

Hometown CONNECTION

July 2010

A Newsletter for and about the Members of ElectriCities

NC Public Power
City Owned Electric Service



Gastonia named All-America City



Gastonia, a NC Public Power community, was recently chosen as a 2010 All-America City. The winners were announced during the 61st annual celebration of the award at the Hyatt Regency Crown Center in Kansas City, Mo., on June 18. A delegation of more than 40 Gastonians made the trip to represent their city.

"All-America Cities are models of civic excellence, with strong community-

based initiatives and broad community support," said T. Graham Edwards, CEO of ElectriCities. "It is no surprise to me that Gastonia was honored. Public power communities are strong, vibrant communities in which to live and work, and we are thrilled Gastonia was recognized for its outstanding achievements."

Mayor Jennie Stultz guided the city's application and selection process with

(cont'd on page 2)

Power Lines:

News from Kings Mountain, Smithfield and La Grange

NCMPA1 Monroe generating station dedicated and generating power

Meet the Annual Conference speakers

ElectriCities CEO receives national public power award



T. Graham Edwards, Chief Executive Officer of ElectriCities, received the American Public Power Association's (APPA) James D. Donovan Individual Achievement Award at the association's national conference in Orlando, Fla. The award recognizes Edwards' many contributions and leadership to the electric industry.

For more on this story, visit www.electricities.com.

Power Lines

News from NC Public Power Communities



Kings Mountain Kings Mountain's new SCADA system increases reliability and lowers system costs

When a squirrel caused a third of Kings Mountain customers to lose power, electric director Nick Hendricks knew exactly which substation was down and the customers affected before the first customer called. This moment was just one time Hendricks was thankful for King's Mountain's new SCADA (supervisor control and data advisory) system, which the city upgraded earlier this year. The new system allows Hendricks and his staff to monitor voltage, amps and other vital components within the City's electrical system. The new SCADA also provides a link to constant communications software that provides an immediate paging system for staff for events such as outages and voltage fluctuations. All substations and delivery points are monitored 24 hours a day, including camera systems at all locations to allow the

Gastonia (cont'd.)

the assistance of a devoted cadre of citizens and city staffers. Mayor Stultz is also the Vice Chair of the Electricities Board of Directors.

"The All-America City experience celebrates all that is right in our communities when we tell the stories of how grassroots energy works to solve critical challenges," said Stultz. "We were inspired by other finalist cities and developed new friendships. The All-America City experience is a true example of civic CPR."

SCADA operators constant surveillance.

The need for the system was more urgent after Kings Mountain's recent wholesale contract with Duke Energy was signed. The new contract includes a once annual coincident peak rate, meaning Kings Mountain staff must hit the annual peak through peak generation with 100 percent accuracy for a period of one hour per year.

"Missing the annual peak translates to significant increased wholesale costs for us," said Hendricks.

Hendricks also noted that the new system allows Kings Mountain to increase reliability. While power blinks and momentary interruptions were expected several years ago, customers now have more sophisticated electronics in their homes and power interruptions, no matter how short, are seen as outages.

"Managing and evaluating all electrical interruptions on our electrical system is a top priority," said Hendricks.

"We've had a SCADA system since 1989 and it has proven time and time again its value," said Marilyn Sellers, city manager.

"With the last upgrade we are now set for at least another 10 years. The Electric Department staff, with their dedication and expertise, is a great asset to the City and they always strive to exceed our customers' expectations and provide reliability. I would like to thank the mayor and city council for playing such a huge role in supporting the needs in our Electric Department, because without their vision

The All-America City program is sponsored by the National Civic League to recognize neighborhoods, villages, towns, cities and metro regions for outstanding civic accomplishments. To win, communities must demonstrate their ability to address serious challenges with innovative, grassroots strategies that promote civic engagement and cooperation between the public, private and nonprofit sectors. Finalists selected from the application process must prepare an in-

of knowing the needs of the City, this would not have been made possible."

