



THE OEC CURRENT

People You Can Count On

August 2011

Linemen Assist Local Fire Department



Last month OEC First Class Lineman Steve Sickler worked on one of the Hartwick Volunteer Fire Department sirens.

In addition to helping the Hartwick Fire Dept., OEC line workers installed outdoor lighting and removed an outdated siren for the Laurens Fire Department.

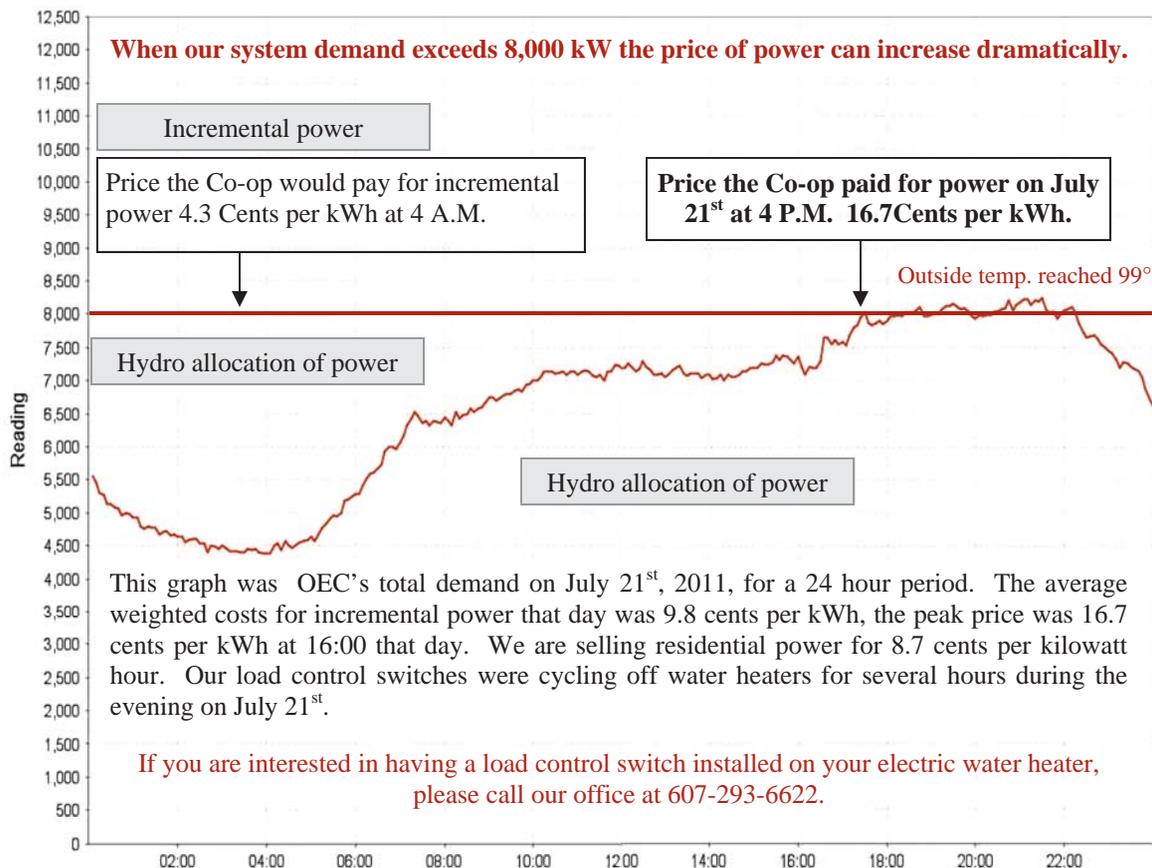
These are just a few of the many community support activities OEC performs each year.



Somewhere in the body of this newsletter there is a service map location number, your map location number is located on your bill. If you find your map location number in this newsletter call the office within 15 days and your account will be credited \$25.

LOAD CONTROL DURING THE SUMMER

Controlling our system load helps save the Cooperative money during the winter months and on hot summer days. The Co-op has a contract for approximately 8,000 kW of hydro-power, when we go over that allocation of power we have to purchase incremental power and it can sometimes be expensive. By controlling our peaks during the day we can keep power cost down.



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Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Is your washing machine more than 10 years old? According to the U.S. Department of Energy, families can cut related energy costs by more than a third—and water costs by more than half—by purchasing a clothes washer with an ENERGY STAR label. Choose a front-load or redesigned top-load model.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

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What Are My Lighting Options?

Starting in 2012, lightbulbs must be more energy efficient.

The three most common bulb options consumers will find on store shelves are:



Halogen incandescents
 Energy Savings:* 25 percent
 Lifespan:* Three times longer
 Annual Energy Cost: \$3.50



Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs)
 Energy Savings:* 75 percent
 Lifespan:* 10 times longer
 Annual Energy Cost: \$1.20



Light-emitting diodes (LEDs)
 Energy Savings:* 75-80 percent
 Lifespan:* 25 times longer
 Annual Energy Cost: \$1

* As compared to traditional incandescent bulbs

Learn more at energysavers.gov/lighting

New Lighting Standards Begin in 2012

Beginning in 2012, common light bulbs sold in the U.S. will typically use about 25% to 80% less energy. Many bulbs meet these new standards, including incandescents, CFLs, and LEDs, *and* are already available for purchase today. The newer bulbs provide a wide range of choices in color and brightness, and many of them will last much longer than traditional light bulbs. The lighting standards, which phase in from 2012-2014, do not ban incandescent or any specific bulb type; they say that bulbs need to use about 25% less energy. The bipartisan Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA 2007) established these efficiency standards.

The new energy-saving light bulbs—incandescents, CFLs, and LEDs—are available today and *could save you about \$50 per year when you replace 15 traditional incandescent bulbs in your home.*

—U.S. Department of Energy

Otsego Electric Cooperative Operational Changes

Happy Retirement

OEC Billing Supervisor Nancy Martindale officially retired from Otsego Electric Cooperative last month. Everyone at OEC appreciates all of Nancy's dedication and hard work in support of our members over the last 32 years. We wish Nancy all the best and we hope she enjoys her well deserved retirement.



New Member Service Representative

We would like to welcome Colleen Kukenberger as an employee of Otsego Electric Cooperative. Colleen was recently (June 2011) hired as a Member Service Representative. Colleen will be working primarily with billing. She is looking forward to working closely with our Co-op members.

Line Foreman Position Filled

We would like to congratulate Kevin Rottingen, he has recently accepted the position of Line Foreman at Otsego Electric Cooperative.

Kevin has worked for Otsego Electric Co-op for 10 years. He is a graduate of the Southeast Lineman Training Center (SLTC) and lives in the Town of Hartwick with his wife Amanda.

Kevin has replaced our former Line Forman Mike Maerz. Mike will be temporarily staying on in order to assist in the transition.



If you have an electric water heater call the Co-op office at 607-293-6622 for info about the **\$2** monthly credit for being in the **Load Switch Energy Saver Program.**

Otsego Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Box 128, Hartwick, NY 13348

Office Hours

7:30 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Monday – Friday

Phone: **607-293-6622**

After Hours and Outages: **1-866-591-3192**

Call **DigSafely. New York** before you dig 1-800-962-7962 or 811