

PowerLines

A monthly publication for member/owners of Eastern Illini Electric Cooperative

May 2013

Inside:

Bill Date:	Service address:	Service dates:
4/27/2013	1294 6th Street	3/27/13 to 4/26/13
Rate: 1	Metering Information	Billing Information
Account number: 123456789	Current kWh reading 75156	Distribution
Meter number: 11111111	Previous kWh reading 74012	Base 1000 40.00
	Meter multiplier 1	Delivery 144 .01767 2.54
	Total kWh used 1144	Rate adjustment 1144 0 0
	kWh used last year 1046	Electric Supply
	Peak kW demand 10.640	Energy 1144 .03432 39.26
		Transmission 1144 .01443 16.51
		Generation investment 1000 .04647 46.47
		Power cost adjustment 144 .02647 3.81
		0 0
		Tax
		Public utility tax 1144 .0032 3.66
		Electricity Subtotal 189.92
		Other
		Security light rental 13.00
		Total Current Charges 202.92

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New bill format explained

PLUS:

Definition of terms from your new bills

Attend your Annual Meeting on June 13 in Paxton

Updated website unveiled

Our new website (www.eiec.coop) is now available! The site makes it easier to find the information you are looking for.

Whether it is a link to SmartHub (our online account management tool) or the latest in energy efficiency tips, our website helps keep you energized about electricity - and your cooperative.



330 W. Ottawa | Paxton, IL 60957
www.eiec.coop | info@eiec.coop
800-824-5102

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Unbundled bills offer better transparency

This month's electric bill has a new format, designed to give you more information.

You probably noticed a new bill format in the electric bill you received along with this newsletter.

I've been discussing these changes with you for several months, so I thought now would be a great time to recap everything.

For the last few years, alternate retail energy suppliers (ARES) have been targeting customers of the two investor-owned utilities in Illinois to try to sell them energy.

Most of you probably received those solicitations as well - inadvertently.

Currently there is excess electricity available in the marketplace because demand is much lower than the supply. That has temporarily brought wholesale electric prices down a bit and allowed the ARES to offer seemingly low rates.

What they don't always tell you, though, is their rates are ONLY for the actual energy portion of the electric bill. There are many other components of the bill.

We realized that it was difficult to understand that when our old bill format lumped everything together. Your new bill format unbundles both our distribution costs and the electric supply portion so you can get a better

feel for where - and how - your electric dollars are being spent each month.

Your old bills had a facility charge and a lumped-together energy charge. We have changed the name of the facility charge to base charge, and then broke out the energy portion to better show you the various pieces involved in getting you safe and reliable electricity each month.

Our electric distribution system accounts for about 40 percent of your monthly bill. The distribution portion includes the base charge and delivery.

About 60 percent of our expenses come from our wholesale power provider for our electric supply. Your new bill will further break that out by showing you the actual energy charge, along with transmission and our long-term investment in power supply.

Please remember that there are no new charges on the bill - you have been paying for all of these items all along. They are now just easier to see.

Read pages 2 and 3 of this newsletter to get a detailed explanation of everything on your new bill.

Respectfully,

Dave Champion



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

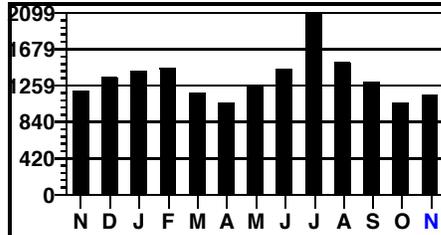
New unbundled bill format sample

123456789 oup: 3119



PO Box 96
Paxton IL 60957-0096

MEMBER SVS: 800.824.5102; PMTS: 888.836.2352 or www.eiec.coop



Page 1 of 1
Account Number
123456789
Avg kWh
1350

Statement-At-A-Glance

EIEC Member/Owner
1234 1st Street
Anywhere, IL 60957

4 4487
C-24 P-50

Previous Bill \$190.80
Late Charges \$0.00
Adjustments \$0.00
Payment - Thank You \$-190.80
Previous Charges \$0.00
Current Charges Electric \$202.92
Amount Due

\$202.92



You should notice a new bill format and an adjusted rate structure this month. Please read through the included PowerLines newsletter to get more information about these changes.



Touchstone Energy®

Bill Date:	Service address:	1234 1st Street	Service dates:	3/27/13 to 4/26/13
4/27/2013				
Rate: 1	5 Metering Information			
Account number: 123456789	Current kWh reading	75156	1 Distribution	
Meter number: 111111111	Previous kWh reading	74012	Base	kWh Rate Amount
	Meter multiplier	1	Delivery	1000 .03767 40.00
	Total kWh used	1144	Rate adjustment	144 .01767 2.54
	kWh used last year	1046	Electric Supply	1144 0 0
	Peak kW demand	10.640	Energy	1144 .03432 39.26
			Transmission	1144 .01443 16.51
			Generation investment	1000 .04647 46.47
			Power cost adjustment	144 .02647 3.81
			Tax	1144 0 0
			Public utility tax	1144 .0032 3.66
			Electricity Subtotal	189.92
			Other	
			Security light rental	13.00
			Total Current Charges	202.92

Please show address changes below. Return this portion of bill with payment.

Master Acct	Invoice	Group
123456789		1 of 1

Account # 123456789
Amt Due \$202.92

Previous Charges Due Now \$0.00
Current Charges By 5/17/2013 \$202.92
Delinquent After 5/17/2013 \$202.92
Total Amount Due \$202.92

EIEC Member/Owner
1234 1st Street
Anywhere, IL 60957

EASTERN ILLINI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
PO BOX 84
PAXTON IL 60957-0084



123456789 0000019971 0000019971 2

Understanding the components of your newly unbundled electric bill

Billing Information

1 Distribution

The distribution section recovers the fixed costs we incur in providing you access to the electric system. These costs include: facilities; poles; wires; transformers; substations; vehicles; service personnel; equipment maintenance; and other equipment that helps us maintain a safe and reliable distribution system. Also included are operating margins, metering, accounting, billing, member services and administrative personnel.

The **Base** amount is a set monthly charge, similar to a monthly access fee you might pay for your phone service. It represents most of the fixed costs that we incur, even if you don't use any electricity.

The **Delivery** component covers the balance of our fixed distribution costs and varies based on your kilowatt/hour (kWh) use (or kW demand for some three-phase accounts).

The **Rate adjustment** is a placeholder that will eventually allow us to make small changes to our rates on an annual basis, if financial considerations from the previous year require it. If these small changes are required, they must be approved by our board of directors and they will remain in place for the entire year. This charge could go up or down and should replace major rate increases every few years. We do not expect to use this line item in 2013.

2 Electric Supply

The **Energy** portion recovers the actual cost of the electricity that you use. We receive electricity from our wholesale power provider, Prairie Power, Inc. (PPI). PPI is made up of ten Illinois electric cooperatives (including EIEC) that banded together to increase our collective buying power.

The **Transmission** portion of your bill consists of the costs we pay to get electricity from power plants over high-voltage electric lines to the 25 substations on our distribution system. It is charged by the owners of the transmission lines.

The **Generation investment** is based on your kWh use and represents our long-term investment (through PPI) in the Prairie State Energy Campus and other smaller power plants. This investment has enabled us to secure 30 years of stable energy pricing and will certainly help shield us from potential increases in the cost to produce electricity.

The **Power cost adjustment** (PCA) is the difference between the actual cost of the electricity we get from PPI and our projected costs. The PCA varies each month, and could be a negative amount, which would give you a bill credit.

3 Tax

The **Public utility tax** is administered by the State of Illinois and applies to each kWh of electricity that you use.

4 Other

This section of your bill could include your security light rental, load management credits, service upgrades, deposits, adjustments, equipment loans and other miscellaneous charges.

5 Metering Information

The **Current and Previous kWh readings** are the main way we figure out how much electricity you used during the billing period. Most of our meters measure your use one kWh at a time, while some types of meters use the meter multiplier to calculate your actual kWh use.

The **Total kWh used** field shows how much electricity you used during the billing period, in terms of kWh. The **kWh used last year** field shows a comparison between your current kWh use and the use during a similar billing period from the previous year.

The **Peak kW demand** reflects your highest kilowatt demand during any 15-minute segment of the billing period. This reading basically shows the largest amount of electricity you are using at any one time during the billing period.

Eastern Illini's ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, June 13
3 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
PBL Junior/Senior High
Paxton, Illinois

\$25 BILL CREDIT
ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS
FREE MEAL
ELECT BOARD MEMBERS
ENGAGING SEMINARS
LEARN ABOUT YOUR NEW RATES



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Electric
Cooperative

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