


A Monthly Publication of The FEC Companies THE BACK PAGE

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It's much cheaper to heat water with electricity than propane

The volatile price of propane over the years has resulted in nearly 1,400 Farmers' Electric members switching to an electric water heater. 120854

Since 1990, a total of 1,394 FEC members have switched from propane to electric water heating as a means in which to heat water at less cost. Plus, FEC members who heat water with electricity don't have to worry about the hazards of having a constant flame in the home or the possible problems that may occur with carbon monoxide.

If propane is priced at \$1.49 a gallon then for propane to break even in heating water with electricity, the

kilowatt hour price would be 9.4 cents per kWh. FEC's price per kilowatt hour at 1,000 kilowatts is 7.75 cents. The average FEC member uses 1,260 kilowatt hours per month. The price of FEC's kilowatt hour at 1,260 kWh is just 7.63 cents. That's about a 24% savings in heating water with electricity as opposed to propane. 275043

Propane prices in some areas in FEC's service territory have already risen to \$1.65 per gallon. A quality electric water heater is cheaper and safer to operate. Contact the Member Services Department at Farmers' Electric for more information on how you can save money.

FEC sends crews to help St. Louis utility

Eighty-five mile an hour winds smashed through the St. Louis metropolitan area on July 20, downing trees and power lines, leaving over 600,000 homes without power in the sweltering summer heat.

FEC was contacted by the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives (AMEC), relaying a request from AmerenUE for assistance in getting their distribution system in the St. Louis area back on line. 220023

FEC was one of a number of Missouri electric cooperatives that dispatched crews to the area. Scott Widner, Gallatin, Jack Boley, Laclede, Aaron Wagers and Warren Minnis, both of Chillicothe, left for St. Louis at 4 a.m. the morning of July 21.

"We started each day at 4 a.m. and we worked until at least 11 p.m. every night," Wagers said. "There were lots and lots of trees and power lines on the ground."

Minnis said the biggest problem work crews had was that of not being able to use their bucket trucks to help move the trees that were laying across the downed lines.

"We just couldn't get our trucks in the back yard areas," Minnis said. "They didn't have any alleys in those areas for us to use. We had to climb fences, cut out the trees and haul them off by hand."



New Spec Building

The footings have been poured and the steel is ready to be raised on the new spec building to be constructed in the Chillicothe Area Industrial Park, owned and operated by FEC. The 50,000 square foot building is expected to be completed this year.

Chance Briscoe is new CFO

Chance Briscoe, a native of Aberdeen, South Dakota, is the new Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for Farmers' Electric Cooperative. Chance assumed his duties at FEC on Monday, July 17.

He is a 1994 graduate of Northern State University, Aberdeen, S.D., with a double major in accounting and finance.

Previous employment for Chance includes a five-year stint as Project/Office manager for Dakota Scrubbers, a company that designs, builds and installs equipment that cleans the environment, and most recently three years as Office Manager for FEM Electric Association, Ipswich, S.D.

He and Diana have three children, Brandon, 14, Tylar, 11, and Connor, 9. 81363

His hobbies include racquet sports, camping, fishing, hunting and golf. The family will be attending the St. Columban's Catholic Church in Chillicothe.

Chance was active in the Ipswich



Chance Briscoe

Economic Development group, served as a mentor for the United Way and was President of the South Dakota Office Manager and Accountant's Association. The family has already joined the Grand River YMCA and will be participating in fine art events throughout the next year in Chillicothe. 50063

If you have a power outage during business hours call this number.

In several instances this summer, a high wind or a bolt of lightning would knock service out to members during our regular business hours. Members would then call the office, swamping our staff and making it difficult to take care of the outages in a timely manner.

Please call our 24-hour answering service any time you have an outage (1-800-927-5334). By calling this number we will be able to respond to your outage much quicker.

The answering service is well-trained in dealing with outage problems and are in direct contact with FEC crews in the field.