

# North Carolina Fights High Vepco Rates

WASHINGTON — The State of North Carolina has filed a petition to intervene in the Virginia Electric and Power Company rate case pending before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Dennis Myers, N.C. Special Deputy Attorney General in the Utilities Division, explained that upon receipt of the petition, the federal agency requires a 15 day waiting period before accepting the request.

"This gives all interested parties time to make known their objections, should they have any," Myers explained.

Myers said the state was intervening because it was felt that "testimony presented to the N.C. Utilities Commission should be presented to FERC, also."

Myers reported he had contacted both the attorney and clerk for FERC and was told no problems were anticipated in allowing the intervention.

In explaining the state's entering the case, Myers said "it would be a good opportunity for the state to be involved again, especially at its parallels" the state's position.

"The state has not been involved with electric wholesale rate increases of the kind VEPCO is asking for in sometime, Myers added.

The action by the Attorney General's office was a quick response by Atty. Gen. Rufus Edmisten to a

request that his office intervene submitted by Gov. Jim Hunt recently. Gov. Hunt asked for the intervention following a visit to Washington, D.C., by officials of Operation Overcharge to meet with FERC officials.

"The governor's request to the attorney general came after conferences between Joseph Parker of our Executive Committee, and Hugh Wells of the Public Staff at the Utilities Commission," Richard S. Coiner, chairman of Operation Overcharge, has revealed.

Operation Overcharge is a citizens uprising, being coordinated by Chambers of Commerce in Northeastern North Carolina, to oppose electric rate increases recently granted to Vepco.

Meanwhile, Rep. Walter

B. Jones has written a strong letter of protest to Charles B. Curtis, chairman of FERC, concerning the manner of treatment of representatives of the people of Northeastern North Carolina.

Rep. Jones reminded Chairman Curtis of his responsibility to discuss an issue which affects thousands of citizens, and, thus far, "I have not received any relief or even a receptive ear," the letter continued.

Jones closed his two-page letter by saying he hoped the commission "will demonstrate a compassionate understanding of the economic problems confronting electric power consumers served by Vepco to the end that some relief might be forthcoming in the near future."

Coiner said he has sent a letter to Rep. Jones expressing appreciation for his efforts and asking that he gather the N.C. Congressional Delegation together to see if they can get Chairman Curtis' attention.

Coiner said, specifically, his group wants Chairman

Curtis to furnish one of his legal staff to file a petition of intervention "on behalf of the people." "After all," Coiner said, "We pay each member of his staff with our taxes and they are, legally, ours."

Coiner said Operation Overcharge is running into money problems. "We've been operating on a shoestring and there's a lot that has to be done if we're going to win this fight," he maintains.

He said he will go on television next week asking residents of Northeastern North Carolina to mail in "a dollar or so" to help in the fight against Vepco.

The address to mail in contributions is "Operation Overcharge, Post Office Box 665, Washington, N.C. 27889.



The world's largest non-profit scientific and educational institution is the National Geographic Society, founded in 1888.

## Ruritan Club News

### Youth Revival To Be Held

There will be a weekend Youth Revival at the Chappell Hill Baptist Church, March 9, 10, 11th at 7:30 P.M.

Rev. Gary Mickey, Minister of Music and Youth, from Berea Baptist Church, will be in charge of the music.

Rev. Tommy Speight, Youth Minister from Corinth Baptist Church will be guest speaker. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Rev. Billy Old is pastor.

Ruritan Lt. Gov. David Ober reported to the Chowan Ruritan Club recently on the national convention held in Cincinnati, Ohio. He touched on such subjects as increasing the strength of local chapters as well as outreach.

It was noted that the Chowan chapter would like to sponsor a Ruritan organization in Edenton. Anyone who is interested should contact Ober.

The club's semi-annual auction sale was held at Valhalla on the property of M.J. Tynch. It was declared a success in spite of the

weather. The next project will be a benefit barbecue dinner for the Thomas L. Evans family, who due to unforeseen circumstances are in dire need of financial assistance. Those who wish to contribute can do so at Rescue Squad Unit 3 or Center Hill-Crossroads Volunteer Fire Department. Chowan Ruritan Club will again participate in the sponsorship of a 4-H Livestock Show and Sale. Members will soon begin making calls to obtain advertising for the program.

