

# COOS-CURRY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

..... FOR MEMBERS ONLY

## From General Manager/CEO Buehler

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### President/ Chairman

Terry Hanscam

#### Vice-President

Grant Combs

#### Secretary

Dale Thomas

#### Treasurer

David Itzen

Gary Doran

L. Monte Lund

Peter Radabaugh

A couple of months ago, we asked the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association to conduct a member satisfaction survey. First, let me thank those of you who took the time to be interviewed. I understand telephone surveys are sometimes considered an inconvenience; yet your input is valued and we take what you have to say very seriously. In a "nutshell", the survey indicated a high satisfaction level with the types of services we offer and the work we do to minimize outages and respond to and restore power during outages. I thank our talented employees for the work they do in these areas on behalf of the membership.

The survey results show that we have work to do in the area of rates. Not just in keeping them as low as possible, but in letting you know where we stand and what we're doing to keep rates affordable. An overwhelming majority of members interviewed said they did not know where our rates were in comparison to other electric utilities in the area. The graph on the back was prepared to help put that in perspective. Even though CCEC's rates are very comparable to others right now, that doesn't mean our work to keep rates affordable stops; because as you know, the cost of everything from food to gasoline has gone up substantially in the last decade.

For example, last quarter I mentioned that we are exploring ways to provide a reliable and affordable power supply beyond 2011 when we begin our new contract arrangements with the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). This is important because the cost of wholesale power is passed directly on to you in the form of rates.

We are working to influence the terms and conditions of the new BPA contracts. We are also exploring ways to supplement power obtained under the BPA contract through other sources. The idea of "pooling" or working cooperatively with others has advantages because we gain economies of scale and get better pricing. In fact, that's how we currently operate — with others — through PNGC Power. While our energy portfolio is primarily hydropower based, in the future it may contain more coal or natural gas-fired generation as we look beyond our hydropower system for additional resources. We will also continue to explore wave technology and the possible expansion of our involvement in a landfill gas project.

So, controlling costs — for our power supply, to operate your cooperative and to provide the services you feel are important — becomes the most important job I face. We will continue to keep you informed in this member newsletter, in Ruralite, through our website and in other communications. As always, please feel free to contact me if you have questions or comments.

## Annual Meeting

The 2006 annual meeting of the membership will be held Saturday, June 24, in accordance with Article II, Section 1 of our by-laws.

**9:00 AM**

Registration and  
Health Fair Begin

**10:30 AM**

Entertainment

**11:00 AM—12:30 PM**

Annual Meeting Presentation

**12:30 PM—2:00 PM**

Lunch

Door Prizes

Fun!

Late May or early June, members will receive their ballot information, including instructions for completing and returning the ballot. Please read the packet of information carefully. **This year's election process will be different than in the past.**

Last year, the membership approved a change to the CCEC by-laws that requires all voting to be by mail. **No ballots will be accepted in CCEC area offices or on the day of the Annual Meeting.**

To be valid, your ballot must be completed according to the instructions, signed, mailed in the Ballot Return Mail Envelope provided and received at that address by June 21, 2006. Only valid ballots will be counted.

**We encourage all CCEC member-owners to take a few minutes to complete their ballot and mail it in time to be received by the June 21st deadline.** Having a say in who represents you on the CCEC board of directors is what makes a cooperative like us unique.

2nd Quarter 2006



## Contact Us

### Port Orford

541-332-3931

### Coquille

541-396-3118

### Gold Beach

541-247-6638

### Brookings

541-469-2103

### After Hours

### Emergency and

### Outage

866-352-9044

[www.ccec.coop](http://www.ccec.coop)

# From The Board Room

**Terry Hanscam — District 1,  
Brookings/Harbor  
President/Chairman of the Board**

You may have noticed how the political “atmosphere” changed as we approached our board of directors election. That may be normal, but it’s important to keep in perspective what being a board member is all about because the representatives you elect to the board of directors have an important job to do. For example, they:

- Are responsible for representing the membership. After all, members elect them to represent them.
- Are required to take classes offered by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association and become a Credentialed Cooperative Director within 33 months.
- Provide oversight and guidance for the cooperative, without personal gain or personal agenda.
- Put policies in place and provide direction that protects the assets, keeps the cooperative financially sound and prepares the organization for the future.

It’s hard, time-consuming work and requires commitment and dedication. I hope you will take part in determining who will represent you by returning your ballot. And, I hope you will stay involved as your board of directors guide the cooperative’s work to provide affordable, reliable energy for the members of CCEC. Not just for today or for their term on the board, but for decades to come.

