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Nuclear Energy Caucus Industry Report

by Matthew Boshaw, CEO & General Manager

Giving credit where it is due, the following article was published in our state-wide association's (the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association [PREA]) newsletter and I felt the information was so important I asked to republish it for our membership, and they graciously granted permission.

The Pennsylvania General Assembly's Nuclear Energy Caucus recently released its report on the nuclear energy industry, reviewing how premature plant closings affect the economy, jobs, consumers, environment, public health, grid resilience, and national security.

The report focused on four announced closures of nuclear plants in Pennsylvania and Ohio: Beaver Valley Power Station, scheduled to be closed in 2021; Three-Mile Island Nuclear Station (TMI), scheduled to be closed in 2019; Davis-Besse Nuclear Power

Station, scheduled to be closed in 2020; and Perry Nuclear Power Plant, scheduled to be closed in 2021.

Pennsylvania's nine nuclear reactors, across five plants, contribute approximately \$2 billion to state gross domestic product, account for 15,900 in-state full-time jobs, and provide \$69 million in net state tax revenue annually — according to the report. It also states Pennsylvania consumers would pay \$788 million more annually and \$6.6 billion more over the next 10 years without these plants.

“It supports the local economy, and supplies affordable, reliable, and resilient energy to regional households, hospitals, schools, and businesses,” the report says, quoting U.S. Rep. Keith Rothfus (R-12th) discussing the closure of the Beaver Valley plant. “Meanwhile, other parts of our nation face energy shortages

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because too many other fuel-secure plants closed prematurely. In New England, grid operators rely on imported energy to meet demand. Pennsylvania should not follow their example. Nationally, our lack of a comprehensive energy policy undermines our security and energy independence.”

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The report asserts that nuclear power plants also spare Pennsylvania from 37 million metric tons of carbon-dioxide (CO₂) emissions annually, which the report values at \$1.6 billion annually. The loss of the four plants facing closure in Pennsylvania and Ohio would increase annual CO₂ emissions by 21 metric tons, the equivalent of a 50 percent increase in Pennsylvania passenger vehicles driven for a year. The closure of the plants, the report notes, would also lead to a 33,500 ton rise in pollutants regulated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Cross-State Air Pollution Rule and by Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards, which could cost Pennsylvania \$260 million in pollution allowances over 10 years. According to the report, the five existing nuclear plants in Pennsylvania account for 42 percent of the state’s generation mix. The Beaver Valley and TMI plants account for one-fourth of Pennsylvania’s nuclear power. Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc., owns a 10 percent share of the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, which provides approximately 60 percent of the electricity used by

13 rural electric cooperatives in Pennsylvania and one in New Jersey.

The report says severe weather, most notably the Polar Vortex of 2014 and Bomb Cyclone of 2018, demonstrated the susceptibility of fossil fuel generation methods to interruption. It cites frozen coal piles and constrained pipelines that forced outages due to lack of supply for energy generation before pointing to nuclear power plants’ ability to operate 24/7 for up to two years without the need for refueling. “Loss of nuclear generation through plant closures increases Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Maryland’s (PJM’s) dependence on a few major, and potentially vulnerable, gas pipelines and on intermittent resources such as wind,” the report says. “A significant gas infrastructure event, which could be the result of a natural or man-produced disaster, such as a cybersecurity attack or other serious event, could prevent the PJM Mid-Atlantic area from serving electric load on several days, weeks, or months if existing nuclear capacity was retired.”

The report presents several options that would delay the premature closings of plants, including:

- Modify Pennsylvania’s Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards (AEPS) Act or establish a zero-emissions credit (ZEC) program to

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put nuclear generation on equal footing with other zero-emission electric generation resources in Pennsylvania.

- Modify the AEPS or establish a ZEC program with a “safety valve” mechanism that would allow Pennsylvania to adopt a new capacity construct proposed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission that is designed to accommodate state programs to support preferred generation resources.
- Establish a state carbon-fee program.

The report notes the solution will require leadership decisions to be made at federal, state, and regional levels. “It’s very important to keep nuclear power plants operating and alive in our

generation mix,” says PREA/Allegheny President & CEO Frank Betley. “A diversified grid is a healthier, stronger, and more resilient grid. It’s also a more competitive grid, which benefits consumers in the end.”

