

# **NRECA 2022 Regional Meetings**



*To be considered by:*

**NRECA Member Standing Committees  
Marco Island, Florida – January 11, 2023**

*With actions by:*

**Regions 8 & 10  
Little Rock, Arkansas – October 26, 2022**

**Regions 2 & 3  
Hollywood, Florida – October 12, 2022**

**Regions 7 & 9  
Portland, Oregon – September 29, 2022**

**Regions 5 & 6  
Minneapolis, Minnesota – September 23, 2022**

**Regions 1 & 4  
Indianapolis, Indiana – September 8, 2022**

## 2022 Compendium of Proposed Resolutions

### **Proposed New Resolutions**

- (1-A) Premature Retirement of Generation Assets
- (1-B) Premature Retirement of Generation Assets
- (1-C) Premature Retirement of Generation Assets
- (1-D) Premature Retirement of Generation Assets
- (2) Support for a Reasonable Transition of the Electric Utility Industry
- (3) Support to Preserve Adequate Supply Chain Access for Critical Infrastructure
- (4) Support of Demand Response Programs
- (5) Hydro-Electric Power Generation on the Mississippi River
- (6) Quality Cooperative Selection and Employment Practices

### **Proposed Amendments**

*Deletions are shown as ~~strikethroughs~~, and new language is underlined. Parenthetical information refers to the resolution number and page in the [2022 Member Resolutions](#) booklet.*

- (7-A) Spent Fuel and Nuclear Waste (No. 6.16; p. 23)
- (7-B) Spent Fuel and Nuclear Waste (No. 6.16; p. 23)
- (8) Support of Broadband for Rural America (No. 10.1; p. 35)

**(1-A) Proposed New Resolution – Forwarded by the National Resolutions Committee with a Recommendation for Adoption**

*Submitted by the National Resolutions Committee*

**National Resolutions Committee Explanation:** The Committee recommends for the adoption of this new resolution proposed by the Committee during the June 24, 2022 meeting and in response to submissions received from United Power, Colorado and Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association and Dairyland Power Cooperative. The Committee engaged in extensive discussion with submitting members on each proposal. The Committee also reviewed the formerly proposed new resolution addressing this topic which addressed financial relief for cooperatives facing premature retirement, which was considered, and was not adopted during the 2022 NRECA Annual Member Business Meeting in Nashville. Further, the Committee reflected on member feedback regarding this issue generally. While a majority of voting delegates opposed the proposal in Nashville which addressed financial relief for cooperatives facing premature retirement of generation assets, this issue continues to be a topic of discussion by electric cooperatives across the country. The Committee anticipated the issue to be raised during the 2022 Regional Meetings and therefore preferred to forward a resolution as a starting point for the 10 regions' consideration. Therefore, the Committee proposed this version which focuses on educating policymakers regarding the reliability and financial impacts of premature retirements in lieu of requesting specific federal action.

**Premature Retirement of Generation Assets**

Electric cooperatives are currently facing for numerous reasons the premature retirement of fossil fuel generating resources before the end of their useful life. These premature retirements have the potential to strand these assets, leaving cooperatives with unproductive debt on their balance sheets. These stranded assets can jeopardize the financial strength of, and lead to upward rate pressure on, those impacted members. We urge NRECA to educate federal policymakers on the reliability and financial impacts of premature retirement.

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**Region Actions:**

**Regions 1; 4; 5; 7; 2; 3: Adopted.**

**Regions 6; 9; 8; 10: Not Considered.** Voting delegates in Region 6 adopted version 1-B, voting delegates in Region 9 adopted version 1-C, and voting delegates in Regions 8 and 10 adopted version 1-D; these regions therefore did not consider this version since it presented practically the same question. Robert's Rules of Order (11th ed.) governs NRECA member meetings (NRECA Bylaw Article IX). Robert's Rules provides that, "Motions are ... improper when they present practically the same question as a motion previously decided at the same session." (Section 39 "Improper Motions," page 343, lines 24-26).

**(1-B) Proposed New Resolution**

*Amended and forwarded by the Region 6 Resolutions Committee, during the Regions 5 and 6 Meetings*

**Explanation:** This version strikes “for numerous reasons” and “before the end of their useful life” in the first sentence for clarity. Additionally, this version strikes “educate federal policymakers on the reliability and financial impacts of premature retirement” in the last sentence and replaces it with “oppose legislation and regulatory policies that interfere with the ability of electric cooperatives to operate fossil fuel generation through the end of useful life.”

