



Electric Co-op Energy Efficiency Programs

NCSL Legislative Conference
August 7, 2012 in Chicago



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Cooperative Association


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Electric cooperatives are:

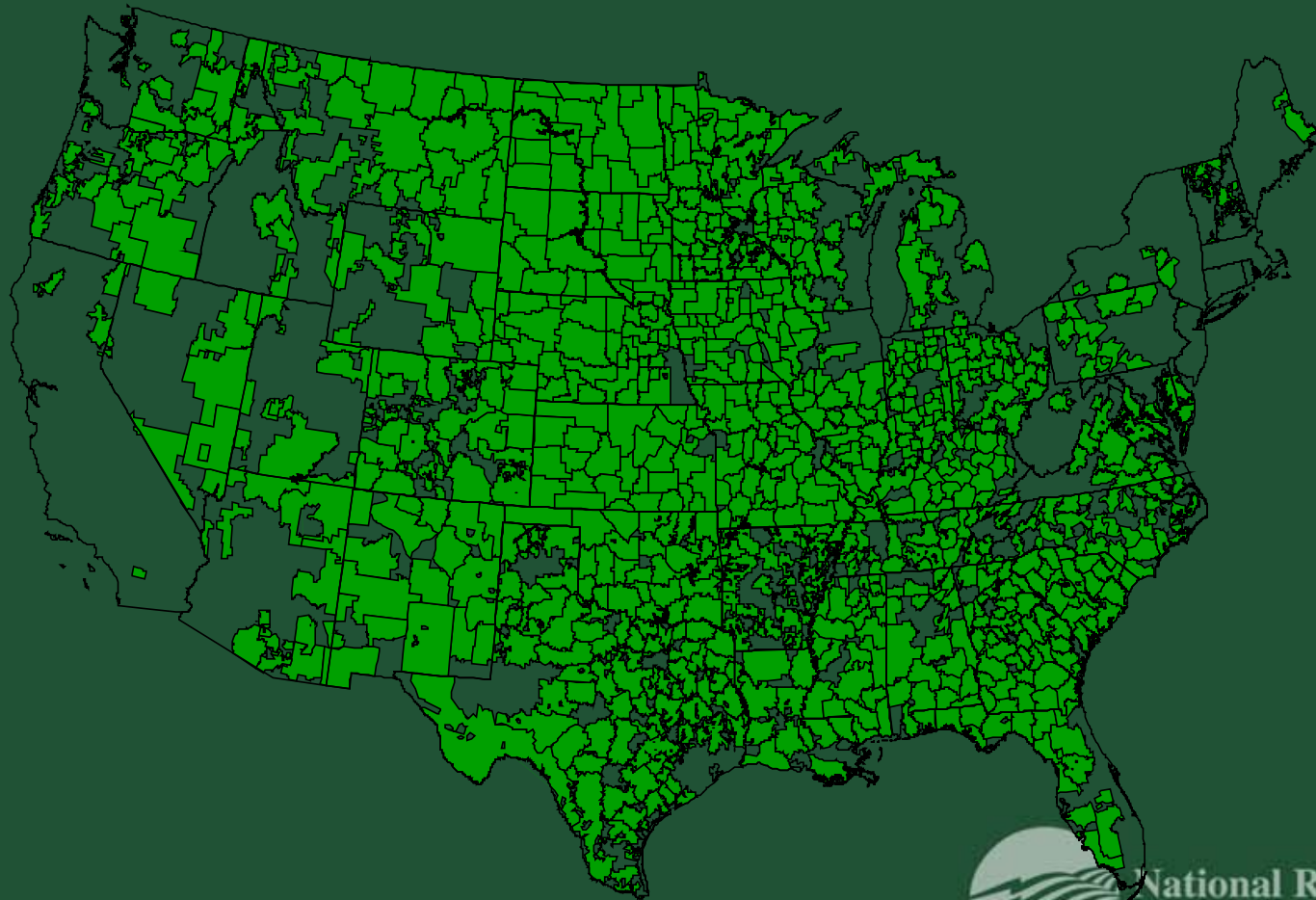
- Private, independent, non-profit electric utilities
- Owned by the customers they serve
- Incorporated under the laws of the states in which they operate
- Established to provide at-cost electric service
- Governed by a board of directors elected from the membership which sets policies and procedures that are implemented by the co-op's management



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Electric Cooperatives



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Electric Cooperatives

- 42 million consumer members
- 47 states
- 840 distribution Co-ops
- 65 generation and transmission Co-ops
- 70,000 employees
- 75% of the US landmass
- 12% of the meters in the US