La Grange Perdue makes "Main Street" announcement in La Grange

Governor Bev Perdue visited La Grange to formally announce the town's North Carolina Main Street designation. She was joined by Rep. Van Braxton, Mayor Woody Gurley and N.C. Commerce Secretary Dale Carroll. She toured several downtown businesses following the announcement.

The North Carolina Main Street program helps small towns preserve and revitalize their historic downtown districts.

Smithfield Smithfield christens completed Riverwalk and Greenway

More than 250 supporters gathered at the Neuse River Amphitheatre in the historic Smithfield Town Commons March 24 to officially open the long-awaited Neuse Riverwalk and Buffalo Creek Greenway.

The 3-mile greenway travels from the downtown area to Smithfield Community Park and links northern and southern historical residential neighborhoods, four town parks and two schools. The trail also serves as a link in the envisioned North Carolina Mountains-to-Sea Trail.

depth presentation to a panel of judges. The All-America City award is the oldest community recognition program in the nation. Since its inception in 1949, more than 4,000 communities have competed and over 500 have been named winners.

For its presentation, Gastonia showcased three community projects resulting in significant local impact during the past few years: Homeward Bound in Highland, Run for the Money and Climbing to Success.

NCMPA1 Monroe generating station dedicated and generating power

The NCMPA1 (North Carolina Municipal Power Agency Number 1) Monroe Generating Station was formally dedicated on June 4, and hours later was dispatched to provide power during a sunny, warm North Carolina day. A crowd of local dignitaries gathered at the site for tours and to learn more about the station. The Monroe Economic Development Commission, led by Chris Platé, coordinated the event locally.

said Edwards. “This station is extremely important to meet NCMPA1’s future power supply needs and will provide great benefits during times of peak load in the summer and winter.”

Edwards also said that the quick-start capability of only 15 minutes is important for NCMPA1 reliability.

The station is a quick-starting natural gas-fired generating facility, operating as a peaking facility for NCMPA1 Participants when demand for electricity is greatest. The station is expected to run most often during summer peaking periods. The station contains two 20,500 horsepower turbines that operate at 11,200 RPM. Natural gas is the primary



fuel for the plant with diesel fuel oil as a secondary source.

The station can supply the electricity needs of about 5,000 residential customers – more than enough to supply all of the needs of each of the 10 smallest NCMPA1 Participants.

QUICK FACTS:

- **Summer capacity:** 24 MW
- **Winter capacity:** 32 MW
- **Weight of each generator:** 162,000 lbs.
- **Construction cost of plant:** \$19.2 million
- **Commercial operation began:** April 23, 2010
- **Turbine supplier:** Solar Turbines, Inc. (a division of Caterpillar)
- **Plant interconnection:** City of Monroe Camp Sutton Substation

“It’s a great day in Monroe,” said Mayor Bobby Kilgore as he welcomed the guests to the site. “The City of Monroe is proud to be a public power provider. We work diligently to keep our electric rates one of the lowest in the region and maintain our system to provide reliable power for our customers. We enjoy the partnership the City has with ElectricCities and NCMPA1 and appreciate the investment the Power Agency made in Monroe.”

In his comments, ElectricCities CEO T. Graham Edwards spoke of the need for the station, which is the culmination of three years of planning and construction. NCMPA1 identified the need for new quick-start generation in 2007 and decided on building a natural gas-fired unit. After an extensive site-review process, the site in Monroe was chosen and ground was broken in December 2008. Commercial operation began on April 23, 2010.

“I can’t say enough about the partnership with the City of Monroe,”

Plant Status

NCMPA1

Catawba Unit 1 is currently operating at 100 percent power in its 136th day of continuous operation.

Catawba Unit 2 is currently operating at 100 percent power in its 446th day of continuous operation.

McGuire Unit 1 is currently operating at 100 percent power without any major problems.

McGuire Unit 2 is currently operating at 100 percent power in its 272nd day of continuous operation.

