VEC Hires New Chief Operating Officer ~ Jeff Wright

On December 4, 2007 Jeff Wright accepted the position of Chief Operating Officer at Vermont Electric. Jeff will begin work with VEC after the New Year on January 2, 2008. He comes to VEC from Vermont Electric Power Co., Inc. (VELCO) where he held several positions over the span of eleven years. Prior to his employment at VELCO Jeff was employed with Central Vermont Public Service (CVPS). He brings a wealth of knowledge of and experience with the utility industry and we feel he will be a great asset to the senior management team.

Jeff is very proud of his work on the VT state Apprenticeship Council and the VT State Workforce Development Council. He is a strong advocate for the building and construction trades and believes in promoting the trades early on in the schools, so that today's youth are exposed to a wide range of available career opportunities.

When asked what his priorities are upon joining VEC he identifies them as follows:

- ***Safety in the workplace*** ~ Jeff sees this as everyone's responsibility and that everyone within the organization owns each other's safety. He believes in a hands-on and collaborative approach to developing new safety programs and will personally involve himself in every aspect of the safety program. He plans to spend a lot of time with VEC's new Safety & Compliance Manager, Margaret Fullerton.

- ***Environmental responsibility*** ~ Jeff feels it is important to work with state and federal agencies in managing VEC's rights of way and in developing best management practices consistent with their long term goals. He also feels it's important to take an active role in helping to develop state and local programs focusing on wildlife habitat and invasive species management.

- ***A Control Center is the nucleolus of any utility***~it is a priority of Jeff's to collaboratively develop common-sense operating procedures. The success of VEC and safe operation of the VEC system depend upon good communications between the field and the control center.

- ***VEC's engineering disciplines*** ~ Jeff feels that educating himself on VEC's engineering processes and infrastructure improvement plans is a top priority for him. He looks forward to working towards a clear understanding of VEC's long range plan and load forecasting process.

"My core beliefs surround the development of a team that will share in each others successes and challenges alike. One of the reasons I am choosing to join the VEC team is the level of ambition and drive that I have seen in everyone I have met. I look forward to meeting everyone else within the organization and developing a relationship that revolves around trust. I am very anxious to launch this next chapter of my career and joining the team. In the next month my focus will be executing a smooth transition and learning as much about VEC as I can," says Jeff.

Jeff has a wife Linda and two children, Rachel(13) and Chase (10) who have all been very supportive of this move and have been involved with every aspect of his decision in joining VEC. He is a native Vermonter with a strong appreciation of nature and Vermont's outdoor opportunities. In addition to enjoying the outdoors he is a hockey and AAU basketball dad.

We at VEC are very excited to welcome Jeff and look forward to working with him in the New Year . We are counting the days until he's on board!

The Inside Scoop Employee Evolution

William (Bill) Johnson has accepted the position of 2nd Class Lineworker, A out of the Grand Isle District. Bill started with VEC on November 19, 2007.

Previously Bill was a Line Crew Chief working for the Village of Rouses Point, NY for the last four years. He grew up in the islands and has been looking for an opportunity to return. While at the Village of Rouses Point, Bill gained substantial knowledge pertaining to substations and distribution facilities.

He recently completed NEPPA's four year Line Maintainer Apprenticeship in accordance with the Merchant Job Training and Safety program. He has an AAS degree in Electronics Technology, Certification as a Level 1 Thermographer. Bill is also a heavy equipment operator and a volunteer fire fighter.

Mary Johnson recently accepted the position of Corporate Administrator. Mary comes to VEC from the Women's Business Center in Montpelier and she has also owned a business in Stowe for over 28 years. She brings a wealth of experience to her role at VEC.

Nancy Tourville accepted the position of Field Technician II. In this role Nancy will continue in the field metering operations and will migrate to the increasingly technical duties and responsibilities of AMR.

Nancy has been with VEC for almost twelve years in various roles, most recently as meter reader/installer. Nancy looks forward to maintaining personal face to face interactions with our members, and the opportunity to learn and to work in beautiful surroundings everyday.

Community Service Bulletin Board

In the month of November VEC employees participated in the "Chris Challenge" which is in memory of Chris Potter a Lamoille County resident who was a very actively involved in Community service. The challenge is designed to collect turkeys for food baskets to be distributed by local food shelves around the community so many less fortunate will also have a family Thanksgiving dinner. VEC employees contributed 30 +/- turkeys and one basket of food to the challenge. Thanks to all who participated to make someone else's holiday a little happier!