**Premature Retirement of Generation Assets**

Electric cooperatives are currently facing the premature retirement of fossil fuel generating resources. These premature retirements have the potential to strand these assets, leaving cooperatives with unproductive debt on their balance sheets. These stranded assets can jeopardize the financial strength of, and lead to upward rate pressure on, those impacted members. We urge NRECA to oppose legislation and regulatory policies that interfere with the ability of electric cooperatives to operate fossil fuel generation through the end of useful life.

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**Region Actions:**

**Region 6: Adopted.**

**Regions 1; 4; 5; 7; 9; 2; 3; 8; 10: Not Considered.** This version was introduced at the Regions 5 and 6 Resolutions Committee meetings, after Regions 1 and 4 met. This version was not forwarded by the Region 5 Resolutions Committee for Region 5 voting delegates’ consideration. Voting delegates in Regions 2, 3, and 7 adopted version 1-A, voting delegates in Region 9 adopted version 1-C, and voting delegates in Regions 8 and 10 adopted version 1-D; these regions therefore did not consider this version since it presented practically the same question. Robert’s Rules of Order (11th ed.) governs NRECA member meetings (NRECA Bylaw Article IX). Robert’s Rules provides that, “Motions are ... improper when they present practically the same question as a motion previously decided at the same session.” (Section 39 “Improper Motions,” page 343, lines 24-26).

1 **(1-C) Proposed New Resolution**

2 *Amended and forwarded by the Region 9 Resolutions Committee, during the Region 9 Meeting*

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5 **Explanation:** This version strikes “for numerous reasons” from the first sentence for clarity.

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8 **Premature Retirement of Generation Assets**

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10 Electric cooperatives are currently facing the premature retirement of fossil fuel  
11 generating resources before the end of their useful life. These premature retirements have the  
12 potential to strand these assets, leaving cooperatives with unproductive debt on their balance  
13 sheets. These stranded assets can jeopardize the financial strength of, and lead to upward rate  
14 pressure on, those impacted members. We urge NRECA to educate federal policymakers on the  
15 reliability and financial impacts of premature retirement.

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18 **Region Actions:**

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20 **Region 9: Adopted.**

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22 **Regions 1; 4; 5; 6; 7; 2; 3; 8; 10: Not Considered.** This version was introduced at the Region 9  
23 Resolutions Committee meeting, after Regions 1; 4; 5; 6; and 7 met. Voting delegates in Regions  
24 2 and 3 adopted version 1-A and voting delegates in Regions 8 and 10 adopted version 1-D;  
25 these regions therefore did not consider this version since it presented practically the same  
26 question. Robert’s Rules of Order (11th ed.) governs NRECA member meetings (NRECA Bylaw  
27 Article IX). Robert’s Rules provides that, “Motions are ... improper when they present  
28 practically the same question as a motion previously decided at the same session.” (Section 39  
29 “Improper Motions,” page 343, lines 24-26).

**(1-D) Proposed New Resolution**

*Submitted by the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives, during the Regions 8 and 10 Meeting*

**Explanation:** This version replaces “for numerous reasons” with “potential” and strikes “before the end of their useful life” in the first sentence. Additionally, this version adds, “oppose legislation and regulatory policies that interfere with the ability of electric cooperatives to operate fossil fuel generation through the end of useful life, as well as” to the last sentence.

**Premature Retirement of Generation Assets**

Electric cooperatives are currently facing potential premature retirement of fossil fuel generating resources. These premature retirements have the potential to strand these assets, leaving cooperatives with unproductive debt on their balance sheets. These stranded assets can jeopardize the financial strength of, and lead to upward rate pressure on, those impacted members. We urge NRECA to oppose legislation and regulatory policies that interfere with the ability of electric cooperatives to operate fossil fuel generation through the end of useful life, as well as educate federal policymakers on the reliability and financial impacts of premature retirement.

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**Region Actions:**

**Regions 8, 10: Adopted.**

**Regions 1; 4; 5; 6; 7; 9; 2; 3: Not Considered.** This version was introduced at the Regions 8 and 10 Resolutions Committee meeting, after Regions 1; 4; 5; 6; 7; 9; 2; and 3 met.

