



Light Reading

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Save the Date for the Annual Meeting

Mark Saturday, March 27, 2010, for Inland Power's Annual Meeting of its member which will be held at Northern Quest Casino in Airway Heights beginning at 10 a.m.

We will be voting on the election of three trustees to the board and listening to reports on cooperative business. Look for the meeting notification in your mail mid-February. ■

Make Reporting an Outage Easier

Your phone number is the key to reporting an outage quickly.



When we have your correct phone number, we are able to match your number with your address. So, be sure we have your correct phone number. As soon as your outage is reported on the automated system it's sent directly to the dispatchers. This is a faster and more efficient way to respond to a storm or power outage. ■

Inland Power and Light Board Approves \$1,250,000 Refund in Capital Credits

It's time for you to get the credit — capital credits, that is — you deserve for helping build and sustain your local electric cooperative.

Just in time for the holidays, Inland Power and Light is returning \$1,250,000 to members like you.

You might not realize it, but when you signed up to receive electric service from Inland you became a member — and owner — of an electric utility.

While investor-owned utilities return a portion of any profits back to their investors, electric co-ops operate on a not-for-profit basis.

So instead of returning leftover funds, known as margins, to investors who might not live in the same region or even the same state as you do, we issue capital credits (also called patronage capital or equity capital) based on how much you paid the co-op for electricity during a specified time period.

The longer you've been with the co-op and the more power you have purchased, the larger your check will be.



Capital credit refund checks will be mailed out in mid-December. Our gift to you, just in time for the holidays.

Over the past eleven years, not including 2009, we have returned \$13.3 million in capital credits to our members.

Those who are newer to the co-op or don't use a lot of electricity may have to wait a while before receiving a refund. The refund has to be over \$25 before we issue a check.

These funds provided by our members are an important source of financing. They help pay for all the necessities needed to provide you

with safe, reliable and quality service you expect. By using these funds, we can avoid borrowing from other lenders.

We wish you and your family all the best for a happy, prosperous and safe holiday season and new year. ■

Test Your Smoke Alarms

You can prevent tragedies simply by testing and maintaining your smoke alarms and practicing a fire escape plan.



All smoke alarms in your house should be tested monthly, and batteries replaced annually.

Every family should develop a fire escape plan and practice it at least twice a year.

For more safety tips, visit www.inlandpower.com.

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Inland Power is a member-owned, non-profit electric cooperative.

Outage Reporting: (877) 668-8243

What Else Would You Rather Be Doing Than Paying Your Bills?

Answer: Anything.

Pay your Inland Power and Light bill automatically every month with our Automatic Payment Plan.

It takes the worry out of paying your monthly bill on time by having your payment automatically withdrawn directly from your checking account.

The program is free for all eligible Inland Power members. In fact, you could save money by avoiding unnecessary postage and checking fees.

Reduces waste — Without sending checks or envelopes, you're keeping extra trash out of the landfill.

Saves time — You can spend your time doing the things you enjoy instead of spending time writing checks.

It's reliable — You won't have to worry about forgetting to send in a payment, even when you're on vacation.



Your payment to Inland Power will be made on your billing due date. If that date falls on a weekend or holiday, it will be withdrawn the following business day.

To sign up, visit us at www.inlandpower.com, or call us at (509) 789-4277 or (800) 747-7151. You can cancel anytime by calling us. |

Set Back Your Thermostat and Save!

Keeping your home warm accounts for a big chunk of your energy budget.

You can easily trim your energy bills in winter by setting the thermostat at 68°F while you're awake and back a few degrees when you go to sleep or are away from home.

Even better, turning your thermostat back 10° to 15° for eight hours can save about 5 percent to 15 percent a year on your heating bill — about one percent for each degree.

Installing a programmable thermostat can take the thought out of saving energy. Your heating system will ramp up or switch off according to a preset time of day or even day of the week. Most models let you manually override the schedule without affecting the rest of the daily or weekly program.

Programmable thermostats are generally not recommended for heat pumps. When a heat pump works in its heating mode, setting back the thermostat can cause the unit to operate inefficiently, thereby canceling out any savings achieved by lowering the temperature. Maintaining a moderate setting is the most cost-effective practice. |

