



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

MIDSTATE CONNECTION

Office Hours: 7:00 am-5:30 pm, Monday-Thursday
Closed Fridays & Holidays

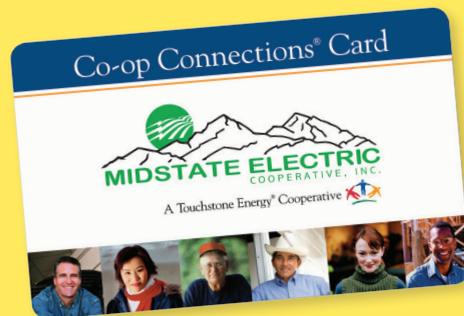
Business Hours: 541-536-2126
After Hours Outages: 800-752-5935

Operation Round Up®

You can support worth-while projects in MEC's service area by rounding up your monthly electric bill to the next whole dollar. Every penny donated is used to support charitable causes and nonprofit community services and programs.



Call 541-536-2126 option 3 to sign up. Single donations can be made by mailing a separate check to Operation Round Up®, PO Box 127, La Pine, OR 97739.



Touchstone Energy® Co-op Connections® Update

The Co-op Connections Card is a money-saving member benefit program that provides valuable local and national discounts. The most widely used benefit of the card, the pharmacy discount, has saved members \$1,007,749 since June 2009.

Call [541] 536-2126 for additional information or if you need a Co-op Connections Card.

Friends Stay Connected



The Benefits of Hydro Power

As a member of Midstate Electric Cooperative, you are experiencing the benefits of hydropower. MEC purchases 100% of its power from the Bonneville Power Administration, which markets wholesale hydroelectric power produced by the Columbia Snake River System.

The Columbia Snake River System supplies a constant source of energy. Since the rivers flow continually, hydroelectric dams have the ability to generate electricity constantly. Hydropower offers several economic and environmental benefits:

Hydropower is renewable. Each year, rain and snow replenish the supply. It is the nation's most abundant source of renewable energy.

Hydropower is efficient. Hydropower plants at dams convert about 90 percent of the energy in falling water into electrical energy. By comparison, fossil-fueled plants lose more than half of the energy content of their fuel as waste heat and gases.

Hydropower is clean. Hydropower produces no emissions. There are no gases or waste products that contribute to air pollution. Northwest hydropower offsets greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to 10 million cars.



Hydropower is secure. Water from our rivers is largely a domestic resource that is not subject to disruptions from foreign suppliers, cost fluctuations in power markets, international political crises, or transportation outages.

Hydropower is flexible. By adjusting the amount of water flowing through the dams, hydropower can be increased or decreased to meet changes in demand for power.

Hydropower allows for the growth of other renewable resources. Hydropower is a great back-up resource for wind and solar power. It can be ramped up to meet demand when the wind is not blowing and can be dialed down at times of high winds.

Hydropower is affordable. Water is free, which keeps operating costs low and protects against cost fluctuations. Over the years, the dams have consistently provided some of the nation's most affordable electricity.

Your Cooperative – Your Voice

There is strength in numbers, and there is also strength in the individual voice. Combined, this creates the momentum behind grassroots political action networks that work together to protect the interests of their members.

This was recently illustrated by a victory in an electric cooperative nation-wide campaign to protect the tax status of electric cooperatives. Congress created a problem for electric co-ops when it made changes to the tax code in 2017 that inadvertently put co-ops' tax-exempt status at risk if they received government grants. This could have stuck co-op members with the cost of paying taxes had Congress not acted to fix the problem. Fortunately, Congress heard our voices and passed bipartisan legislation known as the RURAL Act that makes it clear that electric co-ops won't lose their tax-exempt status just because they receive government grants. Thank you, Midstate Electric Cooperative members that participated in this campaign through our political action grassroots network, ORECA-Action. With the Oregon State Legislature 35-day



Your Cooperative - Your Voice

HELP ADVOCATE FOR AFFORDABLE RATES & RELIABLE SERVICE

short session beginning this month, we may need to call on you again to ensure elected officials understand how their decisions affect the affordability and reliability of your electric service.

If you are not an ORECA-Action member, please join today. When important legislation is proposed that could impact our co-op, the ORECA-Action network provides you the information you need to send messages directly to your elected officials.

Go to www.mse.coop and click on the ORECA-Action Grassroots button on the upper right of the home page, or call [541] 536-2126 option 5. Together we can make a difference.

Board Districts 5, 7 and 9 Up for Election in 2020

Director positions on the Board of Midstate Electric Cooperative for Districts 5, 7 and 9 are up for election at the Annual Meeting on May 9, 2020:

District 5

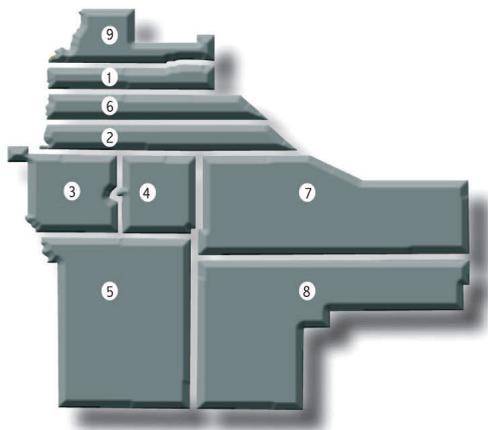
Current Director – Ken Wilson

District 5 (Chemult) is described as: North boundary is an East-West line one mile north of Highway 58 Junction. West boundary is the Douglas-Klamath County line. South boundary is a line four miles south of Hub City Chrome (formerly Thunderbeast Park) on Highway 97. East boundary is the Klamath County and Lake County Line.

District 7

Current Director – Alan Parks

District 7 (Fort Rock) is described as: North boundary is the Deschutes County and Lake County line. West boundary is the Klamath County and Lake County line. East boundary extends due north from the centerline of the intersection of Oil Dry Road and the Christmas Valley Highway and due South down the centerline of the intersection of Oil Dry Road, extending to Picture Rock Pass. South boundary is the Lake County and Klamath County Lines, with a jog North to Picture Rock Pass.



District 9

Current Director – Lee Smith

District 9 (Sunriver) is described as: North boundary is the Cascade Lakes Highway. West boundary is the Lane County and Deschutes County line. South boundary is Spring River Road (and its extension east and west.) East boundary is eight miles east of Highway 97.

MEC's Scholarship Program

MEC's 2020 scholarship application is available at www.mse.coop. The final deadline for submitting the application and all required materials is Monday, May 4. For additional information, call [541] 536-2126 option 5.



The Center of Member Engagement

Manage your electric account 24/7 by accessing SmartHub at www.mse.coop.

With SmartHub, you can:

- Pay your bill online
- Monitor energy use
- View billing history
- Receive notifications via email or text message
- Report outages and track outage restoration progress
- Check MEC's news feed



Save the Date - Midstate Electric Annual Meeting - Saturday, May 9, 2020