

Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative, Inc.



Latest administration proposal could prove costly to co-op members



*Glenn W. Miller
President/CEO*

ONE CONSISTENT TRAIT of Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative over our 78 years of operation has been a commitment to doing what is in the best interest of our members. And that starts with providing a reliable flow of electricity as safely and cost-effectively as possible.

In the previous decade, Ohio's electric cooperatives went through a major construction phase to bring our coal-fired power plants into compliance with all current federal clean air regulations. The work we've been able to accomplish at the Cardinal Station, which provides most of the power for Ohio's cooperative members, has turned it into one of the cleanest coal-burning facilities of its type in the world.

That hasn't come without a price. More than \$1 billion was spent to accomplish this task and the average co-op member in Ohio has seen their bill go up about \$20 per month to pay for this.

In late June, President Obama ordered the Environmental Protection Agency to restate its regulation aimed at carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from new coal-fired generation sources by Sept. 30 of this year. He also called for standards for existing sources be proposed by June 1, 2014, with the final rule to be issued June 1, 2015. Individual states would need to have their CO₂ reduction plans in place by June 30, 2016.

Part of what we anticipate coming from the EPA will be severe restrictions on the amount of carbon dioxide that can be emitted from existing coal-fired power plants, like the Cardinal Station. The challenge facing those who operate coal-fired power plants is that the technology needed to reduce carbon dioxide emissions doesn't exist on a scale to accomplish what we believe is going to be required.

At a time when the American economy is still in recovery mode from the great recession, to place unrealistic regulations on the production of electricity will do nothing except drive up the price of energy and limit growth, hurting those who can least afford it.

We here at Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative will do all we can to make sure any new regulations coming from Washington, D.C., take into consideration the financial burden being placed on working Americans.

You can help as well by staying informed and being willing to contact your elected representatives to let them know how you feel about the potential impact these rules could have on co-op members.

Another way to help is by joining ACRE Co-op Owners for Political Action®, the political action committee for electric cooperative members. For as little as \$2.08 per month, your participation in Co-op Owners helps elect folks to Congress who support electric cooperatives, regardless of their party affiliation.

You received a Co-op Owners enrollment form in your August HWEC bill, however, if you would like more information about the potential harm these proposed regulations could have or would like to learn more about Co-op Owners, please contact us toll-free at 866-674-1055 or visit our website, www.hwecoop.com. ☎

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative
The power of human connections®



Electrical safety around grain elevators

Working around grain bins creates hazards that are often overlooked by even the most seasoned farm hands. Always keep these safety tips in mind:

Suffocation/engulfment

Entrapment can happen in a second when dealing with grain, which often is compared to quick sand. This is leading cause of death in storage bins.

- * Do not enter grain bins during active loading and unloading times.
- * Never work alone.
- * Make sure to wear proper safety equipment.

Fires/explosions

When grain dust accumulates, it can sometimes create the right conditions to spark a fire. These fires are difficult to stop and usually end with a large explosion.

- * Be sure your ventilation system is working properly.
- * Clean regularly to keep grain dust accumulations to a minimum.
- * Do not smoke or ignite any other open flames while in the grain bin.

Toxic atmospheres

Mold, fungi and chemical fumes from decayed grains can create a deadly atmosphere.

- * Store fully dried grain at the proper moisture.
- * Wear a mask or filter respirator to limit the amount of direct contact to the fumes.
- * Try to keep animal and insect infestations to a minimum.



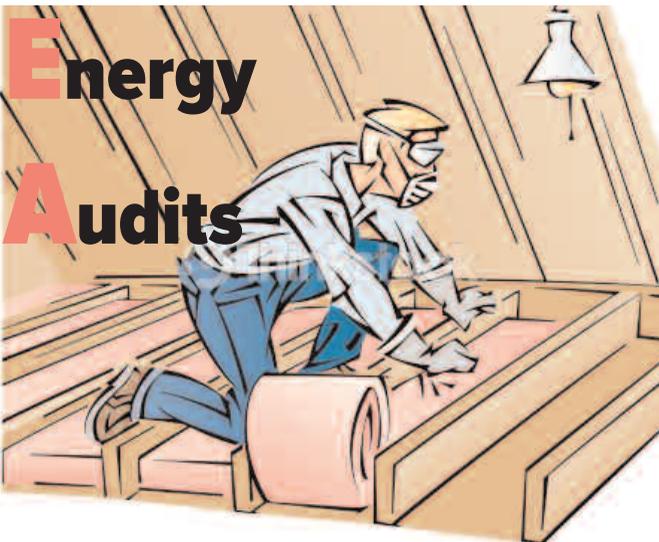
Machine malfunctions

Machines also pose deadly risks, including amputation, entanglement and electrocution.

