

KILOWATT



An Oklahoma Living Supplement

Published monthly for the Members of Kiwash Electric Cooperative, Inc. Cordell, Oklahoma • www.kiwash.coop

JULY, 2004



Your Touchstone Energy Partner
The power of human connections

Got a suggestion for a story in a future issue of Kilowatt?

**Call Lisa at
1-888-832-3362**

When Power Goes Off

1. Check household fuses or circuit breaker box.
2. Check with neighbors to see if their electricity is off.
3. Call 580-832-3361 or toll-free 1-888-832-3362, Kiwash Dispatchers will answer 24-hours a day, 7 days a week.
4. For better service, report line trouble as soon as it occurs.

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Kiwash Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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Windworks - Oklahoma Wind Power

The force that caused so many Oklahomans' to exit the State during the Dust Bowl may be driving our future. Wind and dust combined in the 30's dealt misery, but now, wind and technology hold promise we have only dreamed.

Oklahoma is well on the way to capturing abundant wind power to produce electricity. "Wind farms" are coming to several locations in the Western region. Who questions the force and abundance of winds that "come sweeping down the plains?"

The idea that wind energy can be used for power is not new or radical. Last year Texas harvested a record crop from wind energy. The output of their 1,328 electricity-producing windmills was equal to that of a gas-fired generating station. This rate of production from "fuel" brought to the site by nature is causing investors to look seriously at rapid expansion. The nation's demand for electrical energy continues to grow, and our region has more consistent winds than Texas.

While the benefit appears to be economic, there's more to the success. In addition to wind energy being cost efficient (less than a dime a day for 100 KW hours each month for a year), it keeps 2,400 pounds of carbon dioxide out of the air.

Whether or not carbon in the air is on your mind, the issue is one of international concern and is being seriously addressed. President George W. Bush launched the Administration's Climate Change Science Program and directed the federal agencies to develop the resources and capability to reduce carbon intensity in the U.S. by 18 percent over the next ten years. Increasing electricity output using no new fuel-powered facilities turns us to the only viable solution, wind. This means keeping carbon from being released will be in Western Oklahoma's future, and likely be another revenue stream for rural Oklahoma.

In 2000, the Agriculture Committee of the Oklahoma House of Representatives met under the leadership of Rep. James Covey (D-Custer City). The subject was Carbon Sequestration, or how to keep carbon in the ground and out of the atmosphere. A major part of the discussion was payments to farmers for no-till crops. Plowing ground releases carbon at rates that surprise most. Burning fuel for electrical energy production and plowing combined are significant contributors to carbon release. Wind energy production has a multiple and positive impact on the atmosphere. Payments to use the land for windmills plus payments to *not* till the soil for crops, may add up to more than agriculture production in the near future. Of course, being in the right location for wind is important, and wind maps show this is the place.

The meeting at the State Capitol in 2000 came and went with no follow-up, due in part to the lack of international demand on carbon release at the time. It was understood then that the meeting was about the future. Rep. Covey recently told us that the issue is not forgotten in Oklahoma.

The Third Annual Carbon Capture and Sequestration Conference was held in early May in Alexandria, Virginia. Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham was there, plus Mark Maddox, Acting Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy. Experts from twenty-two countries attended technical sessions and discussions were very active. Results of the gathering resulted in agreements that sequestration is a serious effort and that a way of stabilizing emissions is critical. In addition, attendees were briefed on the newly established seven Regional Partnerships created to build broad consensus among stakeholders and the general public on carbon sequestration system deployment. The fourth conference is expected to focus on synthesizing the information and experience gathered thus far and the progress made on public outreach. Obviously, the issue is gaining in importance and will involve agriculture.

The change from burning fuels to wind energy is likely to change the face of the Western Oklahoma economy from gas-well drilling to the skies—still energy production. As our stakeholders become producers via windmill technology, partnerships are likely to strengthen by making us producers and distributors to a greater market than the Western Oklahoma region. Adding carbon sequestration payments allows rural residents more time to be productive in new ways.

Windmills are monuments to technology, clean air, more energy, more money from our land and skies, changing roles of our citizens and freedom from foreign energy dependence. What a change from the results of the Dust Bowl when wind drove many from the land. The opportunity appears to be here now, and in our immediate future.



Manager's Monologue

By: Dennis Krueger

Keep Your Fork



A few years ago, when I was new in the electric cooperative industry, a Director from another cooperative said, "We like to think of the members and the employees as an extended family. Yea, we sell the members electricity; but, our commitment is to individualize service so that everyone feels ownership in the organization because the members are the owners and they deserve special treatment." This cooperative spirit or as the Touchstone Energy tagline so eloquently states "The Power of Human Connections" reminds me of a story that might inspire you to believe that the best part of any friendship is yet to come.

There was a young man who had been diagnosed with a terminal illness and had been given three months to live. So as he was getting his things "in order", he contacted his pastor and had him come to his house to discuss certain aspects of his final wishes. He told him which songs he wanted sung at the service, what scriptures he would like read, and what suit he wanted to be buried in.

Everything was in order and the pastor was preparing to leave when the young man suddenly remembered something very important to him. "There's one more thing," he said excitedly. "What's that?" came the pastor's reply.

"This is very important," the young man continued. "I want to be buried with a fork in my right hand." The pastor stood looking at the young man, not knowing quite what to say.

