



# Pitt and Greene

## Electric Membership Corporation

*“Where Customers Have A Choice”*

*Member Newsletter*

*June 2021*

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### **Building a Brighter Future: How Renewables and Natural Gas Team Up in Diverse Energy Portfolio**

To meet the needs of our local members now and into the future, Pitt & Greene EMC and electric cooperatives statewide are adapting new energy sources and services. As the price of solar and other renewable resources is coming down, integrating more renewables is part of that transition. Outside of cost, renewables still present some challenges. For example, solar does not generate consistent power overnight, under clouds, or in the early or late parts of the day. So how can Pitt & Greene EMC enhance reliability with new energy technologies, while also keeping electricity affordable and sustainable? It takes a diverse energy portfolio that combines powerhouse “always on” generation sources—like nuclear and natural gas—with the technologies and sustainable resources of the future.

#### **Matching supply and demand**

To keep the grid reliable, co-ops must deliver exactly the right amount of power needed by members at every moment of the day. The supply of electricity on the grid must match demand at all times. If that balance isn't met, members could lose power and the system could be damaged.

#### **Abundant, low-cost, consistent power**

To ensure the needed amount of power is always available, Pitt & Greene EMC through its power supplier, North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation (NCEMC), has invested in a diverse energy portfolio that incorporates power from a variety of sources. Emissions-free nuclear provides more than half of the power we deliver, and is a steady, low-cost source that can run almost constantly. Natural gas is another important piece of the energy-mix puzzle. It provides abundant power at a low cost, and with lower emissions than other fossil fuels. It also has the flexibility to be dispatched quickly at any time, day or night. This makes it an important pair for renewables that may generate power intermittently. As more renewables are added to the grid, cooperatives can quickly ramp up natural gas generation and support those resources to keep the grid stable. It is a critical source of flexible, low-cost generation as renewables grow. The flexibility of natural gas is also critical for meeting the power needs at times when members are using the most power, called peak demand, and to respond immediately if capacity dips.

#### **Innovation for the future**

Across the grid, electric cooperatives are working together to add smart new resources, including batteries for energy storage, microgrids, and controlling technologies that enable all of these resources to work together to provide the most value. By coordinating new energy resources as they are added to the grid, electric cooperatives can further increase reliability and save costs, especially at “peak” times when electricity use is highest and wholesale power is most expensive. Because cooperatives like Pitt & Greene EMC are not-for-profit, community-owned organizations that provide power to members at cost, savings directly benefit co-op members.

Looking ahead, cooperatives will continue to work to exceed your expectations by pursuing our vision to build a brighter local future with reliable, affordable and sustainable power, and by coupling a diverse energy portfolio with smart energy innovations.



## *Manager's Message*

*By: Mark A. Suggs*

### *Unplug to be More Connected*

Almost everything will work again if you unplug it for a few minutes, including you. There are many benefits of unplugging in today's device-driven, multi-tasking world. Keeping up with work, family and school activities or the latest trend on social media makes most of us feel compelled to constantly check our devices.

Summer is a great time to take a family vacation, but it is also a good opportunity to unplug from our devices and enjoy the great outdoors with family and friends. Research has shown that we all need downtime after a busy day to recharge--even though we may resist it. Take a moment to slow down and enjoy some peaceful hours away from technology.

While you're unplugging from your devices, look around your home to identify electronics that consume energy even when they are not in use (this is known as "vampire" energy loss). TV's, gaming consoles, phone chargers and computers are some of the biggest culprits.

If your summer plans include a staycation, take time to recharge your relationships and be more present with those you love. Enjoy your beautiful surroundings with your family and friends.

While spending time outdoors, you can also enjoy energy savings by incorporating LED products and fixtures for outdoor use, such as pathway, step and porch lights. Many include features like automatic daylight shut-off and motion sensors. You can also find solar-powered lighting for outdoor spaces.

Save energy by keeping warm summer air outside where it belongs. Add caulk or weather stripping to seal air leaks around doors and windows. You can also employ a programmable thermostat to adjust the settings a few degrees higher when no one is home.

In our connected world, we have forgotten how to slow down. We multitask and text. We check email, then voicemail, and Facebook. Do yourself and your family a favor. Put down the device and smell the fresh air.

# **Independent Auditor's Report**

Board of Directors

Pitt and Greene Electric Membership Corporation

## **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, 2020, the related statements of revenue and expenses, changes in members' equity and cash flows for the year 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 audit. We conducted our audit 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 from 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 judgement, 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, 2020, 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.

## **Other Matters**

### *Other Auditors*

The financial statements of Pitt and Greene Electric Membership Corporation, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019, were audited by other auditors, whose report, dated March 27, 2020, expressed an unmodified opinion on those statements.

*PBMARES, LLP*

Morehead City, North Carolina

March 23, 2021



*Pitt & Greene EMC will be closed  
Monday July 5, 2021 in  
observance of Independence Day.*

## **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 Pitt & Greene 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 Pitt & Greene line 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.

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## ***Change Habits To Beat The Peak***

### ***Laundry for less:***

Full loads mean fewer cycles, and washers and dryers that run in the late evening add less heat and humidity to the home.

### ***Cool Off:***

Turn off unnecessary lighting and electronics that generate heat. Resist the urge to move the thermostat to a lower setting. Remember the lower the thermostat setting, the more electricity used, which may result in a higher utility bill.

### ***Intramural Competition:***

Online gaming with each active player using their own computer, display gaming console and internet connection gets pricey. Play each other at home on one screen and save.

### ***Countertop Convenience:***

Range or oven cooking can really warm up a kitchen. Microwaves, convection ovens, induction cooktops, Crock-Pot and Toaster ovens put more cooking heat where you need it.

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

### **CORTES DE SUMINISTRO ELÉCTRICO Y EMERGENCIAS:**

Durante fines de semana, días festivos y después  
del horario de oficina  
252-753-8778

### **Co-op Office Hours**

Monday - Friday - 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
252-753-3128 / 1-800-622-1362 / 252-747-7600

### **POWER OUTAGES & EMERGENCIAS**

During weekends, holidays and  
after office hours  
252-753-8778