

# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

# BETTER Together



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

# BETTER Together

## A Message from your CMEC Board of Directors

Any organization centered around membership operates under the basic tenet that people are better together — not only capable of more but also stronger when unified in purpose. The cooperative business model exemplifies this idea in powerful ways.

On the most basic level, cooperative members, employees, and board directors are a part of the very community in which they live and work, and as a part of that community, share the desire to improve it. Working together, members, employees and board members are better equipped to do so. We're all better together.

Because of this shared passion, cooperatives accomplish far more than the provision of safe, reliable,

and affordable electricity to people living in rural areas. Whether in the form of classroom grants, charitable donations or safety education, cooperatives are plugged into the hearts of their communities. The community is better when everyone works together.

This concern extends even beyond their own communities, evidenced by cooperatives reaching out to help one another in times of need, deploying teams in the wake of natural disasters or working together to navigate an uncertain future. Getting through tough times is better when we're together.

Cooperatives operate under democratic member control and with members' economic participation. All parties involved have

both a voice and a vested interest in the success of the operation. Every member has equal voting rights and can actively participate in the decision-making. We can move into the future better when each vote is counted together.

All generations represented within the community have their place in the cooperative family — those who remember when the lights finally came on in rural areas, those working to continually improve operations, those planning for the future and those who will become a vital part of that future. As we move forward, know that we remain committed to you, our members, never forgetting that we always have been and always will be better together.



VOLUNTARY AND OPEN MEMBERSHIP

# 83RD MEMBER CELEBRATION & ANNUAL MEETING



## ANNUAL MEETING DRIVE UP REGISTRATION

**COLES-MOULTRIE**  
Electric Cooperative  
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



@NRECA

Join us Friday, Oct 6th, at Peterson Park for this hybrid event. Stay in your vehicle and enter the park using Broadway Avenue at the 5th Street entrance. Employees will be on hand to greet and guide you. From the comfort of your car, you can register, enjoy a shake up, and receive a giveaway. Boxed lunches will be available at 11:00 am **while supplies last**. Stay for our Business Meeting at 1:00 pm in the Demars Center, or watch live on Facebook, or tune in on your radio to Victory 103.9.

- Early Bird Registration starting at 6:30 am at the park
- \$100, \$250 & \$500 Bill Credit Drawings **(Need not be present to win)**
- Boxed Lunch available from Niemerg's at 11:00 am while supplies last
- Bucket Truck rides, Giveaways & Big Al's shakeups
- \$25 Bill Credit for Registered Members



## SEE YOU THERE!

## GOVERNED BY THE 7 COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES



**Amy Borntreger**  
President/CEO



**Kent Metzger**  
Chairman of the  
Board of Directors

We kick off our 2023 Annual Meeting and Member Celebration this year with the theme **“Better Together”** as we continue to work together to find ways of providing safe, reliable, and affordable electric service. Decades of collaboration and selfless interest in making progress have guided cooperatives to successes in the past, present, and future.

More than 85 years ago, a group of individuals banded together to build an infrastructure that brought a better way of life to the rural areas of the U.S. As late as the mid-1930’s, nine out of ten rural homes were without electric service. The unavailability of electricity in rural areas kept our economies exclusively dependent on agriculture. Factories and businesses preferred to locate in cities where electric power was easily acquired. Within four years following the close of World War II, the number of electric systems in operation doubled, the number of consumers connected more than tripled and the miles of energized line grew by more than five times. By the early 50’s, more than 90% of U.S. farms had elec-

tricity. The efforts of those who were brave enough to seize opportunities and navigate through those challenges years ago are still observed today in the durability and success of the cooperative business model.

Today cooperatives serve 42 million people by powering 21.5 million businesses, homes, schools, and farms in 48 states. We have more knowledge, tools, and resources today to do more for our members and support our communities than at any point in time since we turned the lights on. Through partnerships within our network, we continue to successfully build infrastructure, technology, resilience, reliability, renewables, cybersecurity, and safety. Together we continue to evaluate opportunities to provide safe, reliable, and affordable electricity to our members responsibly.

As we move forward into the future and our industry continues to change at a rapid pace, it is important that we continue to work together to adapt to changing technologies, changing consumers, changing markets, and changing politics. Cooperation among Cooperatives, along with building relationships within our industry, have never been more important than today. The alliance of many individuals working together allows the cooperative model to continue to better lives in rural areas. Cooperative Board of Directors and employees will continue to be guided by a selfless interest in making progress by overcoming obstacles, creating opportunities for

others and being a trusted member of the community.

We hope you can join us at our Annual Meeting and Member Celebration that will be held **Friday, October 6, 2023**, in Peterson Park and will again be in a hybrid format. We know our members are busy, so CMEC will offer a drive-thru registration option, a \$25 bill credit and a boxed lunch to go. For those who have more time, we welcome you to join us in the park for lunch and fellowship. Whatever way you choose to participate, we look forward to seeing you again this year.

CMEC’s largest project in 2022 was adopting new metering technology that would allow CMEC to explore innovative rate design and retail pricing that are better aligned with fixed and variable power supply costs and changes in consumer behavior. We anticipate that this project will be finalized by the end of summer 2023.

In addition to investing in new technologies, we completed the following work plan items last year, by increasing conductor size out of the Lake Land Substation which improved reliability to the Toledo, IL area. We were also able to increase wire size on a single-phase line that extends east of Sigel, IL, improving voltage and reliability to an area of our system that doesn’t have the capability of being back fed. Replacing an existing underground conductor with a larger conductor at Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center allowed the facility to expand and offer

## AUTONOMY AND INDEPENDENCE

## GOVERNED BY THE 7 COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES

more health care services to those living in our community.

Protecting our critical infrastructure is now more important than ever with emerging threats to utilities, not only physical but cyber. Together the Board and employees recognize the importance of safeguarding our most important assets that are the lifelines of our community. We have invested in technologies and additional security measures that will continue building resilience in our system. We have developed a plan in the event of a cyber security incident. The Board and employees of CMEC will continue to work together to make the security of our cooperative a high priority initiative.

The safety of our employees and members continues to be a fundamental part of the daily operations at CMEC. We continue to partner with outside entities to work together to educate the public by offering a Live Line Demonstration to local first responders. We present at schools and outside events, continuing to educate the public about electric safety. Inside the Cooperative, as a safety committee, we set goals and continue to make those the drive behind our commitment to the safety culture at CMEC.

Our strategic plan continues to pave the way for the direction of the Board of Directors and employees. We are currently in the process of a cost-of-service study to ensure that the cooperative is aligned for financial

success. We continue to build our workforce and we are always looking for qualified individuals to join our team at CMEC. Without the dedication and commitment of our employees, we would not have the reliable electricity needed for everyday life. We also continue to investigate funding opportunities to assist CMEC with the emerging technologies plan.

As is standard practice, the Cooperative consults with an independent auditor annually to insure we meet all accounting practices, processes, and methods as described in Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). We are pleased to report that the review, conducted in March 2023, confirmed the Cooperative met all appropriate standards.

We know that weather events seem more extreme today and present more challenges to our members than ever before. We were lucky to receive FEMA funding in 2022 for the December 2021 tornado that destroyed areas of our service territory. We are working through the FEMA process again for the storm that devastated our area the weekend before Independence Day. CMEC wants to extend our sincere gratitude to those members who reached out to us, sent us notes of appreciation, offered our employees a helping hand and fed us during the long hours the employees worked. These individuals who are part of #TEAM-CMEC are committed to not returning home until the job is done. We could not continue to do what we do without your support. We are **“Better Together”**.

### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING COLES-MOULTRIE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Pursuant to the bylaws, the annual meeting of Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative will be held on Friday, October 6, 2023 at 1:00 p.m., to take action upon the following matters:

1. The reports of officers, directors, and manager.
2. Announcement of voting results of the 2023 election if contested.
3. All other business that may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

