

Season's Greetings

*From the Directors and Employees
of Shelby Electric Cooperative,
Shelby Energy Company and
PWR-net Wireless
Broadband Internet*

Cooperative lends a hand with Osprey project

Just what is an Osprey and why would an electric distribution cooperative get involved with a project for this large raptor?

An Osprey by definition is a large fish-eating bird of prey with long narrow wings and a white underside and crown. Although it is found all across the world, the North American Osprey populations became an endangered species in the 1950s. Since that time preservationists have been working to reestablish this rangy bird.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service want to reintroduce Osprey into Illinois. Lake Shelbyville was chosen as one of the locations for this reintroduction.

An osprey nesting habitat must include an adequate supply of accessible fish within a maximum of

Continued on 16b ▶



Shelby Electric Cooperative (SEC) provided linecrews and poles to an Osprey Hotel project near Lake Shelbyville. Pictured left to right SEC Lineman Steve Darnell, Wildlife Biometrician Patrick McDonald from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (INDR), SEC linemen Andy McDonald, Cary Bryson, Jerry Johnston and Brian Chevalier, INDR intern Bridget Henning, SEC linemen Blake Knearem, Larry Nohren and Roger Jones.

about 12 miles of the nest which is usually elevated free from predatory mammals such as raccoons. Also needed is a long enough ice-free season to allow the young to fledge (fly).

The birds happily build large stick-and-sod nests on telephone poles, channel markers and other such locations.

So who might have poles long enough and the equipment to erect these poles? The local electric cooperative would. So Wildlife Biometrician Pat McDonald from the IDNR contacted the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives who then reached out

to Shelby Electric Cooperative. “We were happy to help them out with the first phase of their project,” said Operations Superintendent Terry Oldham. “The next phase is for the local carpenters union to install the actual nesting boxes on the poles,” added Oldham.

Most Ospreys are migratory birds that breed in the north and migrate south for the winter.

According to the IDNR the plan is to have the birds flown up from Langley Air Force Base in the spring. The baby chicks will then be raised in the box and will fledge when old enough. The idea is they will migrate south in the fall

and return to the area where they were raised and continue the cycle annually.

“Ospreys are a conservation success story and their populations are still growing, aided by pesticide bans and the construction of artificial nest sites. We appreciate the support and assistance SEC provided us in phase one,” said IDNR’s Pat McDonald.

Time will tell but hopefully residents around Lake Shelbyville will be seeing this beautiful bird soaring in and around the lake in 2014 and well into the future thanks to this reintroduction project.



The Osprey, sometimes known as the sea hawk, fish eagle or fish hawk, became an endangered species between the years 1950 and 1970.

Did you know?

When diving after fish, Ospreys can completely submerge themselves underwater and still be able to fly away with their prey. Most other fish-eating birds of prey can only pluck fish from the surface of the water as they fly by.

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Office Hours:
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



Recycling fact:

Every ton of newspaper recycled saves 4,100 kWh or enough energy to power a TV for 31 hours.

The Power of green recycling days and hours of operation:

Tuesday 8 a.m. – noon
 Thursday 1p.m. – 4 p.m.
 Saturday 8 a.m. – noon

Shelby Electric’s recycling site will NOT be available for drop off on the following date:

Tuesday, December 24th
 Christmas Eve

Recycling drop-off is located at the cooperative’s building east of Shelbyville on Route 16.

We need an all-of-the-above energy strategy

Electric cooperatives are disappointed, but not surprised, that in September the Administration officially abandoned an all-of-the-above energy strategy for a new, all-but-one approach that effectively removes coal from the nation's fuel mix in the future.

The policy, proposed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), sets stringent limits on carbon dioxide emissions from future coal or natural gas plants. Trouble is, the new standards are impossible to meet with existing technology.

