



Need For New Energy Regulations

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. - Virginia Electric and Power Company president William W. Berry, in a speech at a Massachusetts Institute of Technology symposium, called for prompt steps toward a freely competitive system for generating the electricity the nation needs.

Berry, the first executive of a major utility to publicly endorse competition through free market system of generation companies, made his remarks while addressing a symposium on "Electric Power: Regulation, Deregulation and Structural Reform" sponsored by M.I.T.'s Center for Energy Policy Research.

Berry said the present system of regulation had left utilities with a variety of financial problems and lacks incentives for efficiency.

"Under the present structure we have serious inefficiencies in the use of existing capacity, in day-to-day operations and in construction," Berry said.

"We need to reform and restructure this industry. We need to do it in a way that will go as far as possible toward solving both the financial and efficiency problems," he said.

Berry pointed out that the financial problems are threatening future electricity shortages and the efficiency problem is keeping electric costs higher than they need to be.

Berry said the present regulated system should be replaced with a free market system of generating companies competing for business on a price basis through regional energy exchanges. Berry suggested that the

U.S. could be divided into 10 electric regions, each with about 60,000 megawatts of generating capacity. "That would permit at least six to a dozen generating companies with 5,000 to 10,000 megawatts of capacity operating in each region," Berry said.

"There could be enough companies to result in vigorous rivalry for capacity contracts," he said.

Berry also pointed out that any company, including small and innovative power producers and cogenerators, would be able to enter the market if it could compete in the reliable supply of power.

"Obviously no one is rushing to enter the electric generating business today," Berry said. "But in a deregulated industry, where attractive profits are possible, we could easily see new entrants who believe they can capitalize on some competitive advantage."

Participants in the symposium included academic experts from M.I.T. and Harvard, regulators and representatives of electricity users.

BPW Meeting Scheduled

The Business and Professional Womens Club will hold its monthly meeting at Boswell's Restaurant Thursday, November 18, with Martha Hollowell, Membership Chairman, presenting new members with an installation ceremony. Friends and relatives of the new members are invited to attend the ceremony, about 8 P.M.

The Executive Committee will meet at The Habit Motel with Peggy Leeper, president, at 7 P.M. Monday, November 15. All officers are urged to attend.



OUTSTANDING SUPERVISOR AWARD - William C. Harrell (right), Columbia town manager, is presented the Outstanding Supervisor Award for the Eastern District for his work in the 1982 Summer Youth Employment Program by N.C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development Secretary Joe Grimsley (left) and Deputy Secretary Jim Summers (center) during a ceremony held in Raleigh on October 25. Harrell was nominated by the Employment Security Commission for supervising three summer jobs program participants this past summer. Harrell was commended for instilling a sense of pride and achievement in the participants of the program sponsored by the Division of Employment and Training which administers Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) funds.

Microwave Oven Checked Free By Service

Sanitarians employed by the Pasquotank - Perquimans - Camden - Chowan District Health Department check microwave ovens free of charge, on Fridays on an appointment basis.

In recognition of the number of people who enjoy the convenience of microwave cooking in this area, the Pasquotank - Perquimans - Camden - Chowan District Health Department sanitarians would like to convey information regarding the proper use of microwave ovens.

A tube inside a microwave oven, known as a magnetron, converts ordinary household current into microwaves. Microwaves are invisible, high frequency waves of energy that bounce off oven walls, pass through non-

metallic cooking utensils, and are absorbed by food. Energy from microwaves cause rapid movement of food molecules. As the molecules vibrate, they rub against each other. This molecular friction produces heat to cook food.

Microwave ovens heat food, but they do not make food radioactive or contaminated. However, there are concerns as to the effects microwave oven radiation has on people. Microwaves can heat human body tissue in much the same way they heat food. This could possibly cause severe burns. The lens of the eye is particularly sensitive to intense heat, and exposure to a high level of microwaves could possibly cause cataracts.

Testicles are also sensitive to microwaves. Accidental exposure to high levels of microwaves could result in temporary sterility. There is little information available on the effects to people exposed to low levels of microwave radiation.

All microwave ovens produced after October 1971 must follow regulations set by the Food and Drug Administration for the amount of microwave radiation permitted to leak from the oven walls, the seals around the door, and the window compartment.

The sanitarians at the Pasquotank - Perquimans - Camden - Chowan District Health Department can be reached at 338 - 2167 to set up an appointment.

New Policy Of Carolina Telephone

TARBORO—Effective January 10, 1983, Carolina Telephone customers will not be able to bill a long distance telephone call to a third number from a pay station unless someone at the third number authorizes it.

T.K. McLaughlin, general operator services manager with Carolina Telephone, said, "This new policy will protect customers from being billed for calls they do not authorize. It also will save the company, and ultimately all customers, costs resulting from erroneously or fraudulently billed calls. We estimate that about \$500,000 in fraudulent third number billings will be made this year from telephones in the Carolina Telephone area."

Beginning January 10, customers making long distance calls from pay stations will be able to call collect, pay for the call with

coins, use a telephone Calling Card, which permits customers to charge their long distance calls to their homes or office numbers, or bill the call to a third telephone provided acceptance is obtained from the third number.

Individuals or businesses may obtain Calling Cards at no charge by visiting their local Phone Shop or calling the business office.

During November and December, to prepare customers for the coming new policy, operators will inform customers making third number calls that acceptance of charges will be required beginning January 10.

Watches not worn frequently should be stored in plastic bags. If not in constant use, they should be wound once a week. Watches more than ten years old should be cleaned once a year.

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