**(2) Proposed New Resolution – Forwarded by the National Resolutions Committee with a Recommendation for Adoption**

*Submitted by the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives and the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association and the 25 members of its Legislative and Regulatory Committee, representing all 24 distribution cooperatives and Dairyland Power Cooperative with amendments by the National Resolutions Committee*

**National Resolutions Committee Explanation:** The Committee recommends for the adoption of this new resolution with the title amended by the Committee during the June 24, 2022 meeting, with input from the submitting member. The Committee recognized that existing resolution No. 6, “Power Supply,” may adequately address this issue, but current events and reliability concerns warrant placing additional attention on this critical issue.

**Support for a Reasonable Transition of the Electric Utility Industry**

With a growing elevated risk of capacity deficiencies and electric grid reliability issues throughout rural America, we support the utilization of diversified power supply resources to help protect and maintain affordable, reliable service to the electric cooperative member-consumers.

We also support the preservation and use of all current and future power supply resources for their entire useful life to protect the electric grid and power supply resource adequacy. An appropriate amount of time is required to protect our electric service reliability as we work to implement further carbon reduction measures, relevant technology, and transmission infrastructure expansion.

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**Region Actions:**

**Regions 1; 4; 5; 6; 7; 9; 2; 3; 8; 10: Adopted.**

**(3) Proposed New Resolution – Forwarded by the National Resolutions Committee with a Recommendation for Adoption**

*Submitted by Rappahannock Electric Cooperative, Virginia, with amendments by the National Resolutions Committee*

**National Resolutions Committee Explanation:** The Committee recommends for the adoption of this new resolution as amended by the Committee during the June 24, 2022 meeting. The Committee recognized that NRECA has been aggressively pursuing solutions and is actively engaging with the Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council and federal policymakers on this issue, therefore a member resolution may not be necessary. However, in acknowledgment of the critical importance of restored supply chain access and anticipating that this topic would be raised during the regional meetings, the Committee determined a proposed new resolution was warranted at this time. The Committee's amendments provide additional detail to the title, reflect NRECA's ongoing efforts, and removed examples of current events impacting the supply chain to streamline the resolution.

**Support to Preserve Adequate Supply Chain Access for Critical Infrastructure**

We urge NRECA to continue its work on supply chain disruptions impacting electric cooperatives. We urge NRECA to work with distribution and G&T cooperatives, RESMA, Congress, the Administration, and federal agencies to maximize the availability of, at a reasonable cost, electric infrastructure materials and equipment, including (without limitation), conductor, transformers, poles, and other materials in light of supply chain disruptions caused by prevailing global and domestic economic conditions. We further urge NRECA to collaborate with cooperatives, RESMA, and other national trade associations to communicate regarding the crisis affecting the electric utility supply chain.

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**Region Actions:**

**Regions 1; 4; 5; 6; 7; 9; 2; 3; 8; 10: Adopted.**



**(4) Proposed New Resolution – Forwarded by the National Resolutions Committee with a Recommendation for Adoption**

*Submitted by the Colorado Rural Electric Association, with amendments by the National Resolutions Committee*

**National Resolutions Committee Explanation:** The Committee recommends for the adoption of this new resolution as amended by the Committee during the June 24, 2022 meeting, with input from the submitting member. The Committee amended language to emphasize the “types” of opportunities available to members.

**Support of Demand Response Programs**

We urge NRECA to educate members on the types of demand response and/or demand management opportunities and share among its members examples of successful programs.

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**Region Actions:**

**Regions 1; 4; 5; 6; 7; 9; 2; 3; 8; 10: Adopted.**

**(5) Proposed New Resolution**

*Submitted by the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association and the 25 members of its Legislative and Regulatory Committee, representing 24 distribution cooperatives and Dairyland Power Cooperative, and forwarded by the Regional Resolutions Committee, during the Regions 5 and 6 Meetings (see below “Region Actions” for explanation)*

**Hydro-Electric Power Generation on the Mississippi River**

We support working with Congress and the Department of Energy on the development of hydro-electric power generation through the existing lock and dam system on the Mississippi River.

We support working with Congress and the Army Corps of Engineers to enable funding for research and development and technical design, for upgrading existing and new dam and pump storage hydropower facilities that incorporate low head capacity hydro-electric power generation.

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**Region Actions:**

**Regions 5; 6; 7; 9; 2; 3; 10: Adopted.**

**Region 8: Not Adopted.** The Region 8 Resolutions Committee made no recommendation regarding the adoption of this resolution with the explanation that, “they prefer that the National Resolutions Committee determine whether this proposal duplicates language found in existing hydropower resolutions.”