On August 24, 2007, Vermont Electric Cooperative filed a rate design change with the Public Service Board (PSB), to be implemented on February 1, 2008. The filing proposed to eliminate the distinction between rates in Zone 1 (the prior VEC stand alone territory) and rates in Zone 2 (the former Citizens territory). The rate design filing also proposed to eliminate the seasonal rates that are currently in effect in Zone 2, and to make adjustments between customer classes. The filing did not seek a further increase in VEC's company-wide revenues, although rates for most members will change (up or down).

The Public Service Board approved the filing on November 21, 2007 and granted VEC the approval to implement the new rate structure on a bills-rendered basis on February 1, 2008. Below is a summary of the new rates by class.

VERMONT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE RATES EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 2008

Residential – Rate 1

1st 100 kWh	$0.07461
> 100 kWh	$0.15060
Customer charge per meter	$14.72

Residential – Time of Use Rate 1.1

On-Peak Usage kWh	$0.16915
Off-Peak Usage kWh	$0.12199
Customer charge per meter	$ 14.72

General Service – Rate 2

<15,000 kWh	$0.13539
Customer Charge per meter	*$15.61*
= >15,000 kWh	$0.07749
= >15,000 kWh/kW demand	$17.85
Customer Charge per meter	*$26.02*
Farm/Residential credit	($ 6.08)

General Service-Time of Use Rate 2.1

<15,000 kWh	
On-Peak Usage kWh	$0.14987
Off-Peak Usage kWh	$0.10271
Customer Charge per meter	$20.10
= >15,000 kWh-on peak KW	$20.81
= >15,000 kWh-off peak KW	$15.00
= >15,000 kWh all kWh	$0.07749
Customer charge per meter	$40.18

Industrial – Rate 3

Distribution kWh all kWh	$0.07689
Distribution KW- Firm	$17.00
Distribution KW - Interrupt	$13.95
Sub-transmission Firm kWh	$0.07671
Sub-transmission KW - Firm	$10.30
Sub-transmission Interrupt – kWh	$0.07171
Sub-transmission KW – Interrupt	$ 7.25
Customer charge	$198.74

Use Specific Interruptible Rate

Monthly service charge	$241.67

Fees (all year)

Collect	$18.00
Initial/New Service	$25.00
Disconnect/Reconnect	$25.00
Reconnect after hours	$56.00
Suspension of service initial	$18.00
Suspension of service reconnect	$25.00
Continuous service	$10.00
Bad check charge	$10.00

Streetlights (all year)

1,000 Lumen or 100W	$6.62
4,000 Lumen or 200W	$15.10
10,000 Lumen or 500W	$20.79
8,000 Lumen MV, =<250W	$15.17
20,000 Lumen MV > 250W	$22.28
8,000 Lumen HPS, 100W	$10.31
24,000 Lumen HPS, 250W	$21.88
44,000 Lumen HPS, 400W	$39.45

The filing did not seek a further increase in VEC's company-wide revenues, although rates for most members will change (up or down).

Energy Efficiency Charge 2008

Since 2000, Vermont electric bills have included an Energy Efficiency Charge (EEC). Funds collected by the charge pay for energy efficiency services designed to save money by reducing Vermont's electricity needs. This notice contains the new EEC rates in effect with bills rendered on February 1, 2008.

The EEC pays for an organization called Efficiency Vermont to provide energy efficiency services to most of the state. For more information, including technical advice, education, rebates and other financial incentives for homes, farms and businesses, contact Efficiency Vermont toll free at 1-888-921-5990 or at www.efficiencyvermont.com.

Energy efficiency benefits Vermont in two ways: first, using less electricity lowers the bills of individuals who take steps to reduce their power use; second, and more importantly, when statewide use goes down, it reduces electric utilities' *total* system costs, which would otherwise be paid by all electric customers through rates.

Effective with bills rendered on February 1, 2008 the EEC rates for all customers except those of the City of Burlington Electric Department (BED) will be:

	Current 2007 EEC rates	New 2008 EEC rates
Residential:	$0.00496 per kWh	$0.00668 per kWh
Commercial:		
Non-demand customers	$0.00408 per kWh	$0.00577 per kWh
Demand customers	$0.00242 per kWh plus	$0.00364 per kWh plus
	$0.5098 per kW/month	$0.6616 per kW/month
Industrial:		
Non-demand customers	$0.00293 per kWh	$0.00371 per kWh
Demand customers	$0.00219 kWh plus	$0.00284 kWh plus
	$0.2699 per kW/month	$0.4328 per kW/month
Street and Area Lights:	$0.00408 per kWh	$0.00577 per kWh
	{determined by multiplying the light wattage by 360 hours per month}	

For more information about the charge, please contact your local utility or the Department of Public Service Consumer Hotline at 1-800-622-4496.

