

OFFICE HOURS

7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday
Closed Saturday, Sunday and
major holidays

STAFF

Chief Executive Officer:
Brian L. Sparks

**Manager of Office and
Administrative Services:**
Laura Johnson

**Manager of Marketing and
Customer Relations:**
Jill Gilmore

Manager of Operations and Engineering:
Shane Smith

Manager of Energy Services:
Darla Truelove

Superintendent:
Bob Wilson

Assistant Superintendent:
Dan Raines

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

District 1 Jack Knust
District 2 President James S. Weimer
District 3 Vice President James A. Jackson
District 4 David L. Stone
District 5 Secretary Roger Shake
District 6 Ronald E. Thompson
District 7 Treasurer Bill Watkins
District 8 Jack Benham

SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS

To report service interruptions, call:
812-384-4446 or 800-489-7362
(day or night)

**Please have your location number
ready when reporting outages.**

Routine questions answered during regular
business hours.

OUR MISSION...

"To provide our members with electricity and quality, efficient services, while maintaining a financially healthy and rate competitive position in the industry through teamwork, mutual respect and an on-going commitment to our members."

CEO'S COMMENTS

We're different and We're 'Looking Out for You'

Electric cooperatives are different from other businesses you deal with. To tell you the truth, I like being different. And the fact that you're reading this article shows you like that difference, too.

We're different because we're looking out for you. Now, more than ever, that's important because we need to work together to keep your electric bills affordable.

Congress did not pass a comprehensive climate bill last year. In January, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency began regulating greenhouse gases — an action made possible by a 2007 Supreme Court decision, followed by rulings allowing the EPA to use the Clean Air Act to curb carbon emissions. Policies dealing with coal ash, even more stringent controls on other power plant emissions, and state renewable energy requirements could also lead to higher costs. It's hard to predict the future, but one thing seems certain: government regulations are going to increase the cost of doing business.

New regulations won't be the only culprit. Prices for fuel, materials, and equipment will continue to rise. Although the recent economic slump and corresponding drop in electricity use provided some much-needed breathing room, soon we may need to look at power plant construction, requiring a significant, long-term investment of time and money.

We're committed to keeping you informed about policy changes that will impact your electric bill through channels like *Electric Consumer*. We're going to do everything we can to keep your electric bills affordable.

To accomplish that, we're controlling costs through innovation. Our energy efficiency programs help you manage your energy use.



Brian Sparks
UDWI REMC CEO

TogetherWeSave.com shows how little changes like sealing your air ducts, replacing old appliances, or improving your home's insulation can add up to big savings on your electric bill.

Deploying state-of-the-art solutions like our automated meter infrastructure system helps us control operating costs and improve service reliability. Nationally, co-ops are meeting members' power needs with a diverse fuel mix, including renewable energy.

While we're affordable and innovative, above all else we're member-focused. No matter what comes our way, we'll continue to put you, our members, first. UDWI REMC is member controlled and locally operated. As a member, you have a voice in how your co-op operates. At our annual meeting each year you have the opportunity to elect fellow members to our board of directors to represent your best interests. Don't miss our next meeting on March 24!

Member control means we are accountable to those we serve and are dedicated to assisting our communities — your money stays at work close to home. Costs are rising for all of us, but when it comes to your electric bill, our rates are set simply to cover the cost of doing business, not to generate profits for distant stockholders. We exist only to serve you and meet your needs for safe, reliable, and affordable power.

As you can see, we're different. We're working together to keep your electric bills affordable. We're controlling costs through innovation. And we're continuing to put you, our members, first. No matter what the future brings, one thing is certain. We're "Looking Out for You."

UDWI REMC warns against phone scam in area

UDWI REMC is warning people to disregard phone calls saying customers have won a vacation on behalf of the REMC.

Manager of Marketing and Customer Relations Jill Gilmore said local UDWI REMC customers and non-customers have been receiving phone calls advertising free vacation trips. Gilmore warns that these calls are a scam.

"As always, if someone calls you, claiming to represent the REMC, and it just doesn't sound

right, please call us to verify. Your safety is our primary concern," Brian Sparks, UDWI's CEO, said.

Gilmore said some of the phone calls are automated, and some of the calls come from a live person.

Anyone receiving one of these phone calls should exercise extreme caution. No personal information should be given to the caller, and the local sheriff's office should be contacted immediately.

Which water heater is right for you?

1 Standard Electric Water Heater

A standard electric water heater is a traditional type of water heater that operates completely on electric elements. It requires the smallest up-front investment, but uses more energy than lifetime water heaters and hybrid water heaters, making its ongoing costs higher.

This may be the right option for you if ...

