



Tideland Topics

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

ROUND ONE: EPA Vote Fails in Senate

A closely watched resolution that would block the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) ability to regulate greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act came up short in a June 10 Senate vote.

Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, who sponsored the resolution, said she was pleased that it came to a floor vote so the public knows how her colleagues feel about the issue, even though it failed on a 53-47 vote.

Six Democrats voted with a block of 41 Republicans to halt EPA's planned regulations.

"I had hopes, for the security of our economy, that we would prevail today," Murkowski said in a statement. "But regardless of the outcome, I believe it's important that every member of the Senate is on the record on whether they think the EPA regulation is the ap-

propriate way to address climate issues," she said.

However, the vote on the resolution, taken with a bill sponsored by Sen. John D. Rockefeller, D-W.Va., that seeks a two-year delay in EPA regulation of greenhouse gases from stationary sources under the Clean Air Act, indicates more than half of the Senate supports some curbs on EPA's actions.

"With 47 senators voting for this resolution, and another five senators who are co-sponsors of Sen. Rockefeller's two-year "time out" legislation, there is a majority of the Senate in favor of reigning in the use of the Clean Air Act," said Kirk Johnson, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) vice president of energy and environmental policy. "Now we have to get those and other senators to agree on the right way to do it."

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Don't get burned twice

Farmers and landowners are reminded to use extra caution when burning in the vicinity of utility poles. Several Tideland poles recently fell victim to "controlled" burns. Repair costs were billed to the responsible parties.

A safe burn begins with good planning. Take proper precautions to prevent damage to utility structures by establishing a control line at least 10 foot in diameter. Remove all

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woody debris that could act as fuel. Soak the ground but do not spray water onto power lines; doing so could result in electrocution.

If fire does come in contact with a pole, call Tideland right away. While the fire may appear to be out, poles can burn from the inside out and go undetected until it's too late.



Message to our Member-Owners: Tideland's role in large-scale renewables

by Cecil O. Smith, Jr. • CEO & General Manager

Talk of large renewable energy projects in the Tideland area is resurfacing.

Therefore, now is a good time to talk about Tideland's role in potential renewable projects. Because Tideland EMC is a distribution cooperative, we do not individually own generating facilities. The generating resources that we do share ownership of are through our generation and transmission cooperative, the North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation. (See article below for more information).

However, Tideland is in a unique position because our electric system is at the southernmost end of the Pennsylvania-New Jersey-Maryland (PJM) regional transmission

organization (RTO). PJM coordinates the movement of wholesale electricity in all or parts of Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. Many of those states have renewable energy mandates they must meet; however, they do not necessarily have access to solar and wind resources. Therefore, they are inclined to look south for solar and to the coast for wind.

The PJM RTO deadends on Tideland EMC's system north of the Pamlico River. Green energy companies have occasionally shown interest in locating facilities in Beaufort and Hyde counties so they can move that power from our

electric system to the PJM grid to meet their clients' renewable energy requirements.

Tideland is supportive of these projects since they can boost the local tax base, provide additional income for area landowners and possibly provide some new jobs.

While the cooperative would receive payment for any interconnection and required construction, we have made it perfectly clear to potential generators that the integrity of our own electric system cannot be compromised in the process.

Next month we will discuss our role in small scale renewable energy projects.

Where does my power come from?

Tideland EMC purchases power through the North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation (NCEMC). Currently 51 percent of our electricity comes from nuclear energy while coal generation represents 37 percent of our purchases. The bulk of our nuclear purchases originate in at South Carolina's Catawba Nuclear Station 1. NCEMC owns a 61.5 percent share of Catawba.

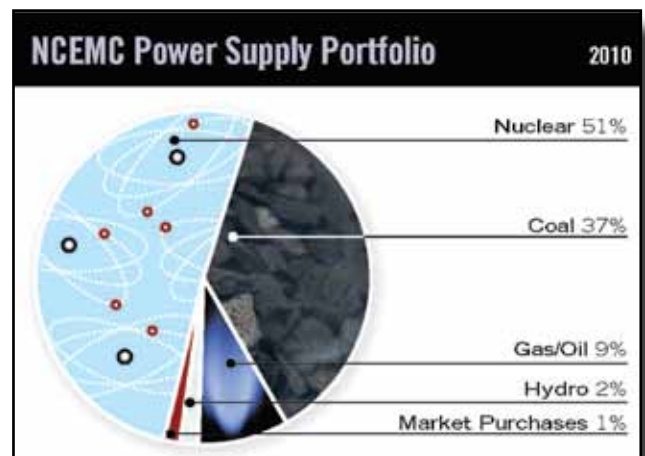
NCEMC also owns 4 peak generation plants: 2 natural gas plants located in Anson and Richmond counties and 2 diesel plants located in Cape Hatteras and Ocracoke. These facilities are operated when the demand for electricity is high,

such as hot summer days and cold winter mornings.

North Carolina's not-for-profit cooperatives also receive a small allocation of hydroelectric power from the federal government.

The smallest part of our generating mix is represented by market purchases which includes solar and wind energy and spot market purchases when demand

exceeds available assets. As new renewable energy projects come to fruition that slice of the power pie will continue to grow.



TIME IS RUNNING OUT:

Only 5 months left to qualify for most federal energy tax credits



Time is ticking if you want to take advantage of many of the American Recovery Act's energy tax credits.

Work must be completed by December 31, 2010, to qualify for up to a \$1,500 tax credit for exterior windows and doors, Energy Star roofs, insulation, central air conditioning and air source heat pumps.

Qualifying projects and specifications are listed in the table to the right. The following footnotes apply:

¹ Federal tax credit equal to 30% of cost, up to \$1,500 for all improvements combined; in the case of windows, doors, roofs and insulation, only the cost of materials qualify for the tax credit.

