

Sign up for BECi's Budget Billing Program Eliminate seasonal variations on your monthly electric bill

This program is designed to bill an amount approximately equal to the monthly average to avoid the seasonal variations on electric bills. It does not reduce the total annual billing, but will avoid the monthly variations and help Members budget the electric bill in their monthly resources. Enrollment is available at the Member's option and all provisions within the governing rate will apply. See Rates at www.beci.org.

Members can opt into the program provided the following conditions are met:

Conditions

- The current bill must be paid and have a zero balance on the account.
- Member will be removed from the program after written notification from the Cooperative if the Member does not make payment in a timely manner.
- Should the Member terminate service, elect to be removed, or be removed for cause, any account balance will be due and payable on the next due date for the specific Member following date of termination. If the account has a credit, either a check may be issued or a credit (less than \$10) will be carried forward to the next billing.

When the Member signs up, the program will continue for the next eleven months. On the twelfth month, the Member will receive a notice of any account balance or credit that has occurred. The program will be automatically extended for an additional year, unless the Cooperative receives notification from the Member. (Acct. No. 10778-001)

BECi offers Text Power, for easy outage reporting



Text Power allows you to:

- Register up to 25 accounts on the same mobile number
- Text an outage
- Text to check the status of an outage

For more information, visit www.beci.org.

Download our Mobile App to manage your electric bill. Visit the App Store and search for BECi.



BECi News



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Fun ways to switch on youth to energy efficiency

Getting children excited about energy efficiency may seem hard—for some parents, it's enough of a challenge to get them to do chores. But a website has been designed with young energy savers in mind.

Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives, the brand "ID" of the nation's not-for-profit, consumer-owned electric cooperatives, offers Kids Energy Zone (www.kidsenergyzone.com) featuring a spunky energy efficiency mascot, CFL Charlie. The site is designed to teach children in kindergarten through fifth grade how to be Super Energy Savers in their homes.

The Kids Zone also includes interactive games, videos, activity sheets, and surprises.

"The website is all about engagement," explains Ruben Musca, senior manager of advertising and marketing for Touchstone Energy. "This is a way for parents to interact with children so the family can focus on energy efficiency together, and help everyone develop energy efficient habits that will last a lifetime. Through fun activities, students and their parents learn about energy, electrical safety, and energy savings."

For example, Lights Out!—an energy-saving game in the Kids Zone—challenges kids to speed through a virtual house, replacing traditional incandescent lightbulbs with energy efficient compact fluorescent lightbulbs

(CFLs) and turning off lights and appliances as fast as possible. The less energy a player uses by the time everything's off, the better the score.

"Playing the Lights Out! game and taking kids through a house with an energy efficiency checklist, which parents can find in the Kids Zone, are great ways to work together to get good habits started," Musca recommends.

Teachers searching for ways to help students focus on energy efficiency have several resources available. Some Touchstone Energy co-ops provide schools with CFL Charlie Super Energy Saver kits.

"Each kit accommodates a class of 30 students and includes a checklist that children can use to help guide their parents on an 'energy efficiency expedition'," Musca explains. "In the exercise, kids walk through the house with their mom, dad or guardian to make sure the refrigerator door is closed, and they discuss switching out incandescent bulbs with CFLs, turning off all lights after leaving a room, and shutting off computers when not in use." (Acct. No. 73080-001)

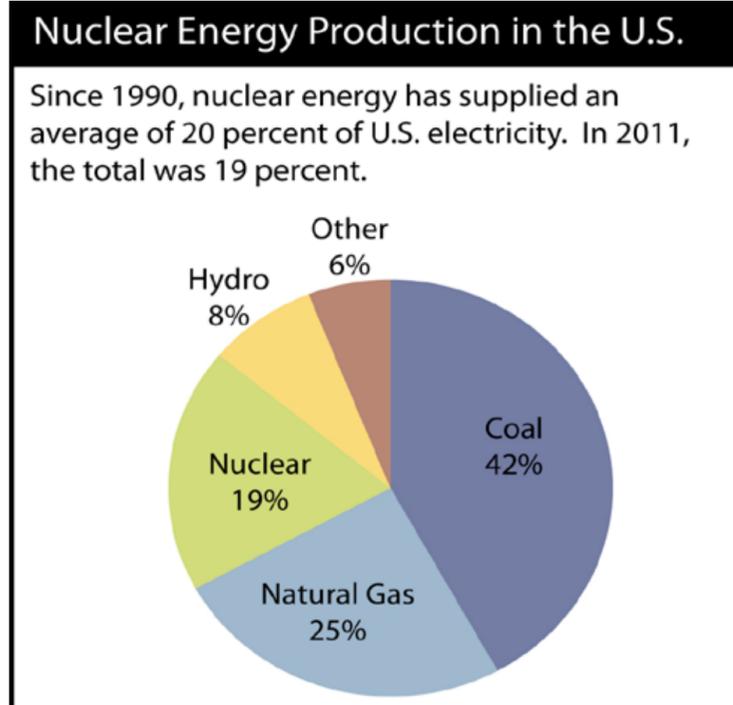
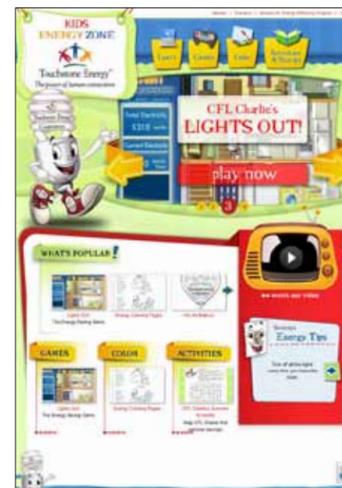
Finished checklists signed by children and parents are submitted to teachers for a certificate declaring the student "an official Touchstone Energy Cooperatives Super Energy Saver." Certificates carry the image and signa-

