



**Bartholomew
County REMC**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 
The power of human connections

1697 W. Deaver Road
Columbus, IN 47201

812-372-2546
www.bcremc.com

OFFICE HOURS

Office hours are
Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Closed Saturdays and Sundays

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Paul Ketner, President
Curt Burbrink, Vice President
Janet Anthony, Secretary
Dan Fleming, Treasurer
**Ron Arnholt, Larry Hoeltke, and
Charles Meier**

STAFF

Jim Turner
General Manager/CEO
Pete Storm
Engineering and Operations Manager
Sheena Seger
Administrative Services Manager
Matthew Hackman
Corporate Services Manager
Andrew Yordy
Consumer Services Manager
Marty Lasure
Manager of Public Relations and
Member Services

SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS

To report an outage or emergency
Call **372-2546**
7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.,
Monday-Friday.
After-Hours
Call **372-5333** or **800-927-5672**

MISSION STATEMENT

"Bartholomew County REMC exists to provide reliable energy and quality services at competitive prices to members and customers that add value to the communities we serve."

CO-opNews Information from your electric cooperative

CEO'S COMMENTS

Energy efficiency helps take a bite out of your bill

When I go to the grocery store, I carry a list with me. Otherwise, I'm bound to forget something.

The same goes for the hardware store when I want to undertake some projects around the house. What materials do I need? And if the work involves weatherization, will it really help me save money on my electric bill?

Generally, the answer to that last question is a resounding "yes." Even small energy efficiency measures will save money. For as little as \$2, the cost of an outlet and switch plate insulator kit, you can begin to drastically improve comfort around your residence.

What areas should you focus on? Start with the basics: applying weatherstripping and caulk around doors and windows, replacing traditional incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs), and



Jim Turner
General Manager/CEO

insulating your water heater. Then, look at some bigger expenditures: adding insulation to your attic, installing a programmable thermostat, and sealing ductwork. You can find even more ways to save on the U.S. Department of Energy's EnergySavers.gov or visit togetherwesave.com to find out how little changes around the house add up to big savings.

We at Bartholomew County REMC are committed to doing everything possible to keep your electric bills affordable. And we're controlling costs through innovation — our energy efficiency programs are just one way we can help you manage your energy use.

For more information about these projects and other energy efficiency programs, visit www.bcremc.com/program.html or call 372-2546. It's just one more way we're looking out for you.

Connection fee based on fair share

Have you ever wondered what the "Electric Grid Connection Fee" on your electric bill was for? Well, you're not alone. The charge covers our costs for connecting you to the electrical grid.

Some of the key values behind the concept of a co-op are openness and fairness — everyone having the real facts and everyone paying his/her fair share. The Electric Grid Connection Fee is your portion of the physical facilities. This includes the meter, service drop, transformer and a portion of the poles and wire connecting you to the nearest substation. Basically, the minimum amount of equipment the cooperative must install to provide a customer with access. Without this minimum amount of equipment, members would not be able to receive electric service.

Everyone shares the costs of our facilities

because the system operates as a whole. And, providing reliable service to everyone is what a cooperative is all about. Additionally, as an electric cooperative, we cannot spread our fixed costs over as many customers as some of our investor-owned neighbors. In our more rural areas, we simply do not have as many customers per mile of line who can share the costs of these facilities. However, they are still needed to provide everyone with the same quality of service.

These fixed costs do not change, regardless of the amount of electric energy purchased by the members, and must be recovered for the cooperative to remain financially sound.

We hope this helps explain the Electric Grid Connection Fee. If you have any questions about your bill, please call our office at 372-2546.

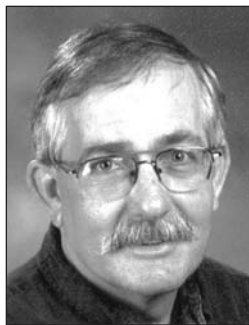
Type of Service	What is it?	Current Charge
Electric Grid Connection Fee	Your share of cost for poles, wires, transformers, service drop and meters that give you access to the electric grid	\$30.34 per meter every month
Energy Charge	Cost of buying electricity you use and delivering it to your residence over the transmission system and distribution network	\$0.09278 per kwh (residential)
Tracker	A billing adjustment to cover the fluctuating cost of power we purchase on your behalf	\$0.001418 per kwh currently \$0.002471 per kwh April 1, 2011

The chart at left shows a breakdown of the charges you pay each month on your electric bill.

