

# The Spotlight



A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

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September 2014

## NATURAL GAS RATE ADJUSTMENT

Much of the Midwest experienced prolonged frigid temperatures last winter, which averaged about 20% colder than normal for the region and resulted in higher market prices for heating fuel. Like other natural gas utilities, it was necessary for PIE&G to acquire additional volumes of natural gas at higher costs to meet increased demand.

Monthly  
Distribution  
GCR  
Total, \$/ccf

Residential	Gen. Service	Industrial
October 2014	October 2014	October 2014
\$12	\$17	\$188
\$0.4544/ccf	\$0.3203/ccf	\$0.2336/ccf
<u>\$0.5417/ccf</u>	<u>\$0.5417/ccf</u>	<u>\$0.5417/ccf</u>
\$0.9961/ccf	\$0.8620/ccf	\$0.7753/ccf

PIE&G temporarily reduced the Gas Cost Recovery (GCR) factor in April from \$0.5417/ccf to \$0.4614/ccf. **Effective with bills rendered in October, natural gas rates will be as indicated above.** Note that **only the GCR is changing**, by returning back to the previous level of \$0.5417/ccf.

## ANNUAL MEETING



In accordance with its bylaws, PIE&G will conduct its annual meeting

**Mark your calendar and plan to attend!**

of the membership on **Friday, October 24th at Posen High School**. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m.

The General Business session will begin at 10:00 a.m. Members will hear various reports on their cooperative. The meeting will conclude with director election results and door prizes. Lunch will be provided at the conclusion of the meeting.

For more information on the annual meeting and your director candidate ballot, please refer to your September/October issue of **Country Lines** magazine.

## GIVE YOURSELF A BREAK



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September 2014



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# HOME HEATING CREDIT

*File by September 30th*

If you have a low income, are receiving public assistance, or are receiving unemployment compensation, you may be eligible to receive help with winter heating costs with a Home Heating Credit (HHC). The Michigan Department of Treasury determines eligibility and makes payments. Keep in mind:



- You do not need to file a state income tax return to receive the HHC.
- You may apply for the HHC only.
- Eligibility is based on income, number of exemptions and household heating costs.

Visit [www.michigan.gov/heatingassistance](http://www.michigan.gov/heatingassistance) for more information. You will need to complete the **MI-1040CR-7 Claim Form** to apply. Forms are available on this site or call 517-636-4486 (select option 2 for MI Income Tax forms) to have HHC forms and instructions mailed to you.

HHC forms and instructions are also available at Treasury offices and at most public libraries, northern Michigan post offices, Michigan Secretary of State branch offices and Department of Human Services (DHS) branch offices.

Forms are automatically mailed to households that received a credit last year. Applications are available from mid- to late January but the **deadline for filing is September 30 each year.**

*Note: You may designate your HHC payable directly to PIE&G or other registered heat provider. The HHC may ONLY be used to pay for home heating costs (gas, propane, heating oil) and may not be used for your electric bill unless you use electric heat at your home. All named persons on the HHC must endorse the energy draft by signing off to authorize payment.*

## Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op

19831 M-68 Hwy • P.O. Box 308 • Onaway, MI 49765  
989-733-8515 • 800-423-6634  
[www.pieg.com](http://www.pieg.com)

**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.*

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

# PROTECT YOUR FAMILY

## *Carbon Monoxide Can Be Deadly*

You can't see or smell carbon monoxide, but at high levels it can kill a person in minutes. Carbon monoxide (CO) is produced whenever any fuel such as gas, oil, kerosene, wood, or charcoal is burned. If appliances that burn fuel are maintained and used properly, the amount of CO produced is usually not hazardous. However, if appliances are not working properly or are used incorrectly, dangerous levels of CO can result. Hundreds of people die accidentally every year from CO poisoning caused by malfunctioning or improperly used fuel-burning appliances. Even more die from CO produced by idling cars. Fetuses, infants, elderly people, and people with anemia or with a history of heart or respiratory disease can be especially susceptible.

**IF YOU SMELL GAS OR  
SUSPECT A GAS LEAK,  
CALL  
1-800-656-8565  
IMMEDIATELY**

**Plant the right tree in the right place**  
Plant taller trees away from overhead utility lines

**Tall trees, such as:** maple, oak, spruce, and pine

**Medium trees, such as:** washington hawthorn and goldenrain tree

**Small trees, such as:** redbud, dogwood, and crabapple

**The National Arbor Day Foundation**  
[arborday.org](http://arborday.org)