Date: May 25, 2023  
/s/ Andrew Fearn, Secretary

## AUTONOMY AND INDEPENDENCE

# EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND INFORMATION



## CO-OP STAFF



**Amy Borntreger**  
President & CEO



**Aimee Boswell**  
Controller



**Anita Hoene**  
Director of  
Human Resources



**Bill Honchell**  
Director of Operations



**Jim Wallace**  
Director of Operational  
Services



**David Welsh**  
Director of Information  
Technology

THE PEOPLE BEHIND YOUR POWER

# EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND INFORMATION

## EMPLOYEES OF COLES-MOULTRIE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

William Arthur.....Area Serviceman  
 Gavin Bennett.....Apprentice Lineman  
 Carla Bradbury.....Communications Coordinator  
 Julie Butler.....Service Representative  
 Brock Cook.....Journeyman Lineman  
 Grant Cooper.....Journeyman Lineman  
 Devon Durbin.....IT Technician  
 Heather Hakman.....Service Representative  
 Andrew Haumesser.....Line Clearance Journeyman  
 Kelsey Hawkins.....Accountant  
 Mitchell Huddleston.....Apprentice Lineman  
 Jacob Logue.....Line Foreman  
 Chenoa Lovell.....Service Representative  
 Ty Lytle.....Apprentice Lineman  
 Marcus McDowell.....Area Serviceman  
 Kellie Moore.....Service Representative-Engineering  
 John Pickowitz.....General Foreman  
 Hunter Rawlings.....Journeyman Lineman  
 Dennis Ray.....Field Engineer  
 Shane Ruppert.....Area Serviceman  
 Robert Schafer.....Line Foreman  
 David Shain.....Journeyman Lineman  
 Summar Smith.....Service Representative  
 Andrew Sparks.....Distribution Automation Technician  
 Mitchell Stanciu.....Line Foreman  
 Eric Starwalt.....Line Clearance Foreman  
 Koty West.....Journeyman Lineman  
 Jeffrey White.....Field Engineer

## THE SEVEN COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES



THESE ARE THE WORDS  
WE LIVE BY.

## THE PEOPLE BEHIND YOUR POWER

# MEMBERS ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION

## 2022 YEAR-END FINANCIAL REPORT JANUARY THROUGH DECEMBER

### Our Receipts

	2022
We furnish electric service amounting to	\$29,040,489.00
Non-Operating Income-Interest and Other Sources	<u>\$270,926.00</u>
Total Receipts for the Year	\$29,311,415.00

### Our Expenses

Electric power cost us	\$18,690,870.00
Expenses for operating and maintaining system	\$6,314,293.00
We estimate our system depreciated	\$2,002,325.00
Our taxes were	\$42,234.00
The interest paid on debt totalled	<u>\$753,981.00</u>
Total Expenses for the Year	<u>\$27,803,703.00</u>
Margins (deficits)	<u>\$1,507,712.00</u>



## 2022 YEAR-END FINANCIAL REPORT



# MEMBERS ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION

## BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022

<b>What we own (Assets)</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Total cost of our system is	\$67,086,882.00	\$65,092,787.00
We estimate it has depreciated	<u>\$28,188,297.00</u>	<u>\$26,864,897.00</u>
The net value of our system is	\$38,898,585.00	\$38,227,890.00
We have cash in the bank amounting to	\$3,805,536.00	\$1,225,580.00
We have vested interests-associated organizations	\$15,105,103.00	\$13,971,525.00
Accounts Receivable	\$4,912,060.00	\$3,797,960.00
We have material and supplies amounting to	\$220,487.00	\$179,940.00
We have prepaid insurance and deferred expenses of	\$1,012,267.00	\$1,593,493.00
<b>Total owned</b>	<b><u>\$63,954,038.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$58,996,388.00</u></b>

