

BEACON



Amicalola Electric
Membership Corporation

“Owned By Those We Serve”

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Comments from the CEO

Here’s how EPA Regulations will impact your power bill

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing strict new regulations to limit carbon dioxide emissions at coal-fired power plants. Amicalola EMC, along with Georgia EMC, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) and electric cooperatives across the nation **strongly** oppose the new regulations and believe they should be withdrawn.

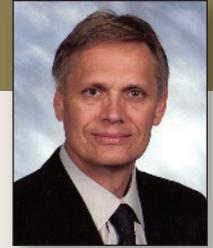
Electric cooperatives are already working hard to find energy solutions. We control a vast amount of renewable energy capacity and lead the industry in promoting residential efficiency. Cooperatives are investing in new nuclear power plants. Cooperatives are also researching an array of technologies to help reduce all types of emissions, including greenhouse gases, from our power



Learn more about the proposed EPA regulations and how they affect the electric industry at www.action.coop.

plants. We urge federal and state policymakers to work with us on a plan that will help us protect the environment while preserving affordable electric service for the nation’s 42 million co-op consumer-members.

What’s at stake? The proposed regulations are extremely concerning because they have the potential to dramatically increase your electric bill. We know it’s already difficult for many members to make ends meet month to month. We know the tough choices you face—we all face—in trying to live on a budget. As a cooperative, Amicalola EMC is owned by you, our members, and we must protect the interests of our members. This sets us apart from other utilities and this is why we must stick together.



Charles Gibson
President/CEO
Amicalola EMC

Thousands have answered the call already and sent comments through www.Action.coop. It’s a fast and easy way to send a message to the EPA asking them to find a common-sense solution to America’s energy needs and not proceed with the proposed regulations that will almost guarantee a huge increase in our electric bills.

We’ve encouraged all of our employees to sign up and ask their friends and families to do so as well. Now, we’re asking the same from you. Talk to your neighbors about sending a message to the EPA, and tell them what we’re doing and why.

We’ve brought safe, reliable and affordable electricity to the members of Amicalola EMC for more than 70 years, and our priority is to make sure we can continue to do that. We don’t want these new regulations to force us to increase the price of electricity beyond what most Americans can afford. Please send an email to www.Action.coop and help us fight to keep electric bills affordable.

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Investing in our future

Realizing that an investment in our youth is an investment in our future, Amicalola EMC held its largest youth awards banquet on March 20, 2014. Approximately 375 were in attendance as 124 juniors and seniors from Cherokee, Dawson, Gilmer, Lumpkin and Pickens counties were presented with college scholarships. Students, parents and school administrators, as well as Amicalola EMC staff and members of the board of directors were on hand for the celebration.

Amicalola EMC has long been a supporter of our youth. This year's scholarship awards reached a record amount totaling \$123,800. All scholar-



Washington Youth Tour winners. Award of Merit winners: back row, from left: Naomi Wade, Breann Pritchett, Bailey Charles, Kari Henke and Madison Macaulay. Middle row Award of Excellence winners: middle row, from left, Kristen Martin, Peyton Heath, Cassidy LeCours, Sara Wasserman (not pictured, Rachel Wasserman). Front row, from left, Stacey Fields, Director of Public Relations, shown with 2014 Washington Youth Tour Delegates: Mary Jo Brooks, Andrew Haygood, Laiken Owens, Carley Stamps; and Charles Gibson, President/CEO.



Charles Gibson, President/CEO, congratulates Megan Abercrombie, Lumpkin High senior. She is one of 124 Amicalola EMC scholarship winners.

ships are funded in accordance with unclaimed property laws, O.C.G.A. 44-12-236.

Those in attendance watched a video on the Washington Youth Tour and heard remarks by Charles Gibson, President/CEO, Charles Fendley, Board Chairman, and Reggie Stowers, Board Member. New for 2014, a fourth Youth Tour delegate position was announced. Representing Amicalola EMC on the tour this year will be Mary Jo Brooks, Gilmer High; Andrew

Haygood and Laiken Owens, Pickens High; and Carley Stamps, Lumpkin High. In June, they will join more than 1,400 other students from across the nation in Washington, D.C., for the annual NRECA Washington Youth Tour, a week-long leadership experience.

Amicalola EMC continues to be a leader in youth and community support. We congratulate the 2014 winners and wish them much success as they continue their education.



