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PDEC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



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PDEC Means Liberty

And a better life for all

EVERY JULY, WE TAKE TIME TO REFLECT on our country's history and remember how the actions of a few helped shape the



way we live today. I think back on the rich history of the electric cooperative movement and how a small group of determined individuals was able to improve their quality of life and the quality of life for all

those who would come after them.

Every day, Pee Dee Electric Cooperative members and employees pay homage to the legacy of our cooperative founders. And, because we are a part of an electric cooperative, we know we have the power to impact our present and shape the future, just like those who came before us.

Our future power

Through grassroots advocacy efforts, we help influence policy decisions affecting our communities now and for years to come. We are the catalyst for change. We leverage our collective power to get things done. The recent announcement about the Ruiz plant in Commerce City bringing 500 jobs is just one of many projects we're a part of in the Pee Dee.

We work together, with other co-ops, local businesses and community organizers to achieve business development goals. Creating better opportunities and increasing the quality of life for our families and communities—just as our founding co-op members did back in 1939.

We understand that the decisions we make today could greatly affect how future generations live, so we invest in energy-efficiency programs that protect our future generations

while still providing high-quality, affordable electric power. You'll find energy-efficient tips every month in this magazine, on Facebook and on our website, PeeDeeElectric.com.

We continue to help build the next generation of leadership through our Washington Youth Tour program, sending high school students to Washington, D.C., to get an up-close view of how our government functions.

The co-op difference

All these things, plus so much more, are what make up the cooperative difference. This July, as we think about the future of electric cooperatives and how we will continue to shape our country and our society, Pee Dee Electric Cooperative remembers what it took to bring power to our communities and let the determination of those who came before us, guide us.

James A. Goodson
Chairman, Board of Trustees



TOM KINARD

Steel Rising

New spec building at Commerce City

PEE DEE ELECTRICOM, a wholly owned subsidiary of Pee Dee Electric Cooperative, is in the midst of erecting a second spec building to stay ahead of the curve in Business Development for our area.

The first spec building, a partnership with Marion County in the Marion Industrial Park, is completed and ready for occupancy. It is 50,000 square feet, expandable to 200,000 and is LEED ready.

The newest spec building is located in Commerce City at the intersection of SC327 and I-95 and is in partnership with Florence County. This building will offer 100,000 square feet of industrial space, expandable to 300,000 square feet.

Other features include:

- ▶ Class A-Premium Pre-cast
- ▶ Located on 12+ acres of land
- ▶ Additional land available
- ▶ LEED ready
- ▶ All utilities in place

Located next to FedEx Ground, the new spec building is already being looked at by several industries. We're always excited about bringing new jobs to the Pee Dee.

Capital Credits Allocation

Look for your check in early October

REVENUE RECEIVED BY PDEC over the actual operating expenses is returned to members as capital credits. This money is a result of constant adherence to prudent, sound management practices. Capital credits are returned to members based on a schedule determined by the board of trustees.

For the year 2013, Pee Dee Electric Cooperative allocated \$6,213,406.33 back to our members. A residential member using an average of 1,320 kWhs per month has been allocated \$187.18 for 2013. This is approximately 9.2 percent of the amount the member paid for electricity during 2013.



Capital credit checks for previous years' allocations will be issued in early October of this year. This is just one of the many benefits of being a member of Pee Dee Electric Cooperative, Inc.



This 100,000-square-foot spec building will be ready to help bring new jobs to the Pee Dee in the fall. The building is expandable to 300,000 square feet. The facility is a joint venture of Pee Dee Electricom and Florence County.

SHANE ORR

Jeff's Tips



Jeff Singletary
PDEC ENERGY EXPERT
& VP MARKETING

Call 811 to Prevent Calls to 911!

A FRIEND OF mine told me about a neighbor who thought he remembered where the utility lines were located when he decided to plant a new bush in the yard of his new home last spring. The neighbor didn't remember correctly and his shovel ruptured a natural gas line, prompting a 911 call for help.

My friend was grilling steaks with a house and a fence blocking the smell and the sound of the escaping gas. He did not realize anything was wrong until he heard the fire engine siren getting closer and closer.

Suddenly, the fence gate opened and two firefighters dressed in full uniform including masks, came into the back yard and told my friend they were there to put the charcoal out because of the explosive hazard. He just had time to save the steaks! All the excitement could have been avoided with one call to 811.

Planting some new bushes in the garden? Installing a new deck? Planning on a backyard pool? No matter what you're undertaking, if your project requires digging, there's an easier way to locate utility lines buried on your property than cutting into one. Dial 811.

A simple call to 811 will connect you with a regional center for locating utility lines.

There is **no charge** for the

utility-locating service, and it is easy to use. Before you make your call, outline your project area with white paint. It's important to use white because of pre-established color-coding standards implemented by all utility companies.

Call 811. Tell the operator the location of

the project including the physical address, town and county, plus the name and phone number of the person who will be doing the digging. It could be a homeowner or professional contractor. Make the call at least three working days before you plan to dig, not counting weekends or holidays.

Don't begin your project until all utility lines are marked.

You may have several people come and mark your site with spray paint. Electric

lines will be marked in **red**, gas lines in **yellow**, telephone and cable lines in **orange**, water lines in **blue** and central sewer lines in **green**.

