

# The Spotlight



A Touchstone Energy Cooperative 1937 - 2012

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- 75th Anniversary Raffle Winners

July 2012

## 2011 CAPITAL CREDIT ALLOCATION

Member-owners are assigned capital credits (sometimes called 'patronage capital') from year-end financial margins, in proportion to the amount of business or patronage done with the cooperative. In 2011, our electric division produced an overall margin of \$1,688,099 and our natural gas division produced an overall margin of \$390,100 for a cooperative margin of \$2,078,199. Your proportionate share of this allocation depends on which service you have with us (electric, gas or both) and will be noted on an upcoming bill.

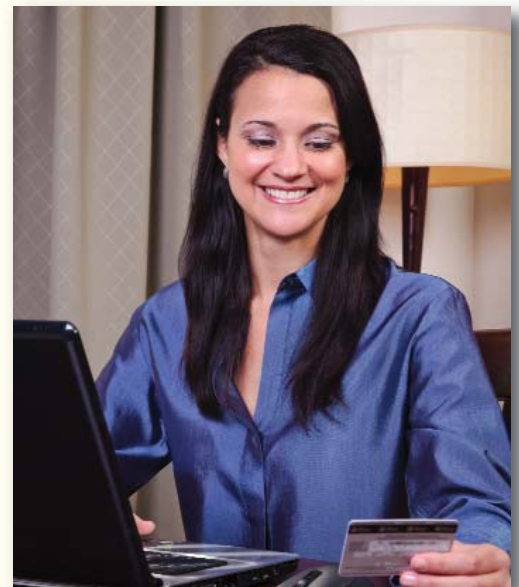
These margins represent contribution of operating capital by the membership to the cooperative. This capital allows PIE&G to finance its operations – to a certain extent – including new construction and capital improvements, with the intent that this capital will be repaid to you in later years.

If you have any questions concerning your capital credit allocation from 2011, please contact our Member Services Department at [989-733-8515](tel:989-733-8515) or toll-free at [1-800-423-6634](tel:1-800-423-6634).

## YOUR CREDIT CARD SECURITY MATTERS TO US

To comply with new PCI (payment card industry) credit card regulations, we now offer a secure pay by phone system available 24 hours a day to pay by credit card or check, to enter meter readings and to check account balances. We're looking out for your financial interests by protecting your credit card security.

You can also manage your account online by logging in to [pieg.com](http://pieg.com) to access E-bill any time to pay by credit card or check. If you prefer, you may continue paying by check either by mail or by calling our office. Or, you can call your bank to enroll in automatic payments. Our customer service reps are available to help you work through the details, whichever method of payment you feel most comfortable with.



### HOW TO USE SECURE PAY OPTION TO PAY YOUR ENERGY BILL BY PHONE:

1. Call **1-866-999-4571**
2. Have your account number ready.
3. Follow the prompts you'll hear for options:
  - Option 1: Get your balance
  - Option 2: Make a payment
  - Option 3: Provide a meter reading
  - Option 4: Create or change your PIN
  - Option 5: Change your phone number.
4. If you choose to pay from your checking or savings account, you'll be prompted to create a 4-digit PIN (personal identification number). Please contact our Member Service Reps to set your PIN for the first time.
5. Wait until you receive your confirmation number which tells you your payment was complete.

CLIP & SAVE

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

July 2012



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## PORTABLE GENERATORS

**PLEASE DO NOT PUT SOMEONE'S LIFE IN DANGER!**

Take special care with portable electric generators, which can provide a good source of power, but if improperly installed or operated, can become deadly. Do not connect generators directly to household wiring. Power from generators can back-feed along power lines and electrocute anyone coming in contact with them, including line workers making repairs. A qualified, licensed electrician should install your generator to ensure that it meets local electrical codes.

### Other tips include:

- Make sure your generator is properly grounded.
- Keep the generator dry.
- Make sure extension cords used with generators are rated for the load, and are free of cuts, worn insulation, and have three-pronged plugs.
- Do not overload the generator.
- Do not operate the generator in enclosed or partially enclosed spaces. Generators can produce high levels of carbon monoxide very quickly, which can be deadly.
- Use a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) to help prevent electrocutions and electrical shock injuries. Portable GFCIs require no tools to install and are available at prices ranging from \$12 to \$30.

**75TH ANNIVERSARY RAFFLE WINNERS**

**NANCY HEINTZ • Presque Isle**  
**GERALD GOEBEL • Lewiston**  
**PAUL MCGILLIVRAY • Cheboygan**

## Residential Rate Comparison For MPSC-Regulated Gas Utilities

As of June 1, 2012

UTILITY	100 ccf Monthly Bill
MichCon/DTE	\$ 88.40
<b>PIE&amp;G</b>	<b>\$115.08</b>
Aurora Gas* ( <i>Onaway, MI</i> )	\$126.75
Propane Equivalent**	\$271.70

### Source: Michigan Public Service Commission

\*Not set by the MPSC; based on \$10.75/mo. plus \$1.16/ccf

\*\*Not set by the MPSC; State average \$2.47 per gallon; 110 gallons of propane equivalent to 100 ccf natural gas.

<http://www.dleg.state.mi.us/mpsc/gas/rates/gasrates.pdf>

## Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op

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[www.pieg.com](http://www.pieg.com)

### GAS EMERGENCY ONLY

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



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