

A Message To Employees

President William Battle Discusses Energy Crisis

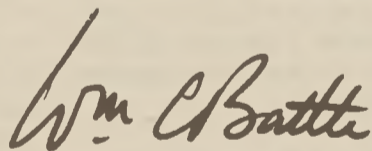
The mounting energy crisis facing this country can have significant effects on Fieldcrest Mills, Inc., and on all of its employees. The most important consideration is, of course, the company's ability to maintain levels of operation necessary to service customers' needs and to provide steady employment for employees.

In order to maintain these levels of operation, extraordinary cooperation from every employee is going to be a necessity. Every person, department and division must share in the task if we are to accomplish what must be accomplished in the coming weeks and months.

If continuing production is to be maintained, it is essential that we conserve fuel and energy at every possible level and in every possible way. This will certainly be difficult and at times perhaps uncomfortable, but it must be done.

The Company at this point is making every effort toward the conservation of its fuel supplies by using coal where possible instead of fuel oil, minimum heating of non-critical areas, decreased heating of offices, minimum heating of idle plants over weekends and the elimination of any trips requiring Company cars or trucks where at all possible. Further efforts may be required such as the shortening of operating hours, but it is hoped that this will not be necessary.

I have said in the past that it is the quality of Fieldcrest employees which has enabled the Company to grow and to become what it is today. I know that this same quality will enable us to accomplish the difficult task that we have ahead of us now.



William C. Battle
President

Fuel Shortage—How It Affects Fieldcrest

In recent years, the subject of the country's energy supplies has received little recognition by most Americans. Now, however, it has become distressingly clear that the energy situation was far more serious than anyone thought.

With cold winter weather almost upon us, the problem of adequate fuel supplies for both citizenry and industry has reached the crisis stage. In short, there is simply not enough gas and oil to meet the country's needs.

The only alternate fuel available which industry could use for both heat and to generate the power necessary to run its

factories is coal.

"Ironically, Fieldcrest Mills, along with the country's other industries, has spent large amounts of money in recent years to bring all of its mills into compliance with Environmental Protection Agency standards on air pollution by converting boilers from coal to oil and gas," said William C. Battle, president of Fieldcrest Mills, Inc.

Fieldcrest has spent over \$500,000 on boiler conversions in the past few years. Consequently, only three mills now have the capacity to burn coal. These are North Carolina Finishing, Blanket Finishing and Fieldale Towel. A fourth one

at Draper will be ready to fire up two boilers on coal in about three weeks.

The gravity of the situation was grimly underlined by a recent address to the nation by

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Conserve Fuel — Join A Car Pool

The approaching gasoline shortage, which some officials expect to result in rationing perhaps as early as December, is creating a renewed interest in the car pool.

In addition to the conservation of gasoline, car pooling can be a pleasant alternative to "beating the traffic" in one's own car every working day.

Other considerations which make the car pool attractive to many are reduced expenses for gasoline and automobile maintenance due to fewer driving days, and in some cases even the avoidance of having a second family car.

And it saves fuel.

You Can Help Conserve Energy

With both Federal and state governments taking strong measures to conserve fuel and electricity, much can be done by individuals toward this goal.

The following tips on how to conserve electricity and fuel can be utilized by every individual.

Electricity

Cut down on the use of hot water. Hot water heaters use almost four times more energy than any other appliance in the home. Showers use less hot water than tub baths. Those who prefer baths should use less water.

Turn off the television set when it is not being watched. But not for just a few minutes as it requires a power surge to come

back on. If buying a new set, look for the solid state type. It uses less power than older tube types.

Use small appliances for cooking when you can. Such appliances as electric fry pans and grills use less electricity.

When using the stove, keep the oven door closed. Opening the door drops the temperature between 25 degrees and 50 degrees. Use smaller amounts of

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Natural Gas Cutback To N. C. Is Delayed By Court Decision

Just about the only good news concerning the energy crisis these days is the District of Columbia Federal Appeals Court decision giving North Carolina a "reprieve" from the November 16 natural gas cutoff ordered by the Federal Power Commission.

A hearing in the court is expected before January 8.

The temporary delay allows North Carolina gas companies to continue receiving their gas

supplies under the present allocation guidelines which are not as severe as those proposed by our Federal Power Commission.

The delaying action will spread the gas use reductions over the entire range of customers while the federally supported plan would have placed much of the burden on those industries with interruptible service, that is, those capable of using some fuel other than natural gas. Field-

crest does have some interruptible contracts.

The motion to delay the FPC plan was filed before the Federal Court of Appeals by the entire North Carolina congressional delegation and the North Carolina Utilities Commission.

Under the stipulations of the court's decision, the Federal Power Commission has seven days to answer the motion filed by the North Carolina delegation.



Boiler Converted Back To Coal

Blanket Greige Mill maintenance men observe a boiler that has just been converted from oil and gas back to coal. A second coal boiler will be put into use within two or three weeks. From left to right are Charles Jarrett, Joe Pete Wilson and Ernest Lawson.