Efficiency Vermont

ASK RACHAEL

Q. ***My husband and I are considering getting an electric snow blower, but we're concerned that it could run up our electric bill. We'd rather not get a gas blower, because we've always enjoyed clearing snow together in the fresh air – not in exhaust fumes. (Yes, we like shoveling!) But we've moved to a place with too much space to clear by hand and too little to plow. Just how much electricity do electric snow blowers use?***

A. The biggest electric snow blowers use around 1,440 watts of power. If you run one of these blowers for 10 hours over the course of a season, its impact will hardly be noticeable on your electric bill. Naturally, your usage may rise if we get an unusually high number of storms or if individual snowfalls are consistently big (electric blowers typically are designed to handle up to six inches of snow). But if you think an electric snow blower can handle your new, longer paths (power cords longer than 100 feet may result in a drop of power) then here's to clean air while clearing snow!

Rachael is a business development specialist at Efficiency Vermont. To find more energy saving tips or to submit a new question about energy use in your home or business, visit
www.efficiencyvermont.com/askrachael
or call, toll-free: 1-888-921-990
to speak with a customer service representative.

Vermont Electric Cooperative, Inc. *42 Wescom Road Johnson, VT 05656 1-800-832-2667 or 802-635-2331*
Business hours Monday—Friday 7:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m. *www.vermontelectric.coop*
Emergency Service 24—7

Committed to our Members

CO-OP LITE

January 2008
Member Newsletter

A Look into the New Year ~ 2008

By Board President Tom Bailey

As we near the end of 2007 and begin the New Year in 2008, the challenges of supplying electricity to you, our member-owners, continues. The VEC Board of Directors and employees of Vermont Electric are primarily focused on securing reasonably priced electricity in today's volatile markets and improving your electric system's reliability across Northern Vermont's climate-diverse and rugged terrain.

In view of the present power supply options we believe that we at VEC have made some good choices in securing power supply contracts for the immediate future. For the longer term we are weighing all options for power supply, including securing power contracts with renewable generation sources, encouraging energy efficiency programs, and reviewing existing contracts with Hydro Quebec and Vermont Yankee providing their terms and conditions are good choices for our members.

As we move forward in this increasingly technical era, individuals and companies are more dependent on extremely reliable electric service. VEC has not met all of our 2007 goals in this regard. To improve this situation we are ramping up our focus and directing expenditures in VEC's operating and capital budgets to increase system reliability. Our members should not have to endure outages of long duration nor those pesky blinks that raise havoc with today's modern technology and equipment. While no utility can ever guarantee uninterruptible electric service, VEC can continue to improve our distribution infrastructure so the electric supply to your homes, farms, and businesses is more reliable.

Your Board of Directors recently approved both VEC's Operating and Capital Budgets for 2008. These budgets were developed with input from both the Board and VEC employees who have an excellent knowledge of where your money should be allocated for optimal short and long term system improvements. We feel that these budgets are conservative, fiscally responsible, and will best serve our members well as VEC moves forward in 2008 to implement our goals.

On behalf of the VEC Board of Directors and all VEC employees, I wish you a safe, healthy and Happy New Year!

AMR Update
Automated Meter Reading

Substations Currently On-Line and Reading With AMR

Cambridge	1,212
Johnson	630
Hinesburg	2,205
S. Alburgh	3,080
S. Hero	2,910
Richford	1,180
Newport	3,577
Derby	1,672
Total	16,466 +/-

Weather permitting the Burton Hill Substation is scheduled to be on-line in December as well as the W. Charleston Substation which would total approximately an additional 3,000 meters available to be read with AMR. Currently we are installing meters at Madonna Village which will add another 600 +/- meters reading via AMR.

Winter Outage Safety Tips

Being prepared for outages such as having a plan and an emergency outage kit is important, especially during weather related outages where damage can be widespread and repairs may be complex.

- If a member of your household is dependent on electricity for life support, make sure you have portable oxygen tanks, backup power and/or a temporary relocation plan.
- Check on elderly relatives & neighbors
- Have an outage kit in an accessible location to provide for basics needs. Suggested items include; flashlights, portable radio, extra batteries, battery alarm clock, extra dry & warm clothing, sleeping bags and/or blankets. Also extra drinking water and foods which can be consumed with little or no preparation.

Stay Safe

If you come across a downed power line keep clear from that line and any debris that may be on the line. Never try to remove branches or trees from the power line, it most likely is still live with power.

Immediately call your utility to report a downed power line.