



The official  
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Indian Electric  
Cooperative



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Increase in May

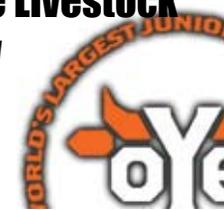
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# Rates Increase in May

*Average Consumer's Bill to Increase Less than \$8*

Following an increase in wholesale power rates from KAMO Electric Co-op, IEC rates will increase in May. The increase will appear on members' May electric bills.

"Actually, the increase in KAMO's rates to IEC takes effect April 1. But our board of trustees has voted to absorb that month's increase, so IEC's rate increase will go into effect May 1. Members will see the increase reflected on the bills they receive in May," explains IEC General Manager Jack Clinkscale.

He goes on to explain Associated Electric Cooperative (AECI), who produces and supplies electricity to co-ops in several states including Oklahoma, is having to pay more to generate and deliver electricity. That is part of the basis for AECI's rate increase to systems such as KAMO, who is IEC's wholesale power supplier. KAMO is then increasing IEC's power rates by approximately 8 percent beginning with the April usage.

"In light of the increased costs at the generating level, IEC has had to look closely at its current rate structure to make certain each rate class is covering the costs associated with it.

"We recently completed a cost of service study which told us how effectively each rate class is recouping the expenses associated with it," he says. "Based on that information, we were able to determine the increase in wholesale power rates will require us to increase our rates."

**Clinkscale says for the average consumer who uses about 1,300 kiloWatts a**

**month, the increase will be less than \$8.**

"Currently, the average member who uses 1,300 kWh each month, pays about \$99. After May 1, that same member's bill will increase to about \$107."

Clinkscale says the cost of producing electricity across the country is increasing.

"AECI uses coal and natural gas to generate electricity and those fuels are getting more expensive. Add to that unfair pricing practices by transportation agents such as railroads, and the cost of shipping coal can become more expensive than the coal itself," Clinkscale says. "Other factors such as rising demand, an aging electric grid and government regulations add to the cost of generating and transporting electricity.

"To help meet the increasing demand for power, AECI is building a modern, environmentally-sound, coal-fired power plant in Missouri," says Clinkscale. "And it has also purchased a natural gas-fired plant in northern Arkansas which will be online in 2007."

He adds AECI, KAMO and IEC are investing in new technologies to improve efficiency and reliability. Also, co-ops are using alternative energy options whenever they are cost effective. "AECI recently entered into an agreement to purchase the output of a 150-megaWatt wind farm," he says.

Clinkscale encourages anyone with questions about their bill or the rate increase to call the co-op at (918) 358-2514.

# Straight

# Talk about Electricity

## Why is the cost of electricity rising?

**Higher fuel costs** – Fuel used to generate electricity (natural gas, coal, oil) is getting more expensive. Unfair pricing practices by railroads can make the cost of shipping coal more expensive than the coal itself.

**Rising Demand** – Economic growth in the U.S. and overseas (e. g., China) has increased the demand for energy.

**Aging Grid** – Some area transmission grids are outdated, limiting capacity and reducing the supply of electricity even more.

**Regulations** – Government regulations often require costly changes for compliance.

## What are co-ops doing about it?

**Increasing Supply** – Cooperatives are working together to increase electric supply by building modern, environmentally sound power plants.

**Improving Efficiency** – Cooperatives are investing in new technology to improve efficiency and reliability.

**Using New Resources** – Cooperatives are using alternative energy options whenever they are cost-effective.

## What can you do about it?

**Efficiency** – All of us can do more to use electricity more efficiently. Ask us about home energy audits, read *The Lamp* and visit our Web site at [www.iecok.com](http://www.iecok.com) for energy-wise tips and programs.

THE  
LAMP

INDIAN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

### Office Hours

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### To Report an Outage

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# Woodland Students Win Youth Tour

*Pawnee, Drumright Students are Runners-Up, Hominy Students Head for Energy Camp*

Woodland High School students Alexis Cox and Amy Mashburn will spend an all-expense paid week in the nation's capitol this summer as winners of IEC's annual Youth Tour competition.

