

The Spotlight



A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

What's Inside

- Two Web Payment Options
- \$2.470 Million Back to Members
- Notice of Electric Tariff Changes
- EO Rebates Available for Recycling

Summer 2019

Two Web Payment Options at pieg.com!

Manage My Account

- ⇒ login and password required to access full menu of account tools
- ⇒ make monthly payments and submit meter readings
- ⇒ view billing and usage history
- ⇒ opt for email or text notifications



Pay Now

- ⇒ no login or password needed
- ⇒ one-time payment only (information not stored)
- ⇒ requires account number and name
- ⇒ great for seasonal members



PAY BY PHONE ANYTIME 1-866-999-4571

Pay your PIE&G electric and natural gas bill anytime with our automated Pay By Phone service. It's free, fast and available anytime!

TO PAY BY PHONE:

- Call 1-866-999-4571.
- Have your account number ready.
- Follow the prompts for options to:
 1. Check account status,
 2. Make a payment,
 - You may pay by credit card or check.
 - For check payments, enter your 4-digit PIN (personal identification number). First time users must call Member Services at 1-800-423-6634 for a PIN.
 - Wait for your payment confirmation number that your payment was processed.
 3. Enter your meter reading (monthly residents only),
 4. Create or change your PIN,
 5. Update your phone number.

DIRECTORS APPROVE \$2.470 MILLION IN REFUNDS TO MEMBERS

Capital Credits from 1987-1988 & 2002-2003 to be Retired

At their April meeting, PIE&G's board of directors authorized approximately \$2,470,000 in capital credit retirements. Members who received electric service in 1987-1988 or 2002-2003 will receive an amount of the above in proportion to their energy use. **Checks for the capital credit refund will be mailed in the fall of 2019.**

As a member-owned, not-for-profit organization, when PIE&G revenues exceed expenses, "capital" is generated and "credited" to individual members on a pro rata basis, depending on their purchases of electricity or gas.

Capital credits are used to build the facilities needed to serve members or may be retired and refunded whenever the board of directors determines that the co-op's financial condition will not be impaired. Since its inception, PIE&G has refunded approximately \$16.9 million in capital credits back to its members.

CO-OPS OBTAIN \$45,000 STATE TAX REFUND FOR MEMBERS

A few years ago, PIE&G, together with other Michigan electric co-ops, sought relief from the State of Michigan for certain sales tax. The cooperatives were successful. The State of Michigan now returns sales tax assessed on positive operating margins.

For 2018, PIE&G generated positive margins for both electric and natural gas operations. Thus, sales tax refunds of approximately \$14,000 will be given back to electric members and over \$31,000 will be refunded to natural gas members. For members receiving a monthly billing, the **2018 tax refunds have been returned as a credit beginning with bills mailed in May 2019. Seasonal members will see the refunds on their annual summer bills.** Although the individual refund may be small, it reflects PIE&G's commitment to keeping members' services affordable.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF PRESQUE ISLE ELECTRIC & GAS CO-OP: *ELECTRIC TARIFF CHANGES*

At a Special Open Meeting held March 26, 2019, the Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op board of directors accepted the 2018 Power Supply Cost Recovery factor reconciliation analysis indicating an over-collection of power supply costs of \$879,343.17 for the 12-month period ending Dec. 31, 2018 (incorporated in the 2019 PSCR factor).

The board will consider additional changes to the cooperative's rates and tariffs at its Special Open Meeting on May 28, 2019. The following items will be discussed:

1. Review and approval of the 2018 Electric Times Interest Earned Ratio (TIER) analysis;
2. Consider revisions to the cooperative's Electric Rate Tariffs;
3. Consider revisions to the cooperative's Aid to Construction Fees and Policies;
4. Consider revisions to the cooperative's Special Charges;
5. Consideration of revisions to the cooperative's billing rules.

Due to advance publication of this newsletter, please look for the notice of changes or additions to the Co-op's rates or service rules in your July-August issue of *Michigan Country Lines*.

LOW INCOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE FUND (LIEAF)

Gov. Snyder signed into law Public Act 95 in 2013, creating the Low Income Energy Assistance Fund or "LIEAF", authorizing the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) to raise up to \$50 million annually for low income energy assistance payments. The money would come from a surcharge of no more than \$1 per meter per month for all Michigan electric utilities participating in the LIEAF program.

In July 2018, the MPSC issued an order keeping the monthly surcharge at 93 cents per meter for the billing period of September 2018 through August 2019. The surcharge is limited to electric bills only and to one electric residential meter per residential site. The surcharge was effective on PIE&G's electric bills generated on or after Oct. 1, 2018, for service rendered in September. Annual bills generated in 2019 will be prorated accordingly.



Ready to upgrade or get rid of an old refrigerator or freezer?

Recycle it and save! Earn cash incentives for recycling your old, functioning appliances.

- Refrigerator = \$50
- Dehumidifier (ride along item) = \$15
- Freezer = \$50
- Window Air Conditioner (ride along item) = \$15

Contact the Energy Optimization team to schedule a free pickup.

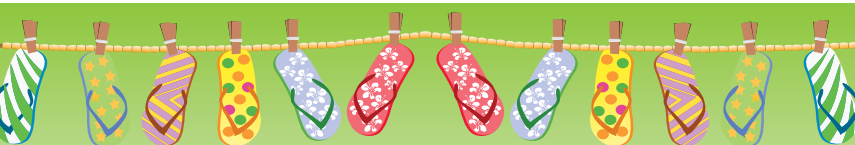
Shopping for new appliances?

Energy Optimization offers cash incentives for qualifying ENERGY STAR® appliances. Visit our website for a complete list of savings opportunities.

ONLINE: michigan-energy.org **PHONE:** 877-296-4319



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



Summer Holiday Closings

PIE&G will be closed Thursday, July 4 for Independence Day and Monday, September 2 for Labor Day. Payments may be made anytime at our drop box in Onaway, online at pieg.com or by phone toll free at 1-866-999-4517.

Electric Emergency: call 1-800-423-6634

Natural Gas Emergency: call 1-800-655-8565

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.