

## A letter to the members of Nolin RECC

With energy costs rising, members are asking more questions about their electric bills. In the past three months, I have addressed the Fuel Adjustment Clause, Environmental Surcharge, rates, and Capital Credits.

This month I will bring you up-to-date on the EnviroWatts program, and I will also explain why Nolin has service territorial boundaries.

### RENEWABLE ENERGY

Nolin members can participate in a program that helps make our environment a little greener. It is called EnviroWatts. The green power for our EnviroWatts program is fueled by methane from six landfills around Kentucky. Methane, which is produced when waste decomposes within landfills, is a powerful greenhouse gas.

By burning methane as fuel in our plants, we remove it from the atmosphere. In fact, our power supplier's landfill gas plants eliminate 35,857 tons of methane each year and reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 105,882 tons. This reduction is the equivalent to any one of the following benefits:

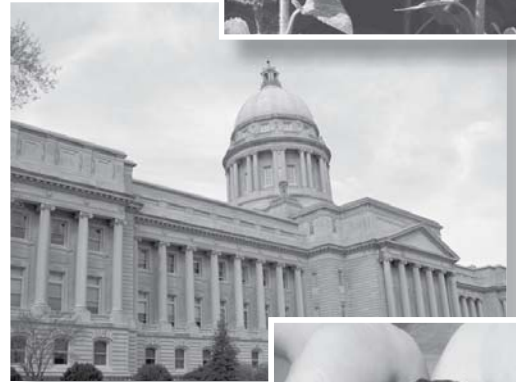
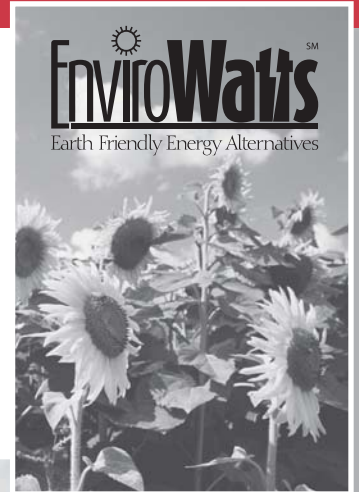
- Planting 188,250 acres of forest
- Offsetting the use of 3,377 railcars of coal
- Averting the electricity usage of 1,234,425 light bulbs

East Kentucky Power Cooperative, our power supplier, produces green power at six plants, including the Pearl Hollow plant located in the Nolin service area. Pearl Hollow generates enough electricity to power the homes of 2,000 Nolin members.

When you sign up for a block of EnviroWatts, you're helping us keep those plants running and you're lending a hand in the search for new ways to generate renewable energy in Kentucky.

EnviroWatts is sold in blocks of 100 kilowatt hours (kWh). The typical household uses about 1,200 kWh each month. If you join the program, each 100 kWh block adds just \$2.75 to your monthly utility bill.

EnviroWatts is completely voluntary. Interested members can sign up by calling the Nolin office at 270-765-6153.



Mickey Miller  
President & CEO

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**NOLIN**

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative 

## TERRITORIAL BOUNDARIES

Members sometimes ask why they are served by Nolin RECC, when a neighbor across the street is served by a different electric utility.

In 1972, the Kentucky General Assembly passed one of the country's first territorial laws. The law, in essence, set up prescribed boundaries for the service areas for Kentucky's investor-owned utilities and the electric cooperatives, which were then filed with the Kentucky Public Service Commission.

Having the boundaries has provided a good way for Kentucky's electric utility suppliers to avoid duplication of expensive electric lines and to keep utilities from annexing service areas from one another.

## SPURLOCK STATION UNIT #4: CLEAN-COAL, CLEAN-AIR

In April, East Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC) completed construction of Spurlock Station Unit #4, one of America's cleanest coal-generating units. The 278-megawatt unit will provide EKPC and its 16-member cooperatives with affordable, reliable, clean electric power for decades.

The unit uses technology known as a Circulating Fluidized Bed (CFB) process, which feeds limestone into the boilers, resulting in extremely low emission levels. In a CFB unit, coal burns at nearly half the temperature of a traditional unit, producing 80 percent less nitrogen oxide than a conventional plant. The process removes 98 percent of the sulfur dioxide and is also much more efficient than conventional units because fine coal particles are recirculated within the boiler. Clean-coal units are 10 times cleaner than conventional units in removing particulate matter.

In addition to its low emission levels, the unit has the capacity to burn renewable fuels such as switchgrass. EKPC plans to burn up to 400 tons of switchgrass as part of a four-year pilot project with the University of Kentucky's College of Agriculture.

Sincerely,



Michael L. "Mickey" Miller  
President and CEO

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