




Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

Published by Clinton County Electric Cooperative, Inc. • cceci@cceci.com • www.cceci.com



Mike Johnson

Visit our website of www.cceci.com to pay your bill by e-check or debit/credit card. Just click on E-Business Solution and follow the prompts.

Approved 2013 Rates

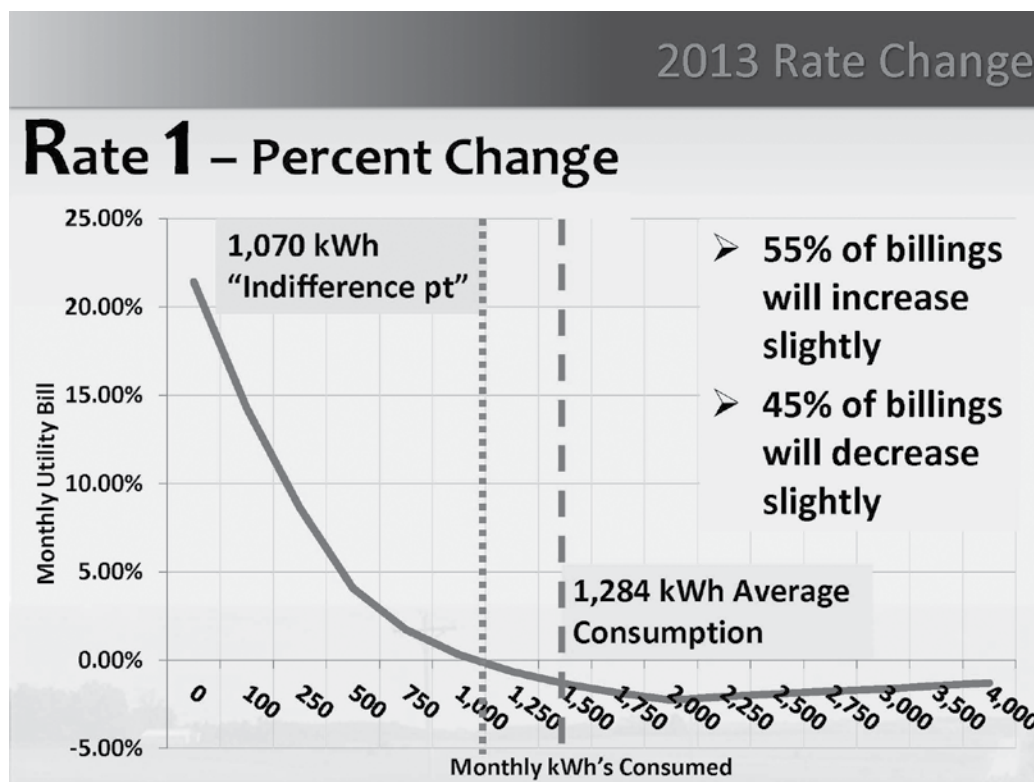
My articles for the past three months in the *Illinois Country Living* magazine have addressed 2013 rates. I have discussed the need to recover fixed expenses through fixed charges (the Facility Charge). And I have also discussed the process that management and the Board of Trustees of Clinton County Electric goes through when evaluating rate levels.

Here is a short reminder of the process that we have gone through in the evaluation of Clinton County's 2013 rates. Management and the board made a presentation to the Clinton County Electric Advisory Committee on October 10, 2012. We were seeking their response and opinions concerning the rate proposal. The Advisory

Committee gave us some great comments and ideas. On October 22, 2012, the Trustees of Clinton County Electric held a special board meeting to debate the details of the rate change. Many ideas/comments were bantered and discussed. At Clinton County's regular board meeting on October 23, 2012, the Board of Trustees approved Clinton County Electric's 2013 rate change effective with January 2013 consumption.

