

# The Spotlight



A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

## What's Inside

- Natural Gas Rate Adjustment
- National Lineman Appreciation Day
- Safety in Numbers
- PIE&G Pays Taxes Too
- Community Service Through PIE&G

April 2015

### The Lineman

*What are their thoughts, these hardy souls,  
tangled in knots on top of poles,  
sweating it out in a blend of blue,  
doing a job few would do?*

*What are their thoughts, this gallant crew,  
who risk their lives the long day through,  
in summer heat or winter snow,  
taking orders from afar and below?*

*What are their thoughts, these men of brawn,  
who joke and swear or hum a song,  
who knew their distance well could be,  
a rubber glove from eternity?*

*What are their thoughts at the close of day,  
as they scramble down and put hooks away?  
Do they thank God for the heart-skipped beat,  
to feel the earth beneath their feet?*

*What are their thoughts as they head for home,  
longing once more to greet their own?  
Surely they must feel some delight,  
knowing they helped darkness into light.*

Paul Harvey News and Commentary  
February 3, 1986

## LINEMAN APPRECIATION DAY

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association has designated April 13th as National Lineman Appreciation Day. PIE&G proudly recognizes its electric linemen – past and present – for the services they perform.

“Our employees deserve all the recognition they can get,” said CEO Brian Burns. “All of our employees, including electric linemen, work all hours of the day to restore power to our communities. Employees go above and beyond when either the power goes out or natural gas service is compromised. They are all to be commended for their dedication when our membership needs them the most, many of them work in hazardous



conditions and away from their families for extended periods. I thank and appreciate each and every one of them.”

## GAS RATES TO BE REDUCED

Natural gas rates are changing effective April 1. The Gas Cost Recovery Factor will **decrease** nearly 6 cents from \$0.5417 to \$0.4829 per ccf. The monthly and distribution rates have not changed.

	Residential	General Service	Industrial
	April 2015	April 2015	April 2015
<b>Monthly</b>	\$12	\$17	\$188
<b>Distribution</b>	\$0.4544/ccf	\$0.3203/ccf	\$0.2336/ccf
<b>GCR</b>	\$0.4829/ccf	\$0.4829/ccf	\$0.4829/ccf
<b>Total, \$/ccf</b>	\$0.9373/ccf	\$0.8032/ccf	\$0.7165/ccf

April 2015



A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

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

# SAFETY IN NUMBERS SAVES LIVES & PROPERTY!

*9-1-1 calls have faster response time with easy readable street numbers.*

In an emergency firemen, policemen, and EMS may have difficulty finding your house if your address numbers are not easy to see from the street. This delay may be the difference between life and death.

- Numbers should be of **contrasting or reflective colors** to their background and not less than 4 inches in height.
- The proper use and display of street addresses are assigned by your municipality. **Check to be sure you are using the correct street numbers.**
- In the absence of a mailbox, use a post placed adjacent to the driveway, with address numbers on both sides.



## PIE&G PAYS TAXES TOO - \$1,124,498.76

Not only does Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op pay property taxes on our main office building, but we also pay property taxes on all poles, underground electric lines and natural gas pipeline. In 2014 we paid \$1,124,498.76 in property taxes. Currently, we pay property taxes in 31 townships for natural gas infrastructure and 61 townships for electric infrastructure. Taxes do not appear as a line item on your bill; they, like all expenses required to provide service to members, are factored into rates.

## VACATION OVER?

Don't forget to contact our office to let us know you are back from vacation. You will need to provide a current meter reading on your electric and/or natural gas accounts and change your address back to your **permanent local** residence.

## How Can I Help My Community?

It's easy – just sign up for the PIE&G Communities First Fund! Your average cost is about 50 cents a month (or less than a dollar per year if billed annually). When members volunteer to “round up” their utility bill to the next whole dollar, small donations add up to make a big difference in northeast Michigan. Please consider participating in the PIE&G Communities First Fund by:

- Calling our Member Services Department at 1-800-423-6634,
- Mailing the coupon below with your next payment, or
- Enrolling by email at [billing@pieg.com](mailto:billing@pieg.com)

YES, I want to help my community! Please enroll me in the Communities First Fund.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ PIE&G Account(s) No. \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ Account No. \_\_\_\_\_

City/ State/ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## 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.*