



# CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

## President's Quarterly Newsletter

July 2009

To our members:

At Central Electric, we get virtually all of the power we need for our members from the federal hydropower system through the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). Because this low-cost hydropower is limited and electricity demands in the Northwest continue to grow and will soon exceed that supply, the additional power we will need in the future will come from resources that are more expensive.

For this reason, conservation and energy efficiency are more important now than ever before. For many years, Central Electric has been educating our members on managing energy use. We also want to help members understand energy consumption and energy savings when making purchasing decisions. Over the past three years, Central Electric's programs have provided more than \$1 million in rebates and incentives to members for the installation of energy efficient heat pumps, appliances, weatherization and solar hot water or photovoltaic systems.

For our commercial members, this summer we are launching a six-month, \$100,000 turn-key lighting pilot program funded through the BPA. The program offers businesses an audit of their existing lighting system and a financial analysis of any proposed energy savings changes. BPA rebates can also fund up to 70 percent of eligible costs to make the lighting upgrades in new or existing commercial buildings.

For our residential members, beginning July 1, we will introduce the PowerPincher Home Energy Calculator. This program uses Central Electric's residential rate combined with Central Oregon weather data to enable members to simulate various energy saving measures in their home. This simulation is compared to current energy use to determine the amount of energy and money that can be saved. The PowerPincher application can be accessed on our website at [www.cec.coop](http://www.cec.coop).

Also, this September, we will conduct free energy efficiency workshops. We will provide an overview of the PowerPincher energy calculator and review the rebates and incentives available to our members. Workshop times and dates will be announced in the August and September issues of Ruralite, on our website, and in the local media.

When it comes to conservation and energy efficiency, knowledge is power. We want to continue being your preferred source of information and education about electricity. Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Sincerely,



Dave Markham  
President/CEO