Chugach Electric Association's

Outlet

Number 247 September 2008

www.chugachelectric.com

Put your mind at ease

Make the most of your Energy Resource Rebate and save money too

As the winter months approach, you can put all or part of the energy rebate towards your Chugach bill. The average customer spends about \$100 on electricity per month and when you prepay for a year, we will give you an additional \$25 credit. This can easily be arranged by talking with any customer service representative at 563-7366.

If you are looking for longterm savings and greater energy efficiency, now is a great time to change your incandescent lights to compact fluorescents (CFLs). The average member's residence has over 35 separate "sockets." For each one you convert, you will save at least \$4 a year on your electric bill.

Manufacturers now make CFLs in many different shapes and sizes – not just the curly bulbs that were first manufactured. You can even buy ones that work with your dimming switches. They also last an average of 7 years. (Please note adjacent article on recycling CFLs at Chugach.)

Here are a few more easy ways to save energy:

- Switch traditional
 T-12 fluorescent tubes to more energy-efficient T-8 fluorescent tubes.
- Turn off or unplug appliances and electronic devices" when they are not being used.
- Consider buying a power strip for your appliances

making it simple to turn on and off.

- Adjust the thermostat
 manually or purchase a
 programmable thermostat.

 For most homeowners
 this means setting the
 thermostat a bit lower than
 normal in the winter and
 turning the thermostat
 down when people are out
 of the house or going to
 bed.
- Change your furnace filters.
- Have your heating system inspected before winter.
- Use caulk and weather stripping to stop drafts around windows and doors.
- Add insulation to your home.
- If any major appliance needs replacement, look for those with the "Energy Star" label. These

appliances have been tested and tagged because they are energy efficient.

 Ask your friends, family, co-workers and others what steps they've taken or are considering to cut their energy costs. Share your tips with them also.

This list is just a beginning. At our Web site click on the link labeled "Bright Ideas for Saving Energy" for more energy-saving tips.

In the months ahead Chugach will be introducing a new program to help customers to be more energy-efficient. Currently, Chugach can provide limited residential audits by phone. This will require some customer time to provide information on various appliances and answer questions regarding lifestyle.

If you have question or concerns regarding your energy efficiency, please call a customer service representative at 563-7366 or you can reach us through our

Pre Pay

Web site www.chugachelctric. com.

At Chugach, we realize that energy conservation and efficiency is a priority with all our members. We will continue to offer education and tools that will help you lower your electric bill. Don't forget that you can save time and a few dollars by using Chugach's PrePay program.

Now at Chugach!

Recycle your CFLs

In the July Outlet we told you how you could recycle burned out compact fluorescent lamps for 75 cents apiece at Total Reclaim, a recycling facility in the Huffman Business Park in South Anchorage.

Now you have another option -- and this one is free for

members. Chugach has teamed with Total Reclaim to offer CFL recycling at our headquarters building at 5601 Electron Drive. Look for the CFL recycling bin in the lobby of Chugach's service center. Recycled CFLs can not be broken.

CFLs should be recycled

rather than thrown in the trash because a small amount of mercury is sealed within the glass tubing of every lamp.



ENSTAR hearing update

Chugach was an intervenor in a hearing that ENSTAR had before the Regulatory Commission of Alaska. ENSTAR is seeking approval for proposed contracts with ConocoPhilips and Marathon Oil Company, both current gas suppliers for Chugach.

The hearing started the last week in July and lasted more than two and one-half weeks. This is a very complex case involving potentially significant rate impacts for Southcentral Alaska ratepayers, for gas as well as electricity. All five RCA Commissioners heard and participated in the proceeding.

In addition to Chugach and ENSTAR, the other parties were Aurora Power and the State's Regulatory Affairs & Public Advocacy section, which was represented by an Assistant Attorney General.

