

BELFALLS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

P.O. Box 598 • Rosebud, TX 76570 • Phone (254) 583-7955

Higher Fuel Prices Equal Higher Electric Bills

Have you received higher electricity bills in recent months? Do you wonder why? One of the major factors in increased prices is the escalating cost of natural gas. This fuel is used to produce the majority of electricity in Texas, and every utility company passes that cost directly on to the consumer.

The rise in the price of natural gas is an issue of supply and demand. On the supply side, there are decreasing amounts of natural gas coming from developed areas. Moreover, gas exploration and development are currently limited or excluded in certain areas of the Gulf of Mexico, the Rocky Mountains, the Great Lakes, and both the east and west coasts.

Demand for natural gas has increased in the past several years. One reason is that natural gas forecasters in the early 1990s



Natural gas-fired plants produce the majority of electricity in Texas.

predicted that natural gas supplies would be plentiful and inexpensive. This spurred a boom in building gas-fired power plants rather than more costly coal-based plants. In addition, natural gas is a cleaner burning fuel than coal. Given looming environmental regulations governing coal plants and the promise of a plentiful supply, power companies invested in building natural gas plants. This

has increased demand for natural gas.

Coal plants are now on the rise, but new regulations, designed to reduce emissions from coal plants, will require heavy financial investment for additional emission control equipment. The price of this compliance will be passed on to the consumer.

Even though the price of power is increasing, members of electric cooperatives

are in a better financial situation than most consumers. That's because co-ops deliver electricity at the cost of service. There are no hidden fees or big profits for investors in faraway cities. Any money remaining is either passed back to the consumer or retained at the cooperative to lower its infrastructure costs in order to deliver reliable and affordable electricity to its member-owners.

Summary 2005 Belfalls EC Annual Meeting

Flag Hall in Cyclone - August 12, 2005

235 members registered
 Attendance prize—electric extension cord
 Music—Jodi Fannin
 Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m.—Joe Marek
 Invocation—Jim Campbell
 National Anthem—Jodi Fannin
 Notice of annual meeting read by Attorney Coke Mills
 Approval of minutes of 2004 meeting—Coke Mills
 Welcome and introductions—Joe Marek
 Resolutions of appreciation—Joe Marek
 Treasurer's report—Joe Marek
 Report and election of directors—Attorney Coke Mills,
 Larry Stock
 Manager's report—Joe Marek
 Music—Jodi Fannin
 Report on Director Election—Attorney Coke Mills,
 Calvin Rachui
 Thank you—Joe Marek
 Drawing of prizes—Jim Campbell (children assist)
 Color TV—O.C. Begesse
 *Meter lamp (Brazos Electric)—Robert Heese
 Electric mixer—Anton Reinders
 Electric knife—John Macek
 Electric can opener—Larry Posvar
 Coffeemaker—David Gann
 Crockpot—Terry Mackie
 Cassette recorder—Thomas Sheguit
 Clock-radio—Mrs. Edward Dach
 Extension cord—Alan Hoelscher
 Trouble light—Margaret Collier
 Popcorn popper—Otto Miller
 AM/FM radio—Roger Cassens
 *Movie machine—John Pagach
 *\$25 credit on bill (S&H Powerline)—Henry Havlik
 *Skill saw (Techline)—Kenneth Fikes
 *\$25 credit on bill (S&H Powerline)—Mrs. Clyde Moore
 *Power drill (Techline)—Raymond Moeller
 *\$25 credit on bill (S&H Powerline)—Johnny Polach
 *Small grinder (Techline)—Albert Heintze
 *\$25 credit on bill (S&H Powerline)—Mary Ann Hoelscher
 *\$50 gift card (TEC)—Wayman Richter
 *\$25 credit on bill (S&H Powerline)—Kerry Michalewicz
 *DVD/VCR (TEC)—William E. Smetanka
 *\$25 credit on bill (S&H Powerline)—Robert Kamenicky
 *\$25 credit on bill (S&H Powerline)—Albert Cabla
 *GPS hand-held (McCord Engineering)—Willie Sullivan

*\$25 credit on bill (S&H Powerline)—Gladys Boone
 *Camera (McCord Engineering)—W.R. Wendel
 *\$25 credit on bill (S&H Powerline)—Leo Baca
 *\$25 credit on bill (S&H Powerline)—Michael Schneider
 *\$25 credit on bill (KBS)—Adolph Pelzel
 *\$25 credit on bill (KBS)—Patricia Armstrong
 *\$25 credit on bill (KBS)—Lewis Williams
 *\$25 credit on bill (KBS)—Vaculin Brothers
 Electric mixer—H.L. Arney
 Electric knife—Larry James Hoelscher
 Electric can opener—William Thornton
 Coffeemaker—Richard Gann
 Crockpot—Darwin Bruggman
 Cassette recorder—Philip Ainslie
 Clock-radio—H&B Supply
 Extension cord—C.O. Synatzske
 Trouble light—Stephen Ewing
 Popcorn popper—Dellarene Chaloupka
 AM/FM radio—Roland Wachel

*Donated prizes

IN EMERGENCIES

During regular business hours, call:
 (254) 583-7955

These are telephone numbers to call to report outages after
 business hours and on weekends and holidays.

Kenneth Fikes(254) 583-4556
 Larry Koslosky(254) 583-4555
 Doug Matous(254) 583-2957
 Bobby Skala(254) 583-7219
 Jeremy Tepe(254) 583-2557
 Jake Willis(254) 583-0191
 Ernest Martin(254) 583-2219
 Joe W. Marek(254) 583-4016
 James Campbell(254) 583-2786