This article will be solely addressing that approved 2013 rate change. **Please note this is a rate change, not a general rate increase.** The overall revenues of Clinton County Electric will not increase due to this rate change. With that being said, each member

(Continued on page 16b)



President's letter (Continued from page 16a)

will see a rate change; some members will experience a slight rate increase, while others will experience a slight rate decrease.

As I have discussed with the membership before, Clinton County Electric has two types of costs: (1) Fixed Costs, and (2) Variable Costs. Examples of our Fixed Costs are: interest cost, depreciation cost, line operation cost, outage restoration cost, billing cost, and management cost to name a few. Our Variable Costs mainly consist of our wholesale purchase power costs.

As I have also discussed before, our current rate structure collects some of our fixed costs through our variable revenue source (Energy Charge as it appears on your monthly statement). This tends to be unfair to some members since they end up paying too much of the fixed costs while other members pay too little of their share.

We addressed this "unfairness" in 2012 when we raised the single phase residential/farm facility charge from \$22.00/meter/month to the current charge of \$28.00/meter/month. And members that came to last year's Clinton County Electric Annual Meeting may remember me telling the attendees, "Our long term rate design goals are: (1) to increase the Facility Charge, and (2) to flatten the Energy Charge. We believe this is the fair thing to do."

We are continuing that long term rate design goal in 2013. Generally in 2013, all rates will see an increase in

their Facility Charge and at the same time lower Energy Charges.

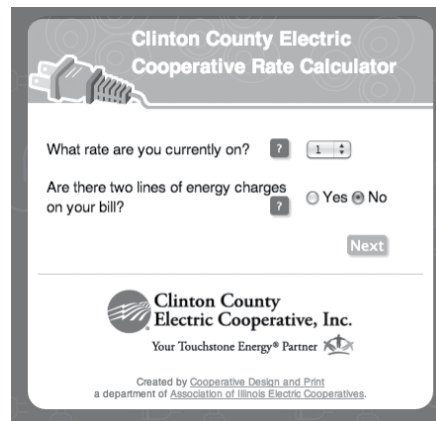
The balance of this article will focus on a detailed discussion of our main rate: Single Phase Residential/Farm (Rate 1).

Rate 1 is by far our most common rate. Almost 80% of Clinton County's billings are rendered under this rate.

The graph on page 16a displays the rate change affects to the membership based upon their monthly consumption. For example, if a member consumes 0 kWh, they would experience a \$6.00 increase on their bill or around a 21% increase. All members consuming less than 1,070 kWh's will experience some amount of a rate increase. A member consuming 750 kWh, for example, will see an increase of \$1.79 per month or about a 1.7% increase in their bill. Any member consuming more than 1,070 kWh's will experience a slight rate decrease. For example, a member consuming 2,000 kWh will see a decrease of \$(5.22) per month or about a (2.3%) decrease. Our "average" member on this rate consumes 1,284 kWh on a monthly basis. That "average" member would experience a decrease of \$(1.20) per month or about (.8%) decrease. Generally about 55% of the billings will see a slight increase, whereas 45% will see a slight decrease.

I am sure that everyone reading this article wants one question answered. "How will this rate change impact MY bill?" We have developed a web-

based tool that will answer your question; all that you need is a copy of your billing statement and access to the internet. **Simply go to www.cceci.com and you will see a button that looks like a calculator.** Click on that button and a pop-up screen will appear. Look at the lower left hand corner of your billing statement and determine what rate schedule you are being served on, answer yes or no to the questions concerning "two lines" and then click the next button. Enter the number of kWh from "kWh usage" on your bill and click the next button again. You will see the "change" and "percent change" that you can expect to see once the approved rates take effect.



Please mark your calendars for the 2013 Clinton County Electric Annual Meeting. It will be held on March 21, 2013. The business meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. I plan on delving into a deeper discussion of the 2013 rates at that time.

Once again, please visit our website, www.cceci.com and go to the button that looks like a calculator to see how the 2013 rate change impacts your account. Please remember, all initiatives we embark on always have our members' best interest in mind. Providing our members with affordable electricity and excellent service will continue to be our goal in the future. As always, if you have any comments or questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at johnson@cceci.com.

Consistent with our long range rate design, in 2013 Rate 1 will look like this:

	2012 Rates	2013 Rates
Facility Charge	\$28.00/Month	\$34.00/Month
First 2,000 kWh	\$0.10103/kWh	\$0.09542/kWh
Over 2,000 kWh	<u>\$0.08600/kWh</u>	<u>\$0.08600/kWh</u>
"Energy Gap"	\$0.01505/kWh	\$0.00942/kWh

Low Income Energy Assistance Available

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is designed to assist eligible households pay for winter energy services. The amount of assistance is determined based on household size and income. The agencies serving members of Clinton County Electric Cooperative include BCMW Community Services, CEFS Economic Opportunity Corporation, St. Clair County Community Action Agency and Madison County Community Development Energy Assistance.

When applying for assistance, the following information is necessary:

1. Proof of gross income for all household members for the 30-day period prior to application date;
2. A copy of your current electric and gas bills;
3. Proof of social security numbers for all household members;
4. If a member of the household received TANF, you must bring their "Medical Eligibility Card;" and

5. If you rent your residence, bring proof of your rental agreement which states your monthly rent;
6. If you are approved for assistance, a payment will be made directly to your account with Clinton County Electric Cooperative.

If you think you might be eligible for assistance, please contact one of the following energy assistance agencies depending on the county in which you reside:

Clinton, Marion & Washington County Residents

BCMW Community Services
625 North 2nd Street
Breese, IL 62230
(618)526-7123

Fayette County Residents

CEFS Economic Opportunity Corporation
1805 South Banker Street
Effingham, IL 62401
(217)342-2193

St. Clair County Residents

St. Clair County Community Action Agency
19 Public Square Suite 200
Belleville, IL 62220
(618)825-3335

Madison County Residents

Madison County Community Development Energy Assistance
130 Hillsboro Avenue Suite 102
Edwardsville, IL 62025
(618)692-8940 ext 6485

Income Eligibility:

30-day period prior to application

Family Size	30 day gross
1	\$1,396
2	\$1,891
3	\$2,386
4	\$2,881
5	\$3,376
6	\$3,871
7	\$4,366
8	\$4,681

Applications are still being accepted for 2013 Youth Day and Youth Tour

There is still time left for high school sophomores and juniors to apply to attend Youth Day in Springfield to be held on April 17, 2013, sponsored by the cooperative and the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives. Please visit our website for an application and more information about Youth Day. Deadline to apply is Friday, February 15, 2013.

This program may be suspended at any time due to inadequate funding or participation. There will be a maximum number of 12 participants chosen. Notifications will only be made to those chosen to participate in the program.



Mark your calendar and plan to attend YOUR CCECI Annual Meeting on Thursday, March 21. The Business Meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.

John White

John White has been a Clinton County Electric Cooperative trustee since 1995. He also presently represents Clinton County Electric on the Statewide board--The Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives.

John grew up on a small grain and livestock farm near McLeansboro, Illinois. After graduating from the University of Illinois in 1969, he was employed at a bank and later served as assistant extension advisor in Marion County. During the last thirty-eight years, he has been a business and tax accountant and consultant to the area's rural community. John serves as vice-chairman of the Clinton County East Public Water District and trustee-treasurer of the Huey-Ferrin-



John White

Boulder Fire Department. He is a member of the Carlyle First United Methodist Church.

John and his wife, Sherry, reside north of Huey and have two sons, Mark of southern California and Michael at home.

Ferrin Substation Progress

Finally we can see physical work being completed at our Ferrin Substation. This project has presented many challenges to us over the past six months or so. Next month's *Illinois Country Living* magazine will go into detail concerning the challenges that we have encountered as well as the long range vision of this area of our service territory.

