



Fall 2012

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NEWS FROM THE OFFICE...

It's been a tough summer for PEC -- a summer when myself and your board feel under urgent pressure to find both a new investment opportunity for our members, and also projects that will create immediate cash flow to secure your cooperative financially.

To those ends we have been working hard to explore the many renewable energy ideas, options and opportunities that continue to present themselves. These ideas come to us either through our own inspiration, or are brought to us by enthusiastic members or businesses and organizations outside of the cooperative. Each option or idea has to be carefully researched, and each presentation given a fair hearing by your (very active) Research and Development committee. The board then has to decide to actively pursue, put on hold or abandon each possibility. Many have been considered over the summer, and many abandoned as unrealistic, impractical or uneconomic. A select few projects, however, are being pursued with a great deal of anticipation and excitement.

Some of these include:

- 1) the Vbine dealership, which is promising to bring small scale wind to individual homeowners, businesses and industry. (See page 3 for more updates!)
- 2) several potential dealerships for solar hot water heaters and photovoltaic equipment for homes and businesses in the area. This could lead to possible training opportunities for installers, and even subsidies to homeowners in order to make this equipment more affordable.
- 3) the purchase of our own PEC met tower and data collecting equipment with the intention of monitoring the wind power potential on private land in the South Peace. We see this as a natural way for local farmers and ranchers to diversify the income from their land, while providing investment income to our cooperative membership.

And others... but they all take time. Too much time, but that is the way things work in the renewable energy world. We are confident that our perseverance, and the patience of our membership, will pay off, and we look forward to some exciting announcements in the very near future!

If you have any questions or comments about the cooperative, please feel free to call, e-mail or stop by for a chat. We are always excited to hear from our membership.

Cheers!

Brigitte Schilds HB.Sci (EPT), Executive Director

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PEC Welcomes a New Director

After the unfortunate departure of Bob Carter from the Board of Directors, PEC is excited to introduce your latest Director; Steve Roe. Steve Roe and his family moved to the Peace Region nineteen years ago, shortly after he graduated from UBC with a PhD in American literature. For most of his time in the Peace, Steve has been an instructor at Northern Lights College. He is now the Dean of Academic and Professional Programs at NLC, and in this role he is involved in the planning and delivery of NLC's new Applied Certificate in Clean Energy. This credential introduces students to a variety of clean energy technologies, including solar electric, solar thermal, geothermal, and small wind systems. Steve's interest in clean energy technology began with his research on the proposed Site C Dam. From 2008-2010, he published 33 articles in the *Northeast News*, dealing with various aspects of the proposed dam and related energy subjects. Steve was interested in joining the PEC Board of Directors because renewable energy technologies are so critical to our collective future. He and his family spend their recreation time at a cabin on Moberly Lake. Steve is looking forward to working with a group like PEC and hopes to meet all of the membership in the near future.

Please join us in welcoming Steve to the Board!

Bear Mountain Wind Park **Blade Replacement**

New blades have begun to arrive in Dawson Creek for the Bear Mountain Wind Park. These blades are the latest Enercon design, and feature a carbon fibre component that helps to stiffen the blades, causing less bend in high winds and therefore higher energy output and less wear and tear on the blade. These new blades are also lighter, allowing for more energy output in even the slightest wind (although the existing blades are already remarkable, spinning in what appears to be almost zero wind!). Increased efficiency at both the high end and low end of wind speed means more energy production from Bear Mountain Wind Park, and more income for your cooperative!

The first seventeen blades will be installed this fall, and the remainder will be replaced next year. This means that access to the BMW Park is currently limited to pilot car, as the blades travel up to the park.

We are thrilled to have the BMW Park chosen to be one of the first installations in the world to feature this new blade design!

For more questions, contact Neil Mackie, AltaGas' Manager of Communications, at 403-691-7194.



New PEC Announcements

Retail Sales

PEC is excited to announce the sale of PEC jackets, shirts and ballcaps. PEC now offers men's jackets, women's jackets, men's polo shirts and baseball caps all proudly boasting the PEC logo. Please visit the Peace Energy website at www.peaceenergy.ca for pricing and sizing information, or e-mail the office at info@peaceenergy.ca. All members will receive a 10% discount off of all clothing purchases.

Show your Peace Energy Cooperative pride with these great items!



ED Brigitte Schildts in the PEC women's jacket in White



VBINE salesperson Greg Dueck in the PEC men's jacket in Black with the PEC ballcap



VBINE Information sessions

Saturday November 3rd
10am-12pm

Wednesday November 7th
7pm-9pm

PEC is excited to host two VBINE information sessions in the first week of November. These sessions are for anybody interested in learning more about the VBINE systems. Please RSVP for the session of your choice to info@peaceenergy.ca or call the office at 250-782-3882. The exact locations of the sessions are to be decided, but will be taking place in Dawson Creek.

Come out and learn about this exciting new technology!

If you wish to learn more about VBINE but are unable to attend either of the information sessions, please contact salesperson Greg Dueck at sales@peaceenergy.ca or at 250-219-5607.



2012 Dawson Creek Energy Conference

Peace Energy Cooperative was well-represented at this years Dawson Creek Energy Conference. The Energy Conference was a great place for PEC to network with representatives from all energy sectors, from Oil and Gas to Wind and Solar. ED Brigitte Schilds and VBINE salesperson Greg Dueck presented PEC and the VBINE to conference attendees to a very positive response. We are already looking forward to next year's conference!



The PEC Trade Show booth



ED Brigitte Schilds and VBINE salesperson Greg Dueck with the PEC booth

