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NEWS CENTRAL

Monthly newsletter from Central Electric Membership Corp.

Stay vigilant against scams posing as utilities

Local and national headlines are hard to miss, scam attempts are still on the rise. Whether by phone, email or door-to-door, criminals continue to target individuals within our communities, including Central Electric members.

The most common scam attempt is a threatening phone call stating your electric service is in immediate danger of being disconnected. The caller associates themselves with Central Electric, or another local utility, and warns the individual that a payment must be made immediately to avoid a disconnection of service. Various payment options, including prepaid credit cards and other personal information, are requested within a short window, usually a few minutes, or the service will be shut-off.

The scams are effective when they create a sense of urgency and catch you off-guard in a quick moment of panic. In that brief moment of panic, individuals have been lured into providing credit card and other personal information. Unfortunately, it is often tough for law enforcement to recover any lost money.



Remember this important information to prevent yourself from falling victim to a utility scam:

- ▶ Central Electric will **NEVER** call and demand an instant payment or ask for personal information to prevent immediate disconnection.
- ▶ A mailed notice will be sent advising of an overdue account, followed by a second mailed notice around two weeks later. You may also receive a phone call from an automated system the night before a disconnection as a reminder of the overdue balance.

If you are ever unsure of the status of your account or the party you are speaking with, hang up and call the cooperative immediately. Cooperative representatives are readily available to you by calling 1-800-446-7752.

You can also quickly check the status of your account online at CEMCPower.com. Here you can check your account balance, make payments and set up alerts that will notify you when you have an overdue balance. If you have not already done so, contact the cooperative today to set up a login.



- ▶ Applications for 2017 third-quarter Operation Round Up® grant opportunities must be submitted by Aug. 1. Recipients will be announced following the Trust board meeting on Aug. 17.

POINT OF VIEW

Changing industry standards

From the desk of CEO & General Manager Morris McClellion

In late March, President Donald Trump signed the “Promoting Energy Independence and Economic Growth” executive order. The order aims to reduce regulatory barriers to domestic energy production. It also begins the lengthy process of suspending components of the Clean Power Plan, a rule implemented under President Obama to reduce carbon emissions from power plants. What does this mean for you, our members?

As a utility, we are subject to regulations set by both the state and federal governments. While pieces of the Clean Power Plan will likely be rolled back, other federal and state standards, like the North Carolina Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

Portfolio Standard, are likely to remain in place.

President Trump’s executive order on energy now faces administrative, regulatory and legal processes that could take years to complete. Regardless of the time line on that particular issue, we will continue to engage with local and state policymakers, and participate in federal policy processes along with our national cooperative network. We support policies that allow us to best serve our local members by incorporating into our energy portfolio multiple cost-effective generation resources, including solar and grid enhancements.

Beyond policy activities, market forces, technology and consumer



Central Electric’s Community Solar array, located beside the cooperative’s office on Wilson Road, provides carbon-free electricity from the sun’s natural energy. The project is allowing the cooperative to explore the use of renewable energy to help balance its power sources.



expectations are driving changes in the industry. Together, over the last decade, these elements have guided utilities’ decisions to make modifications and incorporate alternative sources of generation to reduce our overall carbon footprint.

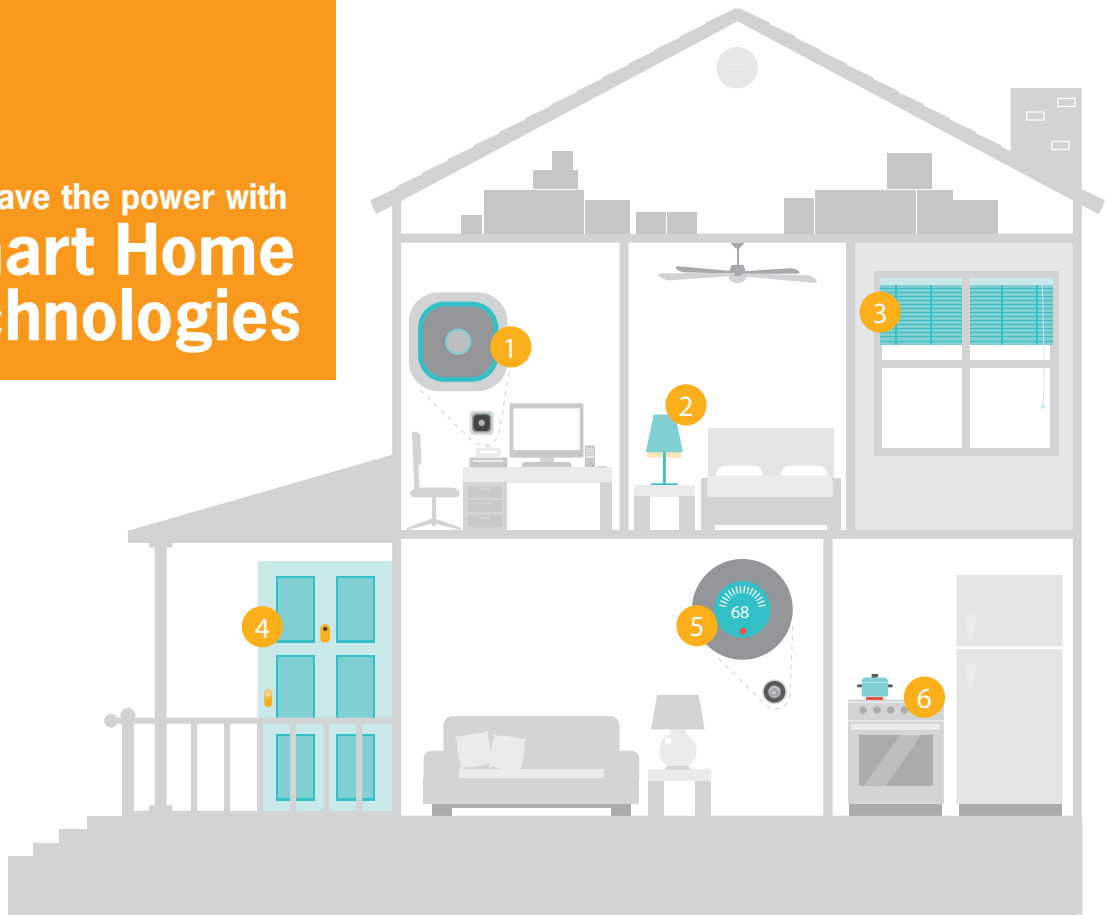
As a local, member-owned power provider, our cooperative seeks solutions and proven technologies to bolster our distribution system, with the goal of serving the growing needs of our members and mitigating cost increases in a changing environment.

We will continue to work with electric cooperatives nationwide to advocate on behalf of members in the halls of government, and help elected officials understand how legislative and regulatory actions can impact electric cooperative members. And above all, we will continue to pursue strategies that best serve you, our members.

Until next time,

Morris McClellion

You have the power with Smart Home Technologies



1 Smart Hub

If you are looking to make your home smart without having to hire a company to install an interconnected system, then an internet-connected smart hub is the first thing you'll need. A smart hub will allow you to control all of your devices from one app by acting as a middle man that facilitates communications between all your smart home devices.

2 Smart Lighting

Like most items in a smart home, smart lighting can be controlled with a few swipes of a phone app. But smart lighting is more than just convenient. Smart light bulbs are more energy efficient than standard incandescent bulbs. Some bulbs use GPS on your phone to determine your location, and can turn on or off depending on where you are located. Some bulbs are even voice controlled.

3 Smart Blinds

Smart blinds can be useful for those who have tall, hard-to-reach windows; for those who have difficulty moving around the house; or for those who simply

want to smarten their home. Smart blinds allow you to schedule your blinds to open and close during certain times of day – a bonus if you are trying to be energy efficient – or control them via an app.

