

# **CHELCO's Recommendations with regard to the**

## **Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007**

### **PURPA Section 11(d)(16-17)**

# **What They Mean to You**

**Energy Efficiency in Integrated Resource Planning** – CHELCO's staff recommends that the Cooperative decline adoption of any additional Energy Efficiency in Integrated Resource Planning Standard as contemplated by EISA. Integrated Resource Planning is currently performed by PowerSouth Energy Cooperative (CHELCO's power supplier) for all of its member systems. Because of its decoupled rate structure, organizational structure and principles that focus on the welfare of its members/consumers, and programs currently in place, CHELCO addresses the goals of the Standard. CHELCO, in conjunction with PowerSouth, has and will continue to integrate energy efficiency into its Integrated Resource Planning and implement programs which establish cost-effective energy efficiency as a priority resource. Some program examples include: the Touchstone Energy Home Program; the Compact Fluorescent Lighting (CFL) Program; the Conserve 101 Energy Efficiency Education Program; the HERS/Energy Star Home Rating and Certification; and the No Peaking (voluntary load reduction) Program. **This recommendation should have no direct effect on members.**

**Consideration of Smart Grid Investments** – Because CHELCO currently reviews the costs and benefits of "smart technology" investments, the cooperative's staff recommends that the CHELCO decline to adopt any additional Smart Grid Investments Standard at this time. CHELCO has invested in the development of an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) through its use of smart meters and integration of advanced software packages and functions that promote a smart grid, including: fault location, isolation and service restoration (which includes sensing devices, Substation Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) ready regulators, and SCADA ready micro-processor protective reclosers); feeder load balancing; and voltage control through the use of voltage regulators. Both CHELCO and its wholesale power supplier, PowerSouth Energy Cooperative, have in the past and will in the future continue to evaluate, invest in, and employ smart technologies in their respective electric grids. **This recommendation should have no effect on members.**

**Consideration of Smart Grid Information** – CHELCO's staff believes that the adoption of any additional Smart Grid Information Standard is unnecessary. CHELCO has previously invested in the development of an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) through its use of smart meters and integration of advanced software packages. Each account utilizing a smart meter registers usage, time of use, peak demand, and the time demand occurred. Additionally, the cooperative offers members the ability to affect their bills through their usage patterns with an optional Time of Use Rate plan developed around PowerSouth's time based rate for demand. PowerSouth does not, however, sell energy on the wholesale market using real-time pricing. Likewise, CHELCO does not sell energy at retail utilizing real-time pricing. The cost to develop the infrastructure for real-time retail pricing would greatly outweigh any benefits those members would realize. **This recommendation should have no direct effect on members.**