



Watt's Going On

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We've been alerted by several electric cooperatives that they have been receiving calls from their members reporting they have received phone calls supposedly from their respective electric cooperative. During this call, the member is threatened with service disconnection unless immediate payment is made. The phone's caller ID recognizes the call as the local cooperative even though it's not a cooperative employee making the call.

Spoofing, from what we are told, is a technique that scam artists are using to make consumers think they are receiving a call from a legitimate local business. The scammers claim they're from the local business and eventually obtain credit card information or Social Security numbers from the victim. In our industry, scammers claim to be an electric cooperative employee who will disconnect your service if immediate payment is not made. This is the scammer's way to gather your financial information.

Jackson Electric Cooperative employees will not call threatening disconnection if immediate payment is not made. If your account is past due, you will receive several official mailed notices, and you may receive an automated phone call before disconnection. If you receive a call from someone stating they're from Jackson Electric Cooperative and are suspicious of the legitimacy of the phone call, hang up and call back to the office using the phone number from the phone book, this magazine, or your billing statement.

To further note, our crews travel in trucks with a visible logo displayed. Our employees all carry photo identification with them to verify their employment at the cooperative as well.

Enjoy the upcoming Labor Day weekend, which will mark the end of summer. Soon the leaves will be changing colors and the beauty of Wisconsin will be preparing for cooler months. School will start in a few days, so please remember to be mindful of young drivers and those students walking on the sidewalks.

Safety always. ■

Capital Credit Allocation

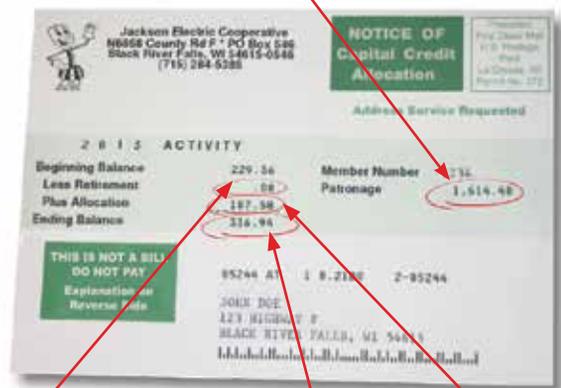
Cooperative Principle #3: Members' Economic Participation

You should have received your Notice of Capital Credit Allocation card in the mail. This notice shows the amount earned and credited to your capital credit account for the year stated on the notice. **This is not a capital credit retirement check and cannot be used to pay a balance due on your electric account. This is only notification of your allocated capital credit amount in the cooperative.**

Because you are a member-owner of Jackson Electric Cooperative, you contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of the cooperative. Margins retained in the member's capital credit account are used to support the operations of the cooperative.

Please keep your contact information current with the cooperative so capital credit information can be mailed to you. To learn more about capital credits, go to www.jackelec.com/capital_credits. ■

Patronage – Amount paid to Jackson Electric Cooperative in 2013 excluding sales tax, nontaxable program charges, and other service(s) charges.



Less Retirement – Amount that has been paid to the member. If you've been a member for at least 20 years, you will receive a retirement check for a portion of your patronage.

Plus Allocation – 2013 margins that will be retained in the member's capital credit account.

Ending Balance – Member's total capital credit allocation (less retirements) since membership start date.

Young Leaders Represent JEC at Leadership Congress

“Leadership is based on inspiration, not domination; on cooperation, not intimidation.” These words, stated by William Ward, were printed on the back of T-shirts worn by more than 140 students who participated in the Youth Leadership Congress July 16–18. The congress was held at the University of Wisconsin–River Falls and sponsored by the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association and the state’s electric cooperatives.

Jackson Electric Cooperative sponsored two area students to attend the three-day youth leadership event. LeeAnn Hertzfeldt, daughter of Gary and Laurie Hertzfeldt of Melrose, and Nigel Guttenberg, son of Jamie and Leslie Guttenberg of Taylor, were among students from across Wisconsin



LeeAnn Hertzfeldt and Nigel Guttenberg represented Jackson Electric Cooperative at the 51st annual Youth Leadership Congress July 16–18 at UW–River Falls.

who participated in activities focusing on cooperative leadership. Students learned about the cooperative business structure and its principles and benefits. Later, they put that knowledge

into action when each represented district was given a real-life case study to discuss and present their findings to the assembly.

