



CITIZENS'

Electric
COMPANY

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Community News

A dollar can make a difference for neighbors in need

By Eric Winslow

President and CEO



With December's arrival, many of us look forward to gathering with family and friends, exchanging gifts and enjoying the holiday season.

But the year's final month also brings with it the official start of winter and its accompanying higher heating costs.

In these challenging economic times, we know some of our customers will feel the pinch on their household budgets this time of year. We also know we have many generous people in our area willing to help those in need during the holiday season through their churches, service organizations and places of business.

To assist Citizens' Electric customers who are having difficulty paying their electric bills, we participate in a charitable program called the Dollar Energy Fund. The program was created to help customers who have exhausted other forms of financial aid offered through assistance agencies,

social service organizations, churches and government-sponsored programs like the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

Customers who qualify for the program receive a credit toward their electric bill. The program is funded by Citizens' Electric and voluntary customer contributions, and that's where you can help.

An easy and inexpensive way for you to help your neighbors in need is to add a dollar or two, or more, to your electric bill each month. Your donation would go directly into the fund and would be matched by Citizens' Electric. So every \$1 donated becomes \$2. One-hundred percent of those contributions are used to provide energy assistance grants to needy families in our service area.

So for less than the cost of a cup of coffee, you can help ease the burden of a local family experiencing financial hardships.

With your help, the fund has provided over \$9,200 to 37 customers in 2010 who would have otherwise been unable to pay their electric bills. There were over 1,940 individual customer contributions made to fund this year. If you are not yet a Dollar Energy Fund participant, please consider lending your support to this worthy program.

Important information about PA Electric Choice

Pennsylvania's Electric Choice program gives you the ability to choose the company that supplies your electricity.

As your local distribution utility, Citizens' Electric owns and maintains the wires, poles and meters necessary to deliver power to your home and sends you an electric bill each month. That will not change, regardless of whether you purchase generation through Citizens' Electric or from an alternate electric generation supplier. While there are currently no electric generation suppliers offering to provide generation service to customers within our service territory, we continue to be prepared for that possibility.

The cost you currently pay for generation and

transmission service, known as the "Price to Compare," will remain at 8.2568 cents per kilowatt-hour through the end of 2010. The Price to Compare, which is adjusted quarterly, will be approximately 7.6 cents per kWh from January through March 2011. The Price to Compare is used by electric customers to make informed financial decisions during the generation shopping process.

For additional information about Pennsylvania Electric Choice, contact the office or visit the following websites:

- www.papowerswitch.com
- www.puc.state.pa.us/utilitychoice
- www.oca.state.pa.us

Get the LED out

Give yourself and the planet a gift this holiday season by decorating your Christmas tree with energy-efficient LED lighting.

LED lights last up to 10 times longer than traditional incandescent strands, are cool to the touch, reduce the risk of fire, and are available in a variety of colors, shapes and sizes.

But their energy-saving ability is even more impressive. An Energy Star-qualified decorated light string consumes about 75 percent less energy than conventional incandescent light strands. Based on savings estimates from testing done by Pacific Gas and Electric, a traditional mini incandescent light string with 300 lights costs about \$4.50 in electricity costs over the holiday season. The LED equivalent costs less than 45 cents, saving over \$4 per each 300-light string.

Verify your contact info

Citizens' Electric uses your telephone number when dispatching outages and to notify you about planned outages, so it is very important that we have your correct number on file.

If you have eliminated your landline telephone in favor of a cell phone or internet-based telephone, please notify Citizens' of the change.

Also be sure to review your next bill statement and verify that your telephone number and address are correct. If either is incorrect, please write the correct information on your payment stub and return with payment or call the office at 570-524-2231.

If you are interested in receiving e-mail messages or text messages in the future regarding outages and other company news, please send your cell phone number and e-mail address to us at: billing@citizenselectric.com

'The Lights of Lewisburg'

Looking for a last-minute holiday gift idea? Consider purchasing a full-color poster depicting scenes from downtown Lewisburg by artist William John Christian.

Each photo-illustration in "The Lights of Lewisburg," a limited edition, full-color poster, features the distinctive three-globed street lights for which Lewisburg is known.



A photo-illustration by artist William John Christian featured in "The Lights of Lewisburg" poster.

The posters are available through area merchants for \$12.50. Proceeds from the sale of these posters help support the Dollar Energy Fund and are matched dollar for dollar by Citizens' Electric. Additional information is available online at www.TheLightsOfLewisburg.com.

Program offers help with energy bills

If you need help paying your heating bills this winter, you may be able to receive assistance through the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

Funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the program provides energy-assistance grants to help low-income households pay their heating bills through the winter.

LIHEAP offers both cash grants and crisis grants. Cash grants help families pay their heating bills. If you are eligible for a cash grant, the grant will be sent directly to your utility or fuel dealer, and the payment will be credited on your bill.

Crisis grants are available to help those who have emergency situations in which they are in danger of being without heat. Those situations include: having broken heating equipment or leaking fuel lines; being without fuel; having utility service terminated; or in danger of being without fuel or of having utility service terminated.

If you have a heating emergency, or for more information about LIHEAP, call the Union County Assistance Office at 570-524-2201 or the toll-free LIHEAP hotline at 1-866-857-7095.

Below are the income guidelines for acceptance into the program:

Household size	Maximum income (before taxes)
1	\$17,328
2	\$23,312
3	\$29,296
4	\$35,280
5	\$41,264
6	\$47,248

Add \$5,984 for each additional member of the household