

Receive a free conservation kit by filling out an energy survey

Why not start the new year off by completing a free energy audit and receive a free gift for doing it?

That's right; members can now learn how to save energy and, at the same time, receive a free energy conservation kit.

Now through April 30, 2007, members can receive this kit by completing an *energy right*® Home *e*-Valuation® mail-in audit.

The conservation kit includes two compact fluorescent light bulbs, 10 outlet and 10 light switch gaskets, a filter whistle, low-flow showerhead, hot water temperature gauge, thermometer magnet and a "How to Save" brochure. Once the completed survey is received, the kit will be mailed directly to the member within two weeks.

The *energy right* Home *e*-Valuation program is Pickwick Electric Cooperative's and TVA's way to help members



identify areas in their homes where energy may be wasted. It's the easiest way to find out how energy around the house is being used and get some expert suggestions on how to use that energy more efficiently. And best of all, it's free.

Members can request a mail-in *energy right* Home *e*-Valuation by calling Beverly Lambert at (731) 646-3786, Kevin Roy at (731) 646-3825 or Bobby Barnes at (731) 646-3764. Members can also go online to request the audit to be sent to their home address at www.energyright.com/savingenergy/evaluation.htm or access the audit online and fill it out at www.energydepot.com/energyright/index.asp.

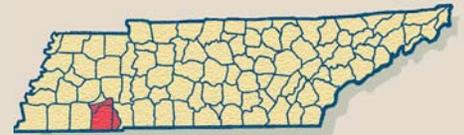
So don't miss this opportunity to

receive a free energy conservation kit and learn how to make your home more energy-efficient and lower your monthly electric bill.



Pickwick Electric Cooperative

Serving members in all of McNairy County and portions of Chester, Hardeman and Hardin counties in Tennessee and Alcorn and Tishomingo counties in Mississippi



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These five pages contain local

news and information

for members of Pickwick Elec-

tric Cooperative.

Happy New Year 2007

Pickwick Electric Cooperative



Forrest Hill Substation energized

There's a new source of power for our members living in the Selmer area. This source of power is provided by the new Forrest Hill Substation that was recently constructed in South Selmer.

Contractors began dirt work in the summer of 2005, and the new 161-kilovolt substation was energized on Oct. 26. It is the first substation built by the cooperative since the North Selmer Substation was completed in 2003.

The new substation replaces two older ones — the Selmer District Substation, also known as the John D. Mitchell, and the Selmer Primary Substation. These two substations have provided service to our members for more than half a century. They were de-energized in December of 2006.

“This new substation completes a decade of system improvements and the elimination of 30 miles of 69,000-volt, wood-pole transmission lines,” said PEC President Karl Dudley. “This has made our electric system more flexible and efficient to better serve our members.”

Some distribution and transmission line work remains to be completed, but it should be finished sometime this spring. The

cooperative will save money both in maintenance and losses, reduce widespread outages, increase reliability, have more breaker bays to better divide the load in the Selmer area and allow PEC's long-range 25-kilovolt conversion plan to be facilitated.



“As more people and businesses move to this area, it creates an increased power demand, and we need to stay ahead of it,” PEC Director of Engineering Keith Johnson says. “In addition, the closer residences and businesses are to the substations, the more reliable the electric service. The shorter distance creates fewer opportunities for disruptions between them and their power source, and it also reduces line losses.” Line losses are

the amount of electricity lost as current travels from one point to another.

The Forrest Hill Substation will receive electricity from TVA's power grid at 161,000 volts, and through the substation's transformers this voltage will be stepped down to 25,000 volts. The electricity is then distributed through a network of breakers, lines and transformers to PEC members' homes and businesses in the area.



PEC employees at the substation control house are, from left, John Bowers, Don Reynolds, George Chapman (of Patterson & Dewar Engineers), Keith Taylor, Jon Hughes, David Sims, Keith Johnson and Clint Cannon (Patterson & Dewar Engineers).



