

Volume 3 Issue 3  
November 2007



To contact us...

1204 103rd Avenue  
Box 2567  
Dawson Creek, BC  
V1G 5A1

Phone: 250-782-3882

Fax: 250-782-3884

[info@peaceenergy.ca](mailto:info@peaceenergy.ca)

[www.peaceenergy.ca](http://www.peaceenergy.ca)

In this issue...

- President's Message
- PEC Open House
- BMW Update
- Coming Events
- Interesting stuff!!
- Did you know?
- PEC activities



President's Message...

Greetings Members:

As you may have heard, construction on the Bear Mountain Wind Park is ready to officially begin! Two years from now we should see turbines turning in the wind on the southwest horizon, and we should also begin to see regular financial returns for our vision and perseverance. Our discussions with AltaGas are nearly complete in regard to the information about the project that we need for our members in order to have our Offering Memorandum completed. We hope to begin making investment shares available in January.

We continue with our wind monitoring project for the city of Dawson Creek, and we continue to participate in the planning for the new Energy House at Northern Lights College. We are regularly engaged with Aeolis Wind Power Corp. in regard to our role and investment opportunities in their other wind projects in the Peace region. Our membership continues to grow, as more people come to recognize the value and benefits of pursuing renewable energy options for our future energy needs.

Please come to our December Open House at the Art Gallery in Dawson Creek on December 14th, and help us celebrate our collective accomplishments and the exciting prospects for the year ahead.

Steve Rison - President

Membership News....

We have a number of new local members in the cooperative and some from further afield; Dawson Creek, Arras, Tomslake, Fort St. John, Pouce Coupe, Summit Lake, Vancouver, Sidney, Kelowna and Calgary!

Membership continues to grow; some months in leaps and bounds and others s-l-o-w-l-y! I'm aiming for 300 by the end of the year and we are **almost** there. Now is a perfect time, and what a great way to introduce your friends and family to your cooperative; if their name is on your shopping list! If you purchase a membership soon enough we can have their certificate printed in time for you to frame it for an extra special gift.

What a great idea! I believe it is now a race to see who might be lucky 300!

## **Bear Mountain Wind Park Update...**

As progress continues with the Bear Mountain Wind Park, I'd like to let the members of Peace Energy Cooperative know about some of the work that has taken place over the last four weeks since our open house. First off, we are geared up to begin construction in early December. We have received a number of permits and approvals, including a License of Occupation, which allows us to begin construction on the project itself. We've also received the necessary permits for the use of roads in the area and to clear the path for the footprint of the project. We've finalized agreements with Enercon to supply, install and maintain the 34 planned wind turbines for the ridge. These are complex agreements which have been worked on for several months, and now executed. As you know, the number of turbines on Bear Mountain will be reduced from 57 to 34 as part of an overall optimization of the project. We also recently requested two specific amendments to our Environment Assessment Certificate. The first of which is the request to use the existing access road instead of building a new one. By doing so we can avoid clearing a path for a new road and therefore we will cut fewer trees and reduce our environmental impact. Bear Mountain Wind LP will also upgrade the existing road which will help further mitigate future environmental impacts since this road is in active use. The second amendment is to use low-voltage overhead lines to connect the turbines as part of the collector system of the project. The previous plan approved in the EA certificate was to have an underground collector system with overhead lines for the high voltage transmission line from the substations – which is roughly midway along the turbine layout – to the BCTC interconnection at Hart Highway. Upon further analysis of the site's soil conditions and rock formations, it has been determined that a fully underground collector system is not feasible. Therefore, we are requesting an amendment to have the low-voltage collector lines strung under the high-voltage lines in the north section, and to have a single circuit overhead line in the south section. By using overhead lines, we will reduce the amount of land disturbance and the width of the right-of-way required for the line. It will not increase the number of trees to be cut; and the poles will conform to B.C. Highways standards – which are considered “raptor-friendly.” Currently the amendment requests are in the public consultation phase and we hope that they will be approved by the Environmental Assessment Office. Copies of the requested amendments can be found on the EAO website; [www.eao.bc.ca](http://www.eao.bc.ca), at Peace Energy Cooperative, Dawson Creek City Hall and the Dawson Creek office of MLA Blair Lekstrom. We are also hand-delivering copies in the project area and discussing the project revisions with local residents. As we continue to move along with the project, I will provide you with further updates. Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm for the project and clean, renewable energy. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to send your inquiries to myself, Danell Kokol at 403 691-7184, or Valerie Gilson.

Jim Bracken, President

Bear Mountain Wind LP



websiteupdatewebsiteupdatewebsiteupdatewebsiteupdatewebsiteupdatewebsiteupdatewebsiteupdatewebsiteupdatewebsite

The Peace Energy Cooperative website has recently been fully updated. Check out what your cooperative and Board has been up to over the last few months. Information has been updated on the 'What's New', 'Geothermal', 'Wind' and various other pages. We now have software that allows updates from the office so we are no longer contracting the work out and waiting for updates to take place. Check in and check back often!

### Your Renewable Energy Education Continues...

I've received the names of more books to read and videos to watch—let me know your reviews of these, or suggestions of others, and I'll pass them on in the next edition of the newsletter:

- *Surviving the Century: Facing Climate Chaos and Other Global Challenges*. Edited by Herbert Girardet with contributions by various authors
- 'Fog of War' a DVD based on interviews with former US Secretary of Defense, Robert S. Macnamara. Steve Rison says it was a very interesting video to watch
- *The Long Emergency: Surviving the end of Oil, Climate Change, and other Converging Catastrophes of the Twenty-first Century*. By James Howard Kunstler.

*Don't forget that there is a small library here at the PEC office sponsored by the South Peace Chapter of the BCSEA and Peace Energy. We have a few videos and books for short term loan. I'll have a list of what we have on the shelf on our website soon. If you have anything you would like to donate to the library for others to read we'd be happy to add it to the collection!*

### Coming Events...

Thursday, December 6th The South Peace Chapter of the BC Sustainable Energy Association will hold their regular chapter meeting at 7:00pm at the Tremblay Elementary School Library (11311 13A Street Dawson Creek). Guest Speaker Matt Horne of the Pembina Institute will discuss a recent report, Mid the Gap which identifies strategies in six sectors of BC that have the potential to reduce 22 million tones of GHG emissions by 2020. You can preview it at [www.pembina.org/pub/1550](http://www.pembina.org/pub/1550)

In Early 2008 PEC, the South Peace Chapter of the BCSEA, the City of Dawson Creek and Northern Lights College will be co-sponsoring a workshop of Net Metering. More information will be available the next issue of your newsletter.

**Did you know** that excess energy from your hot water tank (HWT) can create 550lbs of CO2 annually. You don't need your HWT set any higher than 50C. Most come preset at 60C by the manufacturer. HWT's also have a 'vacation' setting—make sure to turn it down before you go away!

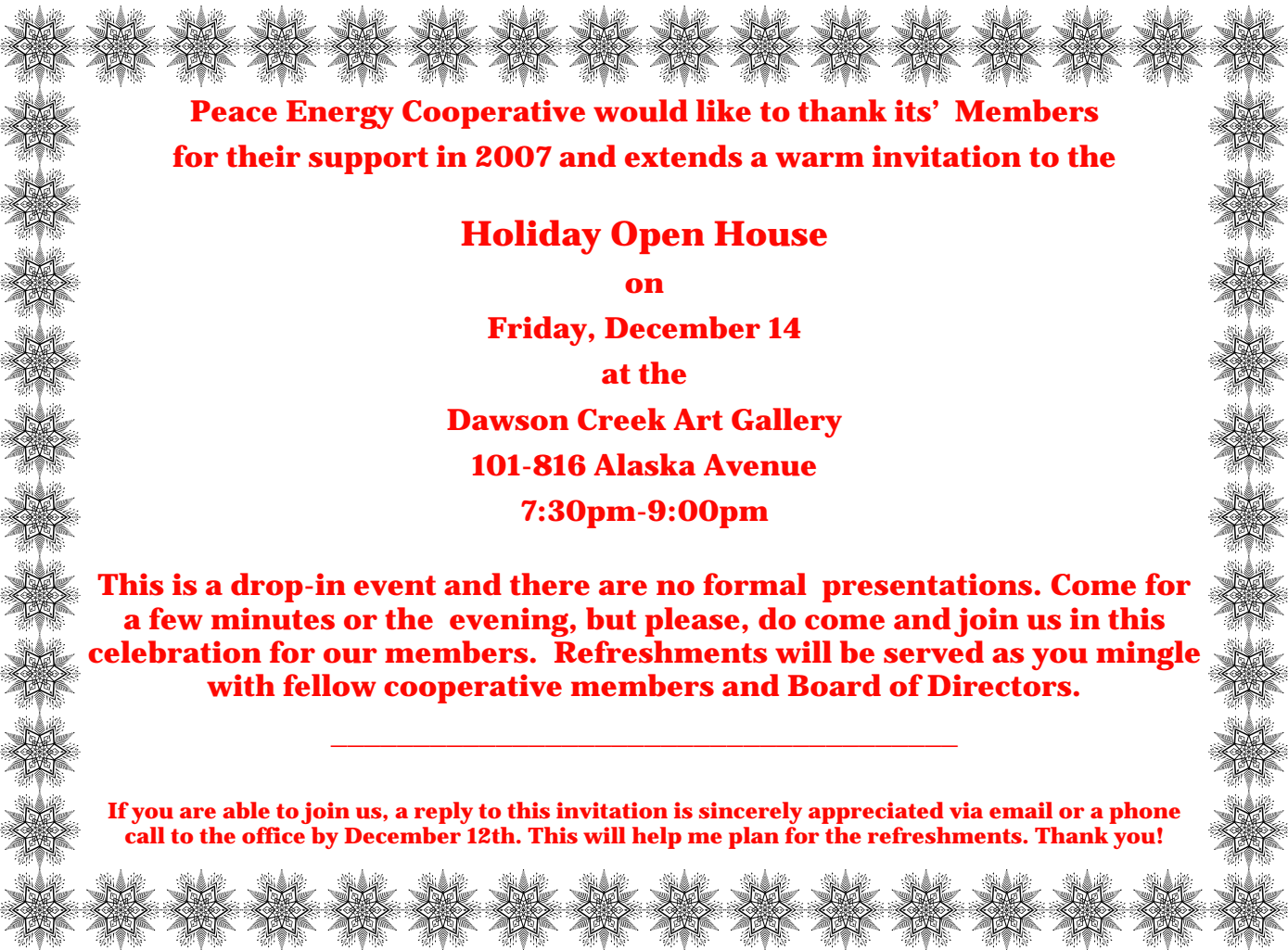
**Did you know** that setting your thermostat back by as little as 2 degrees cooler in winter can help you reduce CO2 emissions by up to 500lbs annually!

