

FEC POWER *Source*

Vol. 21 No. 10

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Scholarship Applications Available Now...

Farmers' Electric Cooperative will be awarding scholarships again this year through the Farmers' Electric Education Foundation. Scholarship applications may be obtained from area high school guidance counselors or from cooperative office locations in Clovis, Ft. Sumner, and Santa Rosa. Scholarship applications can also be requested by calling the Clovis office at 575-762-4466 or 800-445-8541 or by going online to www.fecnm.org. All cooperative members and their dependents are eligible to apply for these scholarships.

Only the interest earned on donations is used for scholarships, ensuring that the Education Foundation will continue to support higher education for our members for many years to come. Through 2017, the foundation has awarded 1148 scholarships totaling \$794,730.00.

Don't Delay! Deadline For Applications Is February 1, 2018!

This year there are two different scholarship forms. Be sure when requesting a form that you specify either the "Graduating High School Student Application" or the "Returning College Application." Both forms are available from any FEC office or are available to download from www.fecnm.org.

Youth Tour 2018

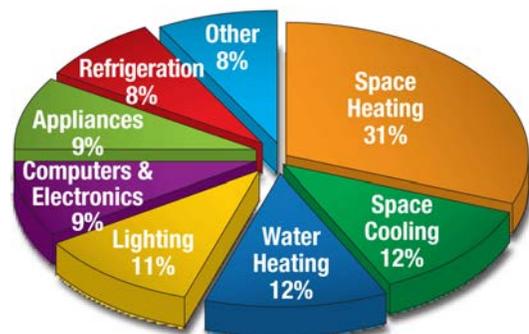


In 2018, FEC will again sponsor two area high school Juniors (summer after Junior year) on the week-long, Government in Action Youth Tour in Washington, D. C. Please call 800-445-8541 for more details on this exciting opportunity! We promise this will be a trip of a lifetime!



The Farmers' Electric Education Foundation was established by the members of the cooperative in 1986 and is funded through donated and unclaimed patronage capital refunds and donations by private individuals.

On average, this is where your energy dollars are spent?



Manager's Message...**Lance Adkins, GM****Are You Keeping Up with the News?**

Readers who regularly follow national news programs have been bombarded with a continual stream of negative headlines for quite some time. It would be impossible to miss the tragedy of recent shootings, including one that touched the community of Clovis this summer. Add to that the massive humanitarian and economic impact of multiple natural disasters including hurricanes and active wildfires in California and other western states. Further, the amount of media coverage devoted to the NFL and other sporting venues where some participants have

chosen to protest during the National Anthem. Folks may have missed the October 10th announcement by Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator, Scott Pruitt, that the “war on coal is over,” with the EPA taking the next step in repealing the Clean Power Plan.

Folks may recall the Clean Power Plan (CPP) is the final rule issued by the EPA, affecting both existing and future electric generation resources. Developed under Section 111 (d), the CPP was designed to reduce carbon dioxide emissions (CO2) to 32 percent below 2005 levels by 2030. More specifically, the rule dictated specific emission targets for individual states based on electric power plants that burn coal or natural gas to generate electricity and gave state officials broad latitude to decide how to achieve reductions.

One of the concerns for the members of Farmers’ Electric (FEC) is that roughly 70 percent of the wholesale power we purchase is generated by conventional generation resources that burn coal or natural gas to generate electricity. Almost 30 percent of the wholesale power we purchase is generated by renewable energy, primarily wind, but also including solar and hydroelectric resources.

Implementation of the CPP by the EPA and in New Mexico was brought to a halt last year with the “Stay” of the new Rule issued by the Supreme Court. Due in part to ongoing regulatory uncertainty, combined with the impact of increasing availability of cost-competitive renewable energy and low natural gas costs, utilities continue to accelerate plans for the closure of coal-fueled generation plants. Utilities are replacing coal with new gas-fueled (quick-start) generation technology that can provide support for increasing levels of renewable energy generation on the power grid. To maintain system reliability, renewable generation must be supported by conventional generation, available on warm-standby, and able to ramp quickly to replace any generation shortfall, something a legacy coal plant is unable to do.

We do not expect that CO2 regulations will be eliminated in their entirety; EPA Administrator Pruitt has indicated a replacement rule is likely. Electric Cooperatives across the country support a regulatory framework that will:

- Be consistent with EPA’s decades-long practice that technological or operational performance standards can be implemented at the generation source
- Protect reliability of energy supply to consumers and businesses

See **COAL** on **PAGE 3**

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1-800-445-8541

www.fecnm.org**To Report****An Outage**

We are on-call 24 hours each day, 365 days each year, to serve **your** electric power needs.

