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83rd CEC Annual Meeting Recap

“Watts” Inside

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Board of Directors

Nancy Lendyak
President

Kenneth Etzel
Vice President

Althea Smith
Secretary/Treasurer

Kenneth Durrett
Robert Smith
Jody Weaver
Richard Weaver



PowerLines

Photo from Unsplash

Don't Blink

by Matthew Boshaw, CEO & General Manager

We recently asked you to provide us with some ideas regarding topics for our various monthly articles. As this article will appear in our November issue of Power Lines (during a pandemic and presidential election year), I could not be happier to talk about anything other than those two subjects. With that in mind, I chose the topic of power “blinks” — which should tell you how fed up I am with talking about politics and a pandemic.

Blinks are not as simple a topic as you might think. There are several different things that can be considered a blink. Generally speaking, anytime a light changes from bright to dim or off and back on — people consider it a blink. By that definition, a blink can be caused by a device in your home turning on or off, a tree making contact on the service or primary line, wildlife contacts, or even an

event on the transmission system — among other things. So, when you call in and ask what is causing blinks, the answer is not simple.

Central Electric Cooperative (CEC) would define a blink as your power going completely off and then back on again — sometimes repeatedly. Our meters are able to record this, allowing us to have some information as to whether the issue is inside or outside your home. When we record a blink, it is typically the result of a reclosing device on the distribution system. This device senses a fault condition on the line and opens (or “blinks”) the power for a short period allowing for whatever is causing the fault to clear itself from the line. After the allotted time passes, the device recloses and reenergizes the line. If the fault has not cleared it will repeat the process, typically three times, and then open permanently — you will experience

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a power outage.

The most common causes of these transient faults are trees and wildlife. Wind or a breaking branch can bring a limb in contact with a wire, creating the fault, with the limb then shifting off the line allowing the recloser to open and then close. A similar situation happens with wildlife — with a much less fortunate outcome for the squirrel, for example, who causes the transient fault. The transmission system that supplies our substations has similar protective devices which can lead to an entire substation experiencing a blink.

Our reclosers are part of our larger coordinated system-protection scheme. A combination of fuses and reclosers on the distribution and transmission systems are carefully coordinated with one another, allowing us to manage transient faults and minimize the size of outages. Our reclosers will open and close to clear transient faults. Fuses and reclosers will open on permanent faults allowing a smaller area to be affected.

All of this information can be distilled into a few important points. First, power blinks can be caused by a variety of circumstances. Second, the devices on our system which create power blinks are designed to protect equipment from extended exposure to fault conditions and limit the frequency and size of service interruptions. Lastly, our tracking of recurring power blinks helps us identify areas which are in need of

“First, power blinks can be caused by a variety of circumstances. Second, the devices on our system which create power blinks are designed to protect equipment from extended exposure to fault conditions and limit the frequency and size of service interruptions. Lastly, our tracking of recurring power blinks helps us identify areas which are in need of attention regarding line-clearance tree trimming and maintenance of our system.”

Matt Boshaw, CEO &
General Manager

attention regarding line-clearance tree trimming and maintenance of our system.

While I know this topic may have the popularity of a dental appointment, I want to thank those of you who requested it. It provided a welcome respite from pandemic and politics. If you would like more information about this, or any other topic, please just let us know.

I hope this article finds you and your family safe and healthy and that your preferred candidates won (or will win) the election.

CEC Holiday Closures

Nov. 26 Thanksgiving

**Dec. 24 Christmas Eve
(at noon)**

Dec. 25 Christmas Day

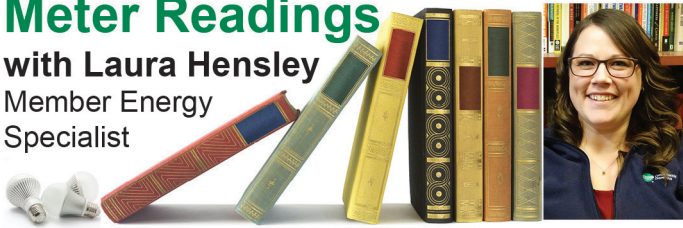
**Dec. 31 New Year's Eve
(at noon)**

Jan. 1 New Year's Day

Meter Readings

with Laura Hensley

Member Energy Specialist



Recently we asked if you had any energy-related questions. Many expressed an interest in where your power comes from and clean energy resources. So, I thought I would share how CEC works with other cooperatives across the state to offer members reliable and competitively-priced electricity with a focus on clean energy.