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Cooperative Diversity

- Largest has over 235,000 consumers
 - 24 have over 100,000 consumer members
- Smallest has just 112 consumers
- Co-ops serve rapidly growing territories
 - 24 have grown over 70 % in 10 years



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Co-ops interest in Efficiency

- New generation is expensive, happens slowly
- Efficiency can postpone generation expenses
- Consumer-members are asking for it
 - Comfort
 - Lower bills
 - Conservation



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Government is gaining interest

- In the 110th Congress - 122 bills
- In the 111th Congress - 138 bills
- In the 112th Congress – Over 150 bills
- Bipartisan interest
 - Energy conservation
 - Jobs
 - Energy security
 - Constituent interest



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Rural Energy Savings Program

- Started discussions in late 2009
- Early co-op adopters in SC, KS, IN, IL
- Rep. Clyburn (D-SC) led the efforts
- S.3102/H.R. 4375
 - Introduced in March 2010
 - Passed in the House, Sept. 2010
 - 56 House sponsors, 6 Senate Sponsors
 - Ran out of time



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RESPA Details

- Loans to co-ops to finance efficiency efforts
 - Coops operate the program
 - Arrange for audits for consumer members
 - Propose improvements to payback in 10 year
 - Hire contractors to install improvements
 - Loan repayment is on the electric bill
 - 10 year loan payback by consumers
 - Co-op pays back RUS over 10 years



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RESPA in 2012 & Beyond

- The bill is included in Farm Bills
 - Senate-Passed Bill
 - Authorizes a robust program
 - House Committee Bill
 - Includes relending authority
- USDA Proposed a \$250 M Rule
 - Comment period is underway



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Co-ops & States Aren't Waiting

- 96% of Electric Co-ops have Energy Efficiency Programs
- One program is Touchstone Energy's TogetherWeSave.com
 - A dozen interactive web applications



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Touchstone Energy



TOGETHERWE SAVE \$ 42,269,439

Home Add Up Your Savings Share Your Story Energy Saving Forum Watch & Learn Energy Saving Applications Links & Resources Contact Us



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WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Take it one step at a time. Choose an energy savings practice to see how the little changes add up.



TIP OF THE DAY

Ensure your outdoor heat pump/air conditioning unit is kept clean and free of debris.



Click here to learn more about the TogetherWeSave.com Tip of the Day Smartphone App.

Prairie Energy, Inc.

- Generation & Transmission Co-op
- Based in Jacksonville, IL
- Ten Distribution Co-op Members
 - Central IL
- Produced the Energy Efficiency Wall



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Prairie Energy, Inc.

Energy Efficiency Wall



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IL HOME Efficiency Results

- 397,622 Therms of NG
- 889,426 Gallons of LP
- 1,628,462 kwh of electricity
- Nearly 7,000 metric tons of CO₂ eliminated



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Wabash Valley Power Assoc.

- Generation & Transmission Co-op
- Based in Indianapolis, IN
 - 26 Distribution Co-op members
 - 4 States – IN, IL, MO, OH
- Started offering EE Programs in 2010
- Invested \$745,000 in 2010
 - Saved over 4900 MWh of Electricity



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Wabash Valley Power Assoc.

- 2011 Residential Rebate Program
 - Energy Star Clothes Washers - \$50
 - Heat Pumps - \$150/Ton
 - Freezer/Refrigerator Cycling
 - TE Home – Pay for the Rater
- 2011 Commercial Program
 - Lighting and HVAC
- Over 5,474 MWh saved



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Wabash Valley Power Assoc.

- 2012 Program
 - PowerMoves.com
 - Heat Pump Rebates - \$150/Unit
 - Heat Pump Water Heaters - \$400 Rebate
 - Expanded to Schools and Agriculture
 - 200 Applications to date
- Over 10,000 MWh saved YTD



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South Carolina Electric Co-ops

- Low Interest Loans for Efficiency Improvements
- Authorized by S.C. Act 141, 2010
- Created Help My House
 - Partnered with
 - Central Electric Power Co-op &
 - USDA's Rural Utilities Service
 - 100 Homes



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S.C.'s Help My House

- Features
 - Voluntary Participation
 - Low Barrier to Entry
 - Help my House lends at 2.5%
 - Bookend Audits to Verify Energy Savings



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How the S.C. Model Works

- Customer Requests an Audit
- Audit is Performed by Trained Expert
- Report ID's Improvements and Payback
- Customer Chooses to Participate
- Customer Chooses Contractor
- Improvement are Made
- Work is Audited Again



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How the S.C. Model Works *cont.*

- Successful Audit Precedes Payment
- Customer Begins Repayment on the Bill
 - Loan is Attached to the Meter
 - Generally Customer gets 1/3 of the Savings



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