In addition, students democratically voted for their peers to represent them on the state’s Youth Board, and they attended informative sessions on cooperative careers, solar, and political lobbying responsibilities. Motivational speakers talked with the students about becoming better leaders in their schools and communities.

Youth Leadership Congress is held annually in the summer for students who will be entering their sophomore, junior, or senior year of high school. For more information on Jackson Electric Cooperative’s youth programs, go to www.jackelec.com. ■



Educating About Power Line Safety

Jackson Electric Cooperative lineman Matt Bush discusses power line safety during Jackson County’s Tractor Safety course held in June at the Black River Falls High School. He reminded students to look where power lines are located before starting their fieldwork and to be aware of the power lines when transporting large equipment.



Carter Mann (left)

Josh Olson (below)

JEC Supports Youth at County Fair



Directors Junior Jacobson and Brian Huber purchased two market hogs on behalf of the cooperative from Carter Mann, son of Geno and Theresa Mann of Osseo, and Josh Olson, son of Mark and Kelly Olson of Hixton, at the Jackson County Fair. These hogs were processed for the pulled pork sandwiches served at the annual member picnic August 12.

Stop by the Jackson Electric Cooperative’s display at the Green LifeXpo

Learn about our power supplier’s renewable energy portfolio.

Electronics recycling is available from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., sponsored by Jackson Electric Cooperative.

Saturday, September 13

9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Milt Lunda
Memorial Arena,
Black River Falls

Dual Fuel Heating Provides Comfortable Savings

When it comes to heating and cooling your home, you don't have to sacrifice comfort for affordable electric heating and cooling. Jackson Electric Cooperative's dual fuel program not only allows you several electric heating options, but also gives those participants a reduced, off-peak electric rate.

What is the dual fuel program?

This program is designed to add electric heat to an existing fossil fuel furnace at about half of your current electric rate. You will have two heating sources: The electric heat system will be your primary source of heat, and your fossil fuel furnace will be your backup system. With this program, you have the option of switching between electricity and fossil fuels, depending on the cost of each energy product during the heating season. This program is designed to pass savings on to Jackson Electric Cooperative members.

How does this program work?

Electricity is generated on demand. During periods of low demand, or off-peak hours, there is an excess of generator capacity at the power plant. During these off-peak hours, the cost to



generate electricity is reduced. Under the dual fuel program, a radio control switches off the electric heat during high demand, or peak hours, and your backup heat kicks in. The radio control switch is located in your load control receiver box. Electric heat is used only during the off-peak hours, when the electricity costs are low, and those savings are passed on to you in the form of a low, off-peak (dual fuel) electric heat rate.

Why do I need two meters?

Participating in the dual fuel program requires your electrician to install a dual meter socket, which provides space for a second meter. The second meter, which is the off-peak, dual fuel meter, is billed at a reduced electric rate. During peak demand periods, when energy usage is at its highest, the heating, cooling, and water heat-

ing loads on the dual fuel meter are switched off for periods of time.

The first meter, or primary meter, records the usage of your appliances, lights, etc.

What heating systems qualify for the dual fuel rate? Several energy efficient heating systems qualify for the dual fuel program, including air source heat pumps, geothermal heat pumps, boilers, baseboards, and radiant and plenum heaters.

Heat pumps provide both heating and cooling in one unit and have the highest efficiencies available compared to any fuel type. When you factor in a low, off-peak electric rate with the high efficiencies that heat pumps provide, you'll have the lowest possible heating and cooling costs of any fuel type. If you're not in the market for a heat pump but are looking for additional heat elsewhere in your home, shop, or garage, other electric heating options also provide efficiencies that are higher than other fuel sources.