1. There are only a few people living in your home.
2. Your overall hot water consumption is low.
3. You don't plan to live in your home more than a few years.

How it operates:

Uses electric elements only

Insulation: Fair to Moderate

Efficiency: Typically ranges from 0.88-0.91 energy factor (EF)

Average operating cost*: \$45.60/month



*Based on U.S. DOE data and an electric rate of \$0.12 per kWh.

2 Lifetime Electric Water Heater

A lifetime water heater is similar to a standard water heater, but is more efficient and costs less money to operate. And because of the added insulation, water in the tank stays warmer longer. A lifetime water heater also includes the added benefit of a manufacturer's lifetime warranty.

This may be the right option for you if ...

1. You want a more durable, higher quality electric water heater.
2. You desire the peace of mind that comes with having a manufacturer's no-leak lifetime warranty.
3. You want increased efficiency, but you don't plan to live in your home long enough to justify the purchase of a hybrid water heater.

How it operates:

Uses electric elements only

Insulation: Dense foam

Efficiency: Typically ranges from 0.90-0.95 energy factor (EF)

Average operating cost*: \$43.80/month



Contact the UDWI REMC office at 384-4446 or at 800-489-7362 for pricing.

3 Hybrid Electric Water Heater

A hybrid water heater is among the most efficient water heaters in the market today. In fact, they are over twice as efficient as standard electric and lifetime water heaters. This unit requires the largest up-front investment, but is also the most efficient and least expensive to operate. With most units, the investment should pay for itself in energy savings within two-five years, depending upon your energy use.

This may be the right option for you if ...

1. You plan to live in your home for at least three years.
2. You may qualify for and want to take advantage of utility and tax incentives.
3. You want to reduce your "Carbon Footprint."
4. Your hot water consumption is moderate to high.

How it operates:

- (1) operates as a heat pump; and
- (2) functions as a hybrid (electric elements + heat pump technology)

Insulation: Moderate

Efficiency:

Typically ranges from 2.0-2.4 energy factor (EF)

Average Operating Cost*: \$21.60/month



Co-ops distribute one million CFL bulbs

One compact fluorescent light bulb can save up to \$40 in electricity costs over its lifetime. It uses less energy, lasts up to six times longer and produces about 75 percent less heat than a standard incandescent bulb. Imagine multiplying those benefits by a million.

That's what UDWI and 17 other electric cooperatives in central and southern Indiana and southeastern Illinois have accomplished by distributing one million CFL bulbs to their consumers over the past three years.

The cooperatives' CFL campaign, in cooperation with power supplier Hoosier Energy, has helped thousands of families discover the energy and money-saving benefits of compact fluorescent lights.

Installing CFLs in the home is one of the easiest and least expensive ways to reduce energy consumption and better manage electricity costs. A part of the special relationship that electric

co-ops have with consumers is helping them to use energy efficiently and keep bills affordable. The CFL distribution program has been a cost-effective way to do that for our co-ops.

What's the impact of one million CFLs?

- Co-op consumers are expected to reduce electricity consumption by about 260 million kilowatt-hours over the life of the bulbs, saving nearly \$26 million.
- The bulbs will reduce carbon dioxide emissions from coal-fired power plants by 260,000 tons – the equivalent of taking more than 45,000 cars off the road for a year.
- The energy savings from one million CFLs is equivalent to avoiding watching television for almost 2.4 billion hours – or a million households turning off their TVs for a year.

Demand-side management measures, such as CFL installations, help utilities reduce energy use during periods of high demand – when temperatures are extremely hot or cold. The one

million CFL bulbs help Hoosier Energy reduce peak demand by four megawatts in summer and more than eight megawatts in winter.

Energy efficiency also has environmental benefits and helps to delay the need for costly new power plants.

The more than 300,000 consumer-members served by Hoosier Energy member cooperatives have taken advantage of an array of energy-saving demand side management programs. These include:

- Incentives for efficient heating, cooling and water heating equipment.
- Home weatherization.
- Appliance recycling to eliminate energy-wasting old refrigerators and freezers.
- The high efficiency Touchstone Energy Home Program.
- An energy management program for peak demand reduction.

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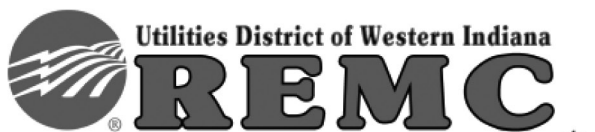
TAKE FIVE

**Kaylee Landis, age 4
Linton, IN**

**Jovan Graves, age 4
Switz City, IN**

steps to save energy in your home.

