

## Minnesota Electric Cooperatives

- Are governed by boards elected from the members they serve.
- Employ about 5,440 people.
- Provide electricity for 85% of the geographic area in Minnesota.
- Serve about 1.8 million Minnesotans. Cooperatives range in size between just under 2,000 to more than 125,000 and the median-sized co-op is 6,491 members.
- Supply over 15 million MWh per year (about 18 percent of the state's total electricity sold).
- Operate at close-to-cost, which provides competitive energy costs for rural and suburban Minnesota businesses and consumers. Revenues above operating costs are returned to members through capital credits.

## Cooperatives face different challenges

Our distribution network is the largest in the state, with more than 124,000 miles of electric distribution lines. We average 6.3 consumers per mile of distribution line, compared with 38 consumers per mile for investor-owned electric utilities and 48 consumers per mile for municipal electric utilities.

## REMA

The Rural Electric management Association (REMA) provides education and training for its members by investigating, compiling, and disseminating information that is critical for effectively managing rural electric cooperatives. It is organized under MREA, which also facilitates REMA's functions as

one way of carrying out MREA's vision of preparing members for success in an evolving industry. REMA has five sections: CEOs, Financial Managers, Member Services, Line Superintendents, and Engineers & Operations. Each section has a board comprised of member representatives from MREA's seven districts, which plan the section's events.

### Contact MREA

#### Address:

11640 73rd Ave. N., Maple Grove, MN 55369

Website: [www.mrea.org](http://www.mrea.org)

Email: [info@mrea.org](mailto:info@mrea.org)

To email staff use [first name]@mrea.org

#### Phone Numbers:

Main Office 763-424-1020

P: (763) 424-####

Chad Briese, Safety & Loss Control Specialist	7243
Alison Deelstra, Director, Education/Comm.	7235
Lidia Dilley Jacobson, Director, Safety/Loss Control	7240
Curt Freudenberg, Safety/Loss Control Specialist	7248
Diane Hasbargen, Administrative Asst.	7245
Jim Horan, Director, Govt. Affairs & Counsel	7237
Gayle Karol, Marketing & Event Coordinator	7231
Darrick Moe, President & CEO	7233
Melissa Stachovich, Director of Finance & Admin.	7234
Luke Wilhelmi, Safety & Loss Control Specialist	7236
Shari Wormwood, Communication Specialist	7232
Aleia Yue, Executive & Membership Assistant	1020

 [www.facebook.com/Minnesota Rural Electric Association](http://www.facebook.com/MinnesotaRuralElectricAssociation)

 <https://twitter.com/@MNRuralElectric>

 <https://www.linkedin.com/company/minnesota-rural-electric-association/>



MREA Board



MREA provides valued service and promotes unity among our members through collaborative leadership and expertise.



MREA Staff

The Minnesota Rural Electric Association is a service organization that fosters unity among, and provides service to, all of Minnesota's 50 electric cooperatives.

### Core Services

- Safety training
- Influencing Energy Policy
- Industry and cooperative education programs
- Communication among our membership

### Our Vision

Preparing members for success in an evolving industry.

### Our Values

- Integrity: Caring about who we are and where we are going. Honest and straightforward in all we do.
- Leadership: Unified and co-op strong. Relevant for today and prepared for tomorrow.
- Excellence/Quality: Excellence through innovation. Providing uncompromised quality.
- Service: Be the preferred choice by putting our members first.

**MREA cares about the future of energy in Minnesota.**

### MREA Board

MREA is democratically controlled by a 14 member board representing the seven electric cooperative districts in Minnesota.

### Strengthening the Culture of Safety

Safety is our top priority. MREA provides:

- On-site safety training for all our members at least five times each year.
- Professional services and resources to drive actions and solutions that support a culture of safety.
- Safety tools and information to all departments within the electric cooperative.
- A uniform process for reporting incidents to effectively share lessons learned and prevent accidents.
- Value and Premium packages that provide additional safety visits.

**MREA provides strength through unity.**

### Influencing the Energy Debate

MREA ensures the electric cooperative voice is heard in energy policy debates.

- MREA's grassroots work involves networking at every level.
- Our staff defines and communicates policy priorities and fosters unity in addressing them.
- We coordinate legislative and regulatory priorities across the membership.
- We work with cooperatives from across the country to represent rural electric cooperative interests.
- To review our positions and priorities, visit [www.mrea.org/legislative\\_center](http://www.mrea.org/legislative_center)

**MREA provides quality training events.**

### MREA Provides Numerous Education Opportunities

MREA adapts to changing demographics and proactively identifies and communicates evolving industry trends.

- MREA is the educational provider of choice for our members.

We support members and the energy industry by exploring new opportunities to be of service by:

- Identifying and addressing key issues that members need assistance to resolve.
- Identifying and sharing talent and expertise within the network of cooperatives, including outside experts, to address emerging and critical issues.

We offer over 70 conferences and workshops annually. To see our current catalog of offerings, please visit: [www.mrea.org](http://www.mrea.org) > Education > Calendar of Events.

### MREA Brings the Membership Current News and Industry Information

Our interactive website is the center of our communication and events. MREA also provides the following publications:

- MREA Report
- MREA Co-op News
- Legislative Bulletin
- Member Connection E-Newsletter
- Online Utility Marketplace
- Annual Directory and Buyers' Guide