NCEMPA

Brunswick Unit 1 is operating at 100 percent power and has provided 64 days of continuous service.

Brunswick Unit 2 is operating at 100 percent power and has provided 154 days of continuous service.

Harris Unit 1 is operating at 100 percent power and has provided 234 days of continuous service.

Mayo Unit 1 is operating normally according to system load requirements.

Roxboro Unit 4 is operating normally according to system load requirements.

All items reported as of July 9, 2010

Billing Determinants

NCMPA1 Billing Determinants for participant usage in June 2010

Billing Demand (kW)	Billing Energy (kWh)	Billed Amount
905,884	506,802,473	\$36,139,126.49

Note: All values are less SEPA. Values include Gastonia Prime Power Park.

NCEMPA Billing Determinants for participant usage in June 2010

	Billed Demand (kW)	Billed Energy (kWh)	Billed Amount
Progress Energy Carolinas	1,201,529	669,684,107	\$61,361,849.57
Dominion	140,192	79,738,728	\$7,495,751.42
Total	1,341,721	749,422,835	\$68,857,600.69

Note: All values are less SEPA. Dominion values include Edenton and Elizabeth City generating project output.

Load Management Info

In June, NCMPA1 recommended load management for Agency cities for 22 hours over a six-day period. Electric-Save operations occurred for 22 hours over a six-day period. For Non-Agency cities, NCMPA1 recommended load management for 23.5 hours over an eight-day period including the Duke Control Area Peak which occurred on June 24 at hour ending 5 p.m.

In June, NCEMPA provided advance telephone and pager recommendations for load management for 41 hours over a 10-day period, including the day and hour of the Progress Energy Carolinas (PEC) monthly peak. Electric-Save (direct control) operations occurred for 33 hours over a 13-day period, including the PEC shifted peak occurring on June 23 at hour ending 3 p.m. To date, we have load managed during the monthly peak. We are averaging 10.3 hours of load management over 5.0 days per month.

For more information on how your city or town can benefit from load management, call Cecil Rhodes at ext. 6231 or Jim Deaton at ext. 6223.

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ElectriCities of North Carolina, Inc.
1427 Meadow Wood Blvd.
Raleigh, NC 27604

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Generator safety bill insert now available



Hurricane season is here. Help your customers and utility workers stay safe with these generator tips.

All generic bill inserts are available to Power Agency Participants at no cost. To order inserts, contact Edward Roberts at eroberts@electricities.org or 1.800.768.7697 ext. 6280.

The Business of Public Power: Delivering Value, Managing Costs 2010 Public Power Policymakers Conference Myrtle Beach, SC • August 12-14, 2010

MEET THE SPEAKERS

Walter Dalton, Lieutenant Governor of North Carolina

Lieutenant Governor Walter Dalton is a proven leader with a passion for education and innovation and with a track record of getting results for the citizens of North Carolina.

Mark Crisson, President, American Public Power Association

Mark Crisson has been president and CEO of the American Public Power Association (APPA) since January 2008.

Jeffrey Finkle, International Economic Development Council

Jeffrey Finkle has been a leader in economic development for more than 20 years. In August, 2001, he became the president and CEO of the International Economic Development Council, following IEDC's birth through the merger of the Council for Urban Economic Development with the American Economic Development Council.

Dale Carroll, Deputy Commerce Secretary and COO, N.C. Department of Commerce

Dale Carroll was appointed by Gov. Bev Perdue as the deputy secretary of the N.C. Department of Commerce in January 2009. Prior to joining Commerce, Carroll served for 12 years as the chief executive officer of AdvantageWest.

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ElectriCities of North Carolina, Inc.
1427 Meadow Wood Blvd.
Raleigh, NC 27604
Phone: 919-760-6000 or 800-768-7697
Fax: 919-760-6050
Web site: www.electricities.com
Editor: Rebecca Reagan Agner
Copywriter: Leigh Ann Frink