### What we owe (Liabilities)

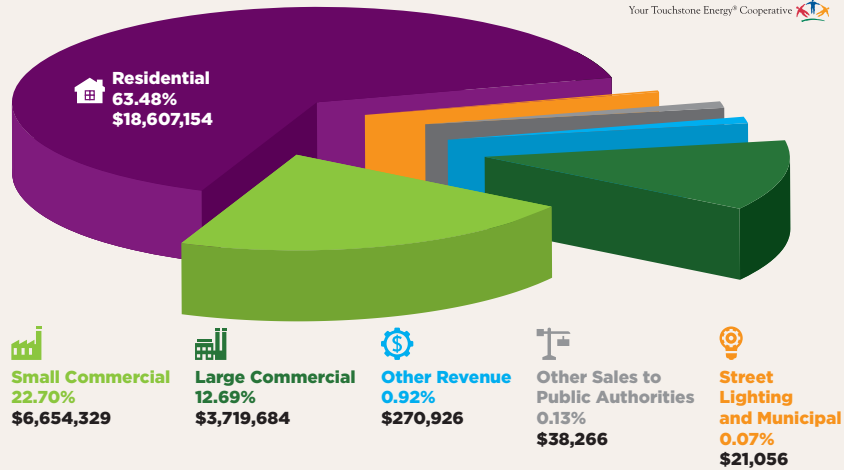
We owe our lenders	\$16,690,772.00	\$14,996,377.00
We owe for materials taxes, short term loan	\$2,920,654.00	\$2,623,900.00
Consumer Deposits	\$477,300.00	\$438,788.00
Margins & Equities	\$39,967,734.00	\$36,121,524.00
Deferred Credits	\$434.00	\$435.00
Accumulated Operating Provisions	\$3,897,144.00	\$4,815,364.00
<b>Total Liabilities and Capital</b>	<b><u>\$63,954,038.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$58,996,388.00</u></b>

### Facts About your Cooperative

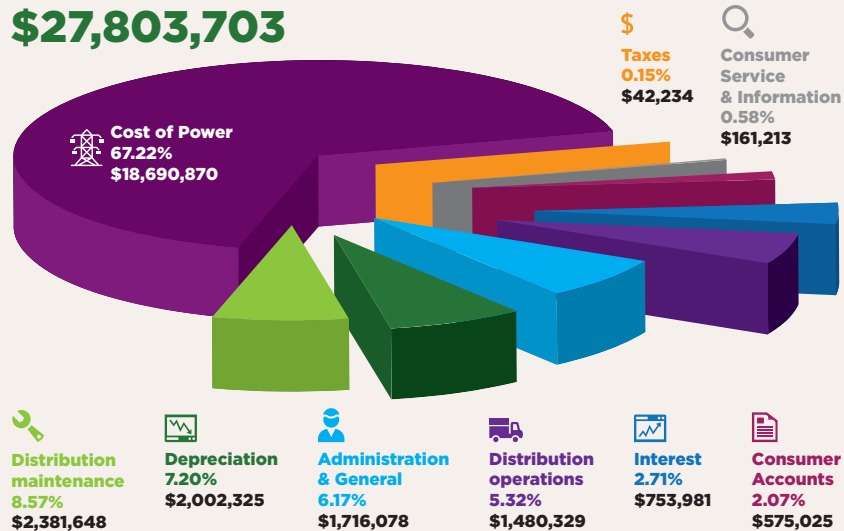
Average Annual Members	9,595
New Services Connected	57
Total Miles of Line	2003
Total Kwh all members	207,903,617
Average KWH per month-all members	1806
Average Members per mile	4.79

# COMMITTED TO FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

## Total Revenue \$29,311,415



## Total Cost of Electric Service \$27,803,703



# 2022 FINANCIAL REPORT

# ILLINOIS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

POWERING EVERYDAY LIFE FOR RURAL ILLINOIS



## MEMBER OWNED

Electric co-ops are owned by the people they serve. Members elect directors to represent their interests and set policy and procedures for the co-op.



## COMMUNITY FOCUSED

Electric co-ops work to improve everyday life in our rural communities. We do this through reliable energy and efforts in education and community development.



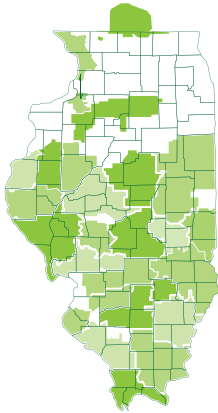
## NOT FOR PROFIT

Co-ops distribute and sell electricity to their member-owners. Any excess revenues are shared back with the co-op's members.



