

CNMEC

Newsletter

POWER
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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections

America's Electric Cooperatives

December, 2018

The nation's consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives are unique within the \$391 billion U.S. electric utility industry. More than 900 cooperatives in 47 states provide electric service to 56 percent of the nation's landmass. By providing safe, affordable and reliable power, many cooperatives are significant economic drivers within their local communities. Co-ops are much more than energy companies: concern for community is a core principle of the cooperative business model. Typical cooperative-sponsored economic development initiatives include revitalization projects, job creation, improvement of water and sewer systems and assistance in delivery of health care and educational services. In short, co-ops seek to improve the quality of life for their members and their communities.

An Overview of America's Electric Cooperative Network. *Compiled by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association*

Electric cooperatives are:

- Private, independent, non-profit electric utility businesses
- Owned by the customers they serve
- Incorporated under the laws of the states in which they operate
- Established to provide at-cost electric service
- Governed by a board of directors elected by the membership which sets policies and procedures that are implemented by the cooperatives' management

Distribution cooperatives are the foundation of the electric cooperative network. They are the direct point of contact with the member-owners in the delivery of electricity and other services. *Generation & Transmission cooperatives* (G&Ts) provide wholesale power to distribution coops through their own generation or by purchasing power on behalf of the distribution members.

Facts at a Glance:

- 834 distribution and 63 G&T cooperatives, a total of 897 NRECA co-op members, serve an estimated 42 million people in 47 states
- Co-ops serve more than 19 million businesses, homes, schools, churches, farms, irrigation systems and other establishments in 2,500 of 3,141 counties in the U.S.
- Co-ops own assets worth \$175 billion (distribution and G&T co-ops combined) employ 71,000 people in the U.S.
- Co-ops invest about \$13 billion annually in new plant equipment

Within the Electric Utility Industry:

- Nearly 13 percent of the nation's *meters* are customers of electric co-ops
- Co-ops deliver 11 percent of the total kilowatt-hours sold in the U.S. each year
- Co-ops generate nearly 5 percent of the total electricity produced in the U.S. each year
- Co-ops own and maintain 2.6 million miles, or 42 percent of the nation's electric distribution lines, covering 56 percent of the nation.
- Co-ops serve an average of 7.4 consumers per mile of line and collect annual revenue of approximately \$16,000 per mile of line as compared to investor-owned utilities, which have on average 34 customers per mile of line and collect \$75,500 per mile, and publicly-owned utilities, or municipals, which average 48 consumers and collect \$113,000 per mile

The Cooperative Advantage:

Co-op consumer-members own each co-ops assets. Cooperatives retire more than \$1 billion in capital credits annually. Cooperatives also pay over \$1 billion in state and local taxes.

Statewide Associations:

In 38 of the 47 states in which electric cooperatives operate, statewide associations provide a unified voice that speaks to the general public, regulatory bodies and state legislatures on behalf of their members. These associations are voluntarily supported, governed by representatives of the member cooperatives and offer commonly desired services. Thirty-two statewide associations publish newspapers or magazines for the co-op consumer-owners, reaching more than eight million readers each month.

National Representation:

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) represents the national interests of cooperative electric utilities. NRECA provides legislative, legal and regulatory representation; medical insurance and financial services; education and training programs; business consulting; a weekly newspaper and a monthly magazine. NRECA and its member cooperatives also support energy and environmental research and administer a program of technical advice and assistance in developing countries around the world.

CNMEEC

Newsletter

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FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE OUR MORIARTY OFFICE IS NOW OPEN DURING THE LUNCH HOUR



Central NM Electric Cooperative, Inc., is seeking outstanding high school juniors with leadership potential to represent their schools, communities and Central NM Electric Cooperative, Inc., in Washington D.C.

These students will join other New Mexico representatives for a tour to our Nation's Capitol. They will join over 1,500 other participants from across the nation for an all-expense paid trip to Washington D.C. where they will meet with Congressional Leaders and tour sites like the Smithsonian Institution, Arlington National Cemetery, Mount Vernon, the National Archives, and the FBI Building.

All the High Schools in the CNMEEC service area will have the opportunity to send a representative. The area includes Vaughn, Corona, Estancia, Mountainair, and Moriarty High Schools.

This is truly an adventure of a lifetime and all expenses are paid by Central New Mexico Electric Cooperative Inc. The trip for 2019 is scheduled for June 14-21, 2019. Applications can be found at www.cnmec.org.

Applications must be submitted by January 20, 2019.



CNMEEC
Scholarship Foundation

Deadline for CNMEEC Scholarship applications is January 20, 2019.

Scholarship applications can be obtained through your school guidance counselor or may be picked up at our Moriarty or Mountainair office. Applications may also be found on the CNMEEC Website at www.cnmec.org.

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

nm811

Professional Resources for Damage Prevention

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Heading out of town for the holidays? Remember to unplug electronics that draw a phantom energy load. Some gadgets, like TVs, gaming consoles, chargers and DVD players use energy when plugged into an outlet, even when they're not in use.

Source: *energy.gov*



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