

# EMC Notified Of Cost Increase

Four County Electric Membership Corporation (EMC) has been notified that Carolina Power & Light Company will increase its cost of power by as much as 15.6 percent over the next six months.

CP&L has filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in Washington, asking that its wholesale rates — affecting Four County and the other co-ops it serves — be increased starting Feb. 15.

The requested hike would produce about 33.5 million in additional annual revenue for CP&L.

The proposal asks that the increase be granted in two phases — the first to be at 10.2 percent and the second at 5.4 percent. CP&L has asked that Phase I be put into effect after FERC's minimum one-day suspension period.

"The majority of the initial 10.2 percent increase directly affects Four County's demand charges. Because of this, most of the increase will have

to be absorbed into our rate structure as a straight pass-through to our consumers," explains L.P. Beverage, general manager of Four County.

"We haven't had time to do a complete analysis yet, but it will probably increase our consumers' rates by 8 mills per kilowatt-hour (kWh), or approximately \$7.54 per month for the average consumer," he adds. (A "mill" is one-tenth of a cent.)

The average cost per kWh in 1984 for the Cooperative's residential consumer has been 7.64 cents/kWh, which includes a two-mill fuel charge reduction. The projected cost with CP&L's proposed increase will be 8.44c/kWh — assuming that fuel costs remain stable.

Under FERC procedures, wholesale rate increases are routinely allowed to take effect after a suspension period while merits of the proposal are evaluated. If the increase is later found to be too high,

the excess must be refunded to the customers involved.

If procedure is followed, CP&L officials say they'd offer no objections to a suspension by Phase II for the maximum period of five months. This scenario would have Phase I taking effect Feb. 15 and Phase II becoming effective July 15.

"We'll be letting our consumers know how hard this is going to hit as soon as we have firm figures available," Beverage says.

"We're hopeful, of course, that our attorneys and consultants will be able to negotiate a reduction in this request, as was done the last time CP&L raised our rates," he adds.

The general manager notes that this latest wholesale power rate increase request is based on providing CP&L with a 16.5 percent return on equity, which is higher than the national average for investor-owned utilities.

"I think that gives us a strong case

to challenge the proposal as it was presented."

Beverage also notes that when CP&L brings its Harris nuclear plant into operation in 1986 that the cooperatives will be facing a major increase of approximately 43 percent which will drive demand charges even higher.

**EASTPARK CINEMA 1-2-3**  
Multi Cinema

Held Over - Second Week  
Shows 7 & 8, Sun. 2, 4, 7 & 9  
Clint Eastwood & Burt Reynolds  
CITY HEAT Rated PG

Held Over - Third Week  
Shows 6:40, 9:10, Sun. 1:35, 4, 6:40, 9:10

DUNE  
A world beyond your imagination  
Rated PG-13

Held Over Fourth Week  
Shows 7 & 9, Sun. 2, 4, 7 & 9  
Eddie Murphy  
BEVERLY HILLS COP Rated R

Saturday Matinee - One show only at 3 p.m. \$2.00 admission to all.



## Heaven Bound To Be At Maranatha Church

The gospel singing group, Heaven Bound, will be in concert at Maranatha Pentecostal Free Will Baptist Church on Friday, Jan. 4 at 7:30 p.m. The church is located on Highway 24, three miles east of Beulaville. Everyone is invited.

## Rose Hill Considers Request

Herbert Pope will initiate annexation procedures for his property on U.S. 117 just south of the town of Rose Hill limits in order to receive town water and sewer service.

He asked the town board for the utility service last week on Tuesday night. The board said it would be willing to extend the service provided Pope let the town annex the property. Pope agreed to petition the town for annexation.

After it gets the petition, the board will call a hearing on the annexation.

Pope plans to move his vehicle repair business to the property. He is being forced out of a building owned by Rose Hill Hardware Company which needs the space.

In other business:

- The board approved advertising for a public works director. The salary range is \$14,000 to \$22,000 a year, depending on experience and capability. The director will be responsible for maintenance and operation of all facilities and equipment owned by the town. A Class II waste water treatment plant operator's license will be required.
- The board decided to ask the state to widen U.S. 117 to four lanes from the end of the present four-lane street south to the Rose Manor Shopping center. It plans to replace water and sewer pipes under the street that require frequent repair.