² Must be an improvement or retrofit. New construction is not eligible.

³ Not all Energy Star models will qualify

To make sure products qualify for the federal tax credit, ask for a copy of the manufacturer's certification statement. You will need a copy of the certification statement to submit with your federal tax return along with IRS Form 5695.

The federal tax credit for products at 30% up to \$1,500 cannot be carried over to future years. However, you can take part of the \$1,500 credit in 2009 and the rest in 2010 if they are for separate purchases.

For example: You spend \$3,000 on windows in 2009 and get a \$900 tax credit

Project	Specifications
Exterior windows & doors <i>materials only</i> ^{1,2,3}	U factor ≤ 0.30 SHGC ≤ 0.30
Storm windows & doors <i>materials only</i> ^{1,2}	In combination with approved door or window
Metal or asphalt roofs <i>materials only</i> ^{1,2}	Energy Star qualified roof expected to last 5 years or have a 2-year warranty.
Insulation <i>materials only</i> ^{1,2}	Meets 2009 IECC standards. Primary purpose must be to insulate; expected to last 5 years or have a 2-year warranty.
Central A/C ^{1,2,3}	Split Systems: Energy Efficiency Ratio (EER) ≥ 13 Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio (SEER) ≥ 16 Package Systems: EER ≥ 12 SEER ≥ 14
Air source heat pumps ^{1,2,3}	Split Systems: HSPF ≥ 8.5 EER ≥ 12.5 SEER ≥ 15 Package Systems: HSPF ≥ 8 EER ≥ 12 SEER ≥ 14

on your 2009 taxes, then spend \$2,000 on an air conditioner in 2010 and get a \$600 tax credit on your 2010 taxes.

Tax credits won't expire on renewable energy projects, including geothermal heat pumps, solar water heaters, solar photovoltaic and wind systems, until December 31, 2016. Those items are eligible for tax credits up to 30% of total project cost. You can carry forward the credit for these items through 2016.

For more information or to download a copy of IRS Form 5695 visit: www.tidelandemc.com and Google our website for "tax incentives."

Reduce the need for air conditioning by keeping indoor humidity low

1. Cover pots when cooking
2. Use the kitchen exhaust fan when cooking
3. Take shorter showers at the lowest temperature you find comfortable
4. Run bathroom exhaust fans until mirrors are dry
5. Make sure your crawlspace has a good vapor barrier
6. Don't hang laundry indoors to dry
7. Make sure your dryer vents properly to the outdoors
8. Keep your air conditioner's drain line free of clogs

Greenhouse gas agreement eludes Senate for now

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Murkowski's resolution would have voided a December EPA endangerment finding on the effect of greenhouse gases on public health and safety. She said the resolution was less about the science of the issue and more about preventing a federal agency from implementing plans that could have serious economic consequences, so Congress can act on a climate change bill.

"Our bipartisan disapproval resolution presents an opportunity to stop the worst option for regulating greenhouse gases from moving forward while we work on a more responsible

solution," she said.

Sen. Blanche Lincoln, D-Ark., who co-sponsored the resolution, also said Congress should act on climate change, instead of leaving the issue to EPA and a complicated Clean Air Act regulatory scheme that it plans to start next year.

"It is a widely shared view, that the Clean Air Act, with its command-and-control approach to regulating air emissions, is the wrong fit for addressing greenhouse gas emissions," Lincoln said.

If implemented, the new permitting process

could threaten more than a dozen Southern biomass plants that generate more than 300 megawatts, she said. Other Democrats who sided with the GOP were Evan Bayh of Indiana, Mary Landrieu of Louisiana, Ben Nelson of Nebraska, Mark Pryor of Arkansas and John D. Rockefeller IV of West Virginia.

The Murkowski resolution faced an uphill battle, even if it cleared the Senate. The House was considered unlikely to pass it, and the White House already had threatened to veto the measure.

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REAL POWER.

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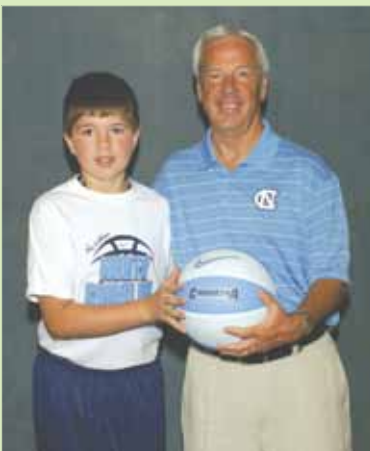
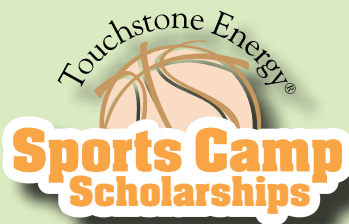
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Logan Van Staalduinen and UNC Tarheels Coach Roy Williams

VAN STAALDUINEN ATTENDS ROY WILLIAMS CAMP

Logan VanStaalduinen, the 12-year-old son of Tom and Heather Van Staalduinen of Bath, was selected as a Touchstone Energy Sports Camp scholar. He attended the Roy Williams Basketball Camp at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill during the week of June 13.

Logan is an honor roll student at Bath Elementary where he is a member of the school's Science Olympiad team. He is active in all sports including basketball, baseball and football and routinely helps his father on the farm.



Tideland has contracted with Lewis Tree Service to trim trees in our right of way.

They will soon be working in the following areas:

Engelhard including White Plains Road, Goshen Road, Nebraska Road and all small roads and lanes off of the above listed roads.

ALWAYS
CALL
BEFORE YOU
DIG