

Ripley Power and Light offices will be closed...



- Thursday & Friday, December 24 & 25, for Christmas
- Friday, January 1, for New Year's Day
- Monday, January 18, for Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Monday, February 15, for Presidents' Day



Pay your bill online and more ... at ripleypower.com

Office Hours & Locations

We are open 47 hours each week to serve you better!

7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday-Thursday

7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday

You can pay your utility bill at ...

- 150 S. Main St. in Ripley
- 409 S. Church St. in Halls

If you have not been receiving your bills, call our office immediately so we can verify your mailing address.



731-635-2323 ■ 731-836-7595
www.ripleypower.com

Update on TVA's rate structure changes

As expected, the Tennessee Valley Authority board did approve a rate structure change that went into effect October 1.

"Ripley Power and Light adjusted rates to coincide with the TVA rate structure change," said Mike Allmand, Ripley Power and Light President and CEO.

Power and Light customers are seeing an average rate increase of 3.5 percent, Allmand said. The increase was applied to meters that were read after November 1.

TVA is structuring rates to more closely reflect the changing costs of generating power, which fluctuate with shifts in demand from one season to the next and during different times of the day, Allmand explained.

"Large industrial customers already have their rates based on time of use,

meaning their rates are lower when fewer people are using electricity. Over the next decade, all customer rates are moving toward time of use."

The rate changes make energy efficiency all the more important, he added. "Those customers who take steps to decrease the amount of energy they use will see less of an increase on their electric bills."

Unfortunately, customers should expect to see TVA increase rates every year for the next five years or so as TVA meets today's and future costs for generating electricity.

Ripley Power and Light will continue to offer energy-efficient incentives to help customers use electricity in the most economical way possible, Allmand said. "It is always our goal to help customers minimize any rate increase as much as possible."

New board member

This year also saw the addition of a new board member.

Eunice Jenkins, a retired rural mail carrier who served the community for 27 years, replaced Kevin Connell on the Ripley Power and Light Board of Directors.

Raised in Ripley, Jenkins graduated from Ripley High School and served in the National Guard for several years.

His wife, Debby, works for the election commission. They are both actively involved in community events at Emmanuel Episcopal Church.



Eunice Jenkins, left, is sworn in as a board member by Judge Herman Reviere.

Impressed by the lights? Awed by the decorations?

We're looking for homes and businesses in Ripley Power and Light Company's service area that have impressive holiday decorations.

If you see decorations you love, send the address and owner's contact information to mary@reedmarketing.com or tsellers@ripleypower.com by Monday, December 21. That will give us time to check out the display and get pictures before the decorations are put away for next year.

And, don't be shy if you are proud of what you've done with your own home! If you are getting compliments on your decorating, do email us.

With the holidays approaching, it's time once again to look for your Ripley 2016 calendar in your mailbox towards the end of December.

Ripley

POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY

Winter 2015-16

Make your home energy efficient with rebates, financing

The result? Lower energy bills each month!

Homeowners are beginning to take advantage of eScore – a program from Ripley Power and Light and TVA launched in December 2014 that is designed to lower utility bills by reducing energy consumption.

eScore provides homeowners with a simple path to make their homes more comfortable and as energy efficient as possible. The program allows homeowners to work toward a score of 10 at their own pace.

It provides rebates on qualified energy-efficient upgrades, and homeowners can re-engage with the program as many times as needed to achieve their home's best possible energy performance.

For Ripley resident George Demeris, that meant addressing his ductwork and windows.

He turned to the eScore program last spring to have new ductwork installed, along with caulking, cleaning and covering any possible leaks.

In late summer, he replaced his windows and a sliding glass

door through the program.

He's looking forward to lower energy bills and would recommend the program to his neighbors. "I think people ought to look into things like this, and I think it's going to save me some money."

Demeris also was able to get rebates. Homeowners can earn \$200 in rebates for ductwork and up to \$500 for windows. Available rebates for a variety of energy-efficient upgrades are listed in the chart on the next page. The chart also shows which improvements can be financed through Ripley Power and Light.

Demeris, who is the brother of Ripley Power and Light Energy Services Specialist Mike Demeris, earned an eScore of 8. He said he has the opportunity to increase it by upgrading his doors, which he may do in the future.



George Demeris expects lower energy bills this winter after replacing ductwork and windows and taking other energy-efficient steps with his home this past year.

Ripley Power and Light offers the eScore program with TVA to make it more affordable for customers to do energy upgrades to their homes, said Mike Allmand, Ripley Power and Light President and CEO. "We want to help our customers save money."



Mike Allmand, President and CEO

The eScore program works in three easy steps ...

Step 1: A homeowner registers online or over the phone. Call 1-855-2eScore (237-2673) or visit www.2eScore.com to get started. Registering a new account does not commit customers to participation.

Step 2: The homeowner contacts an eScore-approved contractor to get started on the work the homeowner

Continued ...

Make your home energy efficient

From the previous page ...

wants. A list of qualified contactors can be found at the bottom of this page and at ripleypower.com. Customers also can call 1-855-2eScore or visit www.2eScore.com.

The contractor can discuss options, rebates and program details with the homeowner.

