



Let's talk energy -- You can help keep your rates low!

Our Energy, Our Future

A Dialogue With America
www.ourenergy.coop

During congressional recess this summer, elected officials from Washington, D.C., will be meeting with folks back home. This provides us with a great opportunity to make personal contact with these lawmakers, as well as others, on some important energy issues.

A dialogue with America...

Through an awareness campaign called, "Our Energy, Our Future: A Dialogue with America," we recently started a conversation with members of Congress urging them to help us tackle our nation's difficult energy challenges. We began the campaign with a letter pointing out that our nation's electricity needs are outstripping available supplies of power, even with very successful co-op energy efficiency programs factored in.

Now we must now spread the message – the second question in the campaign – that American ingenuity is key to keeping the lights on and rates affordable

while meeting environmental goals.

Developing and deploying the technology necessary to develop low emissions solutions will require huge political and financial commitments, the likes of which we have not seen since the advent of rural electrification itself or the Apollo moon program. No one can afford to do this alone. Our government can – and must – be part of the solution, or it will be part of the problem.

Please contact your representatives now...

The letter addressing this technology question is now ready for you to send to your congressional delegation. You can find it and send your e-mail by going to www.ourenergy.coop. If you don't have internet, stop by one of our offices, and we can send it for you.

We can continue the "Our Energy, Our Future" dialogue through face-to-face contact by

attending candidate rallies and community events where lawmakers may be present. We can ask the tough questions that appear below and on the ourenergy.coop web site.

Let's keep the dialogue going to secure our nation's energy and economic future. The electric bill you save will be your own!

The three questions...

1. Experts say that our nations' growing electricity needs will soon go well beyond what renewables, conservation and efficiency can provide; What is your plan to make sure we have the electricity we'll need in the future?

2. What are you doing to fully fund the research required to make emissions-free electric plants an affordable reality?

3. Balancing electricity needs and environmental goals will be difficult. How much is all this going to increase my electric bill and what will you do to make it affordable?