Once your lines have been marked, you can begin your project. Dig carefully and be watchful



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

for utility lines. Locating underground wiring is not an exact science, so take care as you undertake your digging.

If a project gets delayed because of weather or other reasons, the markings remain legally valid for 20 days from the time the locate request is initiated. You can learn more by visiting the website call811.com.

Next Month in Jeff's Tips:

Another winner in the ongoing Tip Promotion. A member from Hartsville mentioned to Jeff about Occupancy Sensors for residences. Jeff will have all the details in next month's *South Carolina Living*. The member who gave the tip will be awarded a \$25 Gift Card. If you have a tip, send it to jsingletary@PeeDeeElectric.com and you, too, can be a winner.

Saturday, Oct. 25—the 75th Annual Meeting of Pee Dee Electric Co-op

To run as a petition candidate for trustee at the 75th Annual Meeting of Pee Dee Electric Cooperative, a member must use an Official Petition Form. Forms are available weekdays at the PDEC corporate headquarters. Completed forms will be accepted at 1355 East McIver Road, Darlington, until 5 p.m. Friday, August 22.

If you're not maintaining your HVAC system...



you're blowing your cool!

✓ Always run your HVAC system on "AUTO." Running it on "ON" uses more electricity and can decrease your air conditioner's ability to remove moisture.

✓ Change HVAC filters monthly and have your system serviced annually by a NATE-certified technician.


Electricity is more valuable than ever.

Don't waste it.

✓ Ensure window A/C units are weather-stripped and keep "fresh-air" vents on window A/C units closed.

Pee Dee Electric Cooperative is committed to work with integrity and innovation to provide you with reliable power at the best possible price.



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Visit www.PeeDeeElectric.com for more energy saving tips.

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PDEC Member Marion Langston Talks About When the Lights Came On

“WHEN I WAS about 5 years old, my daddy and a friend of his, who was chairman of the board of trustees at the school district, went to the investor-owned utility and asked them if they would bring the power down our road. They were 3 miles from where I lived, and they said, ‘No, we won’t go down that road, we can’t.’

“Well, the neighbor, the chairman of trustees, and the people in the neighborhood wanted to get power. So the power company said, ‘We’ll go to your house.’ The chairman said, ‘How about my neighbor who is about 400 yards down the road?’ They said, ‘No, we won’t go that far.’ So he said, ‘Forget it.’

“So, then they went to Darlington and talked to Pee Dee Electric who said they’d be glad to bring power to the house. They brought it from Darlington via Timmons ville, down Langston Road, where I live.

“I lived in a log cabin and the living room ceiling was about 12 feet high and one bedroom was 8 feet high. We had two rooms built onto the back of the cabin which was the dining room and my bedroom, and we had one light bulb hanging from the center in each room. I lived

there until I was a teenager, then my father built a house across the road from that.”

Q: How did you like getting electricity to your house?

“Oh, it was nice not having to carry a lamp around everywhere you went in the house at night. Oh, yes, I definitely liked it.

“Daddy got an electric water pump, and we had running water, and we didn’t have to pump it. Shortly after that, he ran the water back over to granddaddy’s house which was right across the yard. It was great.”

Q: Do you think people appreciate electricity?

“No, I don’t think they do. They don’t realize what they’ve got.”

Q: What has the co-op meant over the years?

“It meant that we had power, and we appreciate it.”

Q: What do you think about the capital credits?

“Oh, that’s good, too. I got a nice check a couple of weeks ago.” ☺

This interview was conducted at the 2013 Annual Meeting last October. We appreciate all those members who told us their Pee Dee Electric Cooperative story.



VAN OCCAIN



NRECA



← Then Now →



MILTON MORRIS



Save the Date!

Pee Dee Electric's

75th Annual Meeting

Saturday

October 25

Florence Civic Center

Install a new, high-efficiency electric water heater* and get a bill credit!

It's easy!

Members of Pee Dee Electric Cooperative who purchase a new **50- to 79-gallon electric water heater will receive a \$200 rebate** as a credit on their monthly energy bill.

Purchase an **80-gallon or larger electric water heater and receive a \$250 rebate.**

For complete details, visit **PeeDeeElectric.com**

or call **(866) 747-0060**



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**Electric water heater must meet qualifying requirements.*

Cable, satellite boxes to become more energy efficient

HERE'S SOME LITTLE-KNOWN trivia about the box near your TV set that allows you to watch your favorite shows via cable or satellite: It's an energy hog!

Nationwide, set-top boxes (as they are still called) guzzle so much electricity that cable and satellite providers concede consumers could save a collective \$1-billion-plus a year if manufacturers made the devices more energy-efficient. So, the big-name industry players have reached a voluntary agreement with environmental advocates and government regulators to create set-top boxes that are up to 45 percent more energy-efficient by 2017. In January of this year, Verizon introduced a "light sleep" option on some of its FiOS boxes, and cable companies like Comcast and Time Warner will soon send software changes to 10 million cable boxes already in homes to put them in a "light sleep" mode when they're not in use. That move could cut power use by those boxes by up to 30 percent. Eventually, it will affect 90 million boxes and save enough power to run 700,000 homes. This is according to the National Resources Defense Council.

The boxes presently waste energy because they run even when your TV set is turned off. Over the next few years, the companies will test "deep sleep" devices to learn if that's an even more-efficient option.

