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Ralph Ward, Baker County

Werner Buehler, General Manager

Henry Lorenzen, Attorney

OR-48

Manager's Message



Dear Members,

Gov. John Kitzhaber has initiated a 10-year energy plan to address the ongoing energy needs in the state of Oregon.

The plan will explore many aspects of the industry, including energy efficiency, renewable energy and making sure the state has the necessary resources and infrastructure to provide Oregonians reliable electricity.

These are important topics, and Oregon's electric cooperatives stand ready to work with the governor and his team on this important planning document.

For electric utilities, including Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative, this is more than a binder on a shelf. These are topics we think about not just every decade, but have thought about each and every day.

Since completion of the first powerhouse in 1938 at Bonneville Dam, Oregon's electric cooperatives have offered carbon-free, renewable electricity through the Bonneville Power Administration.

In addition to providing low-cost hydroelectricity, Oregon's electric cooperatives have made conservation and energy efficiency a centerpiece of our efforts, as well as maintaining the poles and wires to keep the lights on. Along with the OTEC staff and your board of directors, cooperatives actