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MISSION STATEMENT

AMEA's mission is to provide for our Member communities a reliable and economical source of electric power, enabling them to preserve and enhance the benefits of municipal utility ownership for their citizens and the electric customers they serve. We strive to offer services that our Members need and can adapt to provide the best value for their communities and customers.

AMEA Members benefit from declining fuel costs

AMEA Members have seen a significant reduction in fuel costs. Fuel costs are the actual costs of the coal and natural gas burned to generate electricity.



"This is certainly good news for consumers of an AMEA Member city/utility," said Fred Clark, AMEA President & CEO. "AMEA's fuel costs have decreased significantly since the highs of 2008."

Utility rates in Alabama and elsewhere climbed in 2008 as natural gas and coal prices increased. They have been dropping this year due to lower fuel prices.

Clark said with increased hydropower from a wetter than normal fall and continuing lower natural gas prices, fuel costs continue to trend much lower than recent highs. As a result, all electric utilities have seen improvements in lower fuel costs.

These lower costs should remain fairly stable and continue for the 2010 calendar year.

AMEA hosts Communications/Member Managers Meeting in November

Some 30 people were on hand, representing 9 of AMEA's 11 Members, for the Fall Communications/Member Managers Meeting in November at the RSA Plaza Terrace in Montgomery. Meeting attendees included AMEA Member Managers and their staffs, as

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Fred Clark, AMEA President & CEO, discusses climate change legislation with Members during Fall Communications/Member Managers Meeting in Montgomery.

Meeting

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well as local communication committee members.



Member attendees listen to meeting presenters.

Topics covered

included: an AMEA overview; updates on fuel costs, the Joint Action Services Working Group, and climate change legislation; and a presentation on Behind the Meter Generation (Renewable Energy).

"We are very pleased with the turnout we had for this meeting," said Fred Clark, AMEA President & CEO. "It's a great way for us to have an end of the year review of fuel costs, power supply initiatives, and joint action services, as well as provide our Members with legislative information, such as the climate change legislation, which will significantly impact their electric costs as well as costs to their consumers."

Attendees were provided a packet which included: a climate change legislation fact sheet and sample *In My Opinion* columns relating to climate change; *Alabama Currents* production schedule for 2010-2011; and sample weatherization promotions, as well as a *Weatherization Works* color spread for use in city/utility offices.

"We received very positive feedback from the attendees regarding topics, location, and time of year for this meeting," said Lisa Miller, AMEA Manager of Communications and Marketing. "Based on the evaluation forms from the attendees, they seem to like the format."

Members can download the meeting presentations from the Members Only section of AMEA's web site, www.amea.com. The presentations are located in the "2009 Fall Communications/Member Managers Meeting Presentations" folder. Members have password-protected access to the Members Only section.

AMEA offers cost of service support

AMEA is supportive of Member cities efforts to evaluate their costs of service for their electric system. As a result, AMEA has worked to financially support this evaluation.

The plan calls for AMEA to provide financial support for Cost of Services Studies associated with Members' electric systems, said Clark.

"The AMEA Board of Directors recognized the importance of thorough cost of service evaluations during these difficult economic times," said Fred Clark, AMEA President & CEO. "This initiative is a continuation of an effort in early 2000 to provide support in a joint action manner."

Alabama launches Energy Efficiency Appliance Rebate Program in spring

This spring, Alabamians could receive more than energy savings by replacing an old appliance with a new energy-efficient model.



For three weeks, starting April 19, 2010, buyers of certain ENERGY STAR®-qualified appliances can apply for cash back from the Alabama Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate program. The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) has scheduled the rebate program for April 19-May 9.

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Rebate

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Only ENERGY STAR-rated appliances purchased during the rebate period will be eligible. Plans call for rebates of \$25 for room air conditioners; \$50 for freezers; \$75 for dishwashers; \$100 for clothes washers; and \$150 for refrigerators. A total of about \$4.1 million will be available for the rebates, which are funded as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. As the rebate program draws near, the state will establish a web site and distribute mail-in rebate forms for retailers to make available to customers who purchase qualified ENERGY STAR appliances. Consumers will be able to reserve their rebates online after purchase, but rebates will not be processed until purchase validation is received by mail. If applications exceed the available funds, rebates could be terminated earlier than May 9. The program is open to Alabamians age 18 and older and will be limited to one rebate per appliance type and no more than two rebates per household.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This information will also be provided to AMEA Member consumers in the January/February 2010 *Alabama Currents* magazine.

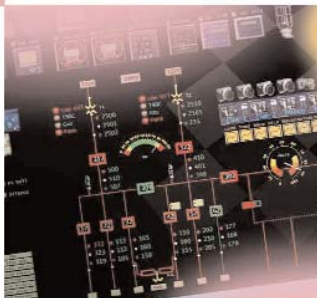
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