


# Energy Partners

A monthly look at the happenings of and related to:



New-Mac Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner   
The power of human connections



## New-Mac returns \$1 million in capital credits to members

### Annual meeting marks 16 straight years of refunds

New-Mac Electric Cooperative began distributing just over \$1 million in capital credit refunds to members at the co-op’s annual meeting, held Oct. 26 at Crowder College in Neosho. The co-op announced that 2013 is the sixteenth consecutive year that the co-op has returned capital credit payments back to member-customers.

Mitch McCumber, New-Mac’s chief executive officer, emphasized that despite continued rising wholesale

power costs and slow electric sales from mild weather this past year, the co-op made it a priority to pay the capital credit refunds.

“New-Mac is a special entity, a not-for-profit company owned by the member-customers who have a shared economic stake in the co-op,” McCumber said, citing the Seven Cooperative Principles that electric co-ops follow all over the country. “It’s more than just words on a piece of paper – in this case it’s money in the bank.”

“New-Mac provides you with electricity that makes simple things easy and amazing things possible,” McCumber told those in attendance. “But we’re about more than just that – we’re about providing comfort and convenience for you and your family. We’re about providing happiness.”

The capital credit refunds go to people who were New-Mac members during 1995 and 1996, and are based on their electric usage. Members who  
*See Annual meeting, page 4*




Above, CEO/General Manager Mitch McCumber steps back to watch a video he shared during his management report at New-Mac Electric’s 2013 Annual Meeting. At top, an assortment of exhibitors, tents, refreshments and co-op trucks could be seen as attendees came to the Crowder College gymnasium the morning of the meeting.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Annual meeting.....page 1
- Your help is needed.....page 2
- Recipe of the month .....page 3



New-Mac Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner   
The power of human connections

Energy Partners is a monthly publication of New-Mac Electric for the purpose of informing members of the programs, services and happenings of, and related to, the cooperative.

Unclaimed capital credits list

Next month, New-Mac will publish a list of unclaimed capital credit checks. If you know any of these former members, please notify them so they can claim their check.

Offices closed for November holidays

New-Mac's offices will be closed Nov. 11 in observance of Veterans' Day and Nov. 28-30 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Assistance is available

If you are having a problem paying your New-Mac account, please call us to make arrangements. Please don't disregard paying your bill. There are programs and options (such as budget billing) designed to assist you. So, please give us a call at 451-1515 or (800) 322-3849.

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM / EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

Jasper County (417) 781-0352
McDonald County (417) 845-6011
Newton County (417) 451-2206

Pay bill, view usage online

Remember, not only can you pay your bill online, you can also look at usage trends, compare bills from various billing periods, set up reminder text or emails, and much more. Visit newmac.com and click on the "smart hub" link.



Rural electric co-ops call for 'all-of-the-above' not 'all-but-one' policy

Electric cooperatives are disappointed – but not surprised – that in September the Administration officially abandoned an all-of-the-above energy strategy for a new, all-but-one approach that effectively removes coal from the nation's fuel mix in the future.

The policy, proposed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), sets stringent limits on carbon dioxide emissions from future coal or natural gas plants. Trouble is, the new standards are impossible to meet with existing technology.

We need the help of each and every electric cooperative member to fight this plan. If we don't act now, the price you pay for electricity will increase.

That's why electric cooperatives nationwide are urging members to use their voices through the Cooperative Action Network at www.action.coop. (A link is available at newmac.com)

This grassroots website will let you quickly and easily send a message to the EPA that you are concerned about the consequences of this plan.

For several years cooperatives have tested carbon capture and storage (CCS) as a way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Unfortunately, the technology doesn't make financial sense. It has never been used at a commercial scale at a power plant over a prolonged period to demonstrate its viability

See All-of-the-above, page 3



Click on



OR

Cut out



Help keep electricity affordable by visiting newmac.com and clicking on the "Cooperative Action Network" link at left. Or, cut out the card below, fill it out, and send it in with your next New-Mac bill.

STAND WITH US AS WE FIGHT TO KEEP ELECTRIC BILLS AFFORDABLE.

PLEASE PRINT
FIRST NAME LAST NAME
E-MAIL ADDRESS
HOME ADDRESS
CITY STATE ZIP
HOME PHONE MOBILE PHONE
SIGN UP FOR TEXT ALERTS
I AM A MEMBER OF CO-OP/PPD
I authorize America's Electric Cooperatives to communicate on my behalf regarding America's electricity challenges.
SIGNATURE

For more information, including our privacy policy, please visit

ACTION.COOP



America's Electric Cooperatives

## ○ All-of-the-above

Continued from page 2

or cost. In a 2012 Congressional Budget Office report, engineers estimate it would increase the cost of producing electricity from coal-based plants by 75 percent.

