

Tideland Topics

REAL PEOPLE. REAL POWER.

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

MEMBER PERKS: WPCA and capital credits exceeded \$3.4 million in 2016

In keeping with our not-for-profit cooperative business principles, Tideland EMC issued credits to members and former members exceeding \$3.4 million in 2016.

Of that total, \$2.3 million was in the form of wholesale power cost adjustment (WPCA) credits that appeared on monthly power bills January through December. The average WPCA credit for the year was a -0.689¢ per kilowatt hour (kWh) but ranged from as low as -0.184¢ in July to as high as -1.129¢ in November.

The trend of higher WPCA credits continued into 2017 with a January credit of -1.056¢ per kWh.

That equates to a \$10.56 credit per 1,000 kWh billed during the month and reduced our published winter residential rate of 10.58¢ to 9.524¢ .

In addition to the WPCA credits the co-op refunded \$1.1 million in capital credits to both members and former members of the cooperative in 2016.



Rebates Extended Through Year-End

Tideland has extended its water heating and heat pump rebates through the end of year 2017. Qualifying heat pump water heaters are eligible for a \$300 rebate. Qualifying heat pumps are eligible for rebates ranging from \$75 to \$300.

Before undertaking a replacement project please read the rebate guidelines or call the cooperative to make sure your project meets rebate guidelines. Rebate forms are online at www.tidelandemc.com.



Love is in the air

What better month than February to feature this photo of Tideland EMC lineman Jacob Hardison and his fiancée Madison Waters? The engagement session was shot by Heather Walker-Carrow of Walker Lane Photography in Washington.

Clearly being an electric co-op lineman is an important part of Jacob's life and Madison already understands the sacrifices made by a lineman and his family during storms and emergency responses. The entire Tideland family wishes the couple well as their May wedding date approaches.



Message to our Member-Owners: Generating costs on the rise

By Paul Spruill
General Manager & CEO

Right-of-Way Maintenance Update

In February, Lucas Tree Experts will complete tree trimming in Hyde County from Hwy 264 at Swindell Fork to Outfall Canal and all side roads including Mapletown and Juniper Bay roads.

Mowing crews will be working in Scranton, Sladesville and Germanton.

Please lend your full support to our tree trimming efforts. Trees are the number one cause of outages.

While the article on the previous page celebrated the unusually high wholesale power cost adjustment (WPCA) credits issued in 2016, things may be a little less rosy in 2017.

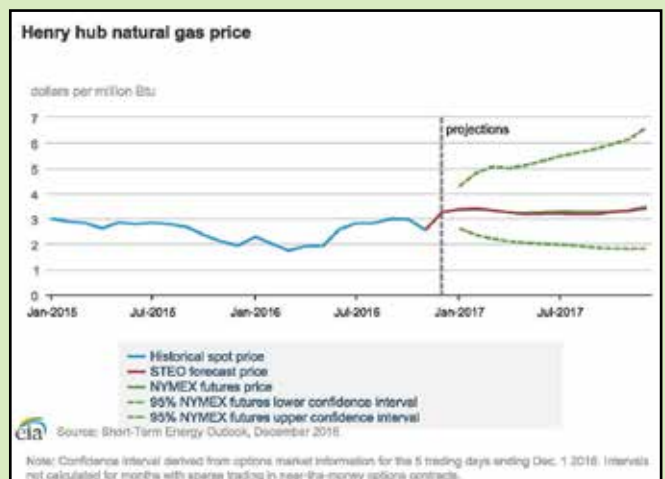
While natural gas production remains at record highs, in 2016 the fuel had its first annual production decline since 2005. Production is expected to increase in 2017, but growing domestic consumption along with increased exports (pipeline and liquified) are expected to drive prices higher. A year ago natural gas was priced at about \$2.39 per million Btu. By year end 2016, the cost was up to \$3.70/MMBtu.

While natural gas is expected to still outpace coal in electricity generation in 2017, forecasters predict a 2% increase in coal production in 2017 with a 3% price increase.

Fortunately, 56% of Tideland's electricity is generated by nuclear power,

which will help insulate us from fossil fuel fluctuations.

