

The Energy Line

Energy information for the customers of Wellsboro Electric

From the President & CEO

Talking about our generation

After an extensive and competitive bid process, we recently selected a new electric generation supplier, Next Era, to meet our default service energy needs for the next two years.

Our contract with Next Era ushers in a new era for our default service plan. Most notably, the generation component of your electric bill will no longer be changed quarterly as it has been since 2008. For all but our largest commercial and industrial customers, the generation rate will be adjusted just twice a year, which, from a budgeting standpoint, should be beneficial to most consumers. Our default service contract with Next Era, owned by Florida Power and Light, took effect June 1 and runs through May 31, 2018.

As most of you know, your electric bill is comprised of two components: generation and distribution. Distribution rates cover costs associated with owning and maintaining the wires and other equipment used to deliver electricity to customers. The generation rate, a straight pass-through charge, covers costs associated with purchasing power for our customers.

As the designated default service provider, Wellsboro Electric supplies generation to those customers who are unable to or choose not to purchase power from an alternate generation supplier. There are currently no competitive power suppliers actively marketing generation to our residential or small commercial customers.

For our largest commercial and industrial customers, those with a demand exceeding 400 kW, the default service rate has moved to an hourly rate indexed to the hourly grid price. For those large customers – there are currently seven of them – I am happy to announce we do have a competitive supplier, MP2 Energy, operating in our service territory. Several of our commercial customers have already signed up to purchase power from MP2 Energy, brokered through Muirfield Energy. I am optimistic that this step marks the beginning of a move toward full competitive supply in the Wellsboro Electric service territory in years to come.

On the distribution side, we are moving forward with a voltage conversion project in downtown Wellsboro. Crews will be working throughout the summer to upgrade sections of our system from 2,400 volts to 7,200 volts. The two-year voltage conversion project is designed to improve the quality and reliability of our electric service and accommodate future load growth for the downtown area.

And, finally, we were very flattered to be honored as one of Wellsboro's Unsung Heroes by The Wellsboro Gazette earlier this spring. It's nice to know that you are considered an asset to the community, and a big hats off goes to our employees for helping us to achieve this distinction.

Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable summer!



Craig Eccher



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Pole inspections slated

American Energy has been contracted to conduct Wellsboro Electric's annual pole inspection program. Pole inspections will take place in September in the Stony Fork area.

A new look for your electric bill

Your Wellsboro Electric bill will be getting a new look in coming months.

The redesigned bill will include a graph depicting your monthly electric use over the course of one year.

WECO customers who are actively shopping for generation will receive an additional page detailing generation charges from your alternate supplier.

Keep current with us on Facebook

Looking to keep up with the latest news involving your local electric company? Join us on Facebook.



By “liking” Wellsboro Electric on Facebook, you can receive timely information from your electric company. Facebook is becoming an increasingly popular way for us to communicate outage and storm information to our customers.

To join us on Facebook, visit us at www.wellsboroelectric.com and click on the Facebook link on our home page.

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.

SmartHub offers account management at your fingertips

SmartHub lets you manage all aspects of your Wellsboro Electric account online or with your mobile device.

With SmartHub, you can:

- View bills online
- View your billing history
- Change account information
- Pay your bill online (vendor fees apply)
- Receive billing and high/low energy use notifications.
- Sign up for Easy Pay, our automatic payment program
- Report power outages
- Monitor your daily electric use.



To create a SmartHub account, go to www.wellsboroelectric.com, click on the SmartHub link and follow the on-screen instructions.

SmartHub also features a mobile application available for Android and iOS smartphones and tablets. Visit your app store for a free download.

Be on the look out for electric line hazards

Power lines, whether located overhead or under ground, carry high-voltage electricity that can kill instantly upon contact.

If you come across a downed power line, keep at least 10 feet away from the line and anything that may be in contact with it.

Remember, just because a line is not arcing doesn't mean it's not energized. You can't tell by looking whether a line is dead or energized, so any time you encounter a downed wire, immediately call your electric utility to report it.

As you tackle outdoor projects this summer, be sure to note if

there are any power lines in the vicinity of your work area. If you plan to use a ladder or scaffolding, carry lumber or siding, prune trees, install or remove a satellite dish, antenna or swing set or perform other work overhead, be sure to look up for overhead lines.

Remember, you don't need to come in direct contact with a power line to be in danger. Electricity can arc from an electric line to a person, ladder or other equipment. The best way to protect yourself is by keeping yourself and your equipment well away from any overhead electric lines.

WECO offers Third-Party Notification program

Wellsboro Electric offers a Third-Party Notification program to residential customers who may have difficulty understanding their electric bill, managing their accounts or who may be away from home for an extended time period.

The third-party notification program lets you choose another person such as a family member or close friend to receive copies of shutoff or termination notices in the event bill payment is overlooked and the account becomes delinquent. This program gives added protection against disconnection of service.

By filling out a form, you permit Wellsboro Electric to send these notices to a third party that you choose. In this way, an individual you have chosen is made aware of an important problem. Perhaps this person can provide you with advice or assistance. This third party does not have the responsibility for paying your bills. For more information, contact our office.
