



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

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Vice President

Gordon DeArmond, Crescent

Secretary/Treasurer

Vic Russell, Fall River
Diana Cox, Christmas Valley
Bud Kendall, La Pine
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Robert Reed, La Pine
Ron Sommerfeldt, Gilchrist
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Board meets the fourth Monday
of each month at the co-op office.

STAFF

General Manager

Dave Schneider

Operations/Engineering Manager

Ned Ratterman

Marketing Manager

Teresa Lackey

CFO/Accounting Manager

Jami Steinhauer

Information Services Manager

J.D. Powers

Attorney

Raymond Kindley

OR-23

Manager's Message

Dear Member,

In my January manager's message, I informed you that over the Thanksgiving holiday, the state of Oregon filed a 60-day notice of intent to sue the federal government over Columbia River System operations.

This was perplexing, because on October 9, 2020, the governors of Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington issued a statement committing to "work together to rebuild the Columbia River salmon and steelhead stocks and to advance the goals of the Columbia Basin Partnership Task Force." The statement said the states will work together with Indian tribes, federal agencies and stakeholders in a collaborative, science-based effort to develop strategies and actions. The first collaborative meeting was February 24, 2021.

On March 4, 2021, the state of Oregon followed through on its intent to sue, filing in district court. Ted Case, executive director of Oregon Rural Electric Cooperative Association, summarized the governor's action:

"Gov. Kate Brown's decision to litigate on federal hydropower operations one week after the start of a historic four-state collaborative process is truly confounding," he said. "With this action, Gov. Brown chooses to make our electric grid less reliable, dramatically increase Oregon's carbon emissions and harm rural communities who depend on the federal dams for affordable electricity."

The governor certainly sends a confusing message. On one hand, she commits to collaboration. On the other, she chooses to pursue litigation. For collaboration to have a fair chance of succeeding, all stakeholders must partner in trust and sincerity. The governor puts both in question.

The past has proven the endless cycle of litigation only achieves division. We strongly encourage Gov. Brown to put a halt to Oregon's litigation efforts and instead prioritize the collaborative process she helped initiate.

Annual Meeting Save-the-Date Reminder

Be sure to mark your calendar for Midstate Electric Cooperative's virtual 69th annual meeting Saturday, May 8, 2021. We are confirming the details for the meeting. Later this month, all members will be mailed an annual meeting packet of information, which will include instructions on how to register to attend the virtual meeting.

Lineworker Appreciation Day

April 12 is Lineworker Appreciation Day. If you see a lineworker, I hope you will join me in thanking them for their exceptional service. We at Midstate are also proud of our entire dedicated team of professionals working behind the scenes to ensure we can deliver the service and reliability you expect and deserve.

Dave Schneider
General Manager