The guiding principles of the caucus, formed in 2017 as the first of its type in the nation, are to promote nuclear energy as a clean, safe, reliable, and affordable source of electricity; advocate for Pennsylvania to recognize nuclear energy’s environmental impact; and preserve the positive contributions of the nuclear industry. Co-chairs of the 75-member caucus are state Sens. Ryan Aument (R-Lancaster) and John Yudichak (D-Luzerne) and state Reps. Becky Corbin (R-Chester) and Rob Matzie (D-Beaver). The report is expected to be addressed during the next legislative session.

SAFETY MATTERS

The Importance of Personal Protective Equipment

Each year, accidents happen within the workplace and home due to the absence of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). PPE is equipment that will protect you against health or safety hazards. Hazards can be anything from wet floors to falling debris and everything in between. PPE includes items such as protective helmets, eye protection, safety footwear, safety harnesses and, sometimes, respiratory protective equipment.

CEC urges you to think about what PPE will help you complete all tasks — at work or home — safely. The following are examples of things you can (and should) do to assure your safety at home. Using proper PPE could be the difference between joining your family for dinner at the end of a chore day or a trip to the emergency room.

- Hand Protection: Gloves are the necessary PPE for tasks that can damage your hands. Selecting

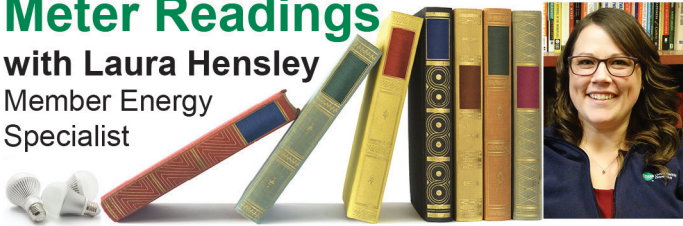
the proper gloves for the task is important for your safety.

- Eye Protection: When selecting the appropriate eyewear it is important to choose a product that is adequately rated for the job at hand. Standard glasses, or sunglasses, are not rated for safety.
- Hearing Protection: Hazardous noise exposures are cumulative, such that every exposure — even a few seconds of using a chainsaw or a few minutes of pushing a power lawn mower — contributes to potential hearing loss. So the most important rule of hearing protection is to wear it! Always!

At CEC safety is everyone’s responsibility. CEC’s Senior System Engineer, Bill Fesenmyer’s personal safety goal is to always wear the appropriate PPE. What’s yours?

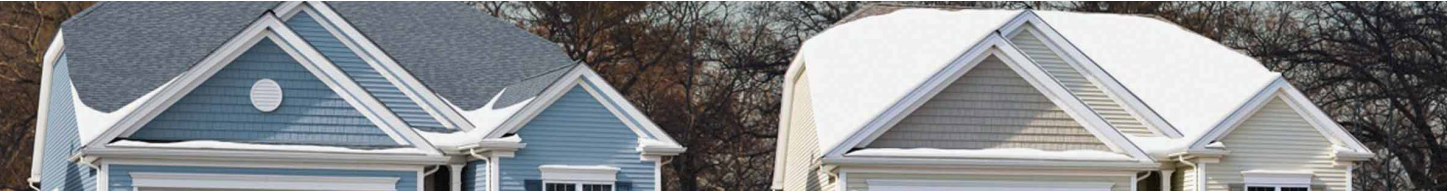
Meter Readings

with **Laura Hensley**
Member Energy
Specialist



Proper home insulation is an important step in saving money on your energy bill and making your home comfortable. When heat rises and your attic is not properly insulated, it will continue to exit your home through the roof. In the depiction below, can you tell which house is lacking adequate attic insulation?

If your home feels drafty and could use more insulation, always start at the top since the majority of heat loss in a home is through the roof. Start with the attic, or ceiling, and work your way



Proper Home Insulation

down through the walls and then to the basement or crawl space. If you start adding insulation at the lowest level (basement or crawl space) and work your way up, upper floors could feel cool or drafty in the winter months, since extra insulation below will cause the cool air to rise.

Although insulation types may vary, visible floor joists are an indication that your attic needs more insulation. In our area, the Department of Energy recommends attic insulation totaling an R-value of R-49 to R-60, which is an insulation depth of at least 16 to 18 inches.

