



## New Technologies Improve Electric Service in our Public Power Community.

As a resident of this great community, you receive your electricity from a publically-owned utility. You are part of the long tradition of public power in the United States. For more than 130 years, public power cities and towns have been delivering a vital service to the American economy.

### Superior Performance Depends on Technology Advances

The combination of rising demand for electricity and pressure to manage costs is driving the use of emerging technologies to boost electric system reliability and performance.

New breakthroughs in metering, wireless communications, electronic sensors, integrated software, intelligent home appliances, cyber security and electricity distribution can play a valuable role in keeping our electric system operational and able to respond to problems quickly and effectively.

Working with citizens and businesses in our community, we are evaluating and deploying industry advances in ways that are cost efficient and flexible to meet future needs.

### "Smart" is Good

Today's discussions about the "smart grid" are based on a basic premise: electric utilities can vastly improve system maintenance, reliability and outage management by using a network of computerized control systems that talk to each other and provide detailed information about the grid's operation.

It's about automating the process for finding weaknesses or potential problem points before the system fails. When

there is an outage, utilities can pinpoint what went wrong and restore power quickly.

Sensors throughout the power system can send data alerts to the utility about equipment status and performance. New software applications can manage the data and help utility personnel make better and faster decisions regarding service delivery.

Data from advanced meters streamline the process for assessing loads on power lines, to avoid crashes and cascading failures. New meters can also transmit to the utility where the power is on and off. The better the system data, the faster utilities can deploy service crews to the correct locations.

It's about empowering citizens like you to use smart phones, tablets or PCs to manage your appliances, water heaters, and heating/air conditioning systems to make your own decisions about your energy consumption.

### You Make the Decisions

Our public power utility is managed by local government officials who are elected or appointed by the citizens of this community. Your attendance at public meetings, your reading of open records, and your vote mean you are part of the decision-making process. Stay in close touch with us. Let's work together as we build an electric system that uses technology innovations to remain robust and reliable.

**Take pride in being a public power community. We take pride in serving you.**