



We need an all-of-the-above energy strategy



Glenn W. Miller
President/CEO

RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES nationwide are disappointed — but not surprised — that recently the Obama 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 U.S. 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.

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 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. I don't think we should gamble with the economic well-being of future generations and our nation's economy.

Already worried about making ends meet, Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative 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 Administration reports that the United States has 236 years remaining of recoverable coal reserves. Coal generates 37 percent of the nation's electricity. For rural electric cooperatives nationally, coal is the resource for 70 percent of electricity generation, and for Ohio cooperatives it's 90 percent. As you can see, coal is our biggest energy source by far.

Seems the administration lets history repeat 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. 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. Raise your voice through the Cooperative Action Network at www.action.coop. Tell the EPA we need an all-of-the-above energy strategy.

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Holmes-Wayne Electric Scholarship Winners



Alexis Eliot
West Holmes
High School



Bradley Troyer
Hiland
High School



Kelly Lyons
Triway
High School



Samuel Boyd
West Holmes
High School



Elizabeth Robinson
Norwayne
High School



Simon Livingston
Northwestern
High School

Alexis Eliot of West Holmes High School and **Bradley Troyer** of Hiland High School are the first-place winners of \$2,500 scholarships in the girls' and boys' divisions of the 2014 Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative scholarship competition.

Eliot and Troyer were part of a group of 47 students representing 10 area high schools who competed for a total of \$12,000 in scholarships. Eliot is the daughter of Scott and Jean Eliot of Lakeville. She plans to attend Virginia Polytechnic Institute this fall, majoring in engineering. Troyer is the son of Delon and Liz Troyer of Sugarcreek. He will attend Ohio Northern University, University of Findlay or University of Toledo, majoring in pharmacy.

As winners of their respective divisions, Eliot and Troyer qualify to compete on April 9 for additional scholarships at a competition sponsored by Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives, Inc., the statewide support association for electric cooperatives. There, they will compete with students representing 24 co-ops from across the state, for scholarships up to \$3,200.

Other winners were:

Kelly Lyons, second place (\$2,000). Lyons is the daughter of the late Alan Lyons and Christine Lyons of Shreve. A senior at Triway High School, she will major in biomedical engineering at The Ohio State University.

Samuel Boyd, second place (\$2,000). Boyd is the son of Doug and Roseann Boyd of Killbuck. He is a senior at West Holmes High School and will major in engineering at Ohio Northern University or Ohio University.

Elizabeth Robinson, third place (\$1,500). She is the daughter of Brad and Becky Robinson of Creston. Robinson will study pre-medicine at The Ohio State University, the University of Cincinnati, the University of Pittsburgh or Case Western Reserve University.

Simon Livingston, third place (\$1,500). He is the son of David and Stephanie Livingston of Burbank. A senior at Northwestern High School, Livingston will major in aerospace engineering at the University of Cincinnati.

A special thanks to our dedicated judges: Lucille Hastings, Melinda Eliot and Neel Summers.

Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative Scholarship Contest is offered annually to children of co-op members who are graduating high school seniors and reside in a home served by Holmes-Wayne Electric.

Please take a few minutes to complete our survey

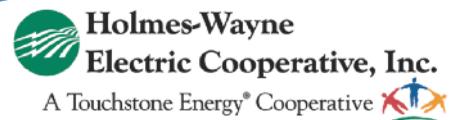


Your thoughts and opinions about the cooperative help us to better serve you. In April and May, the cooperative will be working with NRECA Market Research Services to complete a member satisfaction survey. The surveys will be both by phone and e-mail, but not everyone will be contacted. If you are contacted, we would greatly appreciate a few minutes of your time to share your opinions of the cooperative.

We strive to provide all members with safe, affordable and reliable electric service. By participating in the survey, you will help us make decisions that benefit you, your family and your neighbors.

Thank you!

All information is confidential.



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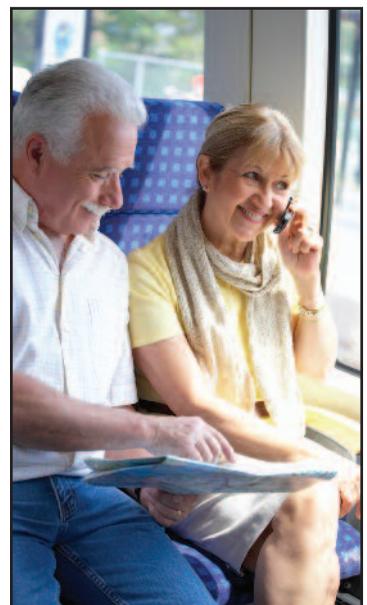
HOLMES-WAYNE ELECTRIC is always looking for ways to better serve you, the member. Did you know that you have the option to pay by phone through an automated attendant?

This new service will allow members to call in 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to pay your bill and report your meter reading. There are NO ADDITIONAL FEES, and payments can be made using a checking account, debit card or credit card (VISA or MasterCard). You also can call in to verify your account balance.

As always, we continue to offer 24-hour customer service if you wish to speak to someone directly.

Other hassle-free payment options are to pay online at www.hwecoop.com or by automatic bank draft. These options offer the same payment methods via checking account, debit card or credit card with no additional fees. If you are interested in the automatic bank draft, please complete the form found at www.hwecoop.com > **Automatic Bill Payment**, located on the right side of the home page, or contact us at 866-674-1055 for an enrollment form.

Whether you choose to pay your electric bill through a conversation or one of our many electronic transaction tools, our goal is to provide you with a convenient and valuable member service experience.



Medical Alert



Medical Awareness Certification

Is someone living in your home with a medical condition that requires electrical assistance? If so, you must notify Holmes-Wayne Electric by completing the form below to be added or remain on our Medical Awareness list.

The HWEC Medical Awareness list is used to notify you of any planned outages for maintenance and repair as well as uncontrollable outages such as weather conditions or car accidents. During these “standard” outages, the member on the list is given first consideration when his or her specific line is being restored.

Holmes-Wayne makes every effort to keep power flowing to every member’s home at all times. Because of factors beyond our control, it is always our recommendation that you create a backup plan in case of a power outage. This may be as simple as having a small generator available or the ability to relocate if such situation would occur.

Medical Awareness Certification form must be completed on an annual basis.

Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative, Inc. - Medical Awareness Certification

If you or someone in your home is dependent on medical equipment operated by electricity, please provide the following information.

Name _____ Account Number _____

Address _____ Phone Number _____

_____ Cell Phone _____

We request the attending physician please complete and certify the following information:

Equipment in use _____

Physician’s signature _____ Date _____

Return completed form in your next bill or to: Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Attn: Medical Awareness List
P.O. Box 112; Millersburg, Ohio 44654
Fax: 330-674-1869
E-mail: newmember@hwecoop.com

Holmes-Wayne Electric Announcements



Keeping you informed

HWEC works hard to provide reliable service to all of our members.

There are times when the cooperative must create a temporary planned outage. In order to contact members about such occasions, it is important for all cooperative members to maintain an active phone number.

A correct phone number in the HWEC system also allows for quick reference for after-hours outage reporting. If you do not have an active or correct phone number on file with the cooperative, please contact the office toll-free at 866-674-1055 to update your account.