

# The Energy Line

*Energy information for the customers of Wellsboro Electric*

**F**rom the President & CEO

## Springing ahead

For many of us, spring is a great time for starting new projects.

That's also the case here at Wellsboro Electric Co. as we gear up for another busy construction season and make plans for future system improvements, customer service initiatives and regulatory projects.

With the completion of phase one of our Buena Vista Street substation project, we are beginning the planning and design phase for a new transmission line that will deliver electricity from Penelec's substation in Niles Valley to our new substation. This transmission circuit will provide greater reliability for our customers, greater efficiency for delivery of power and will increase our transmission capacity to accommodate future growth in the Wellsboro area.

On another front, we are beginning to prepare for the process of securing a new generation supply contract. Our current wholesale supply contract expires at the end of 2007. Considering the recent escalation in generation prices, we know what a monumental challenge we have before us.

Just recently, neighboring utilities Penelec and PPL, which are still under a generation rate cap, received 5 percent increases in generation and stranded costs. These increases are small compared to generation price hikes impacting electric utility customers in New Jersey, Maryland and elsewhere in Pennsylvania. The rise in generation prices is due primarily to an increase in the cost of natural gas, which fuels many of the nation's recently built generating plants.

Under the state's Customer Choice Law, local distribution utilities like WECO have been designated as "providers of last resort." State regulators had envisioned the provider of last resort serving as a safety net for customers unable or unwilling to purchase electric generation from a competitive energy supplier. As you know, the competitive market never really developed in our region of the state.

While we are technically your provider of last resort, we don't want you to think of us that way. I want to assure you that I will be devoting a great deal of time and energy over the next year working to secure the best price possible for our next generation supply contract.

I also would like to point out that our total electricity pricing for both distribution and generation remains well below the state average. Our overall rate is also lower than those of our neighboring utilities, including Penelec, which recently filed for a significant distribution rate increase.

I will keep you all informed as the process moves along. Have a great spring. Until next time...



### Wellsboro Electric

33 Austin Street  
Wellsboro, PA 16901  
(570) 724-3516

### Board of Directors

Jay E. Haldeman - Chairman  
Alfred G. Calkins - Vice Chairman  
Thomas L. Rudy - Secretary  
Kevin Barrett  
Erick J. Coolidge  
James Luce  
Donald Kerrick  
Barbara Seeley

### Senior Staff

Craig Eccher - President & CEO  
Scot Boyce - V.P. of Finance  
and Administration  
Robert McCarthy - V.P. of  
Engineering and Operations

### ...In this issue

Outdoor electrical safety  
Light up your nights  
Avoid electrical imposters

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Craig Eccher". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

## Watch out for utility impostors

Don't allow impostors to gain entry into your home by posing as Wellsboro Electric workers.

Wellsboro Electric employees do not perform repairs on household wiring systems or appliances. In fact, our employees have instructions NOT to enter customers' homes unless it is an emergency.

All Wellsboro Electric employees carry laminated plastic identification cards with their photograph and signature on them. They drive vehicles that are clearly marked with Wellsboro Electric emblems on the doors.

If you do not recognize our employee, protect yourself by:

- Asking to see identification.
- Calling Wellsboro Electric to verify work and employee identities if there is any doubt.
- Looking for clearly marked service vehicles.
- Reporting any suspicious activity to the police.

---

## Want to light up the night?

For about \$9 a month, you can provide night-time safety around your home or business through our pole-light program.

Wellsboro Electric will install a pole light on your premises at no charge, providing there is an existing pole. For more information call the office at 570-724-3516.

---

## Call before you dig

Planning excavation work? Get your project off to a safe start. State law requires that you call the Pennsylvania One Call System three days before you dig.

**1-800-242-1776**  
**www.paonecall.org**

# Teach children to avoid outdoor electrical dangers

With warmer weather and kids returning to outdoor activities, now's a good time for parents to review outdoor safety tips aimed at helping their children avoid the dangers of overhead electric lines and equipment.

Wellsboro Electric offers parents the following safety reminders to cover with their children so they may enjoy a happy and safe spring and summer:

 Kites should only be flown in open areas, free of overhead power lines. If a kite does get caught in a power line, tell your child not to attempt to retrieve it. Instead, call Wellsboro Electric to have the kite removed by a professional lineman.

 Fly kites only in dry weather. Wet kite strings can conduct electricity from power lines and lightning. Also be sure your child's kite is made of wood, plastic or paper. There should not be metal, foil or wire anywhere on the kite.

 Before climbing any tree, children must know to look for power lines that may be hidden among branches. They should not

climb any tree in close proximity of electric lines.

 Teach your children to never throw things at or over electric lines, utility poles, transformers or other electrical equipment.

 Never cast fishing lines over or near electric lines.

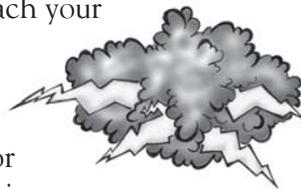
 Children should not play near utility poles, power lines or the support wires on poles.

 Make sure your child knows to stay far away from wires on the ground and to always report downed wires to an adult.

 Children should never climb a utility pole or attempt to enter a substation.

 Teach your children to stay away from electric substations, pad-mount transformers and areas where "Danger: High Voltage" signs are posted.

 If someone is injured by electricity, make sure older children know to call 911 to report the incident.



---

## Tired of Writing Checks? Try Easy Pay

Your Wellsboro Electric bill can be deducted from your bank account each month — making your life a little easier. Easy Pay is our automatic bill-payment program.

By participating, you can avoid the hassle of searching for stamps, writing checks and worrying about whether your payment arrives on time.

Call our office or stop by to become an Easy Pay customer.

---