



Roanoke Electric **FLASHES**

Challenge still on to find a balanced solution for our future energy needs

By Curtis Wynn
Executive Vice President and CEO

In 2009, we made a very serious appeal asking you to connect with our legislators in Washington, D.C. The objective has been to encourage our leaders to create a national energy policy that can reduce carbon emissions without burdening Americans with higher energy costs.

This discussion has been at the forefront of national, state, and local media for at least two years now, and Roanoke Electric needs your continued support in this very important issue.

Last year, the U.S. House of Representatives passed its version of a climate change bill. The bill that passed the House is more improved than its original version because you responded to the call in 2009. The U.S. Senate, which has reported its own

version of a bill to the general body, will discuss this soon. In the normal course of signing a bill into law, both Chambers (House and Senate) agree on a unified version of the bills before it is sent to the President to be signed or vetoed.

We are currently being confronted with an unusual situation in the fact that the Environmental Protection Agency is considering proposals to regulate greenhouse gas emissions even if Congress does not pass legislation. The EPA is exercising this political capital by way of the 1970 Clean Air Act and a 2007 Supreme Court decision that qualified certain pollutants under the same act.

At this time, we are asking you to contact members of Congress to cease this effort. Congress is responsible for determining any climate change legislation — it should not be left

to the Environmental Protection Agency to determine.

I hope this now begs the question: “How can I join this effort?” Ways to get involved can be as simple as making a phone call or submitting an e-mail. Dialing 1-877-40BALANCE (1-877-40-225-2623) will route you directly to your members of Congress. This will give you the opportunity to voice your concerns.

You can also visit www.ourenergy.coop. There you’ll find more information on this issue and instructions on joining the effort and ultimately communicate via email or direct mail.

We do thank you for your past work in contacting our legislators and look forward to working with you through this issue. Let’s get real about our energy future and work with Congress to solve our problems.



Curtis Wynn

Find A
Balanced Solution





Co-op Connections Program Spotlight

Janet's Bookkeeping Service

Smart businesses know quality products and services are only part of the equation for success. The other part is providing value to their customers, something Janet Tranquillo, owner of Janet's Bookkeeping Service, knows all too well.

So when Roanoke Electric Cooperative asked her if she would be interested in the new Co-op Connections Program she didn't hesitate to get on board.

Janet, who has a background in banking and bookkeeping, began preparing tax returns for friends and family. Her efforts later developed into a full service bookkeeping company with payroll service in 2003. "Basically, I can handle just about anything from tax returns to payroll," she said, "but I specialize in full service bookkeeping for construction companies." Under the Co-op Connections Program, Janet's Bookkeeping Service is offering \$5 off tax preparation and a 10 percent discount on other services. "For instance, if a company/client comes to

me and decides they want me to handle their books, I will give them 10 percent off the regular monthly charge and do their taxes for no additional cost," she explained. Janet's Bookkeeping Service is located at 47 Home Port Lane, Gates, North Carolina. For an appointment call (252) 357-1214.

As a participant of the Co-op Connections Program, Janet is able to offer special incentives to clients for her services and in return receive additional media exposure. This includes being marketed to 14,000-plus local cooperative members, with 159 participating cooperatives nationwide and 22 million Touchstone Energy members, at no extra charge.

By participating in the Co-op Connections Program, Janet's Bookkeeping Service and other participating businesses are afforded increased visibility by being listed on the Roanoke Electric and national Co-op Connections Web sites and in the Roanoke Electric Flashes.

Businesses display signs and stickers indicating their participation in the program, which allows members and potential clients and customers to easily identify locations offering the special discounts. A list of participating businesses can also be found online at

www.roanokeelectric.com by clicking on the Co-op Connections Program icon in the middle of the page.

For more information on business enrollment in the Co-op Connections Program, please contact Diana Mitchell at 252-539-4601 or email dmitchell@roanokeelectric.com for more information.

Appliance rebates offered for April 22-25 purchases

If you live in North Carolina and need a more energy-efficient appliance, Earth Day weekend is the time to make that purchase. North Carolinians will be able to save on major appliance purchases while putting \$8.8 million in federal Recovery funds to work stimulating the economy, cutting energy use and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Customers will receive 15 percent rebates on ENERGY STAR-rated appliance purchases from Thursday, April 22 through Sunday, April 25. This rebate will be in addition to any store, manufacturer or other discount being offered. ENERGY STAR clothes washers, dishwashers, refrigerators and freezers qualify for this rebate program. The rebates are available at participating dealers, so check before purchasing.

North Carolina residents who are replacing older clothes washers, dishwashers, refrigerators, and freezers are eligible for the rebates on designated ENERGY STAR appliances. The program is only available to those replacing appliances. Those purchasing multiple appliances for commercial properties are not eligible. You may receive rebates on more than one appliance but it must be for different appliances. For example, you may receive rebates on a refrigerator and clothes washing machine, but not on two refrigerators.

By replacing older, conventional appliances with the 49,960 ENERGY STAR items estimated will be purchased in the program, enough electricity will be saved to power 536 homes for a year.



Depending on funds available, a second phase in June will offer rebates on ENERGY STAR residential gas storage water heaters, tankless gas water heaters, central air conditioners, heat pumps and gas furnaces that replace older items. These rebates will be mail-ins and can be used with purchase through retailers, contractors or programs offered through utilities.



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Holiday Closing Reminder

Roanoke EC will be closed on Friday, April 2, in observance of Easter. To report outages, please call (800) 358-9437. Have a safe and happy holiday.