PEC board members Dean Glidewell, Owen Qualls, Shawn Smith, Jimmy Dickey, Ronnie Fullwood, Jamie McAfee, Ray Allison, John Roberts and Harold Finley join PEC President Karl Dudley at the new Forrest Hill Substation.



Bobby Mask to retire with 39 years of service



Bobby Mask

Bobby Mask will end his career at Pickwick Electric Cooperative on Jan. 5, 2007. Bobby says of his retirement, "I can't imagine doing anything that I would have enjoyed more than working at PEC."

While at PEC, Mask's job titles were right-of-way laborer, groundman and right-of-way foreman.

Times have changed since he reported for work in 1967. Mask remembers that right-of-way maintenance was quite a chore. "We didn't have all the modernized equipment we have today," he says. "Back then we had to do it all by hand."

Now, 39 years later, PEC serves 20,000-plus customers. Our system is maintained with the most efficient equipment and a lot of sophisticated technology that helps us to be more reliable and keep the lights on. "Yet, manpower is still required to operate it, thank goodness," says Mask.

As Mask reflects on his career at PEC, he says, "The most trying times for me were the tornado of 1991 and the ice storm

of 1994. It seems we worked endless hours and made very little progress.

"Fortunately, our neighboring cooperatives came to the rescue in our times of need, and power was restored after many long and tiring days. Since that time we have been able to return the favor many times over."

Mask is a graduate of Michie High School. Prior to working at PEC, he was employed by Brown Shoe Company in Selmer. He and his wife, Wanda, live in Selmer and have two children, Todd Mask and Jill Parker. Todd works for the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department's Bomb Squad, and Jill is a speech pathologist. The Masks also have two grandchildren, Lauren and Ava.

"We at PEC appreciate Bobby's many years of dedication," says President Karl Dudley. "He has been a great asset to the cooperative and will certainly be missed."

Mask says, "I will truly miss the people I work with, but it is time to go home."

His retirement plans include doing some hunting and fishing, spending more time with his family, possibly taking a trip out West and, of course, attending the local basketball games and tournaments.



Bobby Mask, center, prepares for line work in the early 1970s.



Bobby Mask, far right, with PEC crew members, from left, Robert Davis, Larry Hall, Wes Harrison and Donny Gibbs, assists Southwest Tennessee Electric Membership Corporation after a tornado swept through its service area.



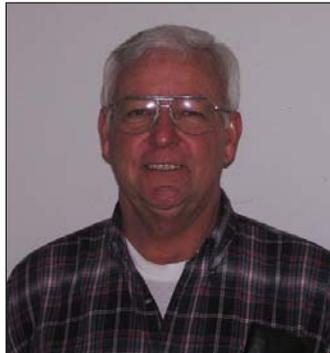
Jackie Weaver announces retirement

As a 43-year employee, Jackie Weaver won't quite know how to drive by the PEC headquarters and not turn in. "It's been such a big part of my life since I was 18 years old," Weaver says.

Weaver, a native of McNairy County, began his long career at PEC in 1963. He was hired as a temporary employee at a rate of \$1.25 per hour. He worked as a right-of-way laborer for about two years and then moved to full-time lineman trainee. He soon advanced to the position of apprentice lineman and within four years moved to the journeyman lineman position. After several years of experience and training, he accepted the position of construction line foreman. In October 1998, he came into the office and assumed the duties of general foreman, the position he will hold until Jan. 26, his retirement date.

As with almost any position held in an electric cooperative, the employees are required to work around the clock during outages to restore power. Weaver has experienced both working outside in the worst of weather and inside with the phones ringing continuously. To him it was all part of the job.

Weaver has seen a lot of history made at PEC. He worked for five different managers and five different operating superintendents. In early 1960, PEC served about 6,000 customers. Today, we serve more than 20,000.