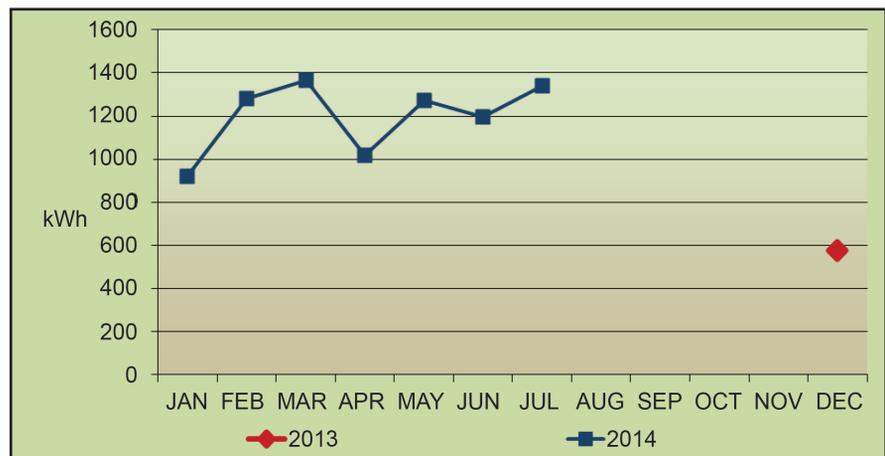
To learn more about electric heating options and the dual fuel program, go to www.jackelec.com or contact Jackson Electric Cooperative. ■

Jackson Electric Cooperative's Solar Array Output

Total output, January 2014 – July 31, 2014:
8,385.42 kilowatt-hours (kWhs)

The average residential consumer on Jackson Electric Cooperative's system uses 1,021 kWhs per month. Individual usage varies according to house size, number of people, and how electrical devices are used.

To view real-time output, go to www.jackelec.com and click on the Solar Array Output tab.



They're Off to School

Apprentice linemen Dalton Berg and Hazy Wood are getting ready to attend linemen school at Chippewa Valley Technical College in Chippewa Falls in hopes of obtaining their journeyman lineman card.



Apprentice linemen Dalton Berg and Hazy Wood will be attending school for the next four years in preparation of receiving their journeyman's card.

The four-year electric line worker apprenticeship is administered by the State of Wisconsin's Department of Workforce Development and is sup-

ported by electric utilities throughout the state. This apprenticeship requires a total of 8,000 hours of on-the-job training and 640 hours of related classroom instruction. In addition, the apprentices are required to complete and maintain the Red Cross First Aid and CPR courses, as well as a transition-to-trainer course. This eight-hour course prepares the journeyman lineman, through instruction, on how to mentor future apprentices.

Hazy and Dalton will be attending classes for one week in each of the months of September, November, February, and April during their first year. During their instruction, they will learn safety protocol and procedures, climbing techniques, components and safe operation of equipment, and distribution power line construction and maintenance. ■

Ask Your Cooperative

Steve Meyer, Member Services Director



Q: Why am I charged less per kilowatt-hour (kWh) if I use more than 1,500 kWhs in a month?

A: According to our latest cost of service study, our monthly facility charge (\$32 per month for residential) is not at the true cost of service, or in other words, it is too low. To make up for that, some of the facility charge is built into the energy rate. The extra 1.5 cents built into the energy rate for the first 1,500 kWh is the facility charge.

If we were at the true cost of service, the money we collect for energy sales would pay for wholesale energy purchases from Dairyland Power and nothing more. All other expenses, to include all non-energy related costs of providing electricity, would be covered by the facility charge. ■

If you have a question to ask Jackson Electric Cooperative, please submit to our office at P.O. Box 546, Black River Falls, WI 54615 or email cblaken@jackelec.com and put in the subject line "Magazine Question."

You Commented. We're Responding.

Member Comment: We asked them to take trees down, but they haven't done it yet.

Our Response: Jackson Electric Cooperative is not responsible for trees outside of the power line right-of-way.

If you have trees on your property crowding equipment not owned by Jackson Electric Cooperative, we suggest contacting a tree trimming service. If necessary, Jackson Electric Cooperative will work with the tree trimming service to lower the power line so the tree can be safely cut.

It is the responsibility of Jackson Electric Cooperative to provide reliable electric service to all members. With that being said, trees and brush

are cleared near overhead power lines, by the cooperative's contracted tree service and at times Jackson Electric's line crew, to a minimum distance of 15 feet on both sides of the outermost power lines from the ground up. Following the clearing, an environmentally friendly treatment is applied to specific trees and brush to prevent regrowth. This type of right-of-way maintenance is rotated with each of our nine substation routes.

For more information on landscaping near power lines and electrical equipment, go to www.jackelec.com. ■



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