



Light Reading



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Members Elect Board of Trustees

The Benefits of Cooperative Membership: Local Control

One of the unique benefits of co-op membership is local control. This means you elect our board. They are Inland members, and they understand the issues that face us all. Our trustees set our rates and customer service policies that reflect the needs of our members.

Trustees are elected every March at our annual meeting and serve three-year terms. Last month, the members voted for trustees in Districts One, Three and Five. Your trustees represent you.

Michelle Caird, Vice President (Dist 1)
Nine Mile Falls, WA

Nathan Narrance, Secretary (Dist 2)
Colbert, WA

Ken Jacobsen, President (Dist 3)
Davenport, WA

David Shill (Dist 4)
Spokane, WA

Gale Rettkowski (Dist 5)
Wilbur, WA

Jim Kroll (Dist 6)
Colfax, WA

Larry Kimble (Dist 7)
Pomeroy, WA

Kristina Bahr, Treasurer (At-Large, A)
Spokane Valley, WA

Gerald Davis (At-Large, B)
Colfax, WA

Straight Talk About Electric Prices

A Summary of Inland Power and Light CEO Kris Mikkelsen's Annual Meeting Address

The cost of electricity is rising.

There's a shift going on in our country about how we view the production of electricity.

We are moving away from a model that's based on generating electricity as cheaply as possible to a model that's based on producing electricity with the least environmental impact. But this shift doesn't come without a price tag. Here in Washington State, we have some of the most aggressive climate change laws in the nation.

By 2012, three percent of all the electricity Inland sells must come from renewable resources; by 2016, nine percent; and by 2020, 15 percent. Those eligible resources don't include existing hydropower, which makes up 84 percent of all the power we sell.

New renewable resources are expensive. We recently went through a process to get quotes for the electricity we'll need to meet our growing loads and comply with the state energy mandates. The cost for new resources could be three to four times what we currently pay for BPA hydropower.

Cap-and-trade is also being debated at both the national and state levels. Cap-and-trade limits, or caps, are green house gases emitted into the atmosphere.

Cap-and-trade is a hidden tax. If passed, the federal government projects \$650 billion will be collected over 10 years. A



Existing hydropower, which does not emit carbon into the atmosphere, is not considered a renewable resource under the Clean Energy Initiative I-937.

considerable portion of this amount will be paid by utility companies and passed through in the form of higher electric bills.

In addition to climate change, increasing global and domestic demand for energy is contributing to higher electricity costs.

Add to that the fact that much of the nation's utility infrastructure is aging and needs upgrading, the price of electricity has nowhere to go but up.

There's no silver bullet to this dilemma, but there are things we can all do.

First, we need to use less energy. The least-cost electricity is the power we don't need to generate.

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Inland Power and Light is Protecting Your Personal Identity



Inland Power and Light is going the extra mile to protect you from identify theft.

When you call us or stop in to start or change an account, we will ask you for additional information or a photo ID to authenticate your identity.

It's part of the Federal Trade Commission "Red Flags" rule that all utilities must practice.

These extra steps may take a few more minutes, but protecting your personal identity is worth it. |

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

Watch Out for Electrical Hazards on the Farm

Those who live on a farm know that not only is it hard work, but it can be dangerous, too.

Each year, farmers are electrocuted when large farm machinery comes into contact with overhead power lines.

Often, the situation occurs because a newer, bigger piece of equipment no longer clears a line the way a smaller one did.

In addition, shifting soil may also affect whether or not machinery avoids power lines from year to year.

The following tips will help keep everyone on a farm safe:

- Look over work areas carefully for overhead power lines and utility poles.
- Make sure you have ample clearance when moving large machinery such as combines, grain augers, pickers, bailers, and front-end loaders. Do this every year as equipment sizes or soil conditions may change.
- Store large equipment properly if near or under power lines. When planning new construction, factor in existing power lines.
- Be extra careful when working around trees and brush; they often make it difficult to see power lines.
- Train farm workers to keep an eye out for overhead power lines. |

Straight Talk About Electric Prices, (continued from the front)

Next, we need to improve our homes' energy efficiency. We offer a number of energy efficiency incentive programs. Visit our Web site, www.inlandpower.com, for a complete list of our programs, as well as helpful information about energy conservation.

Additionally, it's critically important to be involved with our elected official as they consider various approaches to dealing with climate change.

Inland is working on your behalf to educate legislators so the right decisions are made about climate change and energy policy.

But they need to hear from you.

Please join "Our Energy, Our Future," at www.ourenergy.coop. This national grassroots campaign, organized by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, was launched to encourage open discussion between electric co-op consumers and their elected officials about the challenge of balancing climate

change initiatives with affordable and reliable electricity.

At Inland Power, we will continue to be a model of efficient operation and keep costs down in the part of our business that is entirely in our control.

We will be stepping up our efforts to help you find ways to use less electricity and better manage your monthly bills.

We need you to join us in a partnership to create a strong future that strikes the right balance between the environment and affordable, reliable electricity. |



Our Energy, Our Future™
A Dialogue With America
www.ourenergy.coop

Join the 40 million electric cooperative utility members who are already part of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Our Energy, Our Future.