**Regions 1; 4: Not Considered.** This version was introduced at the Regions 5 and 6 Resolutions Committee meetings, after Regions 1 and 4 met.

**Submitting Member Explanation:** There is a growing need to provide electrical power generation for the homes, farms and businesses of this country. Additionally, the use of fossil fuel sources for generation contributes to changes in climatic conditions affecting weather patterns, precipitation levels and the growth of agricultural products due to increased carbon levels in the atmosphere. A diversified energy-generation portfolio should include a variety of sources to provide for energy grid reliability and energy market stability. Renewable energy generation from wind and solar sources contribute to meet energy needs, but have limitations during periods when the wind does not blow and the sun does not shine. Generation from nuclear sources creates concerns about the long-term implications and cost of storing waste nuclear fuel, and electrical power generation from water and hydro sources has provided consistent and reliable electricity in western states for many years. The construction of new hydro-electric generation facilities on rivers and streams would be difficult to develop due to a variety of environmental, regulatory and recreational concerns. The lock and dam system on the Mississippi River was developed primarily for commercial navigation, has served a valuable function for this nation for nearly 100 years and is expected to continue for many years in the future. The hydro-electric generation facilities in western states utilize a water head drop of about 100 feet or more. The water head drop on dams on the Mississippi River is much smaller, and there has been interest for many years in upgrading and modernizing the lock and dam facilities on the Mississippi River.

**(6) Proposed New Resolution**

*Submitted by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives, Illinois, during the Regions 5 and 6 Meetings (see below "Region Actions" for explanation)*

**Quality Cooperative Selection and Employment Practices**

Electric Cooperatives have naturally and purposefully maintained equal employment, advancement opportunities, and equitable workplace practices regardless of age, color, disability, ethnicity, family or marital status, gender identity or expression, language, national origin, physical and mental ability, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, veteran status, and other characteristics that make our employees unique.

NRECA is encouraged to provide guidance, teaching, and examples to exemplify workplace practices to select, promote, and develop qualified individuals based on merit, qualifications, work history, abilities, and other business needs. Electric Cooperatives remain committed to providing reliable, affordable power to our members. To meet this purpose, Electric Cooperatives will select and develop the most-qualified employees so that we may support the communities we serve.

We further urge NRECA to:

- Research professional growth and development practices that advance the skills and abilities of the cooperative team.
- Provide cooperative leaders with learning opportunities for building and cultivating a high functioning, member centric, diverse employee team.

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**Region Actions:**

**Regions 1; 4: Not Considered.** This version was introduced at the Regions 5 and 6 Resolutions Committee meetings, after Regions 1 and 4 met.

**Regions 2; 3: Not Adopted.** The Regions 2 and 3 Resolutions Committees recommended against the adoption of this resolution with the explanation that, the language in this proposal may be inconsistent with language found in related existing member resolutions.

**Regions 5; 6: Adopted.**

**Region 7; 8: Not Adopted.** The Region 7 Resolutions Committee recommended against the adoption of this resolution with the explanation that, "there are already existing resolutions addressing the issues raised in this proposal and, therefore, this new proposed resolution would be duplicative."

**Region 9: Not Adopted.** The Region 9 Resolutions Committee made no recommendation regarding the adoption of this resolution with the explanation that, "they did not have enough background information from the submitting member to make a recommendation for or against this proposal."

**Region 10: Not Adopted.** The Region 10 Resolutions Committee made no recommendation regarding the adoption of this resolution with the explanation that the language of this resolution addresses existing law.

**Submitting Member Explanation:** The goal is to employ the absolute best talent for the cooperative based on merit, qualifications, work history, abilities, and other business needs. Exceptional service to the members is driven by a highly dedicated and talented team to serve them. Through this team, we seek to provide a workplace culture whose values include engagement, inclusion, respect, and acceptance.

**(7-A) Proposed Amendment to Existing Resolution – Forwarded by the National Resolutions Committee with a Recommendation for Adoption**

*Submitted by the Minnesota Rural Electric Association and the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association and the 25 members of its Legislative and Regulatory Committee, representing all 24 distribution cooperatives and Dairyland Power Cooperative, with amendments by the National Resolutions Committee*

**National Resolutions Committee Explanation:** The Committee recommends for the adoption of these proposed amendments, with additional amendments by the Committee during the June 24, 2022 meeting with input from the submitting members. The amendments provide clarity on specific federal funding requests for interim storage. The Committee added “, but not limited to,” for additional inclusivity and broadened the amendment to avoid limiting NRECA’s opportunities to advocate for funding.

