



News for our Mississippi Customers

Entergy Mississippi Encourages Customers to Use Energy Efficiently

Customers can get assistance, efficiency tips to help manage bills

Mississippi's numerous cold snaps this winter serve as a reminder that increased energy use due to severe weather can lead to higher bills.

So, of course, can warmer weather. With spring just around the corner, most customers will begin to use more electricity to keep their homes at a comfortable temperature, and higher usage will mean higher bills.

Continued low natural gas prices will help keep rates low for Entergy Mississippi customers. There are steps customers can also take to better manage their energy use in the future. Entergy Mississippi has a variety of services and billing options as well as a few simple tips that can potentially help lower monthly electric bills during increasingly warmer months.

"The best way for customers to avoid surprises on their bills is to take a serious look at their homes to see where they can make energy efficiency improvements," said Gloria Johnson, director of customer service for Entergy Mississippi, Inc. "We also have options available

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Entergy Mississippi Accepting Applications for Community Partnership Grants

Nonprofit groups are encouraged to apply

Entergy Mississippi, Inc. is awarding grants of up to \$1,000 to nonprofit organizations through the Entergy Community Partnership Grants program. Qualified groups have until March 31 to apply.

"A cornerstone of Entergy's business philosophy is helping build and enrich our communities," said Liz Brister, external affairs manager for Entergy Mississippi, Inc. "These grants allow us to work as partners with the local groups that know community needs best.

"After sponsoring the grants for more than 17 years, we can look back on hundreds of projects we've supported that have made a real difference in the lives they've touched."

Applicants must apply online. The guidelines and grant form are available at entergy.com/our_community/cpGrant_Guidelines.aspx.

Each qualified 501c3 organization or school may submit only one application per year for a Community Partnership Grant. Organizations that have received grants for three consecutive years must wait one year before applying again. Organizations must be located within Entergy Mississippi's service territory.

Grant applications are judged by an advisory board made up of educators and community representatives on effect of the project on the community, including the number of people who will benefit, the project's fit with Entergy's giving priorities of education and environment, and the ease in which the project's outcomes can be measured.

Launching a Well-paid Career: Growth of Green Nuclear Power Jobs

Students State-Wide Urged to Apply for Nuclear Technology Scholarship

Developing the work force of the future is a key focus of the Mississippi section of the American Nuclear Society as they annually give scholarships to students right here in Mississippi.

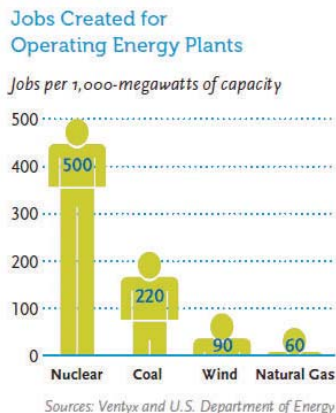
For engineering students, individuals that want to work in nuclear plant support fields or those interested in nuclear medicine, the scholarship deadline is May 1, 2010.

Other jobs found in a nuclear power plant include mechanical technician, electrical technician and technicians in the areas of instruments and controls, chemistry and radiation protection. Reactor operators are also promising career fields in the nuclear power industry.

Nuclear power jobs are "green" jobs as there are no greenhouse gases produced when making electricity with nuclear fuel. And these green jobs represent more jobs per capacity than other fuel sources in the energy sector (see chart). The nuclear energy industry is preparing to build advanced nuclear energy plants and have already created more than

15,000 jobs in the last few years. Each new reactor will create between 1,400 and 1,800 construction jobs and up to 700 long-term, permanent jobs to operate and maintain the plant. With more than 22,500 U.S. companies in all 50 states supplying the industry, new reactors also will help jumpstart manufacturing here at home.

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"...Use Energy Efficiently" CONTINUED

like Level Billing, which averages 12 months' worth of bills so that each bill is predictable and there are no sharp spikes because of higher usage."

