

Our leaders have plenty to say about cap and trade scheme...

"The impacts of this program will be disproportionately felt by states like Ohio which depend on coal for much of their energy needs". Permit auctions are designed to maximize the costs that will ultimately be passed on in the form of higher gasoline, power, and heating bills – stressing families and killing jobs. And, because energy costs are a form of regressive tax, the program will hurt our most vulnerable citizens at a time they can't take any more pain."

Ohio Senator George Voinovich (R)

"When addressing climate change, we should ensure that revenue generated by a cap-and-trade system goes back to the consumers, states, and industries that are most affected by the changes."

Ohio Senator Sherrod Brown (D)

"Cap and trade is code for increasing taxes, killing American jobs, and raising energy costs for consumers. Middle-class families are struggling during this recession, and the last thing they need is even higher costs of living and weaker job security, which is exactly what cap and trade would deliver."

House Minority Leader John Boehner (R)

"A cap and trade system is very attractive basically because you turn this issue over to the folks on Wall Street. If you think they have done a wonderful job in the last six months, you will enjoy turning your electric bill over to them."

**Glenn English, CEO
National Rural Electric Cooperative Association**

"Under my plan of cap-and-trade, electricity rates would skyrocket."

Barack Obama
San Francisco Chronicle
January 8, 2008



**The debate in Congress
has begun.
We need your help!**



**Holmes-Wayne
Electric Cooperative, Inc.**
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Phone: (330) 674-1055 • (866) 674-1055 (toll free)
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Our Energy, Our Future™
A Dialogue With America

This energy plan “is a giant economic dagger aimed at the nation’s heartland...”

Detroit News editorial March 4, 2009

Costs matter!

President Obama, as promised, has proposed a carbon cap and trade tax which could raise electric bills by **\$15 or more per month** for an average residential cooperative member. If the price of carbon permits goes as high as some predict, you could be paying **nearly \$55 more per month**. Natural gas, propane, fuel oil, gasoline and diesel will also cost more. And, *the sky’s the limit* because there’s no ceiling on the tax.

About 90% of Ohio’s electricity comes from coal-fired generation. **Consumers here will bear a greater burden** under cap and trade because coal-based power contributes about twice as much CO₂ as natural gas. And, **Ohio’s rural electric members will pay even more** because their annual electric use far exceeds the statewide household average.

What about the environment?

Ohio’s electric cooperatives are environmental stewards. We’re **already investing \$750 million in pollution control** on our coal-fired plants to make them among the world’s cleanest, and getting about 5% of our power from renewables or lower emitting sources. We’ve led the way in load management for more than 30 years as well, delaying the need for new power plants and saving our members millions of dollars. **Technology to remove CO₂ does not exist yet** and is not expected to for many years. Alternate sources are more expensive and can’t meet the reliability demands of our members.

Your voice matters!

As a member of an Ohio electric cooperative, your voice matters to our members of Congress. Register your concern about a Cap & Trade Tax by joining the **Our Energy, Our Future** campaign. Urge Congress to work with electric cooperatives to meet both federal public policy goals and your need for affordable, reliable electricity. **Costs matter!** Go to **www.ourenergy.coop** and make your voice heard.

You Can Help Today!

We can’t fight this battle alone. We need your help. First, please visit **www.ourenergy.coop** today to send our pre-written e-mail message to your member of Congress urging them to keep electricity affordable and available. It only takes a moment and it truly has an impact.

Then, join Co-op Owners for Political Action (COPA, below), our nationwide political action committee with more than 30,000 electric cooperative employees, trustees and members. For as little as \$2.5 per year (\$2.08 per month), you will help strengthen our political voice. COPA funds help support political leaders who support electric cooperatives and their member-owners.

Congress has promised swift action. Please join us today.

Complete this form and return it to **Holmes-Wayne Electric Cooperative, Inc. PO Box 112 Millersburg, OH 44654.**

I affirm that my contribution has been made with Non-corporate funds:

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Cooperative _____
Account # _____
Signature _____

Contributions to COPA are strictly voluntary. Contributions to federal and state Political Action Committees are not tax-deductible. Consumer-owners have the right to refuse to contribute without reprisal. The contribution guidelines are suggestions only. You may contribute more or less than the recommended amount. Contributions may be stopped at any time upon notification to the cooperative.

