

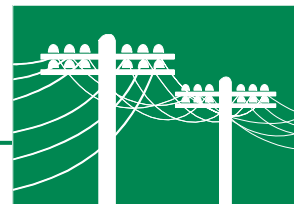
CATSKILL HI-LINE

Bi-Monthly Newsletter of



Delaware County Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



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March—April 2007

Power Supply Update

DCEC buys (wholesale) power at our substations and distributes the electricity to our membership. Bill payments from our members go towards the cost of purchasing this energy and the other operational expenses. These costs include constructing and maintaining our substations and power lines and administrative costs. About 30% of our member's bills are attributed to the energy that we purchase to ensure DCEC members always have a source of electricity.



Power Supply Update Continued on Page 3...

New York State Niagara Power Project

Student Wanted!



DCEC is looking for an 11th grade Student Delegate for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Legislative Conference in Washington D.C. Annually DCEC sponsors this all expense paid trip for a son or daughter of a member of the cooperative through funding provided by the Cooperative Financial Corporation. This year the conference will be held from Saturday, May 5th, 2007 through Wednesday, May 9th.

In order to qualify the student must have a "B" grade point average, participate in preferred extra-curricular activities, and submit a complete application to DCEC by March 20, 2007. The final selection of the successful candidate will take place March 27, 2007.

The lucky student will have the opportunity to experience government first-hand by visiting the nation's capitol and meeting with our Congressional Representatives and Senators on Capitol Hill. Time will also be reserved for a visit to some of the sites and cultural events in Washington, along with attending scheduled appointments with members of the New York Congressional Delegation. We look forward to receiving your 11th grader's application!

“MyAccount” Soon to Arrive!

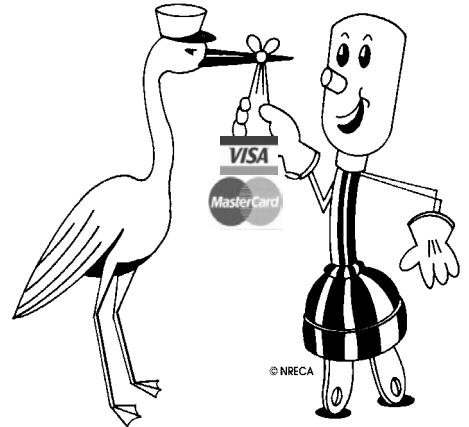
DCEC will soon be offering a new online service to our members, “MyAccount” will allow our members to access their account information anywhere, anytime. “MyAccount” members will be able to pay bills online through a secure connection to DCEC computers using advanced encryption technology. Not only will you be able to view your bill before it would ever arrive at your residence, but you will be able to get information on past usage to anticipate future charges. It is safe, easy and user friendly!

We are currently finalizing testing of the application. We expect to announce how to sign-up for “MyAccount” soon. You will be able to sign up online from any location through the DCEC website (www.dce.coop) or by contacting us at our Delhi office. When you register for this service you will create a password that you’ll use to access the secure portion of our site.

Once registered, you will be able to do all of the following with this service:

- ▶ View and pay your bill
- ▶ Sign up for bank drafts
- ▶ Change mailing address or phone number
- ▶ Request maintenance of existing service
- ▶ Request new service
- ▶ Start or stop existing service

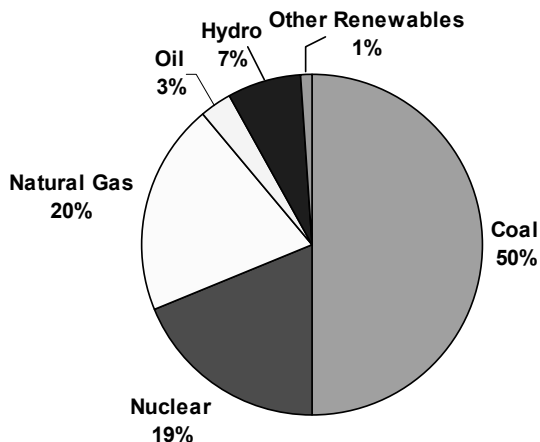
For more information on “MyAccount”, please visit our newly created website http://dce.coop/paying_your_bill.htm or contact us at our Delhi office.



KO 1-48-5E

Did You Know?

U.S. Electric Power Generation



Community Corner



Join the fun of the
Meredith Dairy Fest
on June 9 & 10, 2007!

Mark Your Calendars!



**This Year’s DCEC Annual Meeting
Friday, September 14, 2007!**

Automatic Meter Reading

Since 2000, DCEC has been reading your electric meter automatically from our Delhi office. The technology called Automated Meter Reading (or “AMR”), sends information through our power lines to one of our DCEC substations where it then gets communicated to the DCEC computers by phone lines. Even though meter reading is the main function of the technology it effectively serves other purposes as well.

AMR also allows us to detect outages. When a storm hits, DCEC staff can see which meters are energized and which are not. We can then more efficiently direct our linemen to the location of the problem to restore power to our members much quicker.

