

The Spotlight



A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

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- Natural Gas Safety
- Exede Internet Savings
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- Pay Anytime Online or by Phone

July 2014

3 R's of Natural Gas Safety

RECOGNIZE

Knowing how to recognize a natural gas emergency will help you react quickly. Signs of a natural gas leak may include:

- "Rotten egg" smell
- Blowing or hissing sound
- Dead or discolored vegetation in an otherwise green area
- Bubbling in wet or flooded areas
- Direct or dust blowing from a hole in the ground
- Flames, if a leak has ignited



REACT

Leave the area immediately, being careful not to ignite the gas by following these warnings:

- Do not use an open flame, matches or lighters.
- Do not start vehicles.
- Do not use any electrical device, such as light switches or telephones (including cell phones) or appliances such as garage door openers. They could cause a spark and ignite the gas.
- Do not try to shut off any natural gas valves or gas appliances.
- Do not re-enter the building or return to the area until our employee or a qualified utility representative says it is safe to do so.
- Do not try to put out the flames if natural gas ignites. Burning gas will not explode.
- Do not try to locate the source of the gas leak.

REPORT

Once in a safe location, call PIE&G toll-free at **(800) 655-8565**, anytime 24/7. Please report any unusual activity near a natural gas pipeline or facility.

SUMMER'S HERE! GIVE YOURSELF A BREAK



*FCC, 2013 Measuring Broadband America

SUPER FAST

Speeds up to 12 Mbps

PROMPT & PROFESSIONAL

Installation

RELIABLE

Customer Support 24/7

AFFORDABLE

Service for about \$2 a day

Kick off your summer with Exede High-Speed Internet and get super-fast surfing, music downloads, and movie and TV show streaming—all with **NO activation fee and a \$10.00 discount every month for 12 months.** Don't miss out on the Internet service that delivers 140% of its advertised speed* and is backed with the reliability and support of NRTC Rural Broadband, the organization dedicated to providing technology solutions to rural communities across the country.

Call **888-256-8348** for member discount



July 2014



Owned By Those We Serve

Locally Controlled

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

Committed to Community

Not For Profit

2013 CAPITAL CREDIT ALLOCATION

Member-owners are assigned a credit of capital (sometimes called patronage capital) if the cooperative's revenues exceed expenses at year end. The assignment of this excess revenue or margin is called a "capital credit allocation". The allocation is in proportion to the amount of revenue a member has contributed to the cooperative through their energy purchases.

In 2013, PIE&G's electric operation produced a margin of \$2.02 million and our power supplier (Wolverine Power Supply Cooperative) allocated a margin of approximately \$1.76 million to PIE&G. These margins were then allocated to you, the member-owner, as a capital credit. In addition, PIE&G's natural gas division produced an overall margin of \$819,218. Your proportionate share of these combined capital credit allocations depend on whether you have electric, gas or both services and will be noted on your June, July or August statement.

These capital credit allocations will eventually be returned (or "retired") to members. Capital credits are retired at the discretion of the board of directors, when doing so will not adversely affect the financial condition of the co-op. Until then, these allocated, unretired margins represent a contribution of operating capital by the membership to the cooperative. This capital allows PIE&G to finance its operations – including new construction and system improvements – while reducing borrowing and interest expense until the capital is retired and repaid to members in later years.

PAY ANYTIME ONLINE OR BY PHONE

Want to save time and stamps? Create an account online at pieg.com ('Manage My Account') or try our automated phone option to pay by credit card or check, report readings, and check account balances. Either option is free and easy, fast and available anytime!

TO PAY BY PHONE:

- Call 1-866-999-4571
- Have your account number ready.
- Follow the prompts for options–

- 1: Get your balance**
- 2: Make a payment**
- 3: Provide a meter reading**
- 4: Create or change your PIN**
- 5: Change your phone number**

• 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.

• Wait until you receive your payment confirmation number which tells you your payment was completed.



Saving energy starts online!

Looking for simple ways to save energy at home? With the Home Energy Optimizer—a free online home energy audit—you can receive personalized, do-it yourself tips to reduce energy waste. Get started today at michigan-energy.org/presqueislehomeaudit for a more energy-efficient, durable, and comfortable home!

ENERGY TIP: Complete an online audit and receive a FREE energy-saving kit!

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Energy Optimization programs and incentives are applicable to Michigan service locations only. Other restrictions may apply. For a complete list of participating utilities, visit michigan-energy.org.

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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.