Jackie Weaver
43 years at PEC

Weaver says, "The most dramatic change through the years has been the technology and equipment. With the modern technology we have today, we are able to sit in the office and operate breakers and switches all over the system with the click of a mouse. It has made our jobs much easier, and we can serve our customers more efficiently."

When asked what he most enjoyed while at PEC, Weaver replied, "Witnessing firsthand the appreciation that customers show, especially when you are working on another system." He also enjoyed getting acquainted with

personnel from other cooperatives.

PEC President Karl Dudley says, "Jackie has been a devoted team member and a teacher to many of the younger employees. His work ethic and experience will truly be missed."

Weaver is a graduate of Michie High School and served six years with the National Guard. He and his wife, Barbara, live in Selmer and have four children, Carrie Weaver and Angela Rogers of Memphis, Justin Weaver and wife Kelly of Dyer and Lee Rogers and wife Lisa of Acton. They also have three grandchildren, Catie, Jake and Holden.

As for the future, Weaver says, "I plan to relax down on the farm and enjoy the view from my front porch as the deer and wild turkey roam near the woods. I'm going to take in a few ballgames, do some hunting and maybe take a trip or two."



Jackie Weaver prepares for line construction in 1973.



PEC line crew members, from left, Jackie Weaver, Morris Carothers, Darren Smith and Keith Taylor pull wire after the 1994 ice storm.



Manufactured homes built to *energy right*[®] standards helps avoid energy problems

Each year many Pickwick Electric Cooperative members buy manufactured homes typically because the mortgage payments are less than a site-built home. But when the electric bill comes, especially in the winter, they may find themselves losing the budget war.

Most manufactured homes come with electric resistance heat (electric furnace), which is an expensive way to heat your home. In some cases, during the heating season the electric bill is as much or more than the monthly house payment.

If your manufactured home is hurting your wallet, there are some things you can do to trim your energy use and your electric bills:

- Replace your electric furnace with an energy-efficient heat pump, which will save you 40 percent to 50 percent on your electric bill. Qualified homeowners who want to switch to a heat pump can receive financing through the cooperative and have the monthly payments added to their electric bills.
- If possible, add more insulation. This will cut your electric bills.

- Install storm windows or tape a sheet of clear plastic on the inside of your windows.
- Install storm doors, making sure to keep the doors closed when heating.
- Install drapes or window blinds and close them every night to help keep the heat inside.
- Weatherstrip and caulk around windows and doors. This keeps out drafts and makes it harder for heat to leak out of the home.
- Make sure the manufactured home is underpinned. This keeps the cold air out and will help prevent freezing pipes.
- Wrap your electric water heater with an insulated blanket made especially for this purpose. It will make your electric water heater work more efficiently.
- Check your duct system to ensure there are no air leaks.
- If you are buying a manufactured home for the first time, we suggest that you look for one that is built to the *energy right* specifications. That means the home comes with a high-efficiency heat pump, thermal-pane windows, R-11 to R-19 insulation in the walls, R-22 insulation in the floors and R-30 insulation in the ceiling. In addition, a vapor barrier is placed on the ground under the home.



Pickwick Electric Cooperative offers residential electric water heater incentives

A \$50 incentive will be paid toward the purchase of a new electric water heater when an existing electric water heater is replaced.

A \$200 incentive will be paid when a new electric water heater is installed in an all-electric new home.

A \$50 incentive will be paid when a new electric water heater is installed in a new home with gas heat.

A \$200 incentive will be paid when a gas water heater is replaced with a new electric water heater.

For more details call 646-3825, 646-3786 or 646-3764.



Guidelines

1. Notify PEC that your water heater has been replaced and that you are requesting incentive money.
2. The Member Services Department will set up a date to verify installation.
3. The homeowner, tenant or contractor must provide PEC with a copy of the invoice showing the date, place of purchase and the cost of the electric water heater (new homes excluded).
4. PEC must have a signed document stating whether the incentive is to be paid to the homeowner, tenant, business or contractor.
5. All incentives will be processed after the member services representative has verified that the new electric water heater has been installed.