

At A Glance

History

Volunteer Energy Cooperative began in 1935 as Meigs County Power Association. The organization soon became Meigs County Electric Membership Corporation. The name was changed to Volunteer Electric Cooperative in 1939. In 2000, due to diversification in other products and services, the organization again changed its name to Volunteer Energy Cooperative to better reflect its expanding role.

The Cooperative Difference

VEC is operated as a cooperative; its customers are also member-owners who can participate in the open election of the VEC Board of Directors. VEC operates as a not-for-profit organization, investing excess revenues generated by its operations back into system improvements, upgrades, and growth.

Governance

A 12-member Board of Directors is elected by the membership, each on rotating four-year terms. Elections are held each year and are conducted by mail ballot. Board districts are structured so that board members represent every area served by VEC. Daily operations are managed by a President/CEO who is located at the corporate office in Decatur. VEC operates under a set of By Laws and by a series of policies as set by its Board of Directors. These are available to customers upon request.

Service Area

VEC serves all or portions of 17 counties in east and middle Tennessee including the counties of Hamilton, Bradley, Polk, McMinn, Meigs, Rhea, Roane, Loudon, Cumberland, White, Morgan, Putnam, Overton, Fentress, Pickett, Scott, and Bledsoe. Over 105,000 residents of these counties are currently VEC customers.

Customers

VEC's customer base increases about 2,000 customers per year. A total of 180 employees in nine offices provide customer service to various locations. The approximate number of customers served in each service area includes:

| Cleveland District | 37,500 |
|---------------------|--------|
| Crossville District | 37,000 |
| Decatur District | 23,000 |
| Jamestown District | 13,500 |

Power Purchase

VEC purchases all the electric power for its customers from the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), approximately 2.3 billion kilowatts annually. VEC spends about 79¢ of every \$1 it collects to purchase power from TVA.

System Overview

VEC serves a predominately rural area, with an average of 12 electric customers per mile. The system consists of over 8,400 pole line miles. Recent growth has required the addition of several substations over the past few years and additional facilities are in the immediate plans.

Did you know?

VEC is one of the largest electric cooperatives in the nation, when measured by square miles served.

Community Benefits

One of the most important goals of VEC is the betterment of the communities we serve. Since its inception in October 2001, VECustomers Share, a program where customers agree to have their electric bills rounded up to the nearest dollar, has contributed over \$2 million in the form of grants to community groups throughout the area. Safety demonstrations are presented free all across the service area. Project Deserve, an optional contribution program for customers, assists the needy with electric costs. As a community citizen, VEC provides over \$1.6 million in ad valorem taxes per year to its communities.

Youth Development

VEC offers a Lillard-Shadow Scholarship program to graduating high school seniors. Youth activities, including educational trips to Nashville and Washington, D.C., ensure the development of future cooperative members. Scholarships are provided for 4-H camps in the summer and VEC personnel assist in presenting electric camps to students each year.

Economic Development

VEC works closely with local and state economic development partners to develop opportunities for economic growth. Its Supporting Efforts of Economic Development (SEED) Fund provides financial resources for economic development projects. Through this unique fund, VEC can provide a direct and immediate positive effect to the success of specific projects in its service area.

Subsidiary Companies

In recent years, Volunteer Energy Cooperative has diversified into other areas. *Volunteer Energy Propane* provides a unique metered propane service in the counties of Meigs, McMinn, Roane, and Rhea. *Volunteer Energy Natural Gas* offers natural gas to residents of Polk County and is a result of a cooperative arrangement between Polk County governmental entities and VEC.



Corporate Office 18359 Hwy. 58 N P.O. Box 277 Decatur, TN 37322 423-334-1020

Benton Service Center 2178 Parksville Road P.O. Box 690 Drawer M Benton, TN 37307 423-338-2569

Crossville Service Center 235 O'Brien Dr. P.O. Box 609 Crossville, TN 38557 931-484-3527

Jamestown Service Center 1023 Old Hwy., 127 S P.O. Box 1450 Jamestown, TN 38556 931-879-5853 Byrdstown Service Center 1109 Olympus Drive P.O. Box 9 Byrdstown, TN 38549 931-864-3685

Decatur Service Center 18359 Highway 58 N P.O. Box 1183 Decatur, TN 37322 423-334-5721

Monterey Service Center 213 Stratton Dr. P.O. Box 67 Monterey, TN 38574 931-839-2217 Cleveland Service Center 5335 Georgetown Rd. (Hwy. 60) P.O. Box 2578 Cleveland, TN 37320 423-476-6571

Georgetown Service Center 8212 Mahan Gap Road P.O. Box 1 Georgetown, TN 37336 423-344-8382

Spring City Service Center 425 Wassom Memorial Highway P.O. Box 177 Spring City, TN 37381 423-365-5220