


REAL PEOPLE. REAL POWER.

Tideland Topics

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE MEMBER-OWNERS OF TIDELAND ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

MEMBER TEAMWORK: Breaker shutoff during extended outages



Tideland EMC members can play an important role in power restoration after an extended or widespread outage.

When an extended power outage occurs, it's a good idea to turn off all household circuit breakers except one you use for indoor lighting.

Once power has been restored, wait 15 minutes and then begin to turn breakers back on one at a time. This can help prevent overloads on utility distribution equipment when power is first restored. This is particularly important when outdoor temperatures are extremely high or low.

Over \$2 million in credits issued in '14

In keeping with our not-for-profit cooperative business principles, Tideland EMC refunded \$676,157 in capital credits during fiscal year 2014. Of that total, \$288,500 was distributed during December when the co-op issued capital credits to members with electric service during the years 1986 and 2013. The remaining balance was distributed throughout the year to the estates of deceased members.

The co-op also issued wholesale power cost adjustment (WPCA) credits throughout the year totaling \$1,406,616. WPCA credits are issued when the actual cost of power sold is lower than published rates. Thanks to better than forecast market conditions, largely driven by high inventories of favorably priced natural gas, the average monthly WPCA credit was 0.4266¢ per kilowatt hour (kWh) billed in 2014 (\$4.26 per 1,000 kWh). That is in addition to a base rate decrease Tideland EMC's board of directors implemented on July 1, 2014. Residential summer rates decreased from 11.968¢ to 11.495¢ per kWh. Winter rates dropped from 11.027¢ to 10.58¢.



Right-of-Way Maintenance Update

Tideland has hired Lucas Tree Experts to trim trees in our rights-of-way. In February they will be trimming along the Pantego circuit, including Free Union, Seed Tick Neck Raod and Yeatesville areas.

Member support of proper tree trimming is crucial to outage prevention and improved service reliability.

Mowing crews will be working on Hwy 264 east of Belhaven and into Hyde County in the Scranton and Sladesville areas and up to the Swan Quarter bypass.

Message to our Member-Owners: What went right when things went wrong

By Paul Spruill

General Manager & CEO

The morning of Friday, January 9, was a long, chilly and rather frustrating one for nearly 9,000 Tideland members in Beaufort and Hyde counties.

At 2:13 am that morning, Dominion Power had an equipment failure on its transmission system that resulted in the loss of power to customers of four electric utilities, including Tideland. The outdoor temperature at that time was 23°F.

After consulting with Dominion's transmission supervisor, the co-op issued a text message to members at 3:42 am advising them that the outage could last several hours. At 5:13 am, the co-op issued another text alert letting members know that Dominion had just found the source of the

outage and that repairs would not be complete before 8:00 am. At that point we asked members to practice breaker shut off by cutting off all but one breaker for interior lights so they would know when power had been restored. By reducing the initial load when power is restored after a long, widespread outage, we can prevent transformer and circuit overloads that might not otherwise present a problem on a mild weather day or following a brief, localized outage. In the event that members did not heed our calls for load reduction we had our Pamlico County crews drive to Beaufort County to help with any load balancing that might need to take place when transmission service was restored.

At 8:19 am, Dominion restored transmission service to the affected utilities, including Tide-

land, and within a few minutes 98% of the affected members had service restored. The only circuits that were delayed due to load issues were the Lake Landing circuit in Hyde County and two neighborhoods in the Bath area.

We can't thank each of you enough for heeding our calls for breaker shut off and doing your part to ensure that power restoration went so smoothly on a very cold morning.

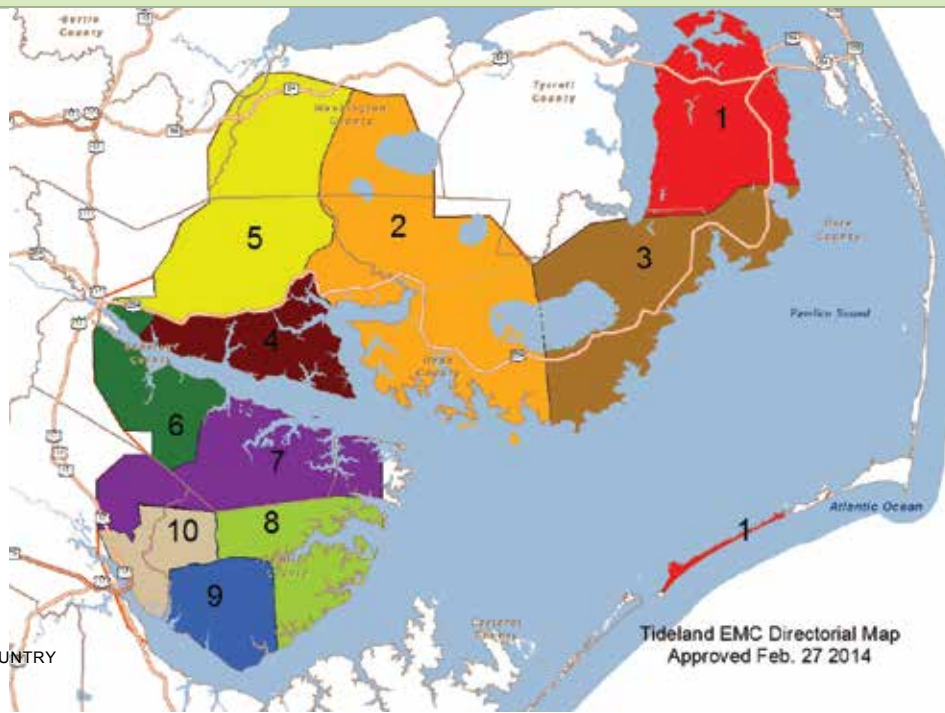
Following the outage, over 100 additional members enrolled in our outage text messaging service. If you haven't done so yet simply text the letters TEMC to short code 85700 and then reply with your Tideland account number. Or complete our online enrollment form found at www.tidelandemc.com.