4 Smart Locks

Smart locks allow you and anyone else you wish to enter your home with ease. Some smart locks let you open your doors with your cell phone. Some let you see who is coming and going while you are out of the house. Some even allow you to assign security privileges to certain people.

5 Smart Thermostat

A smart thermostat is a great way to keep your home energy efficient. Many smart thermostats can learn your heating and cooling behavior and will auto-schedule based on your preferences.

6 Smart Cooking Appliances

Smart cooking appliances, like slow cookers, allow you to cook a perfect meal away from home, without burning the house down. Wi-Fi technology allows you to cook while on-the-go!

Students rewarded for classroom efforts

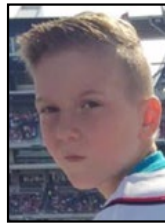
Five outstanding students earned a Visa® gift card for receiving at least one “A” on their recent report cards.

The reward is in connection with Central Electric’s “Give us an A” program.

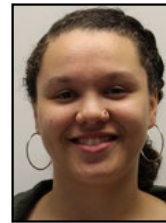
Local students from kindergarten to college with a grade of at least one “A” are invited to send in a copy of their most recent report card.

Four times each school year, Central Electric will draw from the entries and award a \$25 Visa gift card to four winners with at least one “A” and a \$50 Visa gift card to one winner with all “A’s”.

If you have at least one “A” on your next report card, send in a copy to Janet Jackson at Central Electric by June 12 for a chance to be selected in the next random drawing. Entries can be submitted by email at JacksonJ@cemcpower.com or by mail at Give us an “A,” PO Box 1107, Sanford, N.C. 27332.



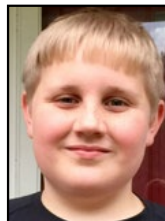
**Anakin
Frye**



**Vanessa
Hagwood**



**Mason
Blell**



**Tyler
Measamer**



**Hailey
Martinez**

Nominating Committee to meet June 5 to set Director elections

In accordance with Section 4.06 of the Cooperative’s bylaws, the Central Electric Board of Directors has appointed a group of members to prepare a slate of nominees for election at the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Members on Oct. 6, 2017.

Those appointed to the Nominating Committee include:

- ▶ Ronnie Lambert, Siler City
- ▶ Lonell Smith, Cameron
- ▶ Robert Howington, Sanford
- ▶ Michael V. Perry, Sanford
- ▶ Carolyn Cameron, Sanford
- ▶ Jackie Williams, Pittsboro
- ▶ C. Richard Williams, Siler City
- ▶ John S. Blue, Carthage
- ▶ Bradley Wadsworth, Carthage
- ▶ Cathy Cagle Callahan, Cameron
- ▶ Janet Brower-Thomas, Cameron.

The committee will meet June 5, 2017. During the meeting, they will consider three-year terms for the following incumbents: Rebecca Cogan, District 1; Henry Outz, District 2; Henry Randolph, District 3; Tim Priest, District 4.

Once the slate of nominees has been determined, the list will be posted at the cooperative’s office at 128 Wilson Road, Sanford, N.C.

The deadline for additional nominations is Aug. 8, 2017. Any 100 or more members of the cooperative, acting together over their signatures not less than 60 days prior to the meeting, may make additional nominations in like manner listing the nominees separately with respect to the Directorate Districts.



Central Electric
Membership Corporation

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Morris McClellion
CEO & General Manager

DIRECTORS

Rebecca G. Cogan, *President*
Tommy Dalrymple, *Vice President*
James B. Brooks, *Secretary-Treasurer*
W. Phillip Thompson, *Asst. Secretary*
Frank Comer III, Edith C. Cox,
Dr. Nancy G. Holmes, Henry Outz,
Tim Priest and Henry Randolph.

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