



# Pitt and Greene

## Electric Membership Corporation

*“Where Customers Have A Choice”*

*Member Newsletter*

*June 2017*

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## A Change For The Better

### **It's the little things**

When it comes to energy efficiency in the home, sometimes small changes can make a big impact. A small, unglamorous task like changing the filters on your HVAC system makes your unit run more efficiently – keeping your house cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter. It also saves money. And the savings gained from having your system run more efficiently can be applied to more fun or entertaining pursuits that your family can enjoy together.

### The lowdown on dirt

As you move around your home, you drive dust into the air from carpets, furniture and drapes. Regardless of where it comes from, dust and dirt trapped in a system's air filter leads to several problems, including:

- Reduced air flow in the home and up to 15 percent higher operating costs
- Costly duct cleaning or replacement
- Lowered system efficiency

### **Making the switch**

Now, that you know the facts, it's time to get busy changing or cleaning the air filter in your heating/cooling system. Many HVAC professionals recommend that you clean or change the filter on your air conditioner or furnace monthly. It's simple and easy, and in many cases, it only takes a few minutes.

Filters are available in a variety of types and efficiencies, rated by a Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV). MERV, a method developed by the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, tests filter effectiveness. The higher the MERV number, the higher the filter's effectiveness at keeping dust out of your system. While most types of filters must be replaced, some filters are reusable. And don't forget about the winter months. Your heating system needs to work as efficiently as possible to keep you warm (and your loved one's feeling snuggly), and a clean air filter helps it do just that.

Heating and cooling professionals recommend turning your system off before changing the air filter. Make sure that the arrow on the filter – which indicates the direction of the airflow – is pointing toward the blower motor. When you've made the change, turn your system back on.

### **A teachable moment**

Beyond saving money and improving the air quality in your home, changing your air filter is a great opportunity to teach your family more about energy efficiency. Consider getting everyone involved, and the entire family will learn how simple changes can make a big difference.



## *Manager's Message*

*By: Mark A. Suggs*

### **A Cooperative Day In Your Life**

So how did you spend your day? Chances are cooperatives were a big part of it from dawn until bedtime. Take a moment to read this quick overview of how co-ops might be impacting you every day.

Your morning orange juice might have come from Florida's Natural, a producer-owned cooperative based in Florida, but distributing throughout the U.S. If your morning coffee came from Equal Exchange ([www.equalexchange.coop](http://www.equalexchange.coop)), you get bonus points because they source their coffee from farmer-owned co-ops in developing countries, and they are a worker-owned co-op. The milk you use in your coffee or cereal, more than 86 percent of what is consumed is produced by a cooperative.

The wheat in your muffin or toast was most likely processed through a farmer-owned grain elevator in the Midwest. If you had cranberries in that muffin, they likely came from Ocean Spray, or maybe you used Land O'Lakes Butter or Welch's Concord Grape Jam – all producer-owned co-ops that make the products we love on our toast.

After that big co-op breakfast, it is time to start the day. Working parents might drop off their young children at one of the over 1,000 pre-school co-ops that operate throughout the U.S.

Perhaps this is the day to make some improvements to your home. Ace Hardware, True Value and Do It Best are all examples of purchasing co-ops. These are small businesses that come together to form a co-op so that they can compete with big box retailers that are not owned by people in the local community.

You might need to stop by the credit union for a loan or pick up some cash for that home project from one of their 25,000 ATMs in their network. More than 100 million people in the U.S. are members of a credit union, and yep, you guessed it, credit unions are co-ops.

On your way home, you may stop at one of the 300 community-owned cooperative grocery stores in the country. Many of the meat products and vegetables are also sourced from co-ops. If you are in a hurry, maybe you swing by KFC, Taco Bell or Pizza Hut to pick up dinner. The franchise owners of these fast food restaurants are all members of a purchasing co-op, just like the hardware stores above. So are the owners of Dunkin Donuts and many other franchises.

After dinner, perhaps you are watching TV from one of the more than 1,000 small cable companies that serve rural America that have come together to form a co-op that helps keep costs as low as possible. Or maybe you are surfing the Internet through services provided by your local telecommunications co-op.

Travel plans? If you are on a business trip or vacation and staying in a Best Western – that is also a purchasing co-op!

And when it's time for "lights out," you can flip that switch knowing you're receiving safe, reliable electricity from your local electric cooperative, your friends at Pitt & Greene EMC. From morning until night, you can have a very cooperative day.

# Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Directors  
Pitt and Greene Electric Membership Corporation  
Farmville, NC

## **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Pitt and Greene Electric Membership Corporation, which comprise the balance sheets as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, and the related statements of revenue and expenses, changes in members' equity and cash flows for the years then ended and the related notes to the financial statements.

## **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

## **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

## **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Pitt and Greene Electric Membership Corporation as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance in accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

*RSM US LLP*  
Morehead City, North Carolina  
March 16, 2017

## ***Important Sales and Use Tax Notice***

***A purchaser (farmers, manufacturers and commercial laundries) that is eligible for a preferential tax rate on electricity should complete and furnish the seller/electricity supplier Form E-595E, Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement Certificate of Exemption, to take advantage of qualifying reductions.***

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### **Please make room for roadside crews**

When the power goes out, so do Pitt & Greene EMC's line crews. Lineworkers are the first to respond after an outage occurs, and they work tirelessly to restore power to the communities we serve.

If you're traveling and see one of our crews on the side of the road, we kindly ask that you move over if possible and give them a little extra space to work. We deeply care about the safety of all, and this extra precaution ensures just that.

If you approach a crew while traveling on a two-lane road, moving over to the next lane might not be an option. In this case, we simply ask that you slow down when approaching roadside crews. If you approach a crew while traveling on a four-lane road, and safety and traffic conditions allow, we ask that you move over into the far lane.

Utility crews aren't the only ones who could use the extra space. Emergency responders, such as police officers, firefighters and emergency medical technicians, often find themselves responding to emergency situations near busy roadways. We ask that you follow the same procedures mentioned above to help keep these crews safe.

There's plenty of room for all. Let's work together to keep everyone safe on our local roadways.



#### **Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month**



Periodically inspect your dryer vent to ensure it is not blocked. This will save energy and may prevent a fire. Manufacturers recommend using rigid venting material – not plastic vents that may collapse and cause blockages.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy

De lunes a viernes de 8:00 a.m. a 5:00 p.m  
252-753-3128 / 1-800-622-1362 / 252-747-7600

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**Co-op Office Hours**  
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