CEO Message

DEMCO is structured much like the foundation of democracy upon which our nation is governed. Democratic member control is something that distinguishes a cooperative from other types of electric utility providers, such as municipal or investor-owned power suppliers.

Locally owned, DEMCO is led by members who are democratically elected to serve on the board of directors. We believe that the best hands to guide the cooperative are those who are served by it.

This business model has kept DEMCO strong for over eight decades, and we trust that it will keep us strong for many years to come. The cooperative structure dictates that everything we achieve in terms of margins either goes toward system improvements – for things like safety, reliability and service - or into the communities we serve.

DEMCO has grown from our humble beginnings in 1938 with 700 members to where we are now in 2019 - about half a million people rely on DEMCO for power. Our membership, although primarily residential, is growing to include commercial and industrial accounts. Focusing on our growing member base while keeping rates competitive and continuing to give back to the community are key components of a new five-year strategic plan.

In addition to safety and reliability goals – which address ongoing maintenance of system components - poles, wires, meters, and more, DEMCO is also working to develop a supply portfolio that will give us the flexibility to buy power at prices that will help stabilize rates for the future.

Affordability is important to us. Paying less for the power we buy helps us lower the cost to distribute that power to each member.

We are diligently working to begin implementing tactics of our new plan. Whatever the future holds, DEMCO is poised to meet the challenges. Our values and principles are steadfast, and the community-minded spirit of DEMCO employees who live and work alongside you is strong.

Thank you for being a valued DEMCO member. We appreciate you and work hard to keep you in reliable, affordable, safe power.

In service,

Randy Pierce
CEO and General Manager

Economic Development

DEMCO is a $700 million not-for-profit electric distribution cooperative that powers 112,000 meters that serve about half a million people in southeast Louisiana. A top 100 company in East Baton Rouge, DEMCO serves 92% residential member base, with about 12.7 meters per mile of line.

Although Louisiana residents have the lowest electric rates in the country, DEMCO works hard to do all we can to keep costs low for our members. We know that when we attract new commercial and industrial members, all of our members benefit.

Additional bulk rate power supply not only powers new businesses, but it helps keep residential prices down – a factor fueling growth in DEMCO service areas.

Communities throughout our seven-parish service area have seen a lot of growth in recent years and 2019 is no exception. Continued multiuse growth - business and commercial developments - are popping up along the I-12 corridor and there is no end in sight.

DEMCO has always played a major role in powering economic growth in the region. In 2019, DEMCO established a full-time staff with business development, engineering design and operations professionals, trained to provide value-added services and to help bring new business to the communities we serve.

With an impressive foundation upon which to grow, DEMCO aims to bring new accounts and members online. Each member is important to us and each member makes the co-op stronger. When we provide high-quality service to existing members and actively prospect new residential, commercial and industrial members, our co-op grows and our members benefit.

DEMCO knows that attracting and working with residential and commercial developers helps to shape our communities and contribute to a strong local economy.

In a study conducted in 2019 that evaluated the economic impact of DEMCO 2014-2018, DEMCO supported 1,103 jobs annually in the local community; contributed $353 million in the local economy and generated $93 million in state/local taxes.

Economic development is not only a factor of keeping rates low for our members. Our role in providing power is essential to the region’s growth and overall quality of life.