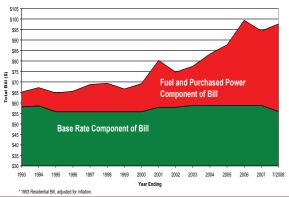
At issue, is that ENSTAR agreed to pay a price higher than what utilities in Lower 48 production basins pay. The ENSTAR agreement is based on premium Lower 48 gas markets. Chugach contends that prices in the Cook Inlet production basin should continue to reflect production area prices rather than market areas in large U.S. cities. Chugach has made its position known to the RCA by intervening in those gas contracts that are currently under review by the State regulatory body.

Chugach has been working toward new gas contracts with producers in the Cook Inlet. Chugach's largest single expense is the cost of natural gas for fuel for its turbine-generators, and Chugach has been trying to negotiate reasonable contracts as increases in the price of gas result in higher electric bills for customers.

Currently about 90 percent of the power Chugach sells comes from natural gas-fired power plants. The other 10 percent comes from hydro projects. Monthly Residential Bill Total, by Component

In the past 15 years increases in the cost of natural gas have accounted for most of the increase in a customers

bill.



Based on 700 kWh Consumption: 1993 - 2008 (July)

Your board at work

Your board is charged with the management of the business and the affairs of the Association. Recently the board:



- Approved the 2008 2017 Financial Management Plan. Under the plan Chugach is expected to produce margins ranging from \$9.1 million in 2008 to \$10.3 million in 2017. The Equity to Total Capitalization Ratio is expected to range from 33.4 percent in 2008 to 35.1 percent in 2017. The results are based on expectations of a Total Cost of Service ranging from \$264.4 million to \$248.3 million and Total Revenue ranging from \$272.1 million to \$257.6 million.
- Authorized CEO Brad Evans to sign the South Central Alaska Power Project Participation Agreement, the Operation and Maintenance Agreement and the land lease with Anchorage Municipal Light & Power. The board also authorized the procurement of the gas turbines for the project.

Member Service News

Make the most of your Energy Rebate/PFD and save money too!

PrePay your annual Chugach Electric bill and you'll save \$25 plus the expense of making monthly payments.

> For your annual PrePay quote contact Member Services at (907) 563-7366 or (800) 478-7494

AutoPay Checking

Chugach no longer directly accepts credit card payments as of Sept. 1, 2008. Chugach does offer a variety of no-fee payment options, including personal check, AutoPay by Checking, in-person payments at any branch of First National Bank Alaska (accompanied with a current Chugach statement), and cash. Of course, Chugach will accept your in-person payment in its customer service lobby at 5601 Electron Drive.

For members who want the convenience of using their credit card, there will be a \$3.50 fee that is charged by the vendor for this service. To pay your bill using your credit card, call Chugach at 563-7494 and choose Option 1, or log on to your account through Chugach's Web site at www. chugachelectric.com.

Contact	MJ
Main number	563-7494
Toll free	(800) 478-7494
Member Services	563-7366
Member Services fax	762-4678
Business and commercial desk	762-7876
Credit	563-5060
Power theft hotline	762-4731
Danger tree hotline	762-7227
Underground locates	278-3121
Regulatory Commission of AK	(800) 390-2782
or	276-6222
To report a power outage	
In Anchorage	762-7888

Outside Anchorage

Hours

Main office: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Member Services lobby: 5601 Electron Drive Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Member Services Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.

The Chugach Outlet
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(800) 478-7494

Corporate Mission: Through superior service, safely provide reliable and competitively priced

Corporate vision: Powering Alaska's future

Monthly residential service costs (based on 700 kwh)

Customer charge/month	\$ 8.00
Energy charge \$0.06848 x kwh =	\$47.94
Fuel adjustment \$0.05960 x kwh =	\$41.72
(Fuel adjustment effective 7/1/08 – 09/30/08)	
Sub-total	\$97.66
2% MOA Underground Charge =	\$ 1.95
RCC charge \$0.000362 x kwh =	\$ 0.25
Total bill	\$99.86

pensate and promote persons without regard to race, color, religion, na-tional origin, sex, marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, disability, veterans status, age or any other classification protected by applicable federal, state, or local law." Chugach is also an affirmative action employer.