

PowerPoints

News & Information for Residential Customers

October 2009



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Cool rebates help reduce the use of electricity

The Santee Cooper Refrigerator Rebate program can help you get a new, ENERGY STAR[®] qualified refrigerator that uses less energy. Since your refrigerator uses more electricity than any other kitchen appliance, replacing older, less-efficient models is a good way to start reducing the amount of electricity you use.

The Refrigerator Rebate program is one of the initial components of Reduce the Use South Carolina, a campaign recently introduced by Santee Cooper that encourages customers to ReTHINK the way they use energy, to ReDUCE the amount of electricity they use and to ReNEW their old appliances with a more energy efficient model and make qualified, energy efficient home improvements.

Many local appliance dealers and home improvement retailers throughout the Santee Cooper service area are participating in the Refrigerator Rebate program. Look for Reduce the Use and rebate information where you shop for household appliances.

Reduce the Use is a long-term program that will offer more incentives in the future. For more information on the Refrigerator Rebate program, upcoming incentive programs and ways to save energy, visit ReduceTheUse.com.



Rate adjustment goes into effect Nov. 1

The Santee Cooper Board of Directors recently voted to enact an overall average 3.4 percent base rate increase beginning Nov. 1, 2009 to offset rising costs of operating and maintaining the utility's generation, transmission and distribution facilities.

At the same time, the board also postponed adopting a second rate adjustment proposed for 2010. The board's action supports recommendations by Santee Cooper management on the implementation of new rates in light of a separate board vote to suspend efforts to permit a planned 600-MW power plant in Florence County.

The 2009 rate adjustment is Santee Cooper's first base rate increase since 1996.

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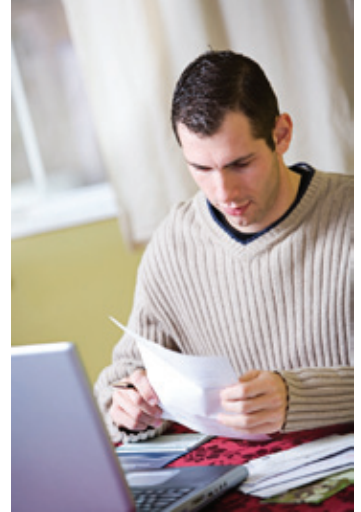
Rate adjustment continued

The 2009 rate adjustment is Santee Cooper's first base rate increase since 1996. Since then, Santee Cooper has nearly doubled its generating capacity and invested more than \$3 billion in new generation, transmission and distribution, all to serve a customer base that has grown by nearly 60 percent.

The new rates feature consolidation of similar rate categories and introduce a seasonal rate that is one cent per kWh higher in the summer months, when it costs more to generate power. Specifically, the new rates are an average annual increase of 7.6 percent for residential customers beginning Nov. 1. This equals an average monthly bill increase of \$6.59 for a residential customer consuming 1,000 kilowatt hours a month.

"The 2009 rate increase will provide necessary revenues for Santee Cooper to meet the increasing costs to generate and distribute electricity," said Santee Cooper Chairman of the Board **O.L. Thompson**. "We have carefully reviewed management's proposal and the many thoughtful comments we received from our customers and other members of the public. I know that we are in some extremely difficult economic times, and Santee Cooper has delayed this rate increase as long as possible."

Santee Cooper is also launching Reduce the Use South Carolina, an aggressive set of energy efficiency initiatives that can help customers save energy and offset the impact of the higher rates.



Is wind power a viable alternative?

Wind power generation can create more energy and jobs in South Carolina. But while the wind is free, harnessing its energy is not. Santee Cooper has entered into a two-phased study to determine the economic viability and reliability of investing in wind power for our state.

Since onshore winds in South Carolina are not strong enough to warrant investment in a land-based wind farm, offshore wind farms may prove to be more suitable. Santee Cooper, Coastal Carolina University and the South Carolina Energy Office recently placed two strings of buoys along the Grand Strand to measure wind speed and consistency.

In approximately six months, Santee Cooper will erect a higher anemometer station to determine if the ocean winds are strong enough to turn massive rotor blades on towers. The anemometers will collect data for one year.

If the tower data is favorable, Santee Cooper will seek permits to build an offshore wind farm.