CEC is your local electric distribution cooperative. This means CEC does the job of getting the electricity you need from generation facilities to your home. It also means that CEC receives a power bill — just like you — but for the electricity CEC purchases from a generation facility to supply the needs of all 25,000 plus members over our seven-county service territory.

When it comes to the electricity CEC purchases, we rely on Allegheny Electric Cooperative (Allegheny). Allegheny is a wholesale generation and transmission cooperative founded and overseen by the fourteen electric-distribution cooperatives across Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Allegheny has a diversified power supply portfolio — they obtain the electricity they sell by a variety of means — including self-owned and purchased generation resources. Allegheny's generation resources include significant investments

Where Your Power Comes From

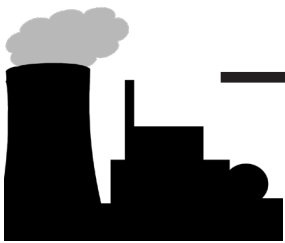
in nuclear and hydropower — which means we all have minimal reliance on carbon-based fuels (a.k.a. nonrenewable resources). About 65 percent of Allegheny's energy supply comes from their clean, stable, and relatively low-cost, nuclear and hydropower resources.

Allegheny's hydropower investment is the Raystown Hydroelectric Project/William F. Matson Generating Station — a two-unit, 21-megawatt, run-of-river hydropower facility located at Raystown Lake and dam in Huntingdon County.

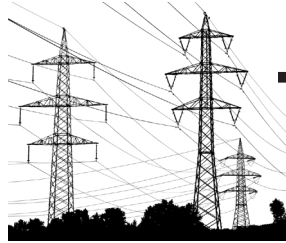
Allegheny's nuclear investment is a 10 percent share of the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station (Susquehanna). Susquehanna is a 2,600-megawatt, two-unit nuclear power plant located in Luzerne County.

So — how does this translate into what you pay each month on your electricity bill? The first is a G&T Charge. This is the kilowatt-hour (kWh) charge for the generation and transmission of your electricity that comes from Allegheny. The second is the distribution charge which is what it costs CEC, per kWh, to deliver the electricity to you.

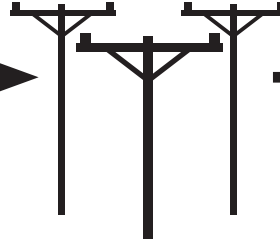
The process of generating and distributing electricity is quite complex, but I hope this provides a general understanding of how CEC acquires electricity for use in your home or business, and our dedication to clean and renewable energy generation for a secure energy future.



① Generation



② Transmission



③ Distribution



④ Your Home

In Memory of Bette D. Walters ...

It is with sincere regret that CEC announces the passing of board member Bette Walters of Tionesta, Forest County.

Mrs. Walters passed on Sept. 9, 2020 at her home in Tionesta. She was a longtime member of the CEC Board of Directors. Mrs. Walters was appointed to the CEC board in 1988 and represented the cooperative in several positions over the years, including serving as President (1994-1995) and Vice President (1993-1994) of the CEC Board of Directors, and CEC's representative on the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association board (2011-2016).

Mrs. Walters' presence will be greatly missed by all at CEC. Our deepest condolences are with her family and friends at this time.



Bette D. Walters

Dec. 14, 1939 - Sept. 9, 2020

**CEC Board of Directors,
Forest County Representative**
1988-2020



The Safety Linke



Don't be a stranger, to electrical danger.

Election Day Safety

The month of November brings a lot of things to mind. Many folks in the area are looking forward to various hunting seasons — while others are enjoying all of the sights, sounds, and smells of the fall season and upcoming holidays.

Another thing that comes to mind is Election Day. This is a day where we get to exercise our civic duty and vote for candidates for various national, state, and local offices. However, we all should be extra cautious while traveling to and from our polling locations.