2011 board of directors candidates

District 3

Dan Fleming, 4040 W. Lowell Road, Columbus, is the incumbent director seeking re-election in District 3. He is a lifelong resident of Bartholomew County. Fleming is employed by Flat Rock-Hawcreek School Corporation where he is a sixth grade teacher. He is also employed by Reising Radio Partners as ag director for QMIX 107.3 and KORN Country 100.3. Previously, he was a full-time cattle feeder and farmer. Along with his family, Fleming still produces and sells freezer beef and lamb.



Dan Fleming

He is a past regional director for the Indiana Beef Cattle Association, Indiana Beef Council, and past president of Bartholomew County Beef

Cattlemen's Association. Fleming is also a class four member of the Indiana Ag Leadership Institute.

He is a graduate of Purdue University with a Bachelor of Science degree in animal science. Fleming is also a graduate of IUPUI's School of Education.

His church family is the First United Methodist Church in Columbus, where he enjoys playing music as part of the second service praise team. His own family includes his wife, Lynne, a BCSC teacher of vision-impaired students; son Peter, a graduate of Purdue University; son Clinton (Carly), an engineering student at University of Connecticut, Hartford; and son Travis (Lydia), who is currently serving in the U.S. Army.

Fleming has served as treasurer on the REMC board for the past two years and has earned his Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) certificate from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Jason Michael, 1607 N. 200 W., Columbus, is a candidate for director in District 3. He is a lifelong resident of Bartholomew County and is employed by Smurfit-Stone Container, where he is shipping manager and corporate trainer.



Jason Michael

Michael is also a full-time cattle breeder and farmer. He is a member of the Charolais Association and Angus Association, as well as an active volunteer with Bartholomew County 4-H.

He has been an active grain and hay farmer on his family's farm and has owned and operated his own livestock transportation business. Michael was raised in the Lutheran faith and graduated from St. Peter's Lutheran School.

He has been married to his wife, Kelly, for 8 years. They have five children Hannah, 18; Shelby, 17; Cailin, 13; Logan, 11; and Caleb, 5. Michael has been actively involved supporting all the children in their various 4-H projects.

Annual Meeting

**March 24
Holiday Inn
Conference Center
Columbus**

Each member will receive an energy efficiency kit and a \$20 bill credit for attending!

**Registration and entertainment
5:30-7 p.m.**

Business meeting begins at 7 p.m.

A kids' program for ages 4-11 will be available

ATTENDING MEMBERS WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON DIRECTOR AND NOMINATING COMMITTEE CANDIDATES FROM DISTRICTS 3 AND 6

We hope to see you there!

Remember to vote for YOUR board of directors on March 24!

District 6

Curt Burbrink, 2402 E. 950 S., Columbus, is the incumbent director seeking re-election in District 6. A lifetime resident of Columbus, Burbrink is a graduate of Columbus High School and holds a degree in business administration from Olivet Nazarene University, Kankakee, Ill.



Curt Burbrink

Burbrink and his wife, Jerri, are both school bus drivers for the Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation. They live at his old home place west of Jonesville. The Burbrinks have three sons, six grandsons and two granddaughters. He and his son, Justin, farm 1,300 acres in Bartholomew County. He is a member of Seymour First Church of the Nazarene.

For the past 23 years, Burbrink has been an active Bartholomew County REMC board member on the local, regional and national levels. He has completed his director certification through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association and has earned his Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) certificate. Burbrink has served as vice president on the REMC board of directors for the past 17 years and currently holds that position.

Dave Claycamp, 13030 S. 250 W., Columbus, is a candidate for director in District 6. He is a lifelong resident of Bartholomew County.



Dave Claycamp

Claycamp is the general manager of Innovative Casting Technologies in Franklin. The company makes prototype and production castings and components for Cummins Engine Company and other related businesses.

He and his wife, Tammy, have been married 19 years. They previously raised hogs and farmed 1,000 acres with his parents Dean and Clara Claycamp. Tammy is employed by Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation as a teacher's aide for special needs children at Parkside Elementary. They have two children, Sam and Kobbe, who attend White Creek Lutheran School.

Claycamp has also been a basketball coach at White Creek for the past 15 years, coaching both boys and girls. He has been a board member and coach for the Bartholomew County Little League for 9 years and is currently serving as its vice president. His church family is White Creek Lutheran, where he has served as president of the school board and on various committees. He currently serves as a trustee and is on the church council.

2011 candidates for the nominating committee

District 3

Zack Ellison, 5995 W. Lowell Road, Columbus, is a candidate for the nominating committee in District 3. He has lived in Columbus with his wife, Glinda, since 1985. His daughter, Michelle, graduated from Columbus North in 1988.

He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from Purdue University and has been employed by Cummins Inc. as an engineer, program manager, and currently provides customer technical support leadership for North America.

Ellison has served on the boards of Big Brothers/Big Sisters and the American Red Cross. He is currently serving on the Veterans Memorial Board, the Bartholomew County Board of Zoning Appeals, the Columbus Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, and the Bartholomew County Plan Commission.

He is a Marine Corps and Vietnam veteran, serving 5 years as an aerial navigator on KC130

transport aircraft and as an instructor at the Marine Corps navigation training school.

The Ellisons have been members of the First Presbyterian Church since 1985, where he has served on the Presbyterian Foundation board, the board of deacons, and the Session.

His interests include community service, drag racing, bluegrass music, playing the mandolin and fiddle, and spending time with his three grandsons.

John R. McDaniel, 5970 W. Lowell Road, Columbus, is a candidate for the nominating committee in District 3. He is a lifelong Hoosier and a 30-plus year Bartholomew County resident. McDaniel is a graduate of North Knox High School and Indiana State University. He and his wife, Susan, have three children and six grandchildren. McDaniel owns a small consulting, design, and fabrication business.

District 6

Tim Kreinhagen, 10350 S. 400 W., Columbus, is a candidate for the nominating committee in District 6.

Kreinhagen grew up in Wayne Township and is the son of Dallas and Hazel Kriehagen. He is married to Carmen and has two step-daughters, Megan DeWeese and Cara Eckleman.

He graduated from Columbus North High School in 1978 and is a self-employed farmer who farms 600 acres in Wayne and Ohio townships.

Kreinhagen also raises beef cattle and drives a school bus for Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation. He also is a member of St. John's Lutheran Church at White Creek.

William (Bill) Kennedy, 5536 Blackhawk Court, Columbus, is a candidate for the nominating com-

mittee in District 6. He grew up in Milwaukee, Wis., but has lived in Columbus for 42 years.

Kennedy graduated from Marquette University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology. Upon graduation, he worked for two years for the Department of Defense at Fort Meade, Md. In 1968, he accepted a position with Cummins in the data processing department. He retired from Cummins in 1998 and has done IT contract and consulting work since his retirement.

He and his wife, Jane, are members of St. Bartholomew Catholic Church. They have five children and five grandchildren. His interests are golf and youth basketball. He has coached 8th grade basketball at St. Bartholomew's off and on for 25 years. He is also a member of its athletic board.

Why a board of directors?

The board of directors is the legal body which both the REMC member and the government hold accountable for the actions of the REMC. As an REMC member, the director serves on a part-time basis, attending board and committee meetings locally, as well as state and national seminars in order to keep informed, to testify for or against legislation affecting the REMC and to improve skills necessary to being good board members.

Specifically, the board of directors:

1. Determines policy guidelines for the daily operation of the REMC.
2. Employs a CEO to direct operations.
3. Determines a workplan and budget.
4. Sets rate and fee schedules for service.
5. Enters into contracts for power supply, services and loans for capital improvements.
6. Evaluates the performance of the REMC and the CEO.
7. Reports to the member-owners on the financial condition of the REMC.



Happy St. Patrick's Day from all of us at Bartholomew County REMC!



BCREMC announces wholesale tracker increase

On your second quarter bills, BCREMC members will again see the tracker appear. The easiest explanation of a tracker is to say, "It's a billing adjustment to cover the fluctuating cost of power we purchase on your behalf."

Gasoline stations have an advantage in that they can change the cost of a gallon of gas every day when the cost of the product increases. Utility companies, like BCREMC, don't have the luxury of changing their base kilowatt rates every day to cover the fluctuation in the cost of power. This

basic premise is the reason the energy tracker is on your bill.

The power we buy every day to sell to you fluctuates as much as gasoline prices. The energy tracker allows us to keep our base rates low at all times, but still collect the money we will owe for the purchased power.

There is no mark-up in the tracker. There is no profit made from the tracker. It is not a flat fee. It is only a fluctuating pass-through cost from the power supplier to us and then to you.