In addition to Level Billing, customers who are signed up for Entergy Mississippi's My Account Online service can access the company's new Bill Analyzer feature. The Bill Analyzer offers a simple overview that shows customers why their bill amount may have changed compared to previous bills. Detail of customer usage, energy charges and other factors are also available.

My Account Online also allows customers to view and pay their bill, view their billing and payment history and update account information. For more information on My Account Online, customers can visit entergy-mississippi.com/my_account.

"It is important for customers to know that they can help control their electricity costs by using energy efficiently," Johnson added. "By using tools such as Entergy's Simple Steps or Level Billing, customers can better manage their bills and seasonal weather."

Customers can find answers to a variety of energy-related topics at EntergyAnswers.com. The Web site also offers a series of easy to use tips that can help customers lower their monthly energy bills:

- **Adjust your thermostat:** Heating and/or cooling the air in your home can account for as much as 55 percent of your bill. Setting the thermostat to 68 degrees in winter and 78 degrees during summer is an easy way to reduce energy use.

- **Conserve hot water:** Heating the water you use each day can account for 20 percent of your monthly bill. Wrap your electric water heater with a water heater jacket (available at home improvement stores) and set the temperature on the unit to 120 degrees or medium. Washing clothes in cold water when possible and running the dishwasher only when full can also save energy.

- **Replace air filters every 30 days:** The harder your heating and cooling unit has to work, the more energy it uses. Keeping air filters clean can make your unit more energy efficient. Fiberglass air filters should be replaced monthly and aluminum mesh filters should be washed monthly.

- **Use energy-efficient light bulbs:** ENERGY STAR qualified compact fluorescent light bulbs use 70 percent less energy and last up to 10 times longer than regular bulbs.

The best way for customers to avoid surprises on their bills is to take a serious look at their homes to see where they can make energy efficiency improvements.

If you need more light, use one larger bulb rather than several smaller ones. A 100-watt bulb produces 50 percent more light than four 25-watt bulbs for the same amount of energy.

- **Seal air leaks around windows and doors:** Caulking and weather-stripping are easy ways to keep cold air

out in winter and cool air in during summer. Put weather-stripping around doors, windows and wall seams. Seal places where electrical, plumbing or heating systems enter your house and add insulating gaskets on all electrical outlets and switches.

Entergy Mississippi also works with local community action agencies to help elderly or disabled customers through the company's Power to Care program. The company also actively supports the federally-funded Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. For more information on these programs, visit entergy.com/our_community.

"The Power to Care and LIHEAP programs are great resources for low income, elderly or disabled customers who might have trouble paying their bill," Johnson said.

"...Green Nuclear Power Jobs" CONTINUED

In the next 10 years, half of all nuclear reactor operators are expected to retire. You don't need to have an engineering degree for these jobs, but you should expect extensive on-the-job training and classroom instruction as well as licensing exams, and college level courses in math and science are helpful. According to Yahoo Hot Jobs, expect growth of 11 percent in the nuclear power operator position.

Over the last four years the Mississippi section of the ANS provided scholarships to students interested

in subjects related to the nuclear science field. Students from Madison, Starkville and Petal were winners awarded in May 2009.

"Showing students that working in the nuclear power industry is an interesting and solid career path is rewarding work for our

chapter," stated Tracey Stubbs, ANS Scholarship Committee chair. Stubbs is senior manager of project services for Entergy Nuclear.

Scholarships are awarded annually to Mississippi high school graduates enrolled full-time in college courses in science, mathematics and/or technical areas. The purpose of the scholarship program is to encourage interest

in nuclear science, technology and related fields. Recipients of the scholarship are chosen based on academic achievement, extracurricular activities,

an essay and letters of recommendation from counselors and teachers.

Applications for the 2010 Award are being accepted from now through May 1, 2010. For more information go to <http://local.ANS.org/MS/>.

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