While addressing your home's insulation can be one of the more expensive projects for saving on your utility bill, it's the biggest bang for your energy buck, as it will pay for itself in the long run.

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Are You Interested in a CEC Director's Seat?

As a CEC member, you have a voice in who serves on our eight-member board of directors. Every year, members elect two directors for a four-year term. Director seats are divided among the counties the cooperative serves. This year, resident members from Forest and Venango counties are invited to run for these two respective seats. To be eligible for nomination you must be a CEC member in good standing, have a permanent residence in that county, and meet other qualifications required by CEC's bylaws.

Please submit the coupon below by April 1, 2019 to receive a qualifications list and nominating petition. If you meet the qualifications, you will then send a written request, including your full name, address, telephone number, county of residence, and account number, along with a completed petition signed by 20 cooperative members to the nominating committee by May 1, 2019.

After the cooperative confirms your eligibility, you will visit the CEC office to attend an orientation



meeting and meet with the nominating committee for an interview. The committee then submits a list of the eligible candidates for placement on the ballot.

Nominee names, along with a photo and background information, are presented in the July issue of Power Lines. Cooperative members will vote by mail or Internet prior to the annual meeting, or vote by paper ballot on the day of the meeting, Aug. 23, 2019, prior to the meeting's commencement. Election results will be announced prior to adjournment.

Your board of directors has appointed a nominating committee to review prospective candidates interested in running for CEC director.
Committee members are:

Armstrong County
Harvey W. Loose
East Brady

Forest County
Dennis Lamb
Tionesta

Butler County
Joe Gibson
Parker

Venango County
Carl E. Gadsby
Grove City

Clarion County
James M. Reed
Fryburg

Ron Paranick
Cranberry

Randy Tharan
Knox

If you are interested in being considered as a director nominee, please complete this coupon and return it by April 1, 2019 to:
Central Electric Cooperative, Nominating Committee, 716 Route 368, PO Box 329, Parker, PA 16049-0329.

Please send me a qualification list and petition requirements for being a director nominee to Central Electric Cooperative's Board of Directors.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

County: _____ Account: _____

Recipe of the Month

Sausage Soup

Ingredients:

- 1 cup onions, chopped
- 1-1/2 pounds smoked sausage, sliced
- 3 ribs celery, sliced
- 3 carrots, sliced
- 1/2 head cabbage, chopped
- 1 tablespoon oil
- 3 chicken bouillon cubes
- 5 cups water
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/2 teaspoon thyme
- 1/2 cup white rice, uncooked
- 8-ounce can tomato sauce
- 12-ounce can Cannellini beans, undrained
- 28-ounce can diced tomatoes

Directions: Brown onions and sausage in oil until sausage is brown and onions are transparent. In a large stock pot, combine onion, sausage, and all remaining ingredients. Bring to boil. Let simmer until all is tender. Remove bay leaf; serve and enjoy.

*Thank you to Donna J. Faff
for submitting this recipe!*

CEC Management Team

Matthew P. Boshaw
CEO & General Manager

Dennis W. Beggs
Director of Finance and
Accounting/CFO

Christopher W. Kossman
Director of Information Technology

Stephanie Deal
Director of Human Resources

Fred E. Terwilliger
Assistant General Manager/COO

Lisa A. Hoover
Director of Member Services

Read Power Lines and Win!

Last Issue's Winner:

Kenneth Ward of Meadow Lands

Last Issue's E-Winner:

Christine Sutej of Saxonburg

Read Power Lines and win a \$25 credit on your monthly electric bill by completing and returning the quiz below. You can also have a chance at another \$25 bill credit by submitting a quiz online at www.central.coop.

If you don't have access to the Internet, indicate that on the quiz and we'll also enter you in the online drawing. Just complete and enclose the quiz and personal information below and return it with your monthly payment.

1. True or False: Nuclear power plants spare Pennsylvania from 37 million metric tons of carbon-dioxide emissions annually.

Answer: _____

2. True or False: For us, an R-value of R-49 to R-60 is recommended for attic insulation.

Answer: _____

3. True or False: Hazardous noise exposures are not cumulative

Answer: _____

How are we doing? (no wrong answer)

Name: _____

Phone: _____ **Acct. #:** _____



Central Electric Cooperative

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Newsletter Editor: Renee Tritten