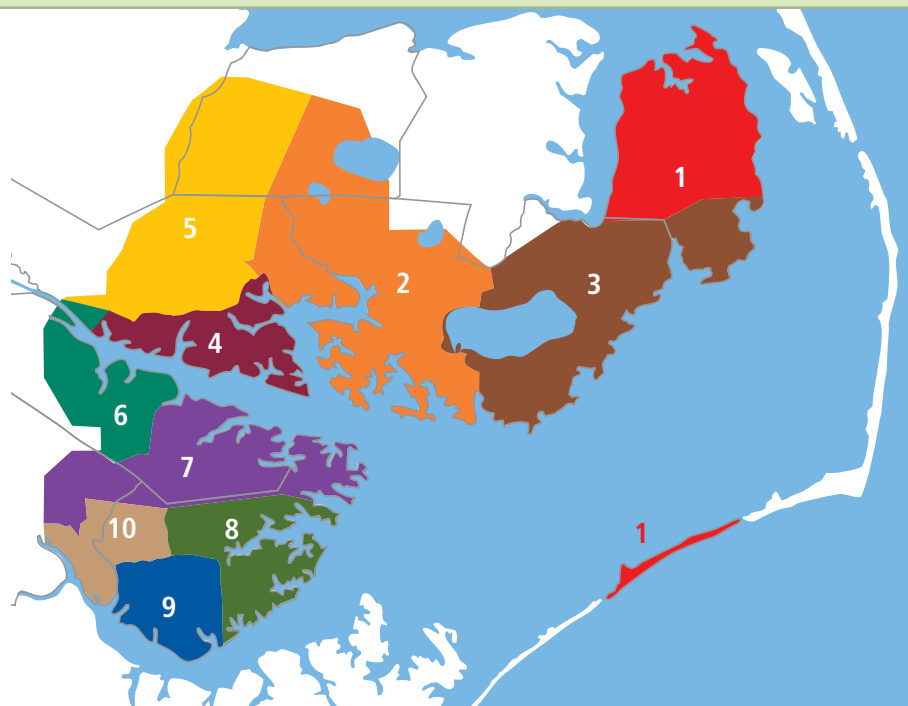
There are no indications that Tideland will have to collect more than base rates in 2017, but the trend of the last four months where we've been able to reduce charges by more than 1¢ per kilowatt hour through the WPCA is not likely to continue. The last time Tideland had to bill a WPCA in excess of base rates was December 2012.



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.

A more detailed map of the director districts including a description of all district boundaries can be found on the co-op's website: www.tidelandemc.com/news-info/about-the-co-op/annual-meeting.



Director nominations underway

It is once again time to nominate candidates for Tideland's annual director elections. The nominating committee will meet in Pantego on February 9, 2017, to consider candidates for districts 2, 7 and 10 currently represented by Mark Carawan, Garry Jordan and David Ipock, 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 10, 2017.

Nominations can also be made by submitting a petition signed by 50 co-op members no later than February 27, 2017. The last day to introduce new business via petition is April 18, 2017. The annual meeting of members will be held at Beaufort County Community College on Thursday, May 18, 2017.

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 943-3046, ext. 1125 or 1-800-637-1079.

2017 Nominating Committee

District 1:

Vincent O'Neal
PO Box 74
Ocracoke, NC 27960

District 2:

Louie Hubers
7533 NC Hwy 45 N
Belhaven, NC 27810

District 3:

Brandon Marshall
33239 US Hwy 264
Engelhard, NC 27824

District 4:

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

District 5:

Horace Waters
8098 Slatestone Rd
Washington, NC 27889

District 6:

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

District 7:

Harry Nesbit
409 Bergin Rd.
Aurora, NC 27806

District 8:

Vincent Sevenski
325 Harper Rd
Bayboro, NC 28515

District 9:

Buck H. Jones
35 Roland Rd
Arapahoe, NC 28510

District 10:

John Mitchell
1209 Santa Lucia Dr
New Bern, NC 28560

[Credentials & Election Committee roster next page](#)

EASY WAYS
TO REDUCE
WINTER BILLS

1.

Close dampers when your fireplace isn't in use

Consider the purchase of a chimney balloon to get a more airtight seal

2.

Close crawlspace vents during winter

3.

Remove window air conditioning units so you can securely close windows to reduce drafts

4.

Keep your winter thermostat at or below 68°

Every degree higher increases heating costs 3-5%

5.

Change your HVAC system filters monthly and avoid the use of pleated filters unless your HVAC system is specifically designed for high filtration products

Wash day at the solar garden



Crews from Hannah Solar recently stopped by Tideland's Beaufort County solar garden to give the panels a routine wash. By keeping the panels clean we are able to maximize energy production. The facility is located on Hwy. 32 next to Tideland's Five Points substation. The first array became operational in December 2014 and the second was put into service 12 months later. Through September 30, 2016, the panels have generated 292 megawatt hours, which translates into 292,000 kWh. Since both arrays have been energized they have averaged 14,000 kWh per month. The average Tideland member uses 1,040 kWh per month. So our one-acre project produces enough energy to power about 13 homes a month.

2017 Credentials & Election Committee

District 2:

Johnny Joyner
Scranton

District 4:

Steven Poole
Belhaven

District 5:

Ernie Everett
Pinetown

District 6:

C. Travis Martin
Blounts Creek

District 7:

Darrell B. Cayton
Aurora

District 8:

Mike Spencer
Bayboro

District 9:

E. Douglas Cahoon
Bayboro

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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



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REBATE PROGRAMS AT WWW.TIDELANDEMC.COM BEFORE YOU BUY



Tideland College Scholarships

Eligible: Graduating high school seniors served by Tideland
Eight \$1,000 non-renewable scholarship for students attending college or community college
Deadline To Apply: March 10, 2017



UNC & NC State Summer Basketball Camps

Camp Dates: to be determined
Eligible: Rising sixth, seventh and eighth grades served by Tideland
All-expense-paid trip: Girls attend NC State Camp. Boys attend UNC Roy Williams Camp
Deadline To Apply: March 31, 2017

SIEMPRE
LLAMA
ANTES DE
EXCAVAR

