

CONTACT US
Office: 800-933-7362

24/7 PAYMENT BY PHONE
833-410-0497

WEBSITE
www.nobleremc.com

EMAIL
remc@nobleremc.com

OFFICE HOURS
8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

STREET ADDRESS
300 Weber Road
Albion, IN 46701

MAILING ADDRESS
P.O. Box 137, Albion, IN 46701

EMERGENCY POWER OUTAGES
To report a power outage, please call
800-933-7362. We are available to
serve you 24 hours a day.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Rick Robertson, *Chairman*
Doug Burnworth, *Vice Chairman*
Bill Knox, *Treasurer*
Andy Strack, *Secretary*
George Bennett
Mark Demsko
Joe Hutsell
Larry Ott
Jay Wysong

MANAGEMENT TEAM
Ron Raypole,
President & CEO
Sarah Dreibelbis,
Office Manager
Doug Dickmeyer,
Manager of Engineering & Operations
Kevin Dreibelbis,
Communications & Marketing Manager
Adam Chitwood,
Manager of Finance & Accounting

HOW ARE WE DOING?

One of the pillars Noble REMC prides itself on is providing excellent service to our members. To make sure we're doing all we can, we recently began sending follow-up surveys through text messaging to members we interact with, asking for your feedback. So don't be surprised if you hear a notification on your phone after speaking with one of our member services representatives, linemen or engineers out in the field!

WORKING WITH LOCAL legislators



"All politics is local."

This observation by the late Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill Jr., former Speaker of the House of Representatives, highlights the impact national politics has locally, while underscoring the importance and value of local politics.

At Noble REMC, we think it's critical to develop and cultivate relationships with local legislators because they craft, introduce and vote on legislation that impacts the local business climate, the environment and quality of life for our community. That's why we work closely with our local elected officials. After all, our purpose is to provide safe, reliable, affordable energy, but our mission is to help our community thrive.

Noble REMC is a local business that powers economic development and prosperity for our region. As a cooperative, we have deep roots here, and we listen closely to our members to better understand the needs of the community. Our leadership, board members and employees live and work right here in the community we serve.

We strive to be an advocate for our community, ensuring that local legislators know, understand and act on the issues that are important to our area.

Providing industry guidance and expertise

As a practical matter, we recognize that most legislators are "generalists," yet they vote on a wide range of is-

ssues. Their expertise may not include the changing energy industry, which is why Noble REMC provides guidance and expertise from subject matter experts who've been in the energy industry for many years.

Today's energy landscape is an increasingly complex topic covering not only the traditional engineering and vegetation management aspects of the industry, but also encompasses technology, cybersecurity, the electrification of the transportation sector and more.

Our experts provide briefings and background to legislators, committees and staff, and we offer expert testimony for hearings and other legislative or regulatory meetings or gatherings. And because we're involved in economic development and we know local community leaders, we can provide insight on how issues and policies under discussion might impact our region.

Representing your best interests

We strive to be a trusted resource on energy issues. Because of our deep roots in the community, we have a firm understanding of local issues and needs. We will continue looking after the long-term interests of our members. This means we are able to cultivate and foster positive, productive relationships with legislators who know and trust us, because we're advocating on behalf of the community we serve.

RON RAYPOLE
President/CEO



Interested in serving on **THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS?**

Every opportunity to give of our time and our knowledge is an opportunity to enact change and better our community.

One such opportunity is serving on Noble REMC's board of directors.

You may question how you can contribute to an electric cooperative board: "I don't know anything about electricity!"

We're not looking for electrical expertise — we can teach you that.

We're looking for members who are passionate and hardworking individuals and will bring their experience and perspective to learn how to best serve their fellow co-op members.

There are three districts up for election this year, and they include:

District 1: Currently represented by Jay Wysong, this district includes Perry and Elkhart townships in Noble County and part of Benton Township in Elkhart County.

District 2: Currently represented by Rick Robertson, this district covers

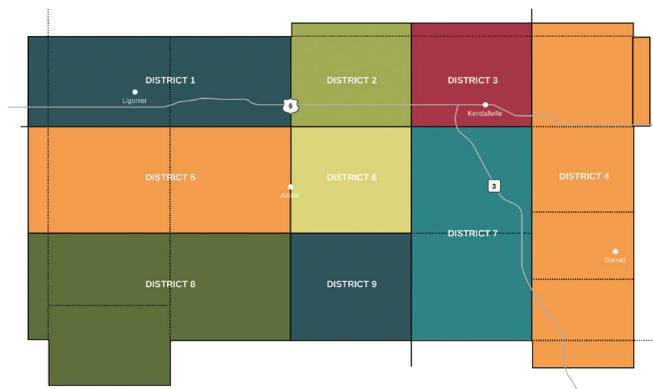
Orange Township in Noble County and part of Johnson Township in LaGrange County.

District 8: Currently represented by Doug Burnworth, this district encompasses Washington and Noble townships in Noble County, part of Tippecanoe Township in Kosciusko County and part of Etna-Troy Township in Whitley County.

To run for election, qualified members of Noble REMC, who live in Districts 1, 2 or 8, must file a petition with the signatures of 15 Noble REMC members supporting the candidacy.

The REMC will provide the petitions for election, as well as other board information. Completed petitions and biographical information must be returned to the cooperative no later than April 4.

For more information about the board of directors' election process, please call Communications and Marketing Manager Kevin Dreibelbis at 800-933-7362.



Hutsell earns CCD certificate

Speaking of our board, one of the highest priorities as a director is continuing



education. Our current directors work hard behind the scenes, completing programs focused on professional development and industry training.

In addition to their regular duties, Noble REMC's bylaws state that our directors are required to complete the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate within their first three years of service. The course teaches the foundation of their service: director duties and liabilities, electric business overview, board operations and processes, strategic planning and financial decision making.

The most recent director to earn the CCD distinction is **Joe Hutsell**, who was elected in 2020 to represent District 5, covering Sparta and York townships in Noble County and part of Turkey Creek Township in Kosciusko County.

The Noble REMC board of directors is now fully CCD-certified and looking forward to the next programs in their education.

We're proud of the achievements our directors continue to accomplish in order to best serve our members. Thank you, Joe, for your dedication to the co-op!

LIGHTING *the way*

‘MARLA IS MAGIC’

Noble REMC wouldn't be successful without our employees. To highlight the work that they do, we're launching a new series – Lighting the Way – to place a spotlight on those who help the co-op thrive.

Growing up in Albion and graduating from Central Noble High School, Marla Ober is happy to have a position that allows her the challenge of her career in information technology, located in her hometown.

Ober, a nine-year veteran of the cooperative world, began her career as an IT consultant in Fort Wayne before finding the opportunity to become a systems administrator closer to home as a shared employee for both Noble REMC and LaGrange County REMC. She eventually transitioned to full time at Noble in 2014.

"I feel fortunate to be working in my hometown in this capacity," Ober said. "I didn't think I'd ever find an IT job close to home."

What's your favorite part of what you do day to day?

"I like the things that aren't day to day. Sometimes, the bigger the challenge,



Noble REMC
Systems
Administrator
Marla Ober
poses where
she feels
comfortable
— the co-op's
server room.

the happier I am. It's kind of strange. I like being able to figure things out."

So when other employees peek sheepishly into her office, with a "Hey, Marla..."

"I'm really not threatened," she said with a laugh. "I'm like, 'OK!'"

What makes your position vital to the cooperative?

"Cybersecurity is the biggest piece, as well as making sure we get the right technology in the right place. We need more options, deeper in technology," Ober said. "Security is the biggest thing in our forefront – being able to implement security without hampering what everybody does on a day-to-day basis."

What do you do outside the co-op that brings you joy?

"I grew up on a farm, and that's still very much a part of my life. I love animals: horses, goats, dogs, cats, chickens, you name it."

She currently has three goats, two horses, one dog and too many cats

to count, but she has her routine set every night when she heads home: "In the evenings, that's when I do the cleanup work, bring them in, check on them, talk to them, give them cookies and things."

Ober also loves to run, whether competitively or on the trails at Chain O' Lakes State Park, and enjoys traveling out west, which she did this year with her daughter, Brittany, to Yellowstone National Park.

Favorite movie?

"I don't know that I have a real, absolute favorite one, but one I watch a lot is Rain Man."

Favorite song?

"One that sticks with me is Tears for Fears, 'Everybody Wants to Rule the World.' It's from back in the '80s. It dates me because it was when I graduated from high school."

Favorite local restaurant?

Albion Ale House or Harry Stuff Brewing Company

HOW SMART IS YOUR METER?

The enhanced data collection and analysis and two-way communication of advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) opened many new doors. Although its use by Noble REMC continues to evolve, at a broad level, AMI enables opportunities that support grid operation and member service.

OPERATIONAL BENEFIT

From an operational perspective, AMI can greatly reduce truck and personnel dispatches, as co-op representatives no longer need to visit member sites for meter-reading and connect/disconnect procedures — these can be performed remotely. Expenses and employees previously devoted to these tasks can instead be redirected to other uses and functions.

AMI is also a boon to outage detection and response. It allows us to get to the outage before you even know you're without power. This is especially true in the middle of the night — so if you wake up without power, look for our Noble REMC trucks and linemen to be on your property!

In addition, the technology can help us determine whether an outage is originating from our end or from a member location. And when making repairs, REMC employees no longer need to drive by lines to verify restorations; instead, they can ping meters along the lines to ensure that homes and businesses have their power back.

MEMBER BENEFITS

AMI has several capabilities that can

benefit member service and allow for more tailored support, products, programs and communication.

For example, the enhanced information it provides can be used to better analyze member use data and explore irregularities. If there appears to be an issue, we can notify the member and work to identify the problem. Additionally, members can receive information about their energy use through our SmartHub app, which can help you make more informed decisions about your consumption.



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QUESTIONS ABOUT CAMP?
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YOUTHPROGRAMS@NOBLEREMC.COM
OR 800-933-7362.

IS SOLAR RIGHT FOR YOU?

With renewable energy technology evolving and becoming more affordable, homeowners have started looking more into the investment of solar panels at their properties. But Noble REMC wants to make sure you have the right information before making the decision to sign on the dotted line.

TALK TO US FIRST

It is important for members to fully understand the true costs, the operational reality of this form of energy and actual energy savings.

As your trusted energy advisor, Noble REMC can offer a candid assessment of your specific situation. After all, our purpose is to serve you and your need, not make a profit. We constantly strive to find new ways to help you use energy more efficiently. Whatever your goals are, we can help you meet them.

IS RESIDENTIAL SOLAR RIGHT FOR YOU?

To help determine whether solar is

right for you, it's vital to look at several items: overall energy efficiency of the home, orientation of the installation in relation to the sun, tree coverage near the home, and weather patterns for our region.

Residential solar isn't the answer for everyone. There are multiple financial considerations, including the upfront payment and ongoing maintenance fees, as well as whether the estimated energy savings is worth the investment.

Our energy advisor will provide perspective on the total energy puzzle. Taking into account current energy consumption and the age and efficiency of the HVAC system and home site, we can help you determine whether solar is the best choice given your objectives.

IS CO-OP SOLAR YOUR BEST OPTION?

If the cost of installation and maintenance are too high for you or your home isn't in a good location, Noble REMC provides you the op-



tion of participating in our Co-op Solar program.

Co-op Solar allows you to purchase energy from our community solar system, which is fed from arrays across three different states and are directly connected to our power grid. You get the benefit of solar energy without any onsite equipment or maintenance.

Visit nobleremc.com and look for "Co-op Solar" under our "Programs" tab, or call our office at 800-933-7362 to speak with our energy advisor, Brian Hawk.

hello!



Noble REMC
A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

We want to keep you in the loop when it comes to important information regarding your service with Noble REMC.

Why? Outages can turn your day upside down. And we know you'd want us to let you know if we noticed unusually high use on your account that could increase your bill unnecessarily. What if your payment doesn't arrive on time? We even want to make sure you know when crews will be in your neighborhood trimming trees.

It's important to us that we have your most up-to-date contact information because when we reach out, we're sharing important information that could impact your day.



YES, please keep me informed!
By checking this box, I give Noble REMC permission to contact me regarding important information about my electric service.

Name on Account:

Account Number:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Phone 1:

Phone 2:

Email Address:

Signature:

Log in to our SmartHub app to update your information or fill out the form to the right and send it to us.

Noble REMC will never share your information with a third-party. Please return this form with your next bill payment or mail to PO Box 137, Albion, IN 46701.