"That surprises you, doesn't it?" the young man asked. "Well, to be honest, I'm puzzled by the request," said the pastor. The young man explained. "My grandmother once told me a story, and from that time forward, I have always done so. I have also, always tried to pass along its message to those I love and those who are in need of encouragement." In all my years of attending church socials and potluck dinners, I always remember that when the dishes of the main course were cleared, someone would inevitably lean over and say, "Keep Your Fork!" It was my favorite part because I knew that something better was coming – like velvety chocolate cake or deep-dish apple pie. Something wonderful, and with substance was about to happen! So, I want people to see me there in that casket with a fork in my hand and I want them to wonder "What's with the fork?" Then I want you to tell them: "Keep your fork, the best is yet to come."

The pastor's eyes swelled up with tears of joy as he hugged the young man good-bye. He knew this would be one of the last times he would see him before his death. But the pastor also knew that the young man had a better grasp of heaven than he did.

This young man had a better grasp of what heaven would be like than many people twice his age, with twice as much knowledge and experience. He knew that something better was coming.

At the funeral people were walking by the young man's casket and they saw the simplistic suit he was wearing and the fork in his right hand. Over and over, the pastor heard the question; "What's with the fork?" and over and over the pastor smiled.

During his message, the pastor told the people of the conversation he had with the young man shortly before he died. He also told them about the fork and what it symbolized to him. The pastor told the people how he could not stop thinking about the fork and told them they probably would not be able to stop thinking about it either. So the next time you reach down for your fork, let it remind you ever so gently, that the best is yet to come.

Friends, family, cooperative member-owners, employees, bosses, and others in your life are a very rare jewel, indeed. They make you smile and encourage you to succeed. They lend an ear, they share a word of praise, and they always want to open their hearts to us. I want to say 'Thank You' to the Kiwash members, directors, and employee for extending your family to include my family. Cherish the time you have with friends and family and the memories you share because we all need special treatment occasionally – being friends with someone is not an opportunity but a sweet responsibility – for you never know when it may be their time to "Keep Their Fork."

Stork News...



Sam and Libby Harrington announce the birth of their new bundle of joy. Dalen Reid was born March 5 at Lakeside Hospital. Dalen weighed 7 lbs 14 oz and was 20 inches long. Dalen's daddy Sam is a journeyman lineman for Kiwash.



Brad and Larkann Hardwick announce the birth of their son, Nathan Trevor Hardwick. Nathan was born March 30 weighing 8 lbs 7 oz. Big sister Rebecca is very proud of her new little brother. Brad, Nathan's daddy is a journeyman lineman for KEC.

Did you know?

Buying 100 kilowatt hours of wind power each month for one year is equal to:

- *Costs less than a dime a day.
- *Saves 1,200 pounds of coal.
- *Keeps 2,400 pounds of carbon dioxide, the chief greenhouse gas, out of the air.

Buying 100 kilowatt hours of wind power each month for one year is equal to:

- *not driving your car 2,500 miles, or
- *planting one-half of an acre of trees

As you can see, choosing wind power is one of the most powerful environmental choices a household or business can make!

Registration Form

ACCOUNT INFORMATION

Account Number: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____ Zip Code: _____



MONTHLY SELECTION

I would like to purchase _____ Renewable Energy Certificate(s) per month at 50 cents each.

AUTHORIZATION

I understand that billing for WindWorks will appear on my monthly bill beginning in _____ of 2004 for the amount of \$ _____.

(Signature of Member)

Another Bright Idea



House Pasta Salad

Ingredients

1 box (16 oz) bow tie pasta
1 small red, yellow or orange bell pepper (chopped)
1/3 cup finely chopped fresh basil leaves
1/2 cup chopped, drained sun-dried tomatoes packed in oil
1 cup House Italian dressing
1/2 cup mayonnaise

Directions

Cook bow ties according to package directions; drain and rinse with cold water until completely cool.

In large bowl, combine bow ties, red pepper, basil and tomatoes. In small bowl, blend House Italian dressing with mayo; toss with bow tie mixture. Sprinkle, if desired, with freshly ground black pepper. Serve chilled or at room temperature.

Introducing a long distance savings program that will shed some light on your checkbook. Some long distance companies may seem to offer great rates but when you add up things like daytime rates and monthly service fees suddenly the bill isn't so small.

With Kiwash Electric Cooperative's long distance program you only pay for what you use. Receive your **State-to-State calls, anywhere in the continental United States for only 4.9¢* per minute!** Your **In-State calls are just 5.9¢* per minute.** Also, you get your own Toll-free number for 5.9¢* per minute and a calling card rate of 9.9¢ per minute. Your friends can sign up too because there is no need to be a Kiwash Electric customer to join! Call now and see the savings for yourself.

1-877-859-3033



*Taxes and other regulatory charges not included. Certain restrictions may apply. Please call for details. In partnership with TransWorld Network.

Small appliances, cords most likely to electrocute

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission aims to reduce the death rate from consumer product-related electrocutions by 20 percent by the end of this year. You can help.

Small appliances, including extension cords, microwave ovens and battery chargers, are the most frequently reported group of consumer products involved in electrocutions, the commission says. Large appliances, such as air conditioners, pumps and generators, are next, followed by power tools, including saws, drills and pressure washers.

Installed household wiring, lamps and light fixtures account for many electrocutions, as do antennas and ladders that come into contact with power lines.

Many of the accidents stem from misuse of the products.

It's important to use electrical products only as directed by the manufacturer; to keep them away from water, to plug them into outlets equipped with ground-fault circuit interrupters; and to discard or repair them if they're damaged or if their cords are faulty.

To report the events in your community, or for more information, call Kiwash Electric Cooperative.

1-888-832-3362

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