

THE COOPERATIVE DIFFERENCE



Cooperatives around the world operate according to the same set of core principles and values, adopted by the International Co-operative Alliance. These principles are a key reason that America's electric cooperatives operate differently from other electric utilities, putting the needs of their members first.

VOLUNTARY AND OPEN MEMBERSHIP



Cooperatives are open to all persons able to use our services and willing to accept the responsibilities of Membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.

DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL



Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by Member-elected representatives to actively participate in setting policies and making decisions.

MEMBERS' ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION



Members contribute equitably to and democratically control the capital of our cooperative. It means that the Members decide where the money goes.

AUTONOMY AND INDEPENDENCE



Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by our Members.

EDUCATION, TRAINING & INFORMATION



Cooperatives work to educate and train Members, representatives, managers, and employees so that they can contribute effectively to the development of our cooperative.

COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES



Cooperatives serve their Members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional, and international structures.

CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY



While focusing on Member needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities.