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NEWS RELEASE

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CHELCO WARNS MEMBERS OF SCAMMERS

CHELCO asks members to beware of scammers posing as utility companies in both Walton and Okaloosa counties. These scammers will call a member on the telephone demanding payment by credit card, threatening to turn off their power if they don't pay immediately. The scammers have even asked members to go to a store and purchase a prepaid debit card to pay their bill.

"These scammers are not only stealing money, they are exacting an emotional toll by scaring people," said VP of Member Services Steve Wolfrom.

CHELCO asks all members to please remember the following:

- CHELCO will never call a member at a home or business requesting person information, including credit card numbers.
- CHELCO will never ask a member for money when visiting a home or business.
- All CHELCO employees carry badges with photo identification including name and the CHELCO logo.

Please report any incident to the local sheriff's department. Call 850-689-5705 for Okaloosa County or 850-892-8111 for Walton County.

CHELCO is a not-for-profit electric distribution cooperative serving more than 48,000 members in Walton, Okaloosa, Holmes and Santa Rosa counties. For more information visit www.chelco.com.

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