ture of CFL Charlie.

"The kits also contain classroom activities such as connect-the-dots and word search games," Musca adds. "Handing out these materials provides a great way to influence household energy efficiency."

The latest addition to the kit is an educational coloring book.

Plug into these resources and more at www.kidsenergyzone.com.



BECi announces top 10 Youth Tour essay winners

More than 125 students competed in the recent essay contest sponsored by Beauregard Electric Cooperative, Inc., with the top four students winning an all expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. Here are the top 10 winners: (Acct. No. 92851-001)

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Sabra Hanna | DeRidder High School |
| 2. Ryne Robinson | DeRidder High School |
| 3. Brooke Shirley | DeRidder High School |
| 4. Jessica Adams | DeRidder High School |
| 5. Hunter Woolever | DeRidder High School |
| 6. Kathern Robinson | DeRidder High School |
| 7. Elizabeth Alleva | DeRidder High School |
| 8. Courtney Anderson | DeRidder High School |
| 9. Jessica Clay | DeRidder High School |
| 10. Lexie Hamilton | Kinder High School |

Look for more Youth Tour coverage in upcoming issues of Louisiana Country.



Official Notice of Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of Members of Beauregard Electric Cooperative, Inc. (BECi), will be held on Saturday, March 23, 2013 at 10 a.m. at the BECi office in DeRidder, Louisiana. (Acct. No. 111946-001)

Election of directors will be conducted by mail in accordance with the bylaws, which provide for rules to be established by a credentials and election committee of BECi members. Conduct of business at the meeting will be set forth in the bylaws.

Annual Meeting Agenda

- Reading of the notice of the meeting and proof of due publication of mailing thereof, or the waiver or waivers of notice of the meeting, as the case may be.
- Reading of unapproved minutes of previous meetings of the members and taking of necessary action thereon.
- Presentation and consideration of reports of officers, directors and committees.
- Report of the elections committee on the balloting for the election of directors.
- Unfinished business.
- New business.
- Adjournment.

DOOR PRIZES—A Special Drawing for three door prizes will be held at this year's annual meeting. Those at least 18 years of age in attendance and registering will be eligible.

- TWO (2) FLAT SCREEN TELEVISIONS
- APPLE IPAD

Powering UP

When electricity goes out, most of us expect power will be restored within a few hours. But when a major storm causes widespread damage, longer outages may result. Co-op line crews work long, hard hours to restore service safely to the greatest number of consumers in the shortest time possible.

Here's what's going on if you find yourself in the dark.

- 1 High-Voltage Transmission Lines**
Transmission towers and cables that supply power to transmission substations (and thousands of members) rarely fail. But when damaged, these facilities must be repaired before other parts of the system can operate.
- 2 Distribution Substation**
Each substation serves hundreds or thousands of consumers. When a major outage occurs, line crews inspect substations to determine if problems stem from transmission lines feeding into the substation, the substation itself, or if problems exist down the line.
- 3 Main Distribution Lines**
If the problem cannot be isolated at a distribution substation, distribution lines are checked. These lines carry power to large groups of consumers in communities or housing developments.
- 4 Tap Lines**
If local outages persist, supply lines, called tap lines, are inspected. These lines deliver power to transformers, either mounted on poles or placed on pads for underground service, outside businesses, schools, and homes.
- 5 Individual Homes**
If your home remains without power, the service line between a transformer and your residence may need to be repaired. Always call to report an outage to help line crews isolate local issues.

You could win \$50!!

Beauregard Electric is offering its members an opportunity to win the Co-op's Lucky Account Number Contest by publishing four account numbers somewhere on pages 6-7 of Louisiana Country.

Look for your account number hidden somewhere on these pages. To win, you must locate your account number (listed on your electric bill) on these pages and then contact the Co-op. To claim your prize, call 800-367-0275 or 463-6221 by April 15.

Your Cooperative Connection

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You could win this cooperative quilt
Call or visit BECI to find out how

