

Harney Electric

Ruralite

FEBRUARY 2017

You Can Make a Difference

Join our grassroots program to advocate
for affordable and reliable rates

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PHOTO BY KEVIN WINGERT/
BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION

You Can Make a Difference

Shape your future by exercising your rights and speaking up

Harney Electric Cooperative belongs to a statewide association called the Oregon Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

ORECA's role, on behalf of the Oregon cooperatives, is to lobby against mandates and laws that jeopardize things such as local control and affordable, economical, and reliable power. They can't, however, do this alone.

Cooperatives such as Harney Electric encourage their members to band together to promote common-sense solutions by way of our grassroots program, ORECA-Action.

By signing up, you maximize your voice to hold elected officials accountable and promote the importance of Oregon's electric cooperatives.

ORECA's priorities in representing the interests of electric cooperatives before the Oregon Legislature include:

- Supporting the development and distribution of electricity with the highest quality of service at the lowest possible rates consistent with prudent business practices.
- Maintaining the integrity of the

Oregon utility territorial laws and allocations that protect members and their investments in their electric co-ops.

- Supporting the coordinated development of rural areas in Oregon through the supply of low-cost, Bonneville Power Administration power to rural business, industry and homes.

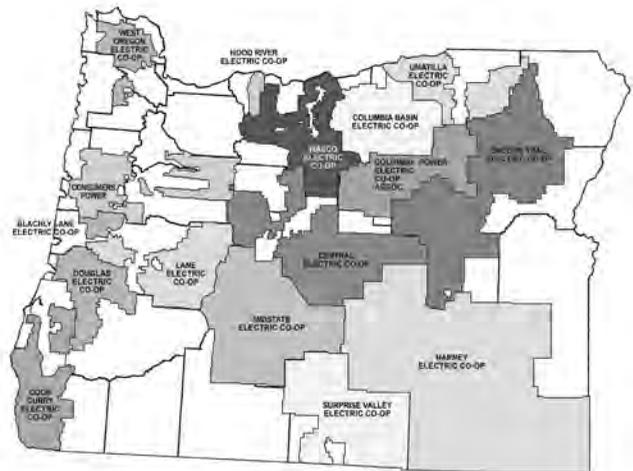
- Protecting the ability of electric cooperatives to do business in Oregon by retaining the Cooperative Corporation Statutes.

- Maintaining the benefit of self-governance of member-owned utilities.

- Preserving the benefits of the low-cost federal hydro system, and preserving preference power for consumer-owned utilities.

- Opposing unnecessary mandates, regulations and costs.

- Maintaining the right of electric



cooperatives to provide additional services, without significant tax penalties, to our consumer-owners.

From time to time, ORECA may delve into national and federal issues to protect the interests of electric cooperatives.

To become an ORECA-Action advocate, go to www.harneyelectric.org, follow the steps in the flow chart and register today.

Remember, you *can* make a difference!



1

Go online to Harney Electric's website at harneyelectric.org and click on the ORECA logo.



2

Click on the ORECA Action link. You will be taken to the CO-OPS VOTE page, where you can register as a grassroots advocate and weigh in on an issue.



3

By clicking on the JOIN US link on the CO-OPS VOTE page you can register as a grassroots advocate, weigh in on an issue, or share information with friends.



4

Enter your information and click on the REGISTER button. You will be added to the ORECA-Action database and you are ready to go.

To:
From: ORECA-Action
Re: Welcome To ORECA-Action



Thank you for registering as an ORECA-Action advocate. From time to time, you will receive emails and notifications updating you on the latest cooperative issues from Salem. There will also be times where we issue a CALL TO ACTION alert. This is when you are needed the most. Call, write or email your representative and let them know your feelings on the issue at hand.



5

You will receive a confirmation email thanking you for registering as an ORECA-Action advocate.

6

When alerted, grassroots advocates will write, email or call their representatives and provide input on specific issues that affect electric co-op members across the state.

7

The Oregon Legislature will discuss the issues during the legislative session and determine the outcome of those issues affecting Oregonian co-op members and you will be notified as to what took place during the session.

Don't Wait. Choose To Make A Difference. Join Today!

Harney Electric Cooperative



A Touchstone Energy®
Cooperative 
The power of human connections®

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OR-27

Manager's Message

Dear Members:

We are lucky here in the Northwest. We have enviable scenery and amazing places to explore. It is a truly beautiful place to live. We also believe in the stewardship of our communities and our natural resources, which is why hydropower plays such a vital role in our region.

We enjoy clean, reliable, low-cost energy every day because of hydropower. It is our steady, renewable resource, and it provides the perfect backbone to the electrical system. It allows us to incorporate other variable renewable resources, such as wind and solar, when they are producing energy. We are able to do all of this without producing carbon emissions, and that keeps our environment healthy.

Lately, there has been talk of removing dams for a variety of unscientific reasons by groups claiming to advocate for the environment. While there is no evidence dam removal will increase salmon populations in our rivers, evidence does suggest dam removal could harm salmon populations and the Northwest economy. Dam removal eliminates fuel-efficient cargo transportation, and could result in the flooding of populated areas.

But even more alarming, if dams are removed to meet the power requirements of the Northwest, fossil-fired generation will replace the clean electricity generated by the dams. This will have major negative environmental impacts for all of us. Due to its intermittent nature, renewable generation is simply unable to reliably supplement the loss of dams. Wind and solar generation only produce power when the wind blows and the sun shines.

We need your help to protect the hydropower in our region. This is a call to action. Let the agencies charged with operating and distributing the power generated from our federal dams know you support clean, reliable energy. Let them know you support the dams. Leave your comments on the Columbia River System Operations' website at www.crsso.info or email your comments directly to comment@crsso.info.

Regards,

Fred Flippence
General Manager