**Did you know** changing the air filters in your heating and cooling equipment regularly (recommended 30 days!) can knock 2% off your CO2 output each year!

**Did you know** a screen saver on your computer is designed to save your computer from burn out, not save energy! Because monitors are responsible for more than one-third of a computer's energy consumption—even with a screen saver—the best way to conserve energy is to set the monitor to sleep or power off if you are away for an extended period of time. And turn the computer off completely at night!

**And did you know** this newsletter will be kept in the website archives for years...you don't have to waste paper or energy by printing it!





**Peace Energy Cooperative would like to thank its' Members  
for their support in 2007 and extends a warm invitation to the**

**Holiday Open House  
on  
Friday, December 14  
at the  
Dawson Creek Art Gallery  
101-816 Alaska Avenue  
7:30pm-9:00pm**

**This is a drop-in event and there are no formal presentations. Come for  
a few minutes or the evening, but please, do come and join us in this  
celebration for our members. Refreshments will be served as you mingle  
with fellow cooperative members and Board of Directors.**

---

**If you are able to join us, a reply to this invitation is sincerely appreciated via email or a phone  
call to the office by December 12th. This will help me plan for the refreshments. Thank you!**

### **My Green Christmas Shopping Tips**

1. Car pool to the mall. Make it even more fun by shopping with a couple of family members or friends...it saves gas, reduces carbon and makes parking easier...better yet, take the bus!
2. Buy Canadian-Made. Not only does this reduce the chance of purchasing lead-laced toys or jewelry, it reduces your personal carbon footprint by not buying products shipped in from far-away lands. Plus, it supports a fellow Canadian worker.
3. BYOB. Bring your own shopping bags. Don't laugh-everyone is doing it!
4. Skip the drive-through. Idling your car puts pollutants into the air. So don't use the drive through; stop the car and walk in for your coffee and donut or burger. Better yet, grab a salad at a locally-owned restaurant and take a rest.
5. Shop local retailers. Support local stores run by local people. It's a way to support a thriving and local economy; a very green concept whose time has come.
6. Buy green gifts for the holidays. Support the manufacturers who have great new eco-items. From fragrances, clothes and home spa luxuries to coffee. There are green alternatives to almost everything you are looking for or give an eco-friendly gift of energy saving devices.
7. Forget the plastic gift cards. The dormancy charges, the forgotten balances and even the potential for fraud make these cards a bad deal. Plus they are plastic and will live on in landfills for ever and ever.
8. Spend less and donate more. You'll find out how great it makes you feel when you put the heart into Christmas and remember those less fortunate than yourself.

### **To contact us...**

**1204 103rd Avenue  
Box 2567  
Dawson Creek, BC  
V1G 5A1**

**Phone: 250-782-3882  
Fax: 250-782-3884**

**[info@peaceenergy.ca](mailto:info@peaceenergy.ca)  
[www.peaceenergy.ca](http://www.peaceenergy.ca)**