- * Do not operate these machines while inside the bins.
- * Ensure that all equipment is properly guarded.
- * **Be on the lookout for overhead power lines.**
- * Check for frayed cables.
- * Always wear safety belts or some form of protection.

Sources: U.S. Occupational Safety & Health Administration; Grain Handling; University of Nebraska-Lincoln Environmental Health & Safety; Grain Bin Safety; National AG Safety Database; Grain Storage Safety

Plan for winter and avoid high energy bills



As we begin the fall season we start to think about colder days. Fall is a great time to start planning for the cold winter months. Help manage your energy bill by requesting a home energy audit.

As your furnace works more, you consume more energy. But did you know that by making a few simple changes in your house or business you can make significant changes in your bill.

Fall is a great time to schedule an Energy Audit. Call us toll-free at 866-674-1055 to schedule an energy audit. HWEC Energy Advisor Kenny DePriest is dedicated to helping members control their energy costs. Energy audit includes an on-site visit with the use of an infrared camera and blower door test to identify your key issues.

Let HWEC save you money



As your local electric cooperative, we are working hard for you, the member-owner. It is a constant mission of our organization to provide the best member services possible.

Below are services we provide to assist with managing your electric bill in a easy and user friendly fashion while trying to save you time and your hard earned dollar.

- * Budget Billing — avoid extreme peaks in your monthly electric bill by utilizing budget billing
- * Save a stamp — several user friendly options to pay your bill without paying for postage
 - pay on-line at www.hwecoop.com
 - pay via phone 866-684-1055 (toll-free)
- * Save time — sign-up for automatic payment via your checking account, or debit or credit card
- * Reduce your electric bill — utilize our home energy audit or visit our energy advise section of our website at www.hwecoop.com
- * Consistent meter reading — submit timely meter readings on-line (www.hwecoop.com) or via phone (866-674-1055) every 30 days to avoid extended consumption time periods creating large electric bills

Holmes-Wayne Electric Announcements



Office Closed Labor Day

Reminder that the Holmes-Wayne Electric office will be closed Monday, Sept. 2, for Labor Day. As always, our after hours call center is available to report outages, make a payment or submit a meter reading. (toll-free 866-674-1055)

Storm preparation and communication

Visit our website any time to receive valuable storm and outage information. As the weather service communicates potential storms that will create power outages, take a few moments to view the “Electric Outage Planning” portion of our website. There are great tools explaining what you can do ahead of time to prepare for a power outage, what Holmes-Wayne staff does to prepare for storms, generator safety, the process to restore power and the steps of communication. You also can view our outage map to see the number of outages per township or by ZIP code. Additionally, during major storms, important postings are placed on the home page. Key information like power restoration estimates, shelter options, transmission supplier updates and more are posted conveniently for our members.

Thank You

A special thank you to the following businesses for their generous donations to the 2013 Holmes-Wayne Electric Relay for Life. 2013 HWEC raised \$7,780!

American Cancer Society Relay for Life is dedicated to eliminating cancer through research, education, advocacy and service. Part of these funds remain within the county to provide services to cancer survivors.

*Autoworks Collision Center, Inc.
Baker's Mobile Home Transport LLC
Barnharts Auto Body
Bromund & Byler, Inc.
Canaan Country Meats
Frosty Twins
Holmes Oil Distributing
Mac Oil Field Service, Inc.
Stinky's Septic Tank
Tate Farms
Tope Printing, Inc.
The Flip Side
WKLM Radio
The Voice of Holmes County*

Electric Safety in our Schools

Holmes-Wayne Electric provides an educational opportunity for area schools, community organizations and emergency personnel throughout our service territory. Our table-top safety demo allows for participants to observe in a visual manner the dangers of electricity. This is a service that is provided free to the community. If you would like to schedule a demonstration for students or your organization, contact Robyn Tate toll-free at 866-674-1055 or e-mail at rtate@hwecoop.com.

