



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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Departments

Member Service Option 3
Engineering Option 4
Marketing Option 5
Operations Option 6

After-Hours Outage and Emergencies:
541-536-2165 or 800-752-5935

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday
7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Closed Fridays and holidays

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Vic Russell, Fall River

Vice President

Dick Luebke, Sunriver

Secretary/Treasurer

Tanna King, Chemult

Daniel Jansen, Christmas Valley

Alan Parks, Fort Rock

Bud Kendall, La Pine

Ron Cass, La Pine

Gordon DeArmond, Crescent

Ron Sommerfeldt, Gilchrist

Board meets the fourth Monday
of each month at the co-op office.

STAFF

General Manager

James "Jim" Anderson

Engineering Manager

Tom Weller

Operations Manager

Terry Dunn

CFO/Accounting Manager

Jami Steinhauer

Information Services Manager

J.D. Powers

Human Resources Manager

Sina Streeter

Attorney

Raymond Kindley

OR-23

What Is Beneficial Electrification?

If you're like most Americans, you're interested in saving money on energy costs and doing your part to help the environment. You can do both through a concept called beneficial electrification.

This utility industry term means the innovations in energy technologies are creating new ways to use electricity instead of fossil fuels—such as propane, natural gas and oil—in a way that reduces overall emissions and energy costs.

More tools and equipment with small gas-powered motors are being replaced with electric ones that include plug-in batteries. In the past few years, battery storage technology has advanced significantly. Hand-held tools with plug-in batteries can hold a charge longer and offer the user the same versatility and similar functionality as gas-powered tools.

For do-it-yourselfers and those in the building trades, national brands such as Makita, Ryobi and Milwaukee offer electric versions of their most popular products, such as drills, saws and sanders. Consumers also can buy a wide array of specialty tools that plug in, such as power inverters, air inflators and battery chargers.

Electricity Is Getting Cleaner

Because large appliances have a typical lifespan of about 10 years, you can benefit from the flexibility of the grid in addition to increased efficiency of the appliance.

The environmental performance of electric devices improves over time and is becoming cleaner through increased renewable energy generation. This means equipment that uses electricity will have a diminishing environmental impact over time. This would not be the case with gas appliances, where you are essentially locked into the technology of that gas appliance for its 10-year lifespan.

Electric equipment requires less maintenance, and often the biggest task is keeping it charged. In addition, electric equipment is quieter. If you want to listen to music while performing outdoor work, you can—something that would be much harder with gas-powered equipment.

On the horizon, autonomous lawn mowers—similar to robotic vacuum cleaners—will be dotting outdoor spaces.

How We're Doing Our Part

As the overall energy sector continues to evolve, Midstate Electric Cooperative strives to take advantage of the advances in technology and the opportunities of the market as they become available. This means Midstate can leverage the flexibility of the grid to offer a wider range of renewable power selections as we continue to bring safe, reliable and affordable power to our community.

We promote energy efficiency through programs such as our conservation rebate program, free energy audits and the Green Power Initiative. Through our SmartHub app, we offer our members the convenience and ability to manage and monitor their energy use in real-time.

Please reach out to MEC, your trusted energy partner, to discuss renewable energy options and to learn about more ways to reduce your energy use.

When you participate in the energy-efficiency programs and incentives we offer, you're doing your part to save energy and improve our environment. While each member's reductions might be small, together they can lead to significant savings of money and emissions. That means a brighter future for all of us.

Jim Anderson
General Manager