



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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Departments

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

After-Hours Outages 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

Dick Luebke, Sunriver

Vice President

Ron Cass, La Pine

Secretary/Treasurer

Tanna King, Chemult

Daniel Jansen, Christmas Valley

Garry Journey, Crescent

Vic Russell, Fall River

Alan Parks, Fort Rock

Gil Ernst, Gilchrist

Bud Kendall, La Pine

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

STAFF

General Manager

James "Jim" Anderson

Engineering Manager

Tom Weller

CFO/Accounting Manager

Jami Steinhauer

Information Services Manager

J.D. Powers

HR and Communications Manager

Sina Streeter

Marketing Manager

Britni Davidson

Operations Manager

Brian Sharr

Attorney

Raymond Kindley

OR-23

Hydropower to the Rescue

During a four-day stretch from January 12-16, the Pacific Northwest experienced plunging temperatures that remained below freezing.

Despite this extreme weather, the Federal Columbia River Power System proved its resilience. Hydroelectric power successfully met the region's record-breaking energy demand and overcame various challenges, ensuring continuous electricity for utility customers throughout the most severe cold snap witnessed in two decades.

The performance of the lower Snake River's four hydroelectric dams during this cold snap highlighted their significance in preventing power outages and ensuring our region's stability. The dams generated electricity in the morning and evening when electricity demand was highest, while wind production died down to nearly zero megawatts when the cold weather settled over the region.

Unlike solar and wind power, which are dependent on weather conditions, hydroelectric power is not subject to the same level of variability. Solar panels only generate electricity when the sun is shining, and wind turbines rely on consistent wind speeds. Hydroelectric facilities can operate consistently regardless of weather conditions. Reservoirs serve as energy storage systems, allowing excess electricity to be generated during periods of low demand and stored for use during peak demand periods.

This system helps balance the grid and ensures a reliable supply of electricity to consumers. The ability of the hydro system to flexibly ramp up during this extended cold weather was the reason we were not in the dark.

Current federal litigation regarding hydropower is putting our electricity at risk. A draft agreement could lead to the breaching of the dams and jeopardize our access to affordable and reliable electricity. If the draft agreement is finalized, energy costs will increase, the chances of rolling blackouts will skyrocket, and access to hydropower will disappear.

We need your help fighting this battle. You can join Voices of Cooperative Power, a network of electric co-op members working together to influence elected officials who make energy policy decisions that affect our co-ops and, by extension, our way of life.

Visit www.midstateelectric.coop/voicesforcooperativepower and voice your opposition to any efforts to undermine our incredible Northwest hydro system. The challenges we face today require collective action from our membership and beyond.

Jim Anderson
CEO/General Manager

"Appreciate what you have, while you have it, or you'll learn what it meant to you after you lose it." —Frank Sonnenberg