For several years cooperatives have tested carbon capture and storage (CCS) as a way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Unfortunately, the technology doesn't make financial sense. It has never been used at a commercial scale power plant over a prolonged period to demonstrate its viability or cost. In a 2012 Congressional Budget Office report, engineers estimate it would increase the cost of producing electricity from coal-based plants by 75 percent.

Shelby Electric Cooperative (SEC), along with several other central Illinois electric cooperatives, receive just under 74 percent of all electric power from coal generation facilities.

The Administration's switch to an all-but-one energy approach would limit Americans' access to a plentiful and affordable resource. SEC management and board of directors feel we should not gamble with the

economic well being of future generations and our nation's economy.

Already worried about making ends meet, many of Shelby Electric Cooperative co-op consumer-members cannot afford the significant increases in electric bills that this policy would trigger.

Historically, the price of coal remains affordable and relatively stable. The U.S. Energy Information Agency reports the United States has 236 years remaining of recoverable coal reserves. Coal generates 37 percent of the nation's electricity, our biggest energy source by far.

Seems the Administration lets history repeat itself. This all-but-one game happened in 1978 when Congress passed the ill conceived Power Plant and Industrial Fuel Use Act. For several years the government banned natural gas for power generation. Yes, natural gas, the fuel source being sold to the nation today as a cleaner fuel option. With gas off the table, electric co-ops were forced to choose between building coal or nuclear plants.

Back then, co-ops were in the midst of a major power plant building cycle. With few options, they invested heavily in coal-based gen-

1. ABANDONS ALL-OF-THE ABOVE
The Administration is reversing course: ditching our All-of-the-Above energy strategy for an All-But-One approach that bans new coal plants.

2. TECHNOLOGY GAMBLE
New regulations essentially require technology that's not commercially viable and prohibitively expensive—leading to higher bills down the line.

TOP 4 FACTS
ABOUT THE EPA'S NEW CLIMATE REGULATIONS

3. LIMITS ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, DOMESTIC ENERGY
By banning new coal plants, Americans forfeit a 236-year domestic source of energy with a historically stable price.

4. HISTORY REPEATS: ALL-BUT-ONE DOESN'T WORK
A 1978 mandate prevented use of natural gas & forced utilities into coal or nuclear—before common sense prevailed and it was repealed 9 years later.

COOPERATIVE ACTION NETWORK **ACTION.COOP**

erating plants in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Thankfully Congress repealed its mistake — but not for nine years.

Let's not repeat past mistakes. Stand with us as we fight to keep electric bills affordable. Raise your voice through the Cooperative Action Network at www.action.coop or go to www.shelbyelectric.coop and click on the "TAKE ACTION" icon located under the Shelby News section of the homepage and tell the EPA we need an all-of-the-above energy strategy.

Source: NRECA

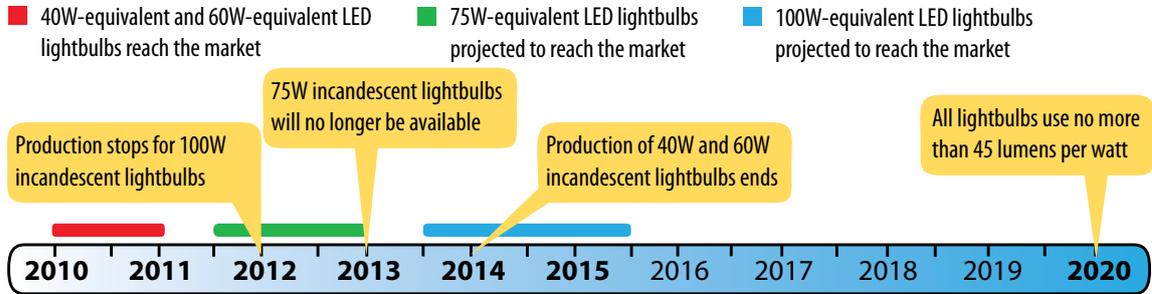
RENEWABLE ENERGY NUCLEAR POWER NATURAL GAS CLEAN COAL