- ✓ Insulate electric wall plugs and wall switches with foam pads.
- ✓ Caulk around baseboards with a clear sealant.
- ✓ Close shades and drapes at night to keep heat in during the winter.
- ✓ Wash clothes in cold water. Use hot water only for very dirty loads.
- ✓ Change HVAC filters monthly.



1666 West State Road 54
P.O. Box 427
Bloomfield, IN 47424
812.384.4446 or 800.489.7362

**TEAM UP
TO POWER DOWN.**
Together We Save.



CO-OP NOTES

Rate schedule

Schedule "R" – residential service

Rate Schedule (as of April 1)

Consumer charge.....\$32 per month
June, July, Aug.\$0.12 per kWh
Dec., Jan., Feb.\$0.11 per kWh
March, April, May, Sept., Oct., Nov.
.....\$0.08769 per kWh

The above rates are subject to a Purchased Power Cost Adjustment Tracking Factor, in accordance with the order of the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, approved Dec. 17, 1976, in Cause No. 34614, and fuel adjustment clause.

Budget billing

Our BUDGET BILLING PLAN allows you to budget your payments over the course of the year to improve your financial planning. With our BUDGET BILLING PLAN, you know each month exactly how much your electric bill is going to be.

The monthly billing amount is determined by averaging the kilowatt-hours used for the previous 12 months, and the payment is figured using the current rates. The member agrees to pay the budgeted amount each month for 11 months. However, actual use is recorded on each month's billing statement to allow the member to track his or her use throughout the year. In the 12th month, the member either pays the difference in what was actually used, or receives a refund if there is an overpayment.

The BUDGET BILLING PLAN is offered to members who have had electric service with the co-op for at least one year.

Applications for BUDGET BILLING are available throughout the year; however, members can only join the program from April 1 through Sept. 15. June is the first billing month of the program, with May being the 12th, or settlement, month.

For more information about UDWI's BUDGET BILLING PLAN call 384-4446 or 800-489-7362.

Payment options:



We accept Mastercard, Visa, Discover, and American Express credit and debit cards for payment.

Pay your electric bill online with just the click of the mouse. 1. Go to www.udwiremc.com 2. Click a) Log in or b) create a new account **Be sure to provide a valid e-mail address 3. Go to the Pay Your Bill option. (The amount of your bill will be displayed). 4. You will be asked to provide your credit card information—**including expiration date**. 5. Click on the Submit button. 6. You will receive an e-mail confirmation (to the address you provided) once your payment is processed.

If you are interested in paying your electric bill online, please call 812-384-4446 or 800-489-7362 to verify your password before logging on.



Touchstone Energy®

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

Dear REMC,

I would like to thank these gentlemen for the excellent work I received yesterday for my meter loop installation.

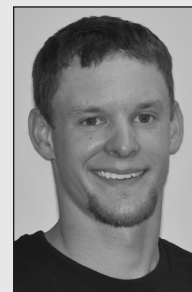
Sincerely,
Mark Eskew



Bill Baize



Cody English



Tyler Singleton

CFL BULBS

continued from page 8GG

- Commercial and industrial energy efficiency.

In addition, UDWI and other Hoosier Energy Power Network cooperatives recently launched Team Up to Power Down, a campaign to raise consumer awareness about the forces driving up power costs and what families can do to better manage their electricity use. Learn more at [Facebook.com/TeamUpToPowerDown](https://www.facebook.com/TeamUpToPowerDown).

Additional information about energy efficiency programs and links to member system websites can be found at hepn.com or UDWI.



the CFL exchange

one million
and counting

Give us an 'A'

Students in our service area who receive an "A" on their report cards are eligible to enter our "Give us an 'A'" drawing, which is held twice each year, in January and in July. Four recipients will receive \$50 U.S. Savings Bonds, and one will receive a \$100 bond.



Co-op members, directors or employees, or dependents of members/directors/employees who are enrolled in an accredited educational program are eligible to enter. Just send us a copy of your grade card with your name, address, telephone number, REMC account number, and the name and grade of the school. Entries should be mailed to Utilities District of Western Indiana REMC, P.O. Box 427, Bloomfield, IN 47424. Please contact 812-384-4446 or 800-489-7362, ext. 46, for additional information.

UDWI REMC wants to help you ...

Lower your electric bill!

Save energy and save money!

Use our home energy savings calculator on our website at www.udwiremc.com

Have you received outstanding service from an employee at UDWI REMC? If so, let us know. Your comment could determine our next *Employee of the Month*. Send a note to: UDWI REMC, c/o CEO Brian L. Sparks, P.O. Box 427, Bloomfield, IN 47424 or via e-mail at remc@udwiremc.com.