



## No Luxury!!

John Chancellor, News Director  
NBC News  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10020

John Chancellor:

I am appalled that you would report the death of a man whose electricity was turned off with such statements as .... no one was to blame.... everyone did what was supposed to be done.

In our present day society electricity is a matter of life and death. When a nation becomes as dependent upon a source of power as we are upon electricity, the distribution of that power carries the responsibility of life and death. No one to blame? It was the mentality that sees electricity as a means for profit rather than as a source of sustenance that was to blame.

I'm even more appalled by the spokesman from the power company saying he had a duty to protect the customer who pays on time from those who don't. Does he have a duty to save me half a penny by eliminating everyone whose account is \$18 past due? Absolutely not! He does have a duty to guarantee that this sort of thing is not liable to happen everytime a sick, elderly, or disabled person, for any reason whatsoever, can't pay his bills. When human life is at stake that consideration is more important than keeping costs down. Everyone did not do what was supposed to be done. There is no excuse for turning off the only source of heat in a house in freezing weather without first finding out what has happened to the occupant.

The power companies insist on the customer going downtown in person to make a deposit before electricity is turned on. We customers should insist on being contacted in person before electricity is turned off. I'd be willing to pay an extra deposit to cover the expense of having the police check out my house if I should ever fail to pick up my mail. It would be worth more than \$18 to me.

Sincerely,  
R.H. McKenzie  
Topeka, Kansas  
January, 1977

## Freedom In The Wind

from The Bay Area Cooperator

Last May we ran a story about windmills providing energy for home use. This story deals with a fairly easy-to-build wind turbine generator and the possibilities for use in our homes.

The wind turbine generator to be described offers a person the opportunity to work for his independence and to personally create functional results.

It is a 4' wide by 8' high unit constructed from easily obtained materials which are moderately priced. The tools needed for constructing the device are of the normal household variety: hammer, measure, saw, screwdriver, etc., and can be built without help by most people who consider themselves of average mentality..

This particular wind turbine generator is adapted for generating electricity from the Savonius Rotor originally developed in 1925 as a vertical water pump for use in deserts.



5 mph wind will turn it on, a standard auto generator and three heavy duty batteries will supply home with a 12 V system. At present, stereos, heaters, lighting, TVs and refrigerators are on the market for use with a 12V system When one considers

the cost of rewiring the home to handle the two systems, that of the wind turbine generator and of the utility company, and then compute the savings into the cost of operating most of the one's electrical needs, the difference becomes worth the effort it takes to purchase the new appliances and to construct the generator. Think about having a nearly unlimited electrical supply for pennies worth of maintenance.



The total cost of the unit using new materials is estimated at \$150. Additional expenses are the purchase price of the preferred appliances, rewiring the house to take on the 12V system, and the three to five heavy duty batteries needed for reserves.

This wind turbine generator could be installed with a brake in case the winds came in gusts of over a hundred miles an hour. Barring this kind of situation, a wind turbine generator mounted on a platform or on one's roof could continue to produce electricity for the life of the materials used. Since it is open on three sides it collects the wind from any angle.

Credit for the adaptation of this generator goes to Frank Palmore of Design Associations HMB. For an easy to read blueprint send \$5 to Designs Associates, 469 Grove Street, Half Moon Bay, CA 94019.

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