

Eastern Illini PowerLines®

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

September 2009

Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) Offers Bill Credit

You've probably seen the PCA line item on your monthly electric bill. The power cost adjustment (PCA) charge is a mystery to some - one that we'll unravel here.

There are two major costs associated with getting electricity to your home. There's the cost to install the distribution poles, substations and wires, and keep all of that in good working order. These costs are a bit more predictable and are mostly captured in your monthly facility charge. And then there's the cost to make and deliver the electricity. The majority of these costs are included in your kWh rate. Each month, though, the actual cost to produce electricity fluctuates based on current market conditions. This is where the PCA comes in to play. Each month, the PCA covers the difference between Eastern Illini's wholesale power rates and that month's actual power costs.

Up until 2009, the PCA had always been an additional charge on your monthly electric bill. That is,

the actual monthly cost for power exceeded what we had built into the kWh rate. The main reason for that was a dramatic increase in the costs associated with generating electricity.

When we updated our rates in January of 2009, we anticipated those costs would continue to rise. Luckily, though, the costs stabilized a bit. If you look at the PCA line item on

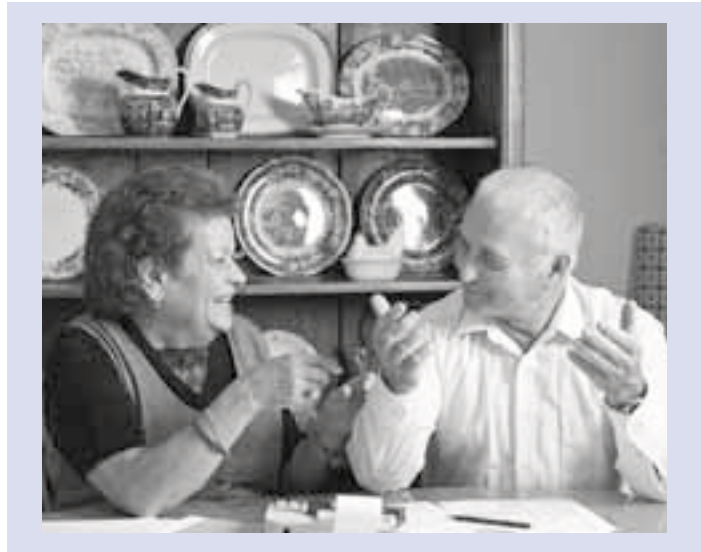
Our costs are actually a bit lower than we had anticipated, so we are passing those savings right on to you!!

your electric bill now, you will see it as bill credit. Our costs are actually a bit lower than we had anticipated, so we are passing those savings right on to you!!

Eastern Illini President/CEO Dave Champion noted, "We are happy to be able to pass these

savings right on to our members. In fact, we anticipate the credits continuing for the rest of the year."

If you have any questions about your bill, please visit our Web site at www.eiec.coop, contact us via email at info@eiec.coop, or give us a call at 800-824-5102.



LABOR DAY

**Office Closed-
Monday, September 7th
for Labor Day**



www.eiec.coop

WE NEED YOUR HELP.



Our Energy, Our Future™
A Dialogue With America

Senators are drafting climate change legislation NOW, and you can impact the outcome.

Climate change legislation should be:

- Fair**
- Affordable**
- Achievable**

Your voice counts. Earlier this year, consumers and electric cooperatives worked together to bring co-op concerns to the forefront of the U.S. House of Representatives' climate change debate. As a result the House revised its climate change bill, H.R. 2454, resulting in significant rate relief for electric co-op consumers compared to the measure first introduced. Co-ops are still concerned with parts of the bill and it's far from perfect, but it's a step in the right direction.

As climate change legislation works through the U.S. Senate, there are three key things senators must keep in mind: Keeping the bill fair, affordable, and achievable.



FAIR: Legislation should recognize regional differences in how electricity is produced. It appears cap-and-trade—a system setting limits, or caps, on the amount of greenhouse gas emissions from power plants and other sources—will be part of legislation. Where you live and how your state produces power could impact how much money Congress adds to your utility bills. Congress needs to keep things fair; no one should be penalized and pay more for climate change because of where they live.



AFFORDABLE: Any climate change plan must keep electricity affordable for all Americans. Estimates vary on how much climate change legislation could add to your monthly electricity bills. Since electricity is used to make most products, prices in general will likely rise. Congress must keep costs to consumers in mind as they debate these proposals.



ACHIEVABLE: Climate change goals must be realistic and in sync with technology to ensure long-term success. Otherwise they're doomed to fail.

▶ Go to www.ourenergy.coop to make your voice heard.