



Making electricity clean, keeping it affordable

It's been a long, hot summer in Washington, D.C.

For months, Congress has haggled over details of climate change legislation meant to curb carbon dioxide emissions from sources like cars, factories and power plants. The inner-workings of the plan are complex, but one thing comes through clear: Trimming carbon dioxide emissions will be challenging and expensive.

Developing climate change policy will alter the way we think about electricity, plain and simple. Electric co-ops are working to make sure these new policies are fair to everyone, while minimizing the impact on your electric bill. And we're already making investments in energy efficiency as a part of these efforts.

Electric cooperatives are no strangers to renewable energy. Across the nation, co-ops are developing innovative ways to generate electricity from renewable sources, and developing technology to reduce carbon dioxide emis-

sions from traditional fossil fuels like coal and natural gas.

Of course, the cheapest and cleanest power remains the power that's never generated. As a result, energy efficiency

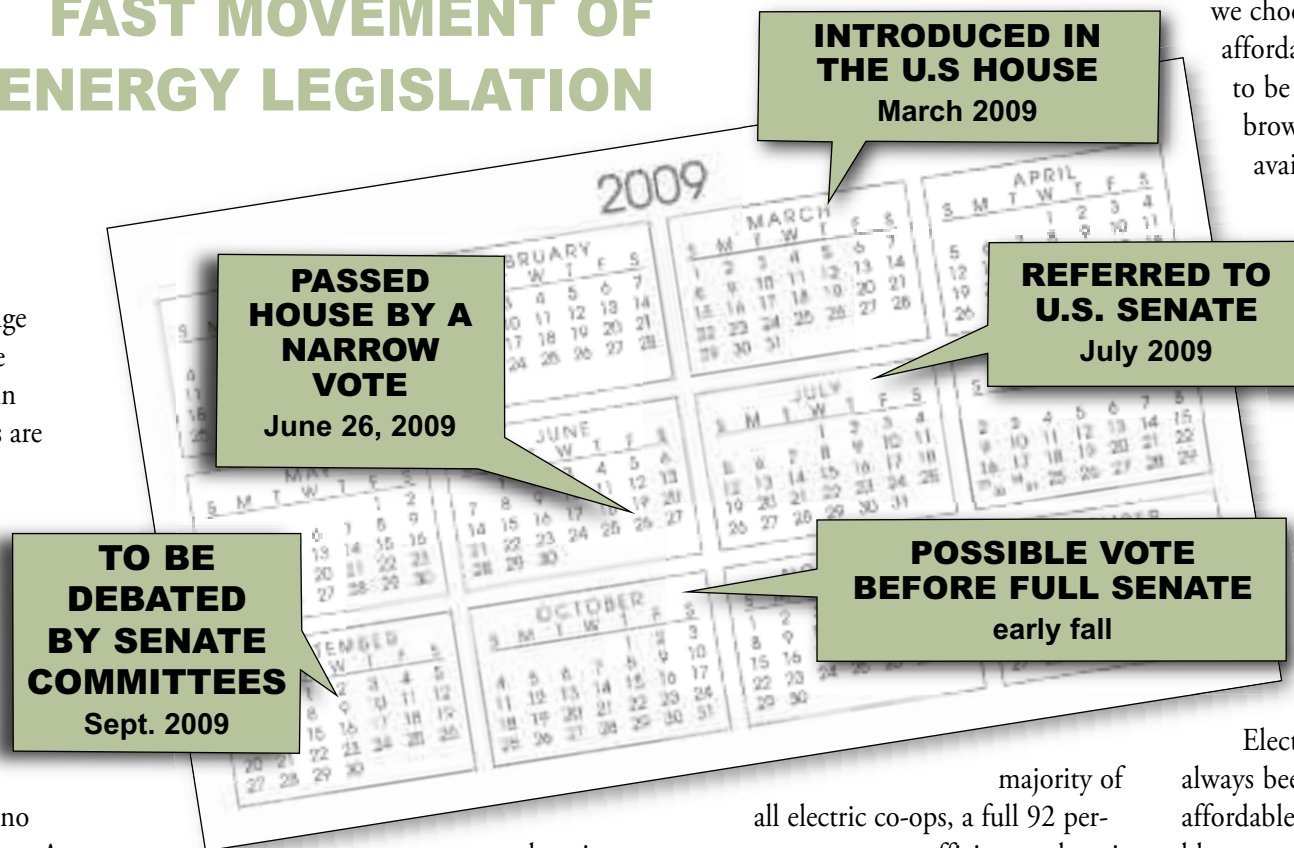
in Today in Mississippi each month, as well as on the Association's Web site. Additionally, EMEPA recently held an Energy Awareness Fair at each of the Association's branch offices. The vast

able—and we can produce it cleaner, too. But we need Congress to make sure electric bills stay affordable. Our leaders in Congress are tackling tough energy choices this year, choices we, as a nation, should make together. Will we choose for electricity to remain affordable, or will we choose for it to be a luxury? Are we ready for brownouts if enough power's not available, or will we choose a diverse energy mix to provide safe, reliable, and affordable electricity in an environmentally responsible fashion? Will we choose to move forward or will we find ourselves, despite good intentions, moving backwards?

The climate change debate in Congress is coming down to the wire. At East Mississippi

Electric Power Association we've always been committed to providing affordable, reliable energy in a responsible manner. This choice reflects who we are, and why we were founded by members like you in an effort to move our community forward into a brighter future.

FAST MOVEMENT OF ENERGY LEGISLATION



majority of all electric co-ops, a full 92 percent, sponsor energy efficiency education programs, and 77 percent offer residential energy audits to their members.

Electric co-ops are hard at work keeping electricity reliable, safe and afford-

education remains at the forefront of East Mississippi Electric Power Association's efforts to help consumers control costs. EMEPA provides energy efficiency tips



Energy Efficiency *Tip of the Month*

Windows provide great views of the outdoors, light, ventilation and solar heating in the winter. Unfortunately, they also account for 10 percent to 25 percent of your heating bill. High-performance ENERGY STAR-labeled windows can cut your heating and cooling costs by as much as 30 percent.

Source: Alliance to Save Energy