A new study of Election Day traffic deaths (dating back to Jimmy Carter's 1976 win) could suggest that voting for the president is bad for your health — but analysts say that is no reason not to go to the polls.

Analysts discovered that, on average, 24 more people died in car crashes during voting hours on presidential election days than on all other Tuesdays in October and November combined. That's an



Manager of Safety
& Loss Control

Dylan Linke

18 percent increased risk of death. Plus, there's an additional 800 people who suffered disabling injuries on those days compared to non-election days. Up to 2004, when George W. Bush defeated John Kerry, results were similar on all eight presidential election days which were analyzed.

Among the possible reasons cited were rushing to get to polling places before or after work, driving on unfamiliar routes, thinking about the candidates to the point of distraction, and even some cases of "road rage".

The information from this study is not at all intended to pose a reason to abstain from voting this year — it's simply a friendly reminder to use caution and practice appropriate defensive driving skills as you travel to and from your polling place.

All of us here at CEC hope this safety message finds you and your family well and we hope you enjoy the occasional changes in discussion topics.

CEC's 83rd Annual Meeting of the Members

COVID-19 has impacted all of us in one way or another — CEC's 83rd Annual Meeting of the Members was no exception. Even though this year's meeting looked much different from previous years, there was still a director election and annual business meeting.

On Aug. 21, 2020 CEC held a nonpublic, annual business meeting. It was out of an abundance of caution for the well-being of cooperative members, that CEC decided to hold the meeting without the physical presence of members (a video of the meeting is available on CEC's website). But — that didn't stop 2,616 members from participating with the meeting via the expanded ballot which was mailed to all cooperative members in July.

It was also through this ballot that members re-elected Kenneth Durrett of Butler County and



**Newly re-elected directors (from left):
Richard Weaver and Kenneth Durrett**

Richard Weaver of Clarion County to CEC's Board of Directors.

Then at the September board meeting, CEC's directors elected Nancy Lendyak as board president, Kenneth Etzel as vice president, and Althea Smith as secretary/treasurer.

Additionally, Althea Smith was elected to a two-year term to serve as the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association Member Delegate and Richard Weaver is currently in his second year of his two-year term serving as the Allegheny Electric Cooperative Member Delegate.

Unfortunately, there is no way for any of us to know how 2021 will be impacted by COVID-19. But we do hope you know, CEC will continue to operate and provide the highest-quality service possible for you — the members we serve. COVID-19 may necessitate changes in how we interact, but it will not change what we do.

From all of us here at CEC, we wish nothing but safety for you, and your family, during this time. We sincerely hope to see you all at Whitehall in 2021. Details on the 2021 annual meeting event will be released in late spring 2021.



Getting ready to begin the meeting (from left):

Richard Weaver (Clarion County), Jody Weaver (Clarion County), Matt Boshaw (CEO & General Manager), Kenneth Durrett (Butler County), Robert Smith (Butler County), Mike Sloat (legal counsel), Kenneth Etzel (Venango County), and Nancy Lendyak (Armstrong County).

Participating via phone: Althea Smith (Venango County) and Bette Walters (Forest County).

Recipe of the Month

Pumpkin Dip

Ingredients:

- 8 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 cup pumpkin (canned or pureed)
- 2 teaspoons maple syrup

Directions:

Mix all ingredients together. Chill.

Serve with gingersnaps and/or apple slices.

*Thank you to Dennis Knott
for submitting this recipe!*

CEC Management Team

Matthew P. Boshaw
CEO & General Manager

Chester Conti
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:

Terry Stover of Cranberry

Last Issue's E-Winner:

Eugene Testa of Freedom

Read Power Lines for a chance to 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: It is important to use caution and practice defensive driving skills on Election Day.

Answer: _____

2. True or False: The most common causes of blinks are trees and wildlife.

Answer: _____

3. True or False: Allegheny owns the Raystown Hydroelectric Project — a two-unit, 21-megawatt, run-of-river hydropower facility.

Answer: _____

How are we doing? (no wrong answer)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Acct. #: _____



Central Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

716 Route 368, P.O. Box 329, Parker, PA 16049

Newsletter Editor: Renee Tritten