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

#### CONTACTS

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*Tree Trimming and Spraying*

# We're grateful to you, our members



"Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it."

In the spirit of William Arthur Ward's words, I'd like to express my gratitude for your

membership in our electric cooperative. Because of your connection to Noble REMC, we are able to make our community a better place.

During this season of giving thanks, it's important to let you and other members of Noble REMC know the impact you have on our co-op and the greater community, likely in ways you may not even realize.

As part of the cooperative business model, one of our core principles is "Concern for Community." While our priority is always to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy, we view our role in the community as a catalyst for good.

We are purposeful in partnering with local groups such as Noble County 4-H, Noble County Economic Development Corporation and the Arc Noble County Foundations in support of their programs.

We work closely with our local schools to provide safety demonstrations, award college scholarships and support youth activities and sports. Noble REMC also participates in an annual Youth Tour where we take our community's brightest young people to Washington, D.C., for a week-long immersion to experience democracy in action.

Ultimately, the larger community benefits from these programs because of you. You empower the co-op through your membership and through your participation in and support of these programs.

When you attend co-op events, alert us to problems and provide suggestions online or to our employees, you help us improve

Thank you

operations and thus better serve the larger co-op membership.

Because we are led by members of our community, we are able to get a first-hand perspective on community priorities, thereby enabling us to make more informed decisions on long-term investments. This can be seen in the recent launch of our community solar program, Co-op Solar, and our ongoing research and observation of emerging rural broadband programs.

We are thankful that our co-op board members carve out time to attend training sessions, participate in planning meetings and keep informed about industry trends, which results in better informed advisors that serve the co-op's and members' interests.

On a more personal note, we appreciate the countless acts of kindness our lineworkers and other employees receive when they are working in severe weather and dangerous conditions. Our employees are thankful for your patience and consideration when we are trying to restore power.

Noble REMC is a reflection of our local community and its evolving needs. Together, let's continue making our corner of the world a better place. We can't do it without you, and for that, we're thankful for your membership.

**RON RAYPOLE**  
President/CEO



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Noble REMC Energy Advisor Brian Hawk, right, presents J.T. Munk, QSI Automation vice president, with a POWER MOVES rebate check of \$1,300 for the purchase of a variable-frequency drive compressor with a no-loss condensate drain at its Albion location. They're standing in front of current construction of an expansion at QSI's Merriam facility, which will also benefit from the POWER MOVES program upon its completion.

## REMC helps local company make energy-efficient changes

QSI Automation isn't a stranger to Noble REMC's POWER MOVES® program.

Founded in 1988, the custom design and machining business has taken advantage of the energy-efficiency rebate program multiple times in the past, including recently receiving a \$1,300 check to purchase a variable-frequency drive compressor with a no-loss condensate drain at its Albion location.

But soon, the completion of an expansion to its Merriam facility will result in an even larger rebate after the company revised its blueprints to be more energy efficient.

When Noble REMC Energy Advisor

Brian Hawk learned of QSI's planned addition, he set up a meeting with POWER MOVES Energy Engineer Mary Miller to discuss recommendations for energy efficiency in heating and cooling, as well as available rebates through the program. Happy with the information she provided him, QSI Vice President J.T. Munk asked about potential future savings with other energy efficient measures. Miller quickly laid out the business' options in saving both energy and money over time through LED lighting and more energy-efficient air conditioning, impressing both Munk and Hawk with its extensiveness.

It was a no-brainer to invest a bit more

money now on an energy-efficient system to receive both the initial lump sum rebate, as well as future savings over the life of the equipment, Hawk said.

Having planned to expand over the past few years, Munk said the 16,000-square-foot addition will house molding machines, part of QSI's automation and restoration work, and he's excited about the opportunity to save money through the installation of energy-efficient lighting, as well as a heating and cooling system.

The POWER MOVES rebate check is nice too.

## GET INVOLVED IN YOUR LOCAL 4-H PROGRAM!

The first 200 youth who enroll in 4-H by Feb. 28, 2019, and whose families are Noble REMC electric customers, will have their 4-H program fee reimbursed by the REMC.



Upon enrolling and paying the \$15 program fee, a credit voucher can be obtained by eligible participants by contacting the Purdue Extension office. Bring in or mail the voucher to Noble REMC for a \$15 bill credit.

# Farmers: this seminar is for you

Did you know farmers on Noble REMC lines can receive money back on such simple investments as the purchase of variable-frequency drives and LED lightbulbs? They can also earn rebates when they show a reduction in overall power consumption.

If you're a farmer and want to know more, we invite you to an upcoming local presentation, "Energy on the Farm," which aims to educate area farm owners on how to make more energy-efficient decisions, while benefiting from POWER MOVES® rebates and incentives.

Noble, LaGrange County and Steuben County REMCs are partnering to present the special program, which will take place at the Ashley Community Center, 500 S. Gonser Ave. in Ashley, on Nov. 14 from 6-7:30 p.m.

Special guest Dr. Klein Ileleji, Purdue University professor and Extension engineer, will discuss the energy audit process for farms, as well as explain other energy-efficiency measures.

Following Dr. Ileleji, energy advisors

## Energy on the Farm presentation

Wednesday, Nov. 14  
6-7:30 p.m.

Ashley Community Center  
500 S. Gonser Ave., Ashley

### Speakers:

Dr. Klein Ileleji – Purdue University professor and Extension engineer

Brian Hawk – Noble REMC energy advisor

Jake Taylor – LaGrange County REMC energy advisor

Josh Durbin – Steuben County REMC energy advisor

from each co-op will introduce and explain POWER MOVES rebates and incentives specific to agricultural facilities and fields.

Refreshments will be served during the program.

Come out and learn more about how you as a farmer can benefit from Noble REMC's rebate programs and services!

**HOME APPLIANCE**  
*safety*  
**STARTS WITH GOOD HABITS.**



LEARN MORE AT  
NOBLEREMC.COM





# Meet your meter

Noble REMC implemented advanced metering more than 15 years ago, but myths continue to circulate about its technology and use. Noble REMC Meter Supervisor Dan Cochard is here to dispel these ideas.

“People read a lot on the internet. It’s not all true,” Cochard said. “There are a lot of falsehoods.”

Among these misconceptions are that these meters cause harm through the radio frequency they use; the data is given to the government to learn more about members; and they cost jobs, because they’re making meter readers obsolete. None of these are true.

What is true are the benefits advanced meters give to our members and to the cooperative:

- The cooperative is alerted to outages within seven minutes, so we can then be onsite fixing the issue quicker.
- The meter records use every 15 minutes, allowing us to pinpoint a timeline if an issue arises. Then we can review the information with our energy advisor to help make your home more energy efficient.
- They have 100 percent accuracy and can detect when they’ve been

tampered with, leading to less power theft.

- It simplifies billing by providing us an opportunity to program different rates for residential, industrial, etc., directly into the system.

“It’s used across the cooperative, whether in billing, metering or engineering,” Cochard said. “Our ultimate goal is to improve our meter technology to benefit members.”

Noble REMC first transitioned to advanced metering in 2002, and then rolled out an updated system in 2013. Before this technology, mechanical metering meant a lot of maintenance for gears that eventually wore down and the commitment of a meter reader to write down use manually each workday. Advanced metering takes away these issues, with most maintenance boiling down to an accuracy test once every 10 years.

These meters ensure more accurate and reliable data, and as technology develops, Noble REMC aims to stay at the forefront to guarantee members receive the best service we can provide.

*Note: Be sure to read Electric Consumer’s career profile next month as it profiles Noble REMC Meter Technician Brad Wentworth.*

## Myth vs. Truth

### Advanced metering causes cancer: MYTH

While some advanced metering relies on a radio frequency to communicate with us, not all do. Yes, radio frequency is labeled as a “possible carcinogen” by the World Health Organization, because it does let off a minute amount of radiation. But this radio frequency is comparable to a garage door opener, baby monitor or wireless router. In these low amounts, it’s not a threat to human health. You know what else is labeled a possible carcinogen? Coffee and pickled vegetables.

### Advanced meters may be used to violate my privacy: MYTH

These meters are not surveillance devices. No personal information is stored by these meters. They do collect information about your energy use, but you and Noble REMC are the only ones who will have access to that information, as regulated by the state.

### Advanced metering creates jobs: TRUTH

Automatic meter reading decreases the need for meter readers, but not metering support services. Cooperatives offer jobs suitable for a variety of people with many different professional and skilled-labor backgrounds. Implementing advanced metering and monitoring the new data sustained jobs previously created by mechanical metering.