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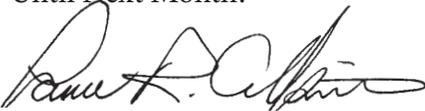
COAL *from* PAGE 2

- Minimize undue economic impact for consumers
- Provide electric cooperatives with long-term regulatory clarity and certainty

Given the current state of animosity we see in Washington, I think it is safe to assume that any rewrite of regulations, or lack of action, will also be challenged in the courts. Meaning, the war on coal is far from over, at least from a regulatory standpoint. However, as the war on coal rages in the hearts and minds of legislators, regulators, utility boardrooms, and clean energy advocates, the economics in wholesale electricity markets have likely already killed coal and threaten other large-baseload generating plants fueled by natural gas and nuclear power. Large-baseload generating plants have operating characteristics and costs that are not competitive with renewable energy and quick-start natural gas generation in current wholesale markets.

Who can predict the future? There is discussion of implementing economic subsidies to support legacy generating assets and the workforce that keeps them running. From fuel production, fuel shipment, to plant operations, there are thousands of workers and their families who rely on the jobs that support each plant.

Until Next Month!



College Football Tailgate Special

**Charbroil Patio Bistro
Electric Grill**

\$149
Save \$40!

***While supplies last**



Where's Waldo?

Where's Waldo? Ok, maybe that was too easy... How about the pad-mounted transformer? Can you spot it? The rains this summer have really caused the weeds and grass to take off! What was once easy to see, is now a little more difficult.



Because some equipment is now harder to see, (might include junction boxes, transformers, and cable/telephone pedestals), it is more important than ever to do a "walk around" before you do any tractor mowing or shredding around your property. It only takes a little bit of time and could sure save you from a lot of grief and danger.

Of course, anywhere there is tall grass, there might be lurking some very undesirable critters such as snakes, skunks, spiders, etc. Again, please be careful when working around this sometimes hidden equipment. Oh, and watch out for Waldo too.

Attention: Irrigation Consumers **Subject: Irrigation Annual Minimum Charges**

In accordance with Farmers' Electric Cooperative's Irrigation rate schedule, certain annual minimum charges apply to all irrigation accounts. Your original minimum charges were calculated through a contract with the Cooperative based on the cost of line extension to the irrigation load. Upon expiration of the contract, the horsepower on that account determines the annual minimum at the rate of \$20.00 per horsepower, but not less than \$110.00 for single-phase service, and not less than \$165.00 for three-phase service.

Under the irrigation rate schedule, consumers have one calendar year, (approximately December 20 through December 20 of the following year), in which to use the annual minimum charges. The December billing will reflect the remaining charges, if any.

If you have any questions regarding the annual minimum charges for your irrigation account(s), please contact the Cooperative's Billing Department at 575-762-4466 or 800-445-8541.

Make Fright Night a Delight

Halloween is one of the happiest holidays for kids and their parents. Don't let it turn into a frightening experience because of outdoor safety hazards at your home.

Welcome trick-or-treaters to your door by making your yard and porch safe to visit. Here's how:



Keep it clean. Clutter can cause trouble when children are traipsing through

your yard. Pick up rakes, power tools, tree branches, and anything else that could either trip or tempt young visitors.

Keep the lights on. Light a waking path to your front door. The light will help direct the kids to the single spot at your house where you'd like them to be, and offer them a safe way to get there. Before October 31, replace all burned-out outdoor lights with LED lighting.

Keep your message clear. The best way to tell trick-or-treaters that you've run out of candy is to turn off all outdoor lights and most of the indoor ones. A dark house signals a parent to take the party elsewhere.

Keep it simple. Homeowners decorate nearly as much for Halloween as they do for Christmas. If your display includes outdoor lights, choose products rated for safety by Underwriters Laboratories. If you don't see a UL mark on the box, don't buy them. Every year before handling your outdoor decorations, check them all for defects and damage. Unchecked decorations could become a fire hazard. Finally, remember to turn off all lighted decorations when you are not at home.

Attention

Protection from winter shut-off begins November 15, 2017. To avoid potential disconnection of services, please contact the Human Services Department for eligibility information for the Low Income Heating Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) at 800-283-4465. Your service will not be disconnected from November 15, 2017 through March 15, 2018, if you qualify for LIHEAP and have no past due amount or are making the agreed upon payments.

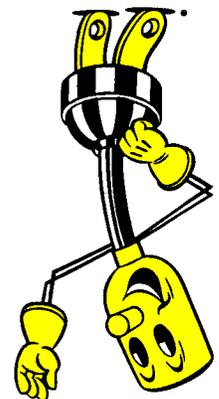
Atención

Proteccion contra la interrupcion de servicio de invierno comienza el 15 de Noviembre del 2017. Para evitar la posibilidad de desconexion. Favor de ponerse en contact con el Departamento de Servicios Humanos para informarse acerca de los requisitos de elegibilidad para el Programa de Asistencia Energetica de Bajos Ingresos (LIHEAP) al 1-800-283-4465, Su servicio no sera desconectado de Noviembre 15 a Marzo 15, 2018 si califica para el Programa de Asistencia Energetica de Bajos Ingresos y no tiene saldo atrasado ni a fallado con su acuerdo de pagos fijos.

Be careful with those space heaters! Running just one space heater, 12 hours a day, could add up to \$55 to your monthly electric bill!



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