

## Roanoke Electric **FLASHES**

# What are the right choices? An introduction to energy policy

By Curtis Wynn  
*Executive Vice President and CEO*

American ingenuity has always produced creative solutions to meet new challenges. American innovation is again the key to one of the most vexing problems facing our country today: energy policy.

It is clear that the President and Congress will address the issue of climate change, and we must be involved to help them find the right solution - a solution that marries America's tradition of developing cutting-edge technology with our fundamental respect for the land on which we live and the air we breathe. The wrong solution will cause steep increases in electric bills for families, businesses and our economy as a whole. We can't solve the issue of climate change by placing impossible burdens on the backs of hardworking Americans. We CAN have a cleaner environment and a healthy economy if we make the right choices.

As we seek a solution to energy challenges, it is clear that any legislation to decrease carbon emissions must be balanced and avoid long-term economic consequences to consumers and the economy. It must have

achievable targets and tangible benefits. Priority should be given to policies that lower energy costs by improving energy efficiency because such policies would help alleviate financial burden to consumers.

A call to make reliability and affordability of electricity the central considerations in climate change legislation is a call to do the right thing. We ask Congress to choose significant, long-term greenhouse gas reduction that imposes the smallest increases in energy bills to mitigate the impact of rising electricity prices on consumers. The wrong choices on the issue would devastate our economy and our future. What are the right choices?

Roanoke Electric Cooperative, along with cooperatives across the state, proposes the implementation of a broad range of new technologies over the next two decades. Electric cooperatives propose reducing carbon dioxide emissions dramatically, but in a way that softens the impact to already increasing energy costs. Congress must focus on technology development to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and make the timing of reductions more in line with technology developments.

A sensible plan to protect the environment and our economy must include:

**Consumer protection:**

Consumer price protections must be put in place to mitigate harmful economic conditions to the end consumers of electricity.

**Careful timing:** Any defined emission reduction targets must be achievable and timed with the advancement and commercialization of technologies.

**Regulatory certainty:** Utilities need to know the rules of the road if they want to keep the lights on. Further, the rules cannot change once a non-reversible decision has been made and should provide a uniform field for the entire country to avoid detrimental regional economic impacts.

**All sectors must be included:** Every entity that produces greenhouse gas emissions must be included in the legislation, not just electric generation.

**Worldwide effort:** It's not just the United States producing CO<sub>2</sub>. A worldwide effort is needed to make a measurable CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction.



Curtis Wynn

## Bright Ideas grant application early bird drawing

Teachers who apply for a Bright Ideas grant before August 16 are eligible for an early bird prize drawing - \$500 Visa gift card-provided by the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives. Applications and information on this program are available at [www.ncbrightideas.com](http://www.ncbrightideas.com), or by visiting Roanoke EC's website at [www.roanokeelectric.com](http://www.roanokeelectric.com).



## Roanoke EC awards local students

### Roanoke EC scholarship winner sees his future in engineering

Nehemia Pulley was selected as this year's recipient of the \$1,000 Roanoke Electric Cooperative Scholarship. Roanoke EC established this scholarship in 1985 to help a young person who understands the cooperative way of doing business. Roanoke EC is very proud of its young people and encourages them to be strong cooperative leaders of the future.



*Nehemia Pulley*

Nehemia is a graduate of Weldon STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) High School in Weldon. He is the son of Carolyn S. Pulley of Halifax.

Nehemia will attend North Carolina A & T State University in Greensboro, pursuing a lifelong desire of becoming an architectural engineer.

Nehemia is active in church and school. Taking his academics seriously, he maintained a perfect attendance all through high school. He is also very versatile as he maintained a high grade point average while participating in varsity football, basketball and track.

One of Nehemiah's teachers described him as "well-rounded, excelling both academically and athletically. His strong leadership skills are portrayed as he works with and gets along well with his peers both in the classroom and in the sports arena."

The cooperative will present Nehemiah with the Roanoke Electric Cooperative Scholarship certificate at the cooperative's annual meeting of members in August.

