



For All Your Customer Service Needs,  
Call Toll-Free (800) 240-3400

**Automated Outage Reporting**  
1-888-BLURIDGE  
www.blueridge.coop

**Pickens**  
P.O. Box 277  
734 West Main St.  
Pickens, SC 29671

**Oconee**  
P.O. Box 329  
2328 Sandifer Blvd.  
Highway 123  
Westminster, SC 29693

**Anderson**  
1212 North Fant St.  
Anderson, SC 29622

**Greenville**  
3751 Highway 11  
Travelers Rest, SC 29690

**Mission Statement**  
Blue Ridge will be a competitive, quality provider of energy and other services, maintaining its history of integrity and adapting to the challenges of a changing world. While exercising leadership in the community, the organization's focus will be on exceeding customer expectations.

**Board of Directors**  
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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

## Ebenezer project moves forward

**SOME VERY GOOD NEWS** reached my ears recently with word that the cooperative's planned Ebenezer transmission line had received the green light. This two-mile-long, 44,000-volt facility will transport power to a new Blue Ridge substation that is to be erected there in Oconee County's Ebenezer community.



It's important for this transmission and substation project to move forward. Some of the backbone feeders emanating from the cooperative's Walhalla substation are presently carrying some very heavy electrical load. The new substation will absorb much of that load, while ensuring the flow of electricity to our members continues unimpeded.

### Better service reliability

Once the Ebenezer substation is energized, a good number of our members in that part of the Blue Ridge territory will find themselves closer to their source of power. That should translate into an even better level of service reliability for those

homes and businesses.

It's our goal to have the Ebenezer project on line by next December or January. Given the demands that the cold winter weather can place on our system, the timing couldn't be better.

### Similar needs

In addition to Ebenezer, there are other parts of the Blue Ridge service area facing similar needs. Another transmission line and substation are on the drawing board for southwestern Oconee County. The cooperative also has plans in the northeastern section of Pickens County for a new substation/transmission project.

I'm excited about the prospect of these improvements to the cooperative's system. Nothing gives us greater pleasure than to provide our members with even more dependable electric service.

**Charles E. Dalton**  
*President and CEO*



Mark Waters, right, supervisor of system planning, along with Rex Ramsay, left, supervisor of vegetation management, worked successfully to secure the needed right-of-way easements for the Ebenezer transmission line.

DENISE MCCORMICK

## Go for a ride at Connections.coop



MIKKI HUGHES

The amusement park near Charlotte offers more than 60 state-of-the-art rides.

### USE YOUR CO-OP CONNECTIONS

to save on tickets to Carowinds this summer.

A special online-only discount is available for Co-op Connections cardholders. Access connections.coop for the corporate code you'll need to save \$15 on regular one-day admission for ages 3-61. The 112-acre theme and water park straddles the Carolinas state line just south of Charlotte. The park offers more than 60 state-of-the-art rides, attractions and shows for all ages.

Visit connections.coop for discounts at other amusement and water parks in South Carolina,

including Adventure Cove and Dolphin Discoveries in Hilton Head.

Co-op members receive discounts at thousands of retail and service locations in addition to discounts on prescription drugs. Through April, Blue Ridge Co-op members had saved \$135,000 on prescription drug costs in 2010. For a complete list of local participants and a link to national participants, visit blueridge.coop.

### Energy efficiency adds up with a heat pump

Blue Ridge Electric Co-op has long promoted heat pump use, so we were

pleased to read that Palmetto State consumers purchased 2,063 of them during this spring's S.C. Appliance Rebate Program. We helped the state Energy Office promote the rebates to encourage members to invest in efficient technologies. Now, S.C. consumers stand to save close to \$14 million, the Energy Office estimates.

It's important that we all invest in efficiency. If you can afford to do so, do it now. The payback will come in lower power bills, greater comfort and higher home resale values. If you can get financing for a home but can't swing the necessary energy upgrades, check with your FHA-approved lender about an Energy Efficient Mortgage. This program allows homebuyers to finance the addition of energy-saving features to new or existing homes. If you are interested in a low-interest heat pump loan from Blue Ridge Co-op, call (800) 240-3400 and ask for an application.

### Online bill payment offers a number of benefits

If you are still paying your power bill in the office or by mail, you may want to try online bill payment. This service allows payments by e-check or credit card and is used by more than 18 percent of our members. Why the popularity in this method?

First, it's fast: When you

pay online, we credit your payment to your Blue Ridge Electric account as soon as we receive authorization from your credit card company, which is usually right away. Second, you know we've received your payment and when. Finally, it's convenient. As long as you can access a computer and know your password, your payment can be made—anytime, anywhere.

If you would like more information about online bill payment, call a member service representative at (800) 240-3400.



### Independence Day

honors the birthday of the United States of America and the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.

It's a day of picnics and patriotic parades, a night of concerts and fireworks, and a reason to fly the American flag.

**Our offices will be closed on Monday, July 5, to observe this holiday.** Emergency crews will be on standby and dispatchers will be answering the telephones around the clock.