



Touchstone Energy Cooperative 

**RECEIVED**

**OCT 07 2013**

**PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION**

October 4, 2013

Mr. Jeffrey Derouen  
Executive Director  
Kentucky Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 615  
211 Sower Boulevard  
Frankfort, KY 40602

RE: PSC Case No. 2013-00278

Dear Mr. Derouen:

Please find enclosed for filing with the Commission in the above referenced case, an original and ten copies of Owen Electric Cooperative, Inc.'s Affidavit of Mailing of Hearing Notice provided by *Kentucky Living* magazine, along with the tear sheet.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ann F. Wood".

Ann F. Wood  
Senior Vice President of Corporate Services

Enclosures



AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING  
OF HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the October issue of  
*KENTUCKY LIVING*, bearing the official notice of hearing of PSC  
Case No. 2013-00278, concerning the application of the fuel adjustment clause  
from November 1, 2012, through April 30, 2013, for OWEN ELECTRIC  
COOPERATIVE, was entered as direct mail at Florence, Kentucky, on  
September 27, 2013.

Anita Travis Richter  
Managing Editor  
*Kentucky Living*

County of Jefferson  
State of Kentucky

Sworn to and subscribed before me, a Notary Public,  
this 30<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2013.

My commission expires

January 10, 2016

Notary Public, State of Kentucky

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# ENERGY 101

## HEARING NOTICE

A public hearing will be held on Wednesday, October 16, 2013, at 10 a.m., Eastern Daylight Time, at the offices of the Kentucky Public Service Commission, 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky, to examine the application of the fuel adjustment clause of the following corporations for the period November 1, 2012, through April 30, 2013. Individuals interested in attending this hearing shall notify the Public Service Commission in writing of their intent to attend no later than October 11, 2013. If no notices of intent to attend are received by this date, this hearing will be cancelled. Written notice of intent to attend this hearing should be sent to: Executive Director, Kentucky Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602.

### Big Sandy RECC

Case No. 2013-00267

### Blue Grass Energy Cooperative

Case No. 2013-00268

### Clark Energy Cooperative

Case No. 2013-00269

### Cumberland Valley Electric

Case No. 2013-00270

### Farmers RECC

Case No. 2013-00271

### Fleming-Mason Energy Cooperative

Case No. 2013-00272

### Grayson RECC

Case No. 2013-00273

### Inter-County Energy Cooperative

Case No. 2013-00274

### Jackson Energy Cooperative

Case No. 2013-00275

### Licking Valley RECC

Case No. 2013-00276

### Meade County RECC

Case No. 2013-00285

### Nolin RECC

Case No. 2013-00277

### Owen Electric Cooperative

Case No. 2013-00278

### Salt River Electric Cooperative

Case No. 2013-00279

### Shelby Energy Cooperative

Case No. 2013-00280

### South Kentucky RECC

Case No. 2013-00281

### Taylor County RECC

Case No. 2013-00282

## The simple energy of biomass

*How the burning of wood and grass can help make electricity*

Biomass has come a long way from putting a log on a fire. But the concept behind this power source is still quite simple: burn plants or waste materials from plants or animals to heat water to create steam that spins a turbine to generate electricity.

Biomass includes fresh plant parts (trees, grasses, crops) or byproducts such as wood chips



or corn stubble, plus live-stock

waste, and even landfill gas. Recent advances in technology have made it possible to use all these items much more efficiently.

In the simplest systems, fresh materials are used with few modifications. In a direct-fired system, the biomass in its original form is burned with nothing else added. Residual heat from the process can be piped off to heat buildings or reused in other ways, increasing power plant efficiencies. In a co-fired system, biomass is mixed with a fossil fuel such as coal. Burning the two fuels together can lower emissions of certain pollutants while maintaining the same amount of electricity production.

More complicated technology changes the biomass into another form to make it more useful. During gasification, superheating (but not burning) the biomass

changes it from a solid into a gas. This synthetic gas (syngas) can be used as a substitute for natural gas. During pyrolysis, biomass changes from a solid into a liquid that can be used in place of traditional fuel oil.

Anaerobic digestion is the most time-consuming method for using biomass. As bacteria (anaerobes) break down rotting plant or animal materials over days or weeks, their actions release methane gas, which can be captured and burned to make electricity. The leftover solids can often be used as compost.

-National Rural Electric Cooperative Association



An ongoing University of Kentucky/East Kentucky Power Cooperative biomass research project includes testing ways to mix dried switchgrass with coal to generate electricity at a conventional power plant. Photo: East Kentucky Power Cooperative

## THE BIOMASS ROLE IN RENEWABLE ENERGY

The U.S. has more than 15,000 megawatts (enough electricity for 7.5 million homes) of biomass generating capacity, making it the third-largest source of renewable energy behind hydropower and wind.