### Teen wins spot on national cooperative youth tour

Tatyanna Holley attended the 2010 Rural Electric Youth Tour, held in Washington, D.C., from June 12-June 18. Tatyanna is a sophomore at Bertie STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) High in Windsor. She is the daughter of Leroy and Louise Holley.



*Tatyanna Holley*

The all-expenses-paid week for the youth offered a lot of leadership development opportunities as well as a good time. The students learned about electric cooperatives, American history and the U.S. government.

Students also visited the Smithsonian Mall, the White House, Arlington National Cemetery, The Newseum (the world's most interactive museum), Mount Vernon, the Lincoln Memorial, the Vietnam Memorial and more!

Not only will attending the tour be a boost on her college applications, but as a Youth Tourist she also has the opportunity to be eligible for one of three annual scholarships. They include: the Gwyn B. Price Youth Tour Scholarship (\$2,500), the Katie Bunch Memorial Scholarship (\$2,000, and the Youth Leadership Council Scholarship (\$2,000).

Roanoke Electric Cooperative is committed to and proud of its youth and extends the opportunity to each to learn more about the cooperative way of doing business.

# Annual Meeting bylaws and information

## Roanoke EC's 2010 Annual Meeting

Roanoke Electric will host its 71st Annual Meeting and Member Appreciation Day on Saturday, August 28, at Hertford County High School in Ahoskie.

The three-year terms for districts 1, 5, and 9 will be up for election. Directors currently serving these districts are Johnnie P. Garner, Kenneth (Ken) Jernigan, and Chester Deloatch, respectively. The cooperative's Bylaws require that a director must:

- Be a Member and receive the Cooperative's electric service at his or her primary residential abode for at least the twelve (12) months period immediately preceding the date of his or her nomination
- Fulfill all Membership Obligations for any and all accounts of the Member and, for the 12 months preceding the date of his or her nomination:
- Not be employed by or financially interested in an enterprise in competition with the Cooperative or its subsidiaries; a business selling electric energy or supplies to the Cooperative or its subsidiaries; or a business substantially engaged in selling electrical appliances, fixtures or supplies primarily to Members of the Cooperative or its subsidiaries

The Bylaws establish two methods for nominating board members:

- By Nominating Committee or
- By signature petition of 15 or more members at least 35 days before the Annual Meeting.

### Nominating Committee

The 2010 Nominating Committee members: Robert G.

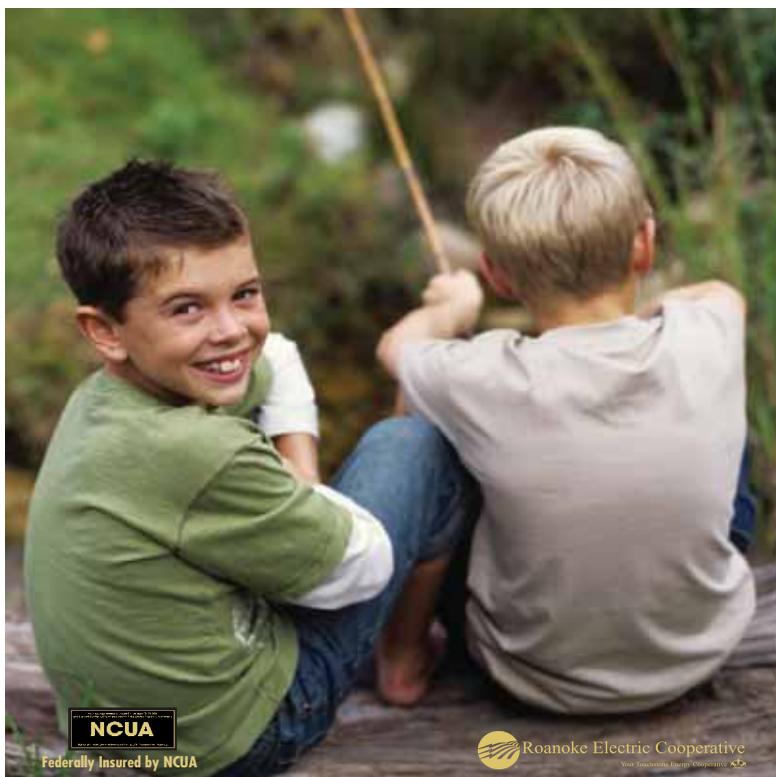
Clark (Dist. 1), Kathy W. Knight (Dist. 2), Kenneth A. Pernell (Dist. 3), Enos Holloman (Dist. 4), Reba Green-Holley (Dist. 5), Sonya Trotman (Dist. 6), James T. Heckstall (Dist. 7), Irving Coggins (Dist. 8), and Venus Michelle Spruill (Dist. 9). The 2010 committee was appointed by the Board on May 24, 2010, pursuant to requirements of Article IV, Section 6 of the co-op bylaws. The Nominating Committee will meet before July 24, 2010.