### It's A Soft Touch



Buick Motor Division gave a glimpse of the future at the 1979 Chicago Auto Show when it displayed a new Electronic Touch Climate Control System. Using space-age technology, the unit is the first fully electric climate control system for automobiles that electronically regulates in-car temperature regardless of outside conditions. It features a smooth-face control panel which eliminates the need for all dials, switches, buttons, and levers. In their place are temperature and operation mode markings which are simply touched to activate the unit. Light Emitting Diodes (L.E.D.s) illuminate to indicate the mode and temperature positions selected.

### Applications Now Being Accepted

Applications are now being accepted for the Alteration Tailor Course which will be taught from March 19, through May 25. The 10 week course is a result of a cooperative effort between the College of the Albemarle and the N.C. Security Commission.

Funds are provided through CETA under a contract with Division of Community Employment and Albemarle Regional Planning and Development Commission.

The purpose of the course is to prepare qualified individuals in the skill of doing basic alterations.

The first class is scheduled to meet in Elizabeth City on March 19. Classes will meet seven and one-half hours a day, four days a week.

Interested persons may contact Kathy Keefe at the Edenton Employment Security Commission office where they will be provided applications for the project.

### Letter To The Herald Editor

Sir: I am writing this letter to the public, as I feel a gross error in judgement has been made on Mr. Browder's part. I have read both Mr. Browder's letters and the letter written by Susan M. Andrew. I cannot understand this emotional and bitter attack by Mr. Browder upon Mrs. Andrew. I, too, did research and found that Mr. Browder's basic dates, facts and places were in error. It is unfortunate that Mr. Browder seems to assume that there has been a personal attack upon his individual character, honesty and integrity. I believe the letter of Mrs. Andrew simply corrected Mr. Browder's letter.

In conclusion, I wish to ask the question, "Just who is like a 'dog howling'?" M.C. Clarkston



The country of Indonesia is actually a huge chain of 13,677 islands of which 6,044 are inhabited.

## Recreation Notes

The current standings for each league are listed as follows:

Women's Volleyball		
	W	L
Chargers	10	2
TNT	9	3
Ship Shape	4	8
Western Gas	1	11

The Chargers won the regular season after a close race with TNT. The tournament championship games will be Wednesday, March 7, beginning at 8:00 P.M.

**Girls Basketball**  
The Monarchs finished the season with a 3 and 0 record. The Bruins finished second with a record of 0 and 3.

Midget Basketball		
Knicks	4	0
Hawks	2	2
Nuggets	2	2
76'ers	2	2
Bullets	0	4

Jr.-Sr. Basketball		
Bluedevils	12	0
Deacons	7	3
Tarheels	5	6
Alternatives	4	6
Wolfpack	4	8
Terrapins	2	9

Men's Basketball		
Texaco	9	0
Creywood Oil	5	4
Farmboys	5	5
Town	4	5
Hospital	3	7
Heart Breakers	3	7

**Spring Soccer**  
This league will begin March 26, for ages 9-12 and 13-16. The first week will be for tryouts only. Tryouts will be held behind Holmes High School at 6:30 P.M. Those interested should come by the Edenton-Chowan Recreation Department and fill out a participation form.

**Disco Lessons**  
These lessons will begin May 9 and last through June 13, 1979; a period of six weeks. Lessons will be given every Wednesday night. They will be taught by Sharon Mudge of Elizabeth City. There will be a fee of \$6 per person. Lessons will be given at the Edenton National Guard Armory. All interested persons are asked to call the Recreation Department to sign up for these lessons. There will be a minimum number of 10 couples or 20 singles; and-or a maximum number of 40 persons.

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Bill and Norma King, Route 1, Suffolk, Va.

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When I left my job at the plant, I had no pension...nothing, after 30 years. And with my wife Norma no longer doing clerical work, we needed an income. That's when we started raising Perdue chickens. Now we're working for ourselves, and making more than we did in public work. That leaves us with money to fix up the house and the yard. Just look around, and you can see Norma likes things neat and clean. That's another reason why she's impressed with the Perdue broiler houses. They're clean. No bad smell.

With both of us tending the chickens, Norma has a lot of time to do things around the house. And for the first time since we've been married, almost 30 years, we're finally spending all day together.

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