

It is hard to believe 2016 is history now and we have 2017 in front of us. The years go by too fast!!! I hope everyone had a very merry Christmas and I hope you all are looking forward to a fantastic 2017.

So far it has been a very interesting winter for the Tazimina hydro plant. We have had a lot of ice issues from ice clogging up the intake to the tailrace freezing closed 3 times now. This all takes a lot of hard work to fix and the crew here at INNEC has worked very hard to keep the hydro plant running. None-the-less you will have heard diesel generators running during December and that was simply supplementing hydro power as we had so much ice clogging us up that we couldn't maintain a full load and needed diesel generator help.

At the writing of this, we are on full hydro power and things are working great.

There was a Board of Directors meeting on December 28. There was a long agenda but the main topic of discussion was a rate increase. There will be 2 separate rate increases happening. The first will not be noticed as all we are doing is removing the fuel surcharge and rolling it into our base rate.

At this time our base rate is 40 cents per kWh. When we roll the fuel surcharge into the base rate, it will instead be 52 cents per kWh. You will still see the fuel surcharge on the electric bills and statements but it will just be 0. This is set to happen on March 1, 2017.

The second rate increase is probably going to happen on June 1, 2017 and it will be an 8 cent per kWh increase. This increase has created a lot of discussion at the board level and is not an easy decision. No one wants to see rates go up but we have to be able to pay for upgrading our underground power lines. For the average user this rate increase is going to mean about a thirty dollar increase per month in electricity charges.

If you have any questions you are welcome to call INNEC and talk to George or stop by any time during working hours.

The next INNEC Board of Directors meeting will be held in Nondalton at the community Center on February 13th at 11:00 am. All members are welcome to attend.

Don't forget between now and March to apply for your Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend!!!
Have a great January!!