- B.A. Pope of Wallace presented the annual Rose Hill audit report, which showed the town's revenue exceeded expenditure by \$34,364.70 in the last fiscal year. General fund revenues totaled \$298,942.11 or \$16,480.11 more than budgeted. Expenditures totaled \$264,577.41. The town collected \$117,419 or 89.6 percent of the property tax billed in the 1983-84 fiscal year. The town's assessed valuation is \$17,280,958. The tax rate is 70 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.
- Commissioner Clarence Brown said, "Instead of talking about raising taxes what we need to do is collect taxes."
- Mayor Ben Harrell said he was concerned about Gov.-elect Jim Martin's proposal to repeal the sales tax on food. He said the town cannot afford to lose the \$80,000 in revenue and revenue sharing grants created by the tax. He asked for a motion on a resolution opposing the proposed repeal. None of the commissioners made the motion. If it had been approved, Harrell said he would have given copies to the county's legislators, Rep. Wendell Murphy and Senator Harold Hardison.
- Commissioner Keith Hinson said, "That's a political argument and I don't want to get into it in the town hall."

## Wallace Airport Phone May Fly

Unless the Wallace Town Board comes up with some change, Carolina Telephone Company plans to take away the Wallace airport's only pay phone.

The pay phone is not bringing in enough money, the company notified the board in a letter discussed at Thursday night's meeting. Unless the board agrees to pay the company \$28 a month, the phone goes.

The airport is southwest of Wallace on Secondary Road 1307 in Pender County.

The board wants to keep a phone at the airport, but has not made a decision on whether it wants to pay the bill. The matter was put on hold until a later meeting.

In other action, the board:

- Agreed to lease at no charge a

former Wallace Rescue Squad building to scout organizations in the town.

- Hired Henry von Oesen & Associates in Wilmington to provide engineering services for the repair and resurfacing of streets. Engineering costs are expected to run \$1,800 to \$2,400. The firm is expected to charge between \$800 to \$1,000 to inspect the repairs.
- Set a public hearing for 7 p.m. Jan. 2 on a request by developers to rezone land on North Railroad Street for the 50-unit Rockfish Court Apartments, a housing project for the elderly. The land is now zoned for single-family development.
- Reappointed Joe Eaddy, Bill English and Web Turlington to three-year terms on the town planning board.

## Lenoir School Menus

January 3-5

Thursday - pizza or meat and cheese sandwich, beets or corn, applesauce or peaches, cookie

Friday - cheeseburger or pork chopette, french fries or green beans, fresh fruit

Milk is offered with all meals. In addition, each school offers a variety of extra items for sale.

### Taylor's Shoes

## After Christmas SALE

**30% off**

**All Handbags & Ladies Dress Hats**

**1/2 Price**

### Extra Special Discounts

# 10 To 50% off

**On All Shoes**

**SPECIAL 20% off**

**ALL CANVAS & LEATHER ATHLETIC SHOES**

★ All Stars ★ Pro Keds  
★ Grasshoppers ★ And Many Other Brands For Men, Women & Children

**Also Selected Styles At 1/2 PRICE**

Take Advantage Of This Large Inventory Reduction Sale

Extra Large Inventory Of Name Brands And Latest Styles

**Sale Starts Thursday, Dec. 27th**

**Ends, Saturday, Jan. 26th**

# Taylor's Shoes

**Clark Shopping Center      Warsaw NC**

**After Christmas SALE**

<p>7 Stone Clusters 1/4 Ct. \$199.00 1/2 Ct. \$299.00 1.0 Ct. \$599.00</p>	<p>14K Gold Earrings 25% off</p>
<p>1/4 ct. Diamond Earrings \$159.00</p>	<p>1/4 ct. Diamond Pendant \$249.00</p>
<p><b>BUDDY'S JEWELRY</b></p>	
<p>Watches Seiko, Pulsar &amp; Croton 25% off</p>	
<p>14K gold Chains &amp; Charms 50% off</p>	
<p>Diamond Rings, Pendants &amp; Earrings 30%-50% off</p>	
<p>Spicdel I.D. Bracelets 30% off</p>	

Downtown Mount Olive & 903 N. Beazdale Ave. 658-3258      458-4883  
1824 W. Cumberland St., Dunn, N.C. Tel. 897-1877