The good news is, YOU can directly affect the energy tracker cost on your bill. It is directly proportional to YOUR kilowatt use in your home each month. If you conserve energy, your tracker cost will go down.

Reflected on bills in mid-April, Bartholomew County REMC members will see a slight increase in the wholesale tracker adjustment effective April 1. The second quarter tracker will be \$0.002471 per kwh or approximately \$2.47 per 1,000 kwh used.



Touchstone Energy
The power of human connections

CO-OP NOTES

Rate schedule

Schedule "A" — residential and farm service

Electric Grid Connection Fee... \$30.34 per month
 All kWh per month..... \$0.09278 per kWh
 Tracking clause..... \$0.001418 per kWh

Schedule "B" — commercial and small power service

Electric Grid Connection Fee:
 Single-phase service..... \$30.97 per month
 Three-phase service..... \$43.97 per month
 Tracking clause..... \$0.001418 per kWh

All kWh per month:

June, July, Aug. \$0.12363 per kWh
 Dec., Jan., Feb. \$0.10077 per kWh
 Sept., Oct., Nov., March, April, and May
 \$0.06970 per kWh

Schedule "LP" — large power service

Electric Grid Connection Fee..... \$60 per month

Demand charge:

June, July, Aug. \$19.51 per kw
 Dec., Jan., Feb. \$14.16 per kw
 Sept., Oct., Nov., March, April, and May
 \$11.62 per kw

Energy charges:

All kWh..... \$0.03877 per kWh
 Tracking clause..... \$0.001418 per kWh

Schedule "SL" — Monthly Security Light Billing

Security Lights:

175-watt mercury vapor \$7.15 per month
 400-watt mercury vapor \$13.65 per month
 100-watt high pressure sodium.. \$7.15 per month
 250-watt high pressure sodium .. \$12.15 per month

Flood Lights:

400-watt mercury vapor \$14.15 per month
 1,000-watt mercury vapor..... \$30.15 per month
 250-watt high pressure sodium... \$12.15 per month
 400-watt high pressure sodium.... \$17.15 per month

The above charges are for security lights installed on existing REMC poles. If a new pole needs to be installed to serve the security light, the above costs will increase by \$4 per month.

Don't dig blind

Call toll free: 1-800-382-5544

Products provided by your local REMC:

- Electricity • EnviroWatts • Local Internet
- Metered LP gas • Surge protection devices
- GenerLink • Water heaters • Long distance service • High speed satellite Internet connection

Services from your REMC:

- Incentives for heat pumps, central air, geothermal systems, and water heaters
- Automatic Monthly Payment Service
- Levelized billing
- Payment online
- Credit card payments

For details about these products and the services, call our office at 372-2546, Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



Pick up some cold cash.

When we pick up your old fridge.

Get \$30 back when you recycle your old fridge. Plus, save up to \$150 a year in energy costs.

It doesn't make financial sense to keep an old fridge or freezer in your garage or basement – not when it uses up to four times the energy of newer models. And throwing it away isn't a good long-term plan for the environment. Why not let us recycle it? We'll haul it away free of charge, you'll get a \$30 rebate, and you can save up to \$150 a year in energy costs. Talk about a good return on investment.

Call 877-395-5535 or visit your Touchstone Energy Cooperative's website for pickup.

Refrigerators and freezers must be in working condition, and must be between 10 and 30 cubic feet in size, using inside measurements. Hoosier Energy REC, Inc. contracts with JACO Environmental, an appliance recycler, to pick up and recycle refrigerators and freezers that are in working condition. This program is funded by Hoosier Energy REC, Inc. on behalf of your Touchstone Energy Cooperative and is available to its residential electric customers in Indiana on a first-come, first-served basis until funding is expended. Customers must own the unit(s) being recycled. Limit two units per residential address. Payment will be made to the Touchstone Energy Cooperative customer within 4-6 weeks after the appliance collection. Some restrictions apply. © 2011 Touchstone Energy Cooperatives

\$30
REBATE

SAVE UP TO
\$150/YR
IN ENERGY COSTS



Touchstone Energy®
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Recycle your spent compact fluorescent bulbs at the Bartholomew County REMC office. Bring in your used CFLs and deposit them into the recycling bucket*.

This is just one more way your cooperative is caring for the environment.

*Please bring in the compact household size, no tubes please. We will not recycle broken bulbs.