### Credentials & Elections Committee

This committee has the responsibility to pass upon all questions that may arise with respect to registration of members, to count ballots cast in the election of directors or any other ballot vote taken at the meeting and to rule upon effect of any ballot irregularly marked. The Committee's decision on all such matters is final. The 2010 committee was appointed by the Board on May 24, 2010, pursuant to requirements of Article III, Section 5 of the co-op bylaws.

The 2010 Credentials & Elections Committee members are: Donnell Thomas (Dist. 1), Jacques Alexis (Dist. 2), Oscar R. Epps (Dist. 3), Robert Beard (Dist. 4), Robert Brian Savage (Dist. 5), Elmo Benton (Dist. 6), Marvin Watson (Dist. 7), James S. Pugh (Dist. 8), Carolyn Drew (Dist. 9).

For further information, please contact Roanoke Electric Cooperative at (252) 209-2236.



## WE'RE DIFFERENT, WE'RE LIKE FAMILY

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# USDA homeownership loans are available

USDA Rural Development is pleased to announce that the funding for the Single Family Housing Section 502 Direct Loan Program is expected to be available for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2010 for all states. Rural Development will utilize funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).

Rural Development has \$2.4 billion allocated to the Direct Loan Program that will provide homeownership opportunities for up to 20,000 low-income individuals and families who would not otherwise qualify for mortgage credit.

The loans may be made without a down payment and eligible applicants in rural areas may qualify for loan financing up to 100 percent of the appraised value. Depending on an applicant's income, monthly payments may be reduced to 24 percent of income. Loans are made typically for 33 years but can go for 38 years to a very low-income applicant. These are fixed interest rate loans currently at 4.875 percent. Eligibility for this federal mortgage loan program is limited to families who qualify as low- or very low-income borrowers, which varies by county and state.

For additional information about the Single Family Housing Section 502 Direct Loan program in Halifax, Northampton, Bertie, Martin, Washington, Tyrrell, Pitt, Columbus, Bladen and Robeson



counties, please contact Steve Evans at (252) 822-1183 or by email at [Steve.Evans@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:Steve.Evans@wdc.usda.gov).

USDA Rural Development's mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents. USDA Rural Development administers and manages more than 40 housing, business and community infrastructure and facility programs as laid out by Congress. These programs are designed to improve the economic stability of rural communities, foster growth in homeownership, finance business development, and support the creation of critical community and technology infrastructure. Further information is available at a local USDA Rural Development office or by visiting USDA Rural Development's website at

[www.rurdev.usda.gov](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov)

## Roanoke Electric FLASHES

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For outages call: 1-800-358-9437

For electronic bill payment:

[www.roanokeelectric.com](http://www.roanokeelectric.com)

We accept VISA, MasterCard

& E-check.

Visit our web site at:

[www.roanokeelectric.com](http://www.roanokeelectric.com)

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Curtis Wynn

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*vice president*

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Johnnie P. Garner,

*assistant secretary-treasurer*

Carolyn Bradley

Chester Deloatch

## Holiday Closing Reminder

Roanoke EC will be closed on Monday, July 5, in observance of Independence Day Holiday. To report outages, please call (800) 358-9437.