Cox is the daughter of Carole Cox and Mike Nicholson, and Mashburn is the daughter of Mike and Jolu Mashburn. Both are students of Stacy Womack.

Runners-up are Michelle Wilson, Drumright, and Valerie Low, Pawnee. Wilson is the daughter of Bill and Krista Wilson, and a student of Carla Surrell. Low is the daughter of Darrell and Michelle Low and a student of Myra McCurry.

The finalists were selected after writing an essay on "Indian Electric Cooperative – The Co-op Connection." They then gave oral presentations of their essays at a banquet in their honor in Cleveland March 9. A panel of three judges selected which two won the Washington trip.

Also recognized at the banquet were YouthPower Energy Camp winners Kobey Trower and Nathaniel Cotton. They are both 8th graders at Hominy Middle School.

Kobey's parents are Bill and Darlene Lowrance and Nathaniel's parents are Bryan and Regina Cotton.

YouthPower Energy Camp is designed for 8th grade students, and allows them to learn leadership skills by forming their own 'Coke and Candy' cooperative, electing trustees and hiring a manager. Trower and Cotton will join 8th graders from electric co-ops across Oklahoma at Camp Canyon near Hinton on May 30. The camp lasts through June 2.

"These are an exceptional group of young people and we're delighted to have them represent IEC," says IEC Youth Tour Coordinator Clara Eulert.



Youth Tour finalists and guest include (front row, left to right) Alexis Cox and Amy Mashburn of Woodland. (Back row, left to right) IEC Trustee Loris Peckenpough, finalist Valerie Low, Pawnee, finalist Michelle Wilson, Drumright, Drumright teacher Carla Surrell, IEC Trustee Rock Reese, Woodland teacher Stacy Womack, and IEC Trustee Wanda Foster.



Representing IEC at YouthPower Energy Camp will be Kobey Trower and Nathaniel Cotton (second and third from left). Congratulating the Hominy 8th graders are (left to right) Pat Drummond, Hominy Middle School counselor, Debbie Enos, school librarian, and Rock Reese, IEC trustee.

# RECIPE



## Marinated Fruit

1 20-oz. can unsweetened pineapple chunks, undrained  
1 pear, cut into chunks  
1 apple, cut into chunks  
1 nectarine, cut into chunks

2 Tbsp. orange juice concentrate, undiluted  
1 Tbsp. honey  
1 tsp. chopped fresh mint

Drain pineapple; reserve juice and set aside. Combine pineapple, pear, apple, and nectarine in a medium bowl; set aside.

Combine reserved pineapple juice, orange juice concentrate, honey, and mint; pour over fruit and toss gently. Cover and chill, stirring occasionally.

YIELD: 8 servings.

NOTE: Substitute frozen peach slices for nectarines if they are unavailable.

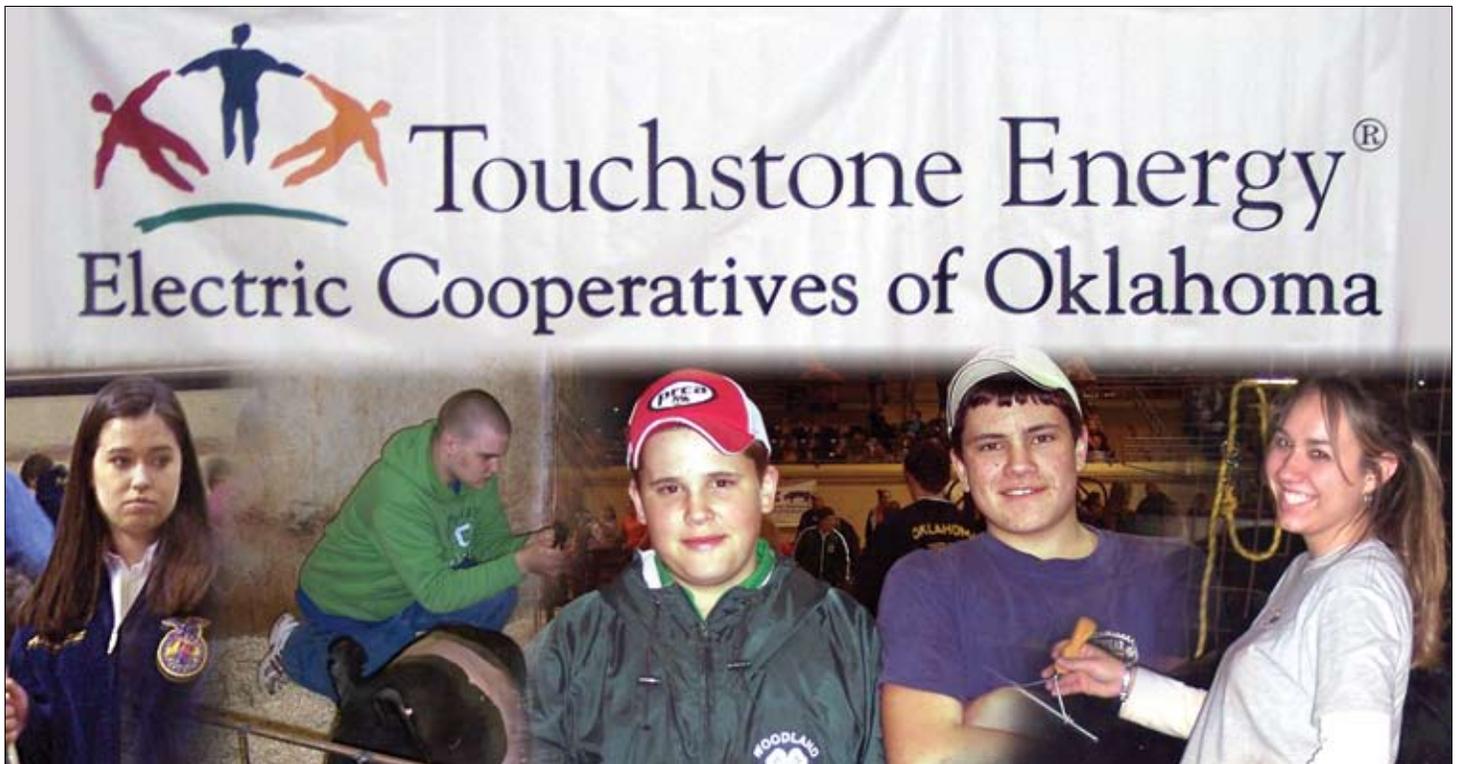
## Right-of-Way Clearing Increases as Spring Arrives

IEC brush-cutting crews are taking advantage of longer days and Spring-like weather as they step-up right-of-way clearing efforts.

The crews are working in the Crestview residential area in Cleveland and the West Basin area near Mannford. IEC Right-of-Way Coordinator Roger McAllister says the crews are expected to be there through the middle of May.

He says all trees in the right-of-way are being cleared with the exception of cedar, pine and ornamental trees. Trees growing outside of the right-of-way, but having limbs and branches that extend into it are also be trimmed.

## Touchstone Energy® Co-ops Support Oklahoma Youth Expo *the World's Largest Jr. Livestock Show*



As a member of the alliance of Touchstone Energy® co-ops, IEC was a sponsor at the Oklahoma Youth Expo in Oklahoma City in March. Young people in 4-H and FFA organizations throughout the state showed their livestock projects, gave speeches, and participated in competitive livestock judging events, at the event which is recognized as the world's largest junior livestock show. IEC's service area was well represented by (left to right) Amanda Brower and Jesse Lay, Cleveland; Cody and Bradley Bledsoe, Woodland; and Megan Bryant, Pawnee.