

News & Views

The changing electric utility industry and you Volume 3 No. 1 ... Rates – the time of use rate

Black Friday. It happens every year. And those who shop this day do so to get the best price possible on the goods they purchase. This is just one example of how we respond naturally to changes in price.

Price helps us make better decisions on when to purchase something and how much to use. Price serves as a warning signal of competition for a product and provides a powerful incentive to change our usage patterns or timing of our purchase to when the price, or demand, is lower.

Electricity, unlike other commodities, cannot be stored and must be consumed on the spot. This is why the price of electricity fluctuates with supply and demand. And when the supply of electricity can't keep up with what's needed in real-time, power must be produced with backup sources or acquired on the open market at a greater cost.



Chet Aubin, CEO

The cost of power is already based on seasonal demand. As technology advances and power supply can be monitored in near real time, the cost of power will also be based on real time.

When the cost of electricity is based on when it is used, this is called a Time of Use Rate. It is on this type of rate that a consumer has the most potential for energy savings. Just as we save money by timing our purchase of other products, consumers will also be able to save money by timing their energy use.

Johnson County REMC
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



*The mission of
Johnson County REMC
is to provide reliable,
competitively priced
utility services
to its customers
and the community.*

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Reinventing the light bulb

Just as cars and refrigerators have become more efficient over time, light bulbs are getting an overhaul. For the first time in more than 100 years, the basic incandescent light bulb is getting a facelift.

Congress mandated incandescent bulbs be at least 28 percent more efficient starting in January 2012.

Newer energy-saving light bulb choices that save about 25-75 percent in energy costs are on the market today.

These bulbs provide the range of choices in colors, styles, and light levels you've come to expect.

Beginning January 1, 2012, the most common light bulbs we use will be required to be about 25 percent more energy efficient to meet the new standards. Traditional inefficient 100 watt bulbs — typically incandescent bulbs — will give way to choices that use only 72 watts to provide you a comparable amount of light (lumens). The inefficient 100 watt bulbs



will no longer be available (after inventories are depleted). Similar standards will phase in for other bulbs over the next three years.



View the DOE's Energy Savers video at ... www.energysavers.gov/lighting

The FTC's video can be viewed at ... www.ftc.gov/multimedia/video/shopping.shtm

Learn more about the new standards at www.energysavers.gov/lighting. The Federal Trade Commission also produced a great video to help explain federal lighting changes to consumers. View the video at www.ftc.gov/multimedia/video/shopping.shtm.



2012 – The International Year of Cooperatives ... You are a part of something special! Learn about the cooperative difference in this engaging three-minute video that tells the Electric Cooperative Story and illustrates the value of being a cooperative member ... <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tenKnIx4ouY>

Switching Out Classic Bulbs!

2012

72-W (or less) bulbs replace 100-W incandescent bulbs.

2013

53-W (or less) bulbs replace 75-W incandescent bulbs.

2014

29-W and 43-W (or less) bulbs replace 40-W and 60-W incandescent bulbs.

energysavers.gov/lighting

Johnson County REMC
publishes
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as a service to
our members.

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Back issues may be
viewed on our website or
obtained from the office.

Membership matters

Belonging to a cooperative has its benefits

There are different types of electric utilities - investor-owned utilities, city-owned municipal electric system, and electric cooperatives. Johnson County REMC falls into this last category. We are a not-for-profit electric cooperative owned by you and your fellow members.

This business structure keeps the cooperative financially sound and your electric bill affordable.

Only in an electric cooperative can you be a member. Every home or business that receives power from an electric cooperative owns a portion of the utility. As a result, anyone who

receives cooperative electric service is not just a customer, but a member.

As a member you have a stake in the business and are entitled to a return on your equity portion, called capital credits. In fact we just retired over \$1,500,000.00 in capital credits for the years of 1978 to 1982.

And membership matters because through democratic control, you have a voice and a vote in how your co-op is governed. As a not-for-profit our sole mission is to provide you with safe, reliable, and affordable electric service. Being a member matters.

Celebrating cooperatives

From eggs and milk to the electricity that powers your home, cooperatives play a big role in your everyday life. This year, we hope you get to know cooperatives a little better.

2012 is designated as the International Year of Cooperatives by both the United Nations General Assembly and the U.S. Senate. U.N. Deputy Secretary-General Asha-Rose Migiro observed that, "The cooperative movement balances both economic viability and social responsibility."

Your local electric cooperative is part of a larger national network. In the U.S., the nation's 900-plus electric cooperatives:

- serve 18 million homes and businesses in 47 states;
- employ 70,000 people;
- retire more than \$500 million in capital credits annually;
- own assets worth \$130 billion;
- own and maintain 2.5 million miles or 42 percent of the nation's electric distribution lines;
- cover three-quarters of the nation's land mass.

The cooperative way

The celebration begins and what better place to start than with Johnson County REMC.

CELEBRATE the INTERNATIONAL YEAR of COOPERATIVES!



"Cooperative Enterprises Build a Better World"

Learn About Co-ops

Johnson County REMC

Electric Cooperative

We are one of 39 electric cooperatives in the state of Indiana and one of over 950 in the United States.

DID YOU KNOW?

- We deliver power to over 19,000 members and over 23,000 meters.
- We are in the top five percent of fastest growing U.S. electric cooperatives over the last 10 years.

CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY:

We provide donations to many local sports teams, offer academic scholarships each year, and are proud supporters of many aspects of the Johnson County Fair.

Cooperative Enterprises
Build a Better World

A message from
America's Electric Cooperatives

Swap-A-Bulb continues in 2012

We are pleased to tell you that Johnson County REMC's Swap-A-Bulb program will continue in 2012. This is our fourth year to offer this program. Receive absolutely free, one compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL) for each incandescent light bulb you bring us. This is a one for one exchange. We offer several of the most commonly used CFL bulbs. This should allow you to

eventually replace most of the working incandescent light bulbs in your home.

By reducing the amount of energy you use, you save money. But this also reduces the amount of power that Johnson County REMC must purchase for our consumers, thereby reducing the need for additional power generation.

Take advantage of this money-saving energy conservation program today.



CFL Swap-A-Bulb

Swap-A-Bulb is a program that allows you to replace your incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) at no cost. The bulbs are available at our office. This is a one for one exchange for the working incandescent light bulbs currently in use in your home. With this completed coupon, you may receive up to ten bulbs. Even if you have already participated, you may get **UP TO TEN** additional CFLs for your home. Our goal is for you to eventually exchange all of the working bulbs currently in use in your home. You may call us at 736-6174 for more information on the type of bulbs we have available.

And remember, CFLs are absolutely FREE!

To receive **UP TO TEN** CFLs, do the following:

- 1) collect the incandescent bulbs you want to replace;
- 2) fill out this coupon;
- 3) bring your incandescent light bulbs and this coupon to the office.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

E-mail _____

Johnson County REMC 10-digit account number _____

Johnson County REMC
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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Cooperatives