

The Pilot Light

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GOOD NEWS.....

by: Pat Riley

The good news is that the economy is still struggling along and the bad news is that the economy is still struggling along. We all want unemployment to go away so people can get back to work so that dollars and confidence can start flowing again. However, "The Great Recession" has caused one thing to happen and it began about a year and a half ago. As the great recession became larger, it caused factories and small businesses to consolidate, and for many to close their doors. This caused natural gas demand across our nation to greatly diminish. At the same time as the demand for natural gas slowed down, new gas supplies started to come on line from what is called "shale gas". This up and coming technology that allows companies to drill into shale formations to extract natural gas has actually doubled the world's known reserves of natural gas.

The laws of supply and demand began to work. Hence the price that we pay for gas has dropped significantly from a year and a half ago. The price we paid for natural gas was down anywhere between 10% to 15% this winter and your bills reflected it.

The good news is winter is over and the price we pay for natural gas is still dropping due to lack of demand and even more "shale" gas coming on line. So while the great recession carries on, you should see another drop in your bills next winter as we take advantage of the lower prices. However, we want all our customers to remember to be conservation-minded. We encourage everyone to take advantage of our free energy audit. This will help you save even more money.

In fact, this "shale gas" has become so significant that big oil companies are starting to spend big dollars on drilling for domestic gas. Peter Voser, CEO of Royal Dutch Shell PLC, recently said in the

March 8, 2010 edition of the Wall Street Journal, "We will quite clearly look out for natural-gas developments, which we see as a long term source of energy that has a lot of positives. The Shell Company started quite a while back, actually, to put a lot of emphasis on natural gas. And by 2012, we will have more natural gas production worldwide than we have oil. Let's face it, it has 50% to 70% less CO2 than coal, it's plentiful with these new "shale gas" finds, and it is here in the U.S. and that's exactly where we see the long term benefit."

Right now there is a boom in drilling for "shale gas" and it looks like it is going to be here for some time, since the "shale fields" are so large. The Marcellus shale field covers almost the entire state of Pennsylvania, part of New York State, and almost all of West Virginia. Other large fields are in Northern Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas.

What all this means to you, our valued customer, is that it appears lower pricing might become the trend. With so much natural gas on the market, traders, and speculators cannot make the market move as easily. It has been widely reported that the spike in oil and natural gas prices last year was a result of market manipulation.

We will continue in earnest to monitor pricing so that we can deliver affordable energy to your home, as we have for the past 57 years. We are "Your Gas Company" and we take great pride in serving you every day.

Project - WE CARE

Project – WE CARE is a program developed by Gibson County Utility District to help our customers who are elderly, handicapped and needy with their gas utility cost. Your contributions to this program are tax deductible and will directly help a Gibson County Utility District customer in need.

On the provided form below, please circle your choice, sign and date, and be sure to include your GCUD acct name and number for proper billing. Cut along perforated line and place in our convenient Drop Boxes, Night Drop, or mail to GCUD, P O Box 350, Trenton, TN 38382.

Project – WE CARE

I understand that I will be billed each month on my utility bill for the amount circled.

\$1.00

\$3.00

\$5.00

I understand this contribution can be stopped at any time. The entire proceeds of this program are distributed to Northwest Economic Development for distribution.

 Customer's signature

 Date

GCUD acct name _____

Acct # _____

**NEW
APPLIANCE PAMPHLET
LOCATED ON GCUD WEBSITE.**

www.gibsoncountygaz.com

Solutions to crossword puzzle

Across:

- 4. Scrubbers
- 8. Liquid
- 9. Joule
- 11. Sun
- 12. Renewable

Down:

- 1. Fossil Fuel
- 2. Propane
- 3. Uranium
- 5. British
- 6. Geothermal
- 7. Hydro
- 10. Farm



Donna Allen - H R Manager for
GCUD retired June 30, 2009.
Congratulations Donna!

Sign up for Bankdraft - It's Easy as 1, 2, 3.