**David Itzen — District 2,  
Brookings/Harbor**

In many of our communications, we mention the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) and its Western regional group #9. You may wonder why we are affiliated with associations such as this, why we attend meetings held by these associations and what benefit it brings to you.

Electric cooperatives are unique because they are owned by the members they serve. But the environment in which they operate is not totally in their control. It is also shaped by laws, standards and government regulations.

In an ever-evolving industry such as ours, electric cooperatives must vigorously monitor and pursue policies that protect their members. Our job as board members is to also prepare the cooperative for the future. We take that job seriously. Unfortunately, electric cooperatives like CCEC are typically smaller in size than for-profit, investor-owned utilities, which means they have less resources and money available for this purpose. Joining with other electric cooperatives through NRECA and other associations gives us a stronger voice to influence legislation. Together we develop programs that any individual cooperative can use; conduct research that individual cooperatives might not be able to afford and provide extensive training programs for employees and member-elected board of directors. In the end, joining together means we’re stronger.

*Continued Next Column*

We have a greater voice. And, we’re more prepared to serve our members in the future.

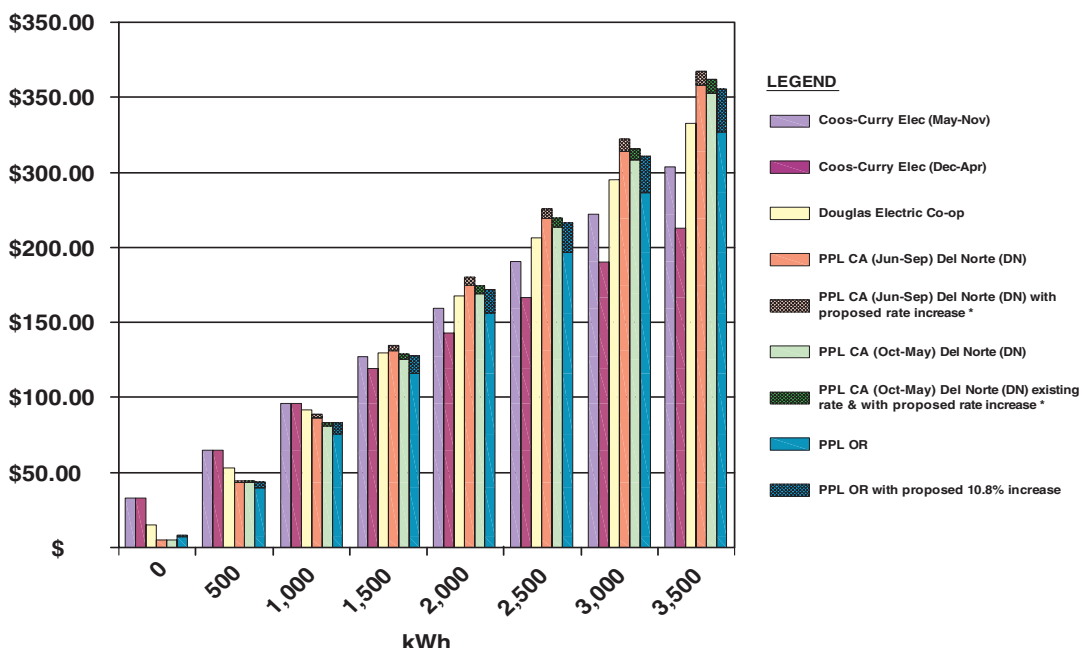
The 2006 NRECA region #9 meeting is in Alaska and a report will be provided to the membership.

**Pete Radabaugh — District 5,  
Coquille/Myrtle Point/Bandon**

As we look to the future of increased energy demands being placed on the BPA system, the need for a diverse energy portfolio is becoming ever more apparent. The CCEC board has for the past several months been meeting with energy managers from throughout the west to assess what is and what will be available in the region. One area I find very interesting and promising is that of renewable energy; and in particular environmentally low-impact sources generated by wind, solar, waves, geothermal and biomass.

Of special interest to me is a proposed wave generation project planned to take place near Reedsport. There, an OSU team will manage a research and development project to assess the viability of receiving electricity from the Pacific’s ocean swells.

Though technical advances in renewable energy continues to make these sources more competitive, higher KWh charges still are the general rule. Because of this, the CCEC board is looking for ways to help influence future energy production and encourage the development of clean, renewable energy facilities in Oregon and the west.



\* PPL CA has filed for a 20.94% overall rate increase to all Residential Rate Classes within the State of California. This includes both single phase and three phase service. The percentage increase specifically for Del Norte County was not available.