As an example of the “power” of AMR, DCEC used the technology to detect and respond to an outage in Masonville in mid-February. A truck traveling on route 206 sheered-off a DCEC electric pole leaving 302 members without power. With the help of 911 and our AMR system, we were able to locate the problem in minutes. We then were able to load the correct size pole for replacement and dispatch the crew to the problem area, creating a safer job site for the public.

AMR also allows us to read daily kilowatt and demand usages throughout our system, and monitor meter signal qualities for possible problems. Through the use of this technology, DCEC is better able to provide reliable electric service to our members.



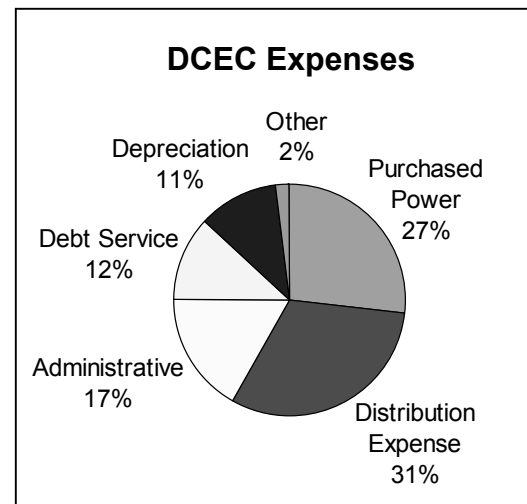
Power Supply Update Continued from Page 1...

Historically, DCEC has purchased all of our power needs from the New York Power Authority (NYPA) under two contracts – a “Hydro” contract (from power generated at Niagara Falls) and an “Incremental” contract for the balance of the Co-op’s energy needs. The rates which DCEC pays under both of these contracts has been favorable compared to the “market” but now, market and political forces are driving change.

In December 2004, NYPA notified the four New York rural electric co-ops and 10 municipal systems of their plans to terminate our Incremental contracts. Since that time, DCEC has been evaluating how to replace this power-supply, including various renewable energy projects and load control technologies with the objective of minimizing the impact on DCEC rates when the contract terminates in December 2007.

Recently, NYPA has also notified the co-ops and municipals of a proposed increase in rates for our Hydro power. This increase is attributed to their costs of renewing the operating license of the Niagara Power Plant (the current operating license expires in August 2007). NYPA is proposing a rate increases of 7.1% in May 2007 and another 5.8% in May 2008. Working closely with the other co-ops and municipals, DCEC is evaluating the proposed increases to ensure that they are fair and justified so our members are not subject to higher costs that are not absolutely necessary.

These are changing times for where DCEC sources its power supply. Unfortunately, the long-term relationship that has existed with NYPA for many years has changed, which will likely result in higher rates to residents and businesses throughout New York State. The DCEC staff and Board of Directors will continue to work hard to minimize the effect of these higher costs to our members while ensuring that safety and reliability of service is not sacrificed.



DCEC Announces Staff Changes



Doug Rosa: Maintenance Foreman

After many years as a distinguished lineman, Doug has been promoted to Maintenance Foreman. Doug has served the membership of DCEC for over 18 years. He and his family live in Delhi.



Steve Little: Apprentice Lineman

Steve joins our line crew as Apprentice Lineman after working on the DCEC Brush crew since joining us in April 2005. Prior to coming to DCEC, Steve had a successful career with KW Reese, a valued (right-of-way brush clearing) supplier of DCEC. Steve and his family live in Delhi.



Alain Harelimana: Financial Analyst

Alain joins DCEC as "Financial Analyst" after completing his B.A. degree from Hartwick College in Accounting. Alain and his family live in Walton.

Congratulations!

Fun Quote of the Month

"Electricity is actually made up of extremely tiny particles called electrons, that you cannot see with the naked eye unless you have been drinking."

— *Dave Barry, American humorist*



Is Your Location Number in This Issue?

Your service location number begins with two letters and is located on your bill next to your account number. Keep your eyes peeled for the "hidden location number" in this newsletter! If you find the number, and it is your service location you will receive a DCEC fleece sweatshirt! **Good luck!**

CATSKILL HI-LINE is a Publication of the Delaware County Electric Cooperative, Inc. and is published bi-monthly for the membership.

The information contained herein is designed to promote action and discussion among members. Statements published do not necessarily reflect the official position of the cooperative. The information has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, and the editor has exercised reasonable care to assure its accuracy.

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Delaware County Electric Coop., Inc.
 39 Elm St., PO Box 471
 Delhi, New York 13753-0471
 607-746-2341 Fax: 607-746-7548

Email: office@dce.coop
 Web Site: www.dce.coop

Buyer's Market



If you would like to place an ad in our Buyer's Market please call our office at (607) 746-2341

For Sale:
Baldwin/Howard Upright Piano
\$500
Please call:
607-265-3425

Upstate Tree Service
Tree removal, stump grinding and brush chipping.
Lots cleared.
Over 15 years experience.
Call Randy at 607-865-7576 for more info!

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Freezer Beef.
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U-pick. \$1.20/lb.
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