**Spent Fuel and Nuclear Waste**

We urge NRECA to undertake appropriate federal legislative and regulatory initiatives to responsibly address spent nuclear fuel and nuclear waste, including, **but not limited to**, allowing the reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel-, **and funding for interim storage that prioritizes the removal of fuel from permanently shut down sites.**

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**Region Actions:**

**Regions 1; 4; 5; 6; 9; 2; 3; 8; 10: Adopted.**

**Region 7: Not Considered.** Voting delegates in Region 7 adopted version 7-B, and therefore did not consider this version since it presented practically the same question. Robert’s Rules of Order (11th ed.) governs NRECA member meetings (NRECA Bylaw Article IX). Robert’s Rules provides that, “Motions are ... improper when they present practically the same question as a motion previously decided at the same session.” (Section 39 “Improper Motions,” page 343, lines 24-26).

1 **(7-B) Proposed Amendment to Existing Resolution**

2 *Amended and forwarded by the Region 7 Resolutions Committee, during the Region 7 Meeting*

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5 **Explanation:** In addition to the proposed amendments forwarded by the National Resolutions  
6 Committee during its June 24, 2022, meeting and as shown in 7-A, above, this version adds “existing  
7 and” in the last line to clarify the types of sites that may provide interim storage of spent nuclear fuel.  
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10 **Spent Fuel and Nuclear Waste**

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12 We urge NRECA to undertake appropriate federal legislative and regulatory initiatives to  
13 responsibly address spent nuclear fuel and nuclear waste, including, **but not limited to,** allowing  
14 the reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel, **and funding for interim storage that prioritizes the**  
15 **removal of fuel from existing and permanently shut down sites.**  
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18 **Region Actions:**

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20 **Region 7: Adopted.**

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22 **Regions 1; 4; 5; 6; 9; 2; 3; 8; 10: Not Considered.** This version was introduced at the Region 7  
23 Resolutions Committee meeting, after Regions 1; 4; 5; 6; and 9 met. Voting delegates in Regions  
24 2; 3; 8; and 10 adopted version 7-A, and therefore did not consider this version since it presented  
25 practically the same question. Robert’s Rules of Order (11th ed.) governs NRECA member  
26 meetings (NRECA Bylaw Article IX). Robert’s Rules provides that, “Motions are ... improper  
27 when they present practically the same question as a motion previously decided at the same  
28 session.” (Section 39 “Improper Motions,” page 343, lines 24-26).

**(8) Proposed Amendment to Existing Resolution – Forwarded by the National Resolutions Committee with a Recommendation for Adoption**

*Submitted by the Minnesota Rural Electric Association, Minnesota and the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association and the 25 members of its Legislative and Regulatory Committee, representing all 24 distribution cooperatives and Dairyland Power Cooperative, with amendments by the National Resolutions Committee*

**National Resolutions Committee Explanation:** The Committee recommends for the adoption of this proposed amendment, as further amended by the Committee during the June 24, 2022 meeting with input from the submitting members. The submitted amendment clarifies that some electric cooperatives are providing “middle-mile” broadband connectivity, which is the section of the broadband network that connects the main internet backbone and the “last mile” connection to the end user. The Committee proposes striking references to “rural America” since some cooperatives are serving nonrural areas.

**Support for Electric Cooperative Participation in Broadband for Rural America**

We urge NRECA to take a prominent leadership and advocacy role in the U.S. Congress, with the Administration, and at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to ensure cooperatives have the ability to provide broadband, **including middle-mile broadband connectivity**, voluntarily, on their own or in partnership with other local providers, ~~in rural America.~~

We also urge NRECA to advocate for reforms in the FCC’s National Broadband Map to more effectively utilize state and federal investment in ~~rural~~ broadband. Census block reporting by telecommunication providers vastly overstates coverage and so we support more accurate federal mapping using granular data and/or other available information to better reflect actual broadband services and speeds provided.

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**Region Actions:**

**Regions 1; 4; 5; 6; 7; 9; 2; 3; 8; 10: Adopted.**