## POWER AND OPPORTUNITY: CO-OPS IMPACT ILLINOIS

CO-OPS SERVE



OVER **600,000** ILLINOISANS

**90 of 102** COUNTIES

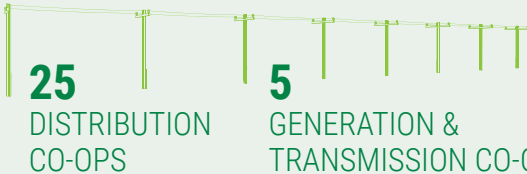
**55,563 MILES** OF DISTRIBUTION LINES

The power lines we own and maintain would stretch from Springfield to London, England

OVER **<12 TIMES>**



COMMUNITY IMPACT



OVER **1,000** EMPLOYEES

YOUTH PROGRAMS  
**\$314,000** IN SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED



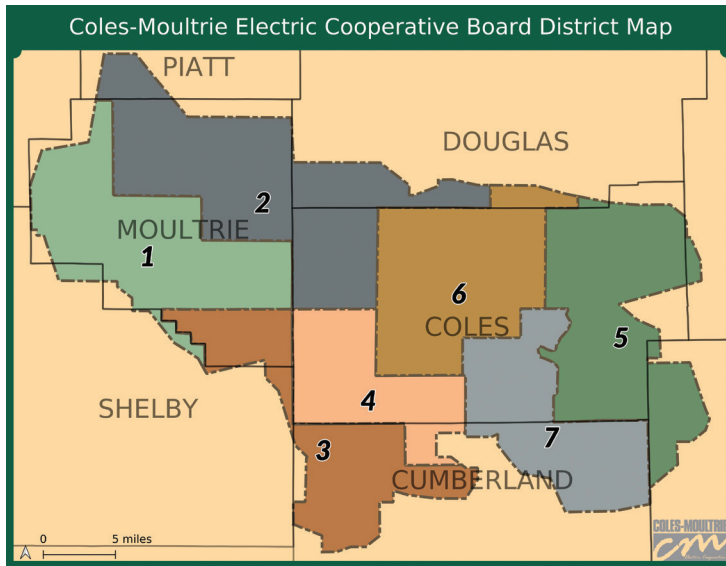
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT  
**12,000** FUTURE LEADERS IMPACTED



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
**\$30 MILLION** IN USDA LOANS & GRANTS TO COMMUNITIES

## COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES

# DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL



- District 1** .....Bill Voyles, Vice Chairman
- District 2** .....Mike Love
- District 3** .....Kent Metzger, Chairman
- District 4** .....Colt Roderick
- District 5** .....Andrew Fearn, Secretary
- District 6** .....Tom Sherman, Treasurer
- District 7**.....Jeffery Hudson

## 2023 Election

CMEC has seven districts in our service territory. Director terms for districts #2, #4, #5, and #6 were open in 2023 with all four being uncontested. All incumbents will continue to serve you. Elections are vital to our cooperative and part of our guiding principles.



Kent Metzger, Chairman



Jeffery Hudson



Bill Voyles, Vice Chairman



Mike Love



Andrew Fearn, Secretary



Colt Roderick



Tom Sherman, Treasurer

**BETTER**  
*Together*

BOARD MEETING MINUTES CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE [WWW.CMEC.COOP](http://WWW.CMEC.COOP)

# CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY



# PROUD TO POWER YOUR LIFE

# CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY



# PROUD TO POWER YOUR LIFE

Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative

# MEMBER CELEBRATION & ANNUAL MEETING



Giveaways

Lemon Shakeups

Bucket Truck Rides

BETTER  
*Together*

Friday, October 6  
Starting at 10:00 AM  
PETERSON PARK  
MATTOON, IL

Drive through and enter  
the park using the  
southwest entrance  
on Broadway Avenue  
near 5th street

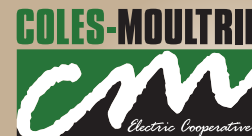
- Early Bird Registration available at 6:30 AM at the park
- Receive a \$25 Bill Credit
- Enjoy a boxed lunch from Niemerg's starting at 11:00 AM while supplies last
- Registered members will be included in Bill Credit drawings – \$100, \$250, and \$500 – need not be present to win!


Stay for our Annual  
Meeting at 1:00 PM  
in the DeMars Center

or watch live on

Facebook 


or tune in on your radio  
to Victory 103.9



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

www.cmec.coop • 1-888-661-CMEC



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Presorted  
Standard Mail  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Springfield, Illinois  
Permit No. 609

Be sure to follow us on   



BETTER  
*Together*

GUIDED BY THE SEVEN COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES