that utilities look to coal, nuclear, and "new" resources for the generation of electricity. Utilities were required to build coal and nuclear plants at a cost of three to ten times more than equivalent natural-gas fueled facilities. Folks, in the end it was consumers, not utilities, who paid for those

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is published monthly by Farmers' Electric Cooperative, Inc. Questions or article ideas should be directed to :

Thom J. Moore,

POWER SOURCE

Editor, P. O. Box 550

Clovis, New Mexico

88102-0550

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plants through their monthly electric bills! As time passed, the natural-gas industry devised new and improved means to find and develop natural gas resources, prompting Congress in 1987 to repeal portions of the Fuel Use Act that restricted the use of natural gas to generate electricity. Today, due largely to uncertain legislative and regulatory wrangling, utilities rely almost exclusively on natural-gas as a fuel source for new power plants.

Senator Udall cites "powerful Washington interest groups" pressuring Congress to rollback environmental regulations; I would prefer to see Senator Udall focused on solutions rather than demonizing and divisive rhetoric. Consumers are already pressed by dramatic increases of goods and services and the Senator is asking those same consumers to fund additional regulations far ahead of technological developments necessary to meet the EPA's regulatory timeline. EPA efforts praised by Senator Udall offer no solutions, only unattainable regulations in light of current technology. EPA efforts will most certainly increase costs to consumers as technological improvements are made to existing plants or until replacement power plants can be built. One solution Senator Udall can help with today is to support efforts to stop EPA from moving forward with GHG reductions until technology is available to accomplish the task. **A rollback of GHG reduction efforts is not a rollback of historical efforts to improve air and water quality.** For Congress or the EPA to force regulation ahead of technological innovation, with little concern to the cost impact to consumers, is irresponsible and unacceptable. I call on Senator Udall to use his best efforts to make sure that legislation and regulation is Fair, Affordable, and Achievable. I urge the members of Farmers' Electric, "let your voice be heard!" For more information on efforts by electric Cooperatives across the nation regarding GHG regulations contact our office, and www.ourenergy.coop.

Members registering at the Annual Meeting of Members on behalf of a partnership, organization, church, trust, corporation, partnership, governmental agency, limited liability company, or sole proprietorship should present documentation at registration denoting such. For convenience, a blank form below has been provided to accomplish this. This form or affidavit should be signed and notarized. The form can be delivered by the appointed individual at the time of registration at the Annual Meeting. No person may vote more than one time or receive more than one ballot. For more information, call: 800-445-8541 or 575-762-4466.

FARMERS' ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. OF NEW MEXICO

Affidavit for use by a Non-Individual Member to Authorize a Voting Representative

I, _____ do hereby certify that _____ is the voting representative of _____ (name of entity) and is the duly authorized legal representative for such entity for the purpose of voting on any and all matters that may arise at the annual meeting of members of Farmers' Electric Cooperative, Inc. of New Mexico (hereinafter referred to as "Farmers' Electric") as held on April 30, 2011 in Grady, New Mexico to vote on behalf of _____ (name of entity) on any and all matters that may arise at the annual meeting of members of Farmers' Electric. This affidavit shall remain in effect through said meeting date unless earlier cancelled by written notice received by Farmers' Electric.

Type of Entity: (please specify)

- Organization
- Church
- Trust
- Corporation
- Partnership
- Governmental Agency
- Limited Liability Company
- Sole Proprietorship

SIGNATURE

TITLE

STATE OF NEW MEXICO)
)
COUNTY OF _____)

Cooperative Member's Qualifying Telephone Number

On this _____ day of _____, 2011, personally appeared before me _____, being known to be the person and acknowledging the foregoing instrument.

(SEAL)

My Commission Expires: _____

Notary Public

No dirty rags... no messy oil... the Clean Funnel®

For all those attending the 73rd Annual Meeting of Members on April 30, 2011, we have a very nice gift we are including in our goodie bags... a Clean Funnel!

Clean Funnel was invented in eastern New Mexico by Hoyt Pattison on this family farm. Hoyt and his son Will, patented the funnel in 1989.

The concept is simple, a large lid on the mouth of the funnel and a small lid on the spout end. For anyone who has ever worked on farm equipment, automobiles, motorcycles, boats, or other mechanical devices



On a recent tour, Hoyt Pattison explains how the funnels are made to FEC's Lance Adkins

they learn quickly that if a dirty funnel is used to add various fluids, that machine will have a shorter than expected life. The Clean Funnel ensures that the oil, transmission fluid, hydraulic fluid, etc., being put to use, stays clean as does the work area around the job.



Keeping things in the family, Hoyt had his son Roger build the molds at Clovis Machine & Manufacturing Co. Since its inception, the Clean Funnel has been made at various blow molding production facilities around the U.S., but in 2009, the Pattisons had an opportunity to purchase their own blow molding machine and the Clean Funnel is now manufactured exclusively in a facility right here in Clovis, New Mexico!

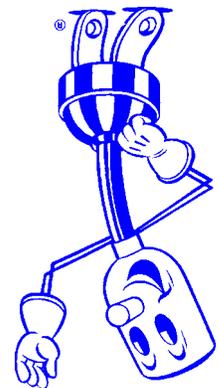
Presently, Clean Funnel makes 12 different models of funnels which are marketed in the United States, Canada, and Europe. For more information or to order Clean Funnel, go to www.cleanfunnel.com.

Hoyt is a longtime member of Farmers' Electric Cooperative and we are proud to call him one of our own.

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FARMERS' ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
 OF NEW MEXICO
 3701 Thornton, P. O. Box 550
 Clovis, New Mexico 88102-0550

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