Director district map

Tideland EMC members are represented by directors from 10 geographical districts, as depicted in the map to the right. Directors are elected to a three-year term of service on a rotating basis.

The members of the 2015 annual meeting credentials and elections committee are:

- Alton Ballance • Ocracoke
- Johnny Joyner • Scranton
- Ernie Everett • Pinetown
- C. Travis Martin • Blounts Creek
- Darrell B. Cayton • Aurora
- Vincent Sevenski • Bayboro
- E. Douglas Cahoon • Oriental



Tideland EMC Directorial Map
Approved Feb. 27 2014

Director nominations underway

It is once again time to nominate candidates for Tideland's annual director elections. The nominating committee will meet February 5, 2015, to consider candidates for districts 4, 5, 6 and 8 currently represented by Charles Slade, Paul Sasnett, Wayne Sawyer and Clifton Paul, respectively. Interested candidates should contact a member of the nominating committee prior to the meeting. The committee's nominees will be posted at all Tideland offices on February 6, 2015.

Nominations can also be made by submitting a petition signed by 50 co-op members no later than March 9, 2015. The last day to introduce new business via petition is April 27, 2015. The annual meeting of members will be held at Beaufort County Community College on Thursday, May 28, 2015.

DIRECTOR QUALIFICATIONS

The following guidelines are excerpted from Board Policy No. 302 and Bylaw 4.02 to ensure quality representation.

Legal & Personal Requirements

1. A Tideland member & bonafide resident of the directorial district.
2. A member no less than 2 years on the date of election.
3. Willing to promote & protect the co-op's interests.
4. Able to impartially represent the entire co-op membership.

5. Willing to regularly attend board meetings.
6. May not be a close relative of an existing director or employee.
7. Is not employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise.
8. Was not previously employed by TEMC, any other utility/energy company, or any entity which substantially rendered services to a utility/energy company.

Aspects of Service

1. Put forth the effort to understand the co-op and provide sound judgement to reach decisions.
2. Respect official decisions made by a majority of the board.
3. Objectively evaluate questions and problems facing TEMC.

Points to Consider

1. Has the member demonstrated sound business judgement?
2. Has the member shown a capacity for leadership & a reputation for honesty & integrity?
3. Has the member shown a capacity for working well with others?
4. What problems might hinder the nominee's success?

For more information or to determine which district you reside in, call annual meeting coordinator Myra Beasley at 252.943.3046, ext. 1125 or 1-800-637-1079.

2015 Nominating Committee

District 1:

Vincent O'Neal
PO Box 74
Ocracoke, NC 27960
252.928.5941

District 2:

Louie Hubers
7533 NC Hwy 45 N
Belhaven, NC 27810
252.943.3558

District 3:

Dennis Benston
31791 US Hwy 264
Engelhard, NC 27824
252.925.2061

District 4:

Kenneth E. Windley
29 Fantasy Island Rd
Belhaven, NC 27810
252.943.4594

District 5:

Horace Waters
8098 Slatestone Rd
Washington, NC 27889
252.927.3150

District 6:

Walter D. Martin
275 Whitehurst Rd.
Blounts Creek, NC 27814
252.402.9995

District 7:

L. Thomas Gillikin
11189 NC 306 S
Aurora, NC 27806
252.322.5597

District 8:

Vincent Sevenski
325 Harper Rd
Bayboro, NC 28515
252.670.1448

District 9:

Buck H. Jones
35 Roland Rd
Arapahoe, NC 28510
252.249.1541

District 10:

John Mitchell
1209 Santa Lucia Dr
New Bern, NC 28560
252.633.9957

Rebate reminders

Heat pump rebates up to \$300

Visit www.tidelandemc.com for details

Heat pump water heater
rebate of \$300

or call program manager Heidi Smith @ 252.944.2410

Energy Star manufactured home
rebate of \$1,250

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www.tidelandemc.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Paul Sasnett, President
J. Douglas Brinson, Vice President
Clifton Paul, Secretary
David Ipock, Treasurer
Rudy Austin, Mark Carawan,
Garry Jordan, Dawson Pugh,
Wayne Sawyer & Charles Slade

GENERAL MANAGER & CEO

Paul Spruill

EDITOR

Heidi Jernigan Smith

Member Service
252.943.3046
800.637.1079

24 Hour Outage Reporting
& Automated Services
252.944.2400
800.882.1001

Tideland EMC is an equal
opportunity provider & employer



REMINDER: TIME TO APPLY FOR YOUTH PROGRAMS



College Scholarships



Youth Tour



UNC & NC State
Basketball Camps

Program applications online at
www.tidelandemc.com



99 Problems?

Paying your electric bill **doesn't** have to be one.

INTRODUCING:

FLEXPAY

A Prepaid Energy Solution From Tideland EMC

Thanks to advanced metering and improved communication technologies, Tideland members can now utilize pay-as-you-go metering. **No credit checks. No security deposits. No late fees. No service interruption fees. Oh, and best of all, no more monthly bills!** Furthermore, studies show when you know how, when and where you use energy the more likely you are to **reduce discretionary energy consumption by 7-12% annually.**

Now that's not to say FlexPay is for everyone. **Participants must be able to receive account information via text or email** so the co-op can help you manage your account to ensure no surprises.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Tideland EMC

Real People. Real Power.

For more information, visit
TidelandEMC.com or call
Toll Free: 800.637.1079