

The Spotlight



A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

What's Inside

- EMAIL SCAM ALERT!
- Snow Safety for Gas Customers
- Tree Trimming Begins this Winter
- Youth Leadership Conference Info
- High Speed Internet Discounts

February 2014

PIE&G Members Report Suspicious Emails

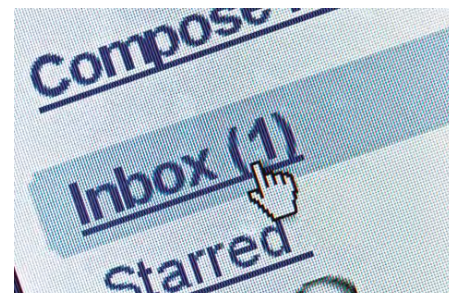
*Emails from scammers claiming to be "PG&E" are **NOT** from PIE&G*

Recently, utility members of Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op (PIE&G) have reported receiving suspicious emails from scammers posing as "PG&E" notifying Co-op members of past due payment. The email includes a past due amount and a link to access the account to make payment. Other northern Michigan utilities have also reported being targeted by recent telephone scams.

Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op only asks for personal information when the member calls the utility to establish service or inquire on their account. If an account is delinquent, Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op members will receive a notice on their bill and will receive automated telephone calls directly from the utility. The legitimate call will instruct how to make payment using the utility's secure phone system or its website.

Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op does not request payment by email. If members have questions about their bill, they should contact the utility by phone or access their account via the secure phone or online systems.

If you believe you are a victim of a recent phone or email scam and gave personal information or a credit card number or bank account number, report it immediately to your credit card company or bank and call local law enforcement.



Snow Safety for Natural Gas Service

As winter lingers and snow accumulates, there are a few simple things you can do the next time you are outside to prevent future natural gas safety issues inside.

- Keep snow and ice clear from exhausts and air vents for gas appliances. This will prevent accumulation of carbon monoxide in buildings and operational problems for the combustion equipment.
- Monitor accumulation of snow and ice blocking regulator or relief valve vents which could prevent proper function. These vents are usually located on the meter or in the piping close to the meter. If ice build-up on your meter is a recurring problem consult PIE&G for possible solutions.
- If possible, use a broom instead of a shovel to remove snow. Brooms will cause less damage to equipment and coatings.

Please contact PIE&G's gas emergency line at (800) 655-8565 if there is a gas odor present. Leave the residence immediately if you detect a gas odor indoors or suspect carbon monoxide is present. Report the situation when you are in a safe location. If gas appliances are not functioning properly contact a local HVAC repairman.



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Owned By Those We Serve . . . Locally Controlled . . . Committed to Community . . . Not For Profit

Right of Way Clearing

The 2014 vegetation management program begins this winter in parts of the PIE&G service area as private contractors remove trees and limbs near power lines. Keeping trees cleared within power line rights of way (ROW) helps PIE&G maintain safe and reliable electric service.

In 2014, work is planned in the Lewiston, Alpena, Posen, Bois Blanc and Alverno areas. Members will be notified by letter if ROW tree clearing work is planned near them. Any questions should be directed to our Member Services Department at (800) 423-6634.



HEY, CO-OP TEENS!

Take a chance on fun and you might win a free trip to D.C.

The Michigan Electric Cooperative **Youth Leadership Summit** is designed to help young adults grow as leaders. This unique, high-energy event revolves around team-building and group learning.

The Youth Leadership Summit (YLS) takes place on April 23-25, 2014 at the Spring Hill Camp in Evart (12 miles south of Cadillac). As a participant,

you will take your team-building skills to the next level with a combination of hands-on classroom exercises and a high-ropes challenge (over 30 feet in the air!) that will mentally and physically test your team! Plus, you will learn how to respond in an emergency situation, explore diverse careers in energy, test your decision-making skills as an elected official, and ask a university representative what to expect as you prepare for life after high school.

YLS is the first step towards an even greater adventure – all participants will be considered for a once-in-a-lifetime Washington D.C. experience with the National Rural Electric Youth Tour. Learn more about YLS and Youth Tour at miYLS.com.

If you are a sophomore or junior (age 16 and 17 in 2013) and your family receives service from PIE&G, you are eligible to apply to the Youth Leadership Summit. Visit miYLS.com or contact Sharon at (800) 423-6634, ext 813 for an application. Applications are due by **March 14, 2014**.

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Exede High Speed Internet lets you surf the web, check e-mails, shop online and download your favorite movies, shows and songs the way you want — super-fast! It's the Internet service that delivers 140% of its advertised speed!*

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PIE&G **exede internet**

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Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op

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GAS EMERGENCY ONLY 1-800-655-8565

We will gladly accept your Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express. No additional charge for using your credit card.



Most natural gas rates and charges are not regulated by the Michigan Public Service Commission. TWN, long distance phone service is not regulated by the Michigan Public Service Commission.