2014 Amicalola EMC Scholarship winners shown with (seated, from left) Stacey Fields, Director of Public Relations; Amicalola EMC Board Members Reggie Stowers, Travis Cline, Secretary-Treasurer Randall Ponder, Kathy Burt, Chairman Charles Fendley, James Bryan, Leon Davis and David Pierce; Attorney Phil Landrum III; and President/CEO Charles Gibson. (Vice Chairman John Bennett not shown.)

Process for electing directors

Members of Amicalola Electric Membership Corporation are reminded that nominations for the AEMC Board of Directors will be posted July 6, 2014. The Nominating Committee's recommendations for the board will be posted on the bulletin board at the main office in Jasper and on the AEMC website.

The Amicalola EMC Bylaws state "that the committee on nominations shall make at least one nomination for each post for director to be voted on

at the annual meeting. The committee shall prepare and post at the principal office of the cooperative at least ninety (90) days (July 6, 2014) before the meeting, a list of nominations for directors, but any fifteen (15) or more members may make other nominations in writing over their signatures no less than sixty (60) days (Aug. 5, 2014) prior to the meeting, and the Secretary shall post the same at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted."

Stay safe at home

Amicalola EMC is joining with the Electrical Safety Foundation International to raise awareness about potential home electrical hazards and the importance of electrical safety. This year's campaign, "Back to the Basics," challenges members to make home electrical safety assessments a priority.

Use the following tips to help identify and eliminate electrical hazards to protect yourself, your family and your home:

- Make sure entertainment centers and computer equipment have plenty of space around them for ventilation.
- Use extension cords as a temporary solution, and never as a permanent power supply.
- Do not place extension cords in high traffic areas, under carpets or across walkways, where they pose a potential tripping hazard.
- Use a surge protector to protect your computer and other electronic equipment from damage.
- Heavy reliance on power strips is



an indication that you have too few outlets to address your needs. Have additional outlets installed by a qualified, licensed electrician.

- Keep liquids, including drinks, away from electrical items such as televisions and computers.

Electrical safety awareness and education among Amicalola members, families, employees and communities will prevent electrical fires, injuries and fatalities.

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Membership Corporation
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Jasper, GA 30143

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Board of Directors

Charles R. Fendley, *Chairman*Post #3
John H. Bennett, Jr., *Vice Chairman* ...Post #6
Randall Ponder, *Sec.-Treas.*Post #1
James H. BryanPost #4
Kathy BurtPost #7
Travis D. ClinePost #5
Wm. Leon DavisPost #9
David J. PiercePost #2
Reggie StowersPost #8

TELEPHONE NUMBERS TO CALL IN CASE OF POWER INTERRUPTIONS:

Outage Hotlines

706-253-0359
706-276-0359
706-864-0359

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Closed on Saturday, Sunday, and holidays

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Prepare for summer heat to increase savings

Adding a few items to your list of chores now can make your home more energy efficient and lower electric bills when temperatures start to soar.

Start with your air conditioner.

Spring and early summer are good times to give your air conditioning unit a checkup.

- Get help from a professional who can inspect and service your unit.
- Give your air conditioner a do-it-yourself cleaning. Shut the unit



off, and clear away leaves and yard debris outside. Inside the unit, clean or replace filters that can restrict air flow and reduce overall efficiency by making the air conditioner work harder on hot summer days. Dust the fan blades if you can do so safely. Make sure air flows freely over the inside and outside coils. Vacuum registers to remove any dust buildup.

- Check weather stripping. When using window units, ensure that weather stripping is in place. Placement should be between the middle of the top window pane and the bottom pane.

Check out your roof. See how well your roof has weathered the winter. Few things can shorten the life of your home faster than a roof leak, and even a minor one can damage your attic insulation. A roofing professional can assess and repair things like loose or missing shingles, repair leaks and clear gutters.



Make your electric cooperative a resource.

The energy advisor at Amicalola EMC can help you determine the right steps for your home, as well as perform a free energy audit to help find more savings. You can also visit TogetherWeSave.com to find out how little measures around the house can add up to big energy savings as temperatures outside climb.

Sources: U.S. Department of Energy, TogetherWeSave.com, and Energy.gov.

Are we holding your money?

Sept. 1, 2014, marks the deadline to claim capital credit refunds from the year 1987. If you had electric service with Amicalola EMC during 1987, we may have a refund waiting for you. The list of names may be found at www.amicalolaemc.com or at any local Amicalola EMC office.

After Sept. 1, 2014, unclaimed funds will be distributed for charitable purposes in accordance with O.C.G.A. 44-12-236 of the Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act.