1. Fill out the form below with correct information. Be sure to date and sign.
2. Include a Voided Check from your Financial Institution.
3. Cut along perforated line and place in our convenient Drop Boxes, Night Drop or mail to GCUD, P O Box 350, Trenton, TN 38382.

BANK DRAFT AUTHORIZATION

(PLEASE INCLUDE A VOIDED CHECK FROM YOUR FINANCIAL INSTITUTION)

NAME _____

NAME OF BANK _____

BANK ACCOUNT # _____

BANK ROUTING # _____

GCUD ACCOUNT # _____

PLEASE CHECK ONE: ADD _____ REMOVE _____ CHANGE _____

I HEREBY AUTHORIZE MY GAS BILLS TO BE PAID BY ABOVE BANK THROUGH DRAFT.

DATE: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

It will not be necessary for Gibson County Utility or anyone employed by it to sign such drafts or checks, and I agree that your rights in respect to each such draft or check shall be the same as if issued and signed personally by me. I further agree that you shall be under no obligation to furnish me with any special advice of notice in writing of otherwise of the presentment of payment of any such draft of check or the charging of the same to my account.

This authorization is to remain in effect until verbal or written notification is made to Gibson County Utility District office.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Circle if Flex Customer.

UMS

Special Note:

Date: _____

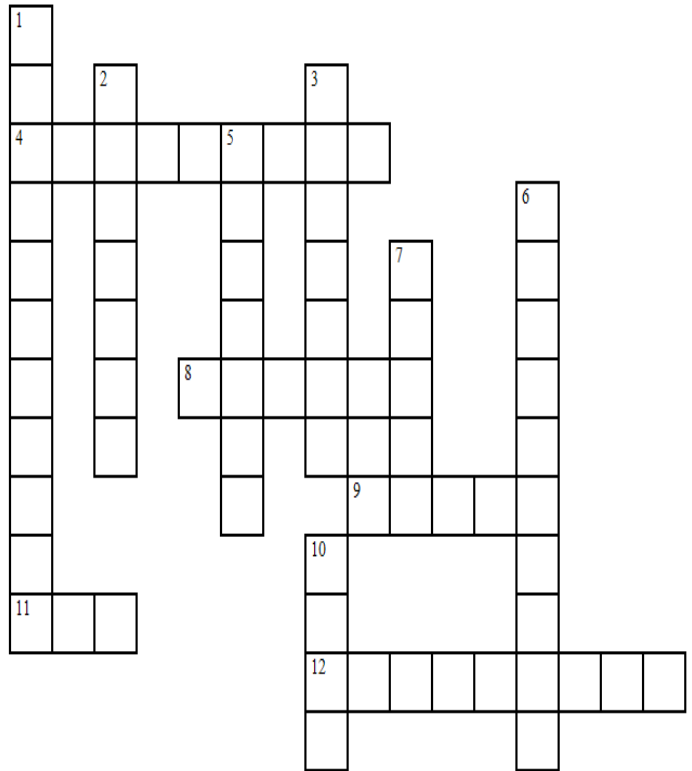
PTTC Holiday Crossword

ACROSS

4. A technology that helps clean coal using limestone and water.
8. The state of matter which is inbetween Solid and Gas.
9. A measurement of energy, much less than a BTU.
11. The most powerful energy source we have.
12. Sources of energy such as the wind and the sun are called _____.

DOWN

1. Coal, oil and natural gas are all _____.
2. Colorless gas found in natural gas and petroleum; used as a fuel.
3. Used for nuclear fuels.
5. What the 'B' stands for in BTU.
6. This type of energy is generated by sunlight. As early as the 7th Century B.C.the Greeks, Romans and Chinese were using magnifying glasses to concentrate the sun's rays to make fire. What is _____.
7. The form of energy which involves water.
10. Wind turbines are often grouped together into a single wind power plant called a wind _____.



Gibson County Utility District proudly serves your energy needs.

WWW.GIBSONCOUNTYGAS.COM

Average Residential Delivered Price TN vs GCUD

1999-2009