America needs an **ALL OF THE ABOVE STRATEGY** to keep electric bills affordable

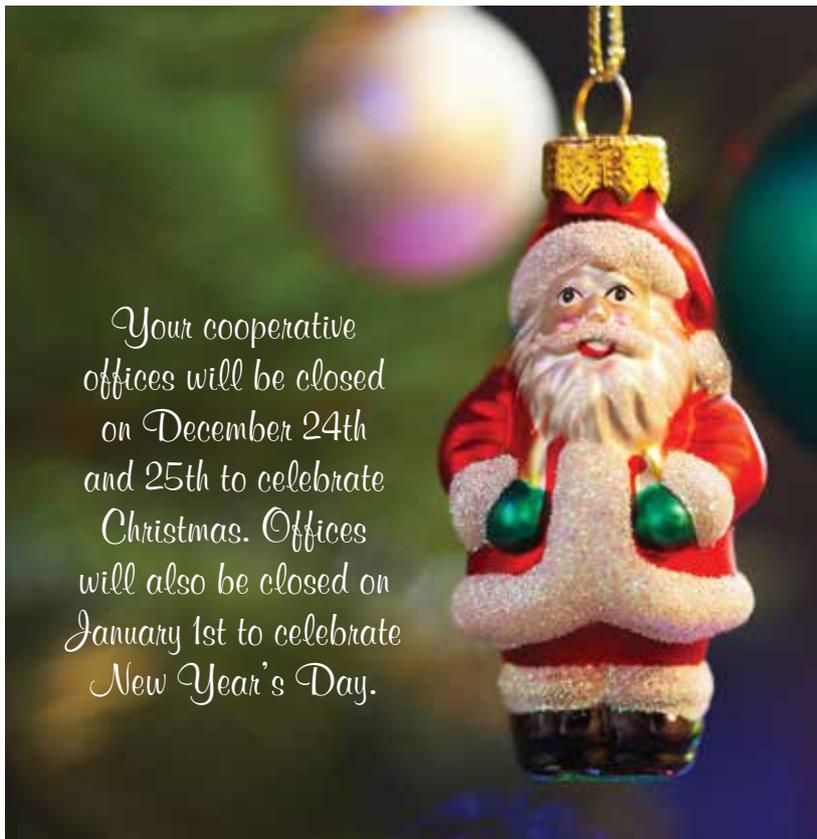
URGE EPA TO RECONSIDER ITS "ALL-BUT-ONE" APPROACH **TAKE ACTION**

LEDs: A Decade of Change

By 2014, lightbulbs using between 40W to 100W must consume at least 28 percent less energy than traditional incandescents, saving Americans an estimated \$6 billion to \$10 billion in lighting costs annually. The federal Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 also mandates that lightbulbs become 70 percent more efficient by 2020. Light-emitting diodes (LEDs) are quickly evolving to meet this challenge. Learn more: EnergySavers.gov/Lighting



Source: U.S. Department of Energy Lighting Facts Product Snapshot: LED Replacement Lamps 2011



Your cooperative offices will be closed on December 24th and 25th to celebrate Christmas. Offices will also be closed on January 1st to celebrate New Year's Day.



Energy Efficiency *Tip of the Month*

Electric bills rise in the winter for lots of reasons – holiday parties, house guests and shorter days and longer nights. Take little measures to help control costs like turning down the thermostat, washing clothes in cold water, swapping out lightbulbs for high-efficiency bulbs and using microwaves or toaster ovens to cook. Find more ways to save at TogetherWeSave.com

Source: Touchstone Energy • Cooperatives

<p>Shelby Energy 1-217-774-2311 24-hours-a-day</p>	<p>PWR-net 1-877-994-2323 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Please leave a message after hours</p>	<p>Shelby Electric Cooperative 1-800-677-2612 1-217-774-3986 24-hours-a-day</p>
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