The Administration's switch to an all-but-one energy approach would limit Americans' access to a plentiful and affordable resource. Your electric cooperative doesn't think we should gamble with the economic well-being of future generations and our nation's economy.

Already worried about making ends meet, many co-op consumer-members cannot afford the significant increases in electric bills that this policy would trigger.

Historically, the price of coal remains affordable and relatively stable. The U.S. Energy Information Agency reports the United States has 236 years remaining of recoverable coal reserves. Coal generates 70 percent of the electricity used by Missouri's electric cooperatives, making it our biggest energy source by far.

You enjoy some of the lowest rates in the nation thanks to a diverse mix of fuel sources used to generate electricity. Besides two large, low-cost coal-fired power plants, our generation mix includes natural gas plants, hydropower and wind energy.

This diverse generation portfolio helps us meet your need for reliable and affordable power. Removing one leg of this generation mix - and the most important part as well - would be disastrous.

We've also spent millions on energy-efficiency measures and billions on controls that have cut power-plant emissions by 90 percent. Yet none of this is considered in the EPA plan.

Where this issue is concerned, history repeats itself. We saw this all-but-one game in 1978 when Congress passed the ill-conceived Power Plant and Industrial Fuel Use Act. Never heard of it? Few have, but for several years the government banned natural gas for power generation. Yes, natural gas-the fuel source being sold to the nation today as a cleaner fuel option. With gas off the table, electric co-ops were forced to choose between building coal or nuclear plants.

Back then, co-ops were in the midst of a major power plant building cycle as more and more people moved into rural areas and members increased their use of electricity. With few options, they invested heavily in coal-based generating plants in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Thankfully Congress repealed its mistake, but not for nine years.

Let's not repeat past mistakes. Stand with us as we fight to keep electric bills affordable. It's urgent you tell the EPA we need an all-of-the-above energy strategy. We've made it easy. Go to [www.action.coop](http://www.action.coop) and send your message!

(Or, you can fill out the card - at left - and send it in with your next New-Mac bill.)



### 1. ABANDONS ALL-OF-THE ABOVE

The Administration is reversing course: ditching our All-of-the-Above energy strategy for an All-But-One approach that bans new coal plants.



### 2. TECHNOLOGY GAMBLE

New regulations essentially require technology that's **not commercially viable and prohibitively expensive**—leading to higher bills down the line.

## TOP 4 FACTS

ABOUT THE EPA'S NEW CLIMATE REGULATIONS



### 3. LIMITS ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, DOMESTIC ENERGY

By banning new coal plants, Americans forfeit a **236-year domestic source of energy** with a historically stable price.



### 4. HISTORY REPEATS: ALL-BUT-ONE DOESN'T WORK

A 1978 mandate prevented use of natural gas & forced utilities into coal or nuclear—before common sense prevailed and it was repealed **9 years later**.

COOPERATIVE  
ACTION NETWORK

ACTION.COOP

Energy Partners'  
*Recipe of the Month:*

AUTUMN SURPRISE  
CAKE

Submitted by New-Mac member: **Vera Rinehart**

2 cups chopped apples	½ cup oil
1 cup sugar	1 egg
1½ cup flour	1 tsp. vanilla
1 tsp. soda	½ cup coconut
½ tsp. salt	½ cup nuts
1 tsp. cinnamon	

Mix together apples and sugar. Set aside. In mixing bowl, put flour, soda, salt and cinnamon. Mix well together. Add apples, oil, egg, vanilla, coconut and nuts. Mix all together and put in greased 9x13 in. pan. Bake at 325° for 25-30 minutes.

Send your recipe, along with your name and account number, to: Recipes, c/o New-Mac Electric, P.O. Box 310, Neosho, MO 64850; or [recipes@newmac.com](mailto:recipes@newmac.com). If your recipe is selected, New-Mac will apply a \$15 credit to your bill.

# ○ Annual meeting

Continued from page 1

didn't pick up their checks at the meeting will receive them in the mail. In total during the sixteen consecutive years, New-Mac has refunded capital credits and made rate adjustments to members totaling over \$18,000,000.

McCumber also said wholesale power costs will continue to rise in the coming years, although it is too early yet to tell whether that will force a general rate increase to members in 2014. He said the co-op will provide members more details about next year's rates in the January co-op newsletter.

A series of wholesale price increases forced New-Mac to raise rates earlier in 2013, only the third general rate increase from the co-op in the past 22 years.

McCumber also told members that the past year was challenging financially for the co-op, primarily because of lower electric sales due to mild weather. Nonetheless, in its annual report, New-Mac Electric showed

revenues of over \$35 million for the year with total assets growing to nearly \$100 million.

In the past year, New-Mac's wholesale power suppliers – Associated Electric in Springfield and KAMO Power in Vinita – began receiving additional wind power from a fifth wind power farm, located in central Kansas. In one particular month, just over 11% of the electricity used by Associated Electric members came from wind power.

McCumber went on to say that even though Associated has spent about \$1.1 billion to meet Environmental Protection Agency regulations and has achieved a 90% reduction in power plant emissions, the EPA continues to push for more restrictions nationwide.

"The backbone of our power supply network is clean coal," McCumber said, "so we are continuing to closely monitor any potential federal environmental restrictions to make sure we can continue to provide you with reliable electricity at the lowest possible

cost."

McCumber also announced that in just the first year of operation, over 3,000 New-Mac members have signed up to use SmartHub, a free tool members can use to go online and access their accounts, pay bills and track electric usage. Members can log into their accounts using a computer or a mobile application on smartphones and mobile devices.

McCumber reported that the co-op suffered

no major damage from severe weather during the past year, and was honored to be able to make a donation to the relief fund to benefit tornado victims in Oklahoma last spring.

The co-op has made steady progress on projects to improve the electric grid, such as line construction and re-conductoring, substation upgrades and pole change-outs. In addition, New-Mac will spend approximately \$1.9 million this year on right-of-way brush clearing in order to improve electric service reliability.

McCumber and members attending the meeting also applauded the dedication and hard work of both co-op employees and members of the board of directors.

New-Mac Electric, headquartered in Neosho, Mo., serves some 17,000 member accounts primarily in Newton, McDonald and Jasper Counties.

## 2013 Annual Meeting

at a glance

Thanks again to everyone who participated in the 2013 Annual Meeting and made it a success!

**Attendance:** approximately 1,700 New-Mac members and family.

**Board Member Election Results:**

District 2 ..... Kenneth Daniels  
 District 7 ..... Maurice Mailes  
 District 8 ..... Virgil Winchester

**Newly Chosen 2014 Nominating Committee:**

District 1 ..... Roger Haan  
 Alternate ..... Clark Petty  
 District 3 ..... Lester Shuey  
 Alternate ..... Ronnie Gunlock  
 District 6 ..... Jimmie Morgan  
 Alternate ..... Warren Mahan  
 Newton Co. at large ..... Larry Dahnke  
 Newton Co. at large ..... Wayne Englehart  
 Alternate ..... Larry Gindling  
 McDonald Co. at large ..... Dwayne Miller



**New-Mac Electric Cooperative**  
Your Touchstone Energy® Partner  
The power of human connections

P.O. Box 310 — 12105 East Highway 86  
 Neosho, Missouri 64850  
**Telephone:** 417/451-1515 800/322-3849  
**Fax:** 417/451-9042  
**Office Hours:** Neosho — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
 Anderson — 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Or visit us on the Web at  
[www.newmac.com](http://www.newmac.com).

### Management

CEO/General Manager ..... Mitch McCumber  
 Manager of Administration ..... Mary Hatfield  
 Manager of Operations ..... Stan Irsik  
 Controller ..... Lisa McMeen  
 Manager of Marketing ..... Mark K. Rakes  
 Billing Supervisor ..... Vickie Stuart

### Board of Directors

District 1 ..... Martin Youngblood  
 District 2 ..... Kenneth Daniels  
 District 3 ..... Bobby Fields  
 District 4 ..... Beryl Kennedy  
 District 5 ..... Billy P. White  
 District 6 ..... Paul Sprenkle  
 District 7 ..... Maurice Mailes  
 District 8 ..... Virgil Winchester  
 District 9 ..... Dewey Allgood

### Services Provided to Members

Call our consumer services department for information on the following services:

- Autowithdrawal Payment**
- Levelized Billing**
- Rental Light**

Meeting rooms available at both locations  
**Credit Card Acceptance**  
**Safety Programs (upon request)**  
**Surge Protection**  
**Green Power**

### Questions? Comments?

Contact: Mark K. Rakes  
 P.O. Box 310, Neosho, MO  
[mrakes@newmac.com](mailto:mrakes@newmac.com)



Above, the bluegrass music of Brightwater Junction brought New-Mac members to dancing at the co-op's annual meeting. At left, CEO/General Manager Mitch McCumber addresses the membership.