Step 3: The homeowner gets a free eScore evaluation of the home and a quality assurance inspection on the work provided by the approved contractor. A

certified energy advisor will visit and evaluate the home to provide an eScore and a customized list of upgrades and rebates available.

Homeowners also can choose to have an eScore evaluation performed on the home before upgrades are made for a nonrefundable fee of \$75.

eScore allows homeowners to work toward a score of 10 for their home, at a pace that they can afford and earn rebates on qualified energy-efficient upgrades.

"Ripley Power and Light will give you rebates to help offset the cost of making your home more energy efficient, which will save you even more money," Mike Demeris said. "Improving your eScore can increase the value of your home, save money on your energy bill and enhance the indoor air quality of your home."

eScore Rebates & Financing

Energy-efficient upgrade to your home	Homeowner rebate (matching 50%)	Financing through Ripley Power and Light
Attic insulation	\$250/home	Yes
Air sealing	\$200/home	Yes
Duct system (existing HVA only)	\$200/system	Yes
Heat pump water heater	\$200/unit	Yes
Window replacement	\$25/window (max \$500)	Yes
Storm window added to single-pane window	\$12.50/window (max \$250)	Yes
Exterior door replacement	\$50/door (max \$300)	No
Heat pump replacement	\$250/system	Yes
Tune-up for existing central heat pump or air-conditioning system	\$15/unit per year	No
Central air-conditioning replacement	\$150/system	No
Geothermal heat pump replacement	\$500/system	Yes
Dual fuel heat pump replacement	\$250/system	Yes

Customers can participate in the program as many times as needed in order to achieve their home's best possible energy performance. The eScore represents the home's current level of energy efficiency and potential areas for savings. Visit www.2eScore.com or call 1-855-2eScore today to get started.

Turn to these eScore-qualified contractors to make improvements

- ▶ Dyersburg Insulation Co., Dyersburg, 731-286-0332
- ▶ Flatt Heating and Air Conditioning, Newbern, 731-627-2581
- ▶ Heglar Plumbing & Electric Co., Humboldt, 731-784-3642
- ▶ Quality Service Heating and Air, Ripley, 731-635-3452
- ▶ Windle Heating and Air Conditioning, Dyersburg, 731-285-7970
- ▶ Window World of Jackson, (windows and doors) Jackson, 731-664-9090

Employee retirements at Ripley Power and Light

Ripley Power and Light Company congratulated three long-time employees who decided to retire in 2015: Odeas Kissell, Lynn Kennedy and Mary Ann Deloach. Together, they represented nearly 125 years of experience with the utility.

"It's always sad to see longtime employees retire," said Mike Allmand, President and CEO of Ripley Power and Light. "We are honored that they have given us their best to serve our customers for so long. We hope they enjoy their retirement."

✓ Odeas Kissell

Odeas Kissell joined Ripley Power and Light in 1972 as a meter reader. He became a groundworker and started training to become an apprentice lineman and then a lineman to work on electric lines and equipment.

Forty-three years later, on July 31, he retired as Operations Superintendent.

He enjoyed his time at the company, Odeas said. "Line work is manual labor. It's hard work, and you're out in all kinds of weather. But once that gets in your blood, you get hooked on it."

He also said he misses working with his colleagues, particularly people like Mike Allmand.

"They are some of the finest people you'll ever meet, from the top to the bottom."

In his retirement, Odeas will spend time on his farm – it took him three months to get caught up on needed work after retiring from the utility. He also said he plans to enjoy some fishing and hunting.

New Operations Superintendent

Odeas' son, Johnathan Kissell, recently stepped into his father's old position as Operations Superintendent. Johnathan joined Ripley Power and Light in November 2011, and was a foreman before his promotion to operations superintendent.

✓ Mary Ann Deloach

Mary Ann Deloach retired last April from Ripley Power and Light after 40 years of service.

She joined the company in 1975. Throughout her career, she held several positions as part of the office staff, including acting as receptionist, serving as Allmand's secretary, managing payroll and doing a small amount of bookkeeping.



Odeas Kissell



Mary Ann Deloach



Lynn Kennedy

✓ Lynn Kennedy

Meter Technician Lynn Kennedy will walk away from what he says was his life's smartest decision on December 27 when he officially retires from Ripley Power and Light.

He started working for the Ripley utility company with a line crew on December 27, 1978. At the time, he knew it would be a good, steady job because there would always be work in the electric business.

"It turned out to be the smartest thing I ever did," Lynn said. "I just can't believe I was smart enough to make the decision I made back in 1978."

He enjoyed working outside, as well as the variety of tasks each day would bring. "No two days are ever the same."

But some days were harder than others. Dedication comes with the territory for Ripley Power and Light employees – even in the middle of the night, he said. "When the lights go out, you've got to roll."

Lynn said he also enjoyed working with his colleagues at the company. "It was the best bunch of people to work with that I've ever seen in my life. It was really a good place to work."

In retirement, Lynn plans to spend time playing with his grandson, who recently turned 1. He's also looking forward to the freedom of retirement.

And, he said, you can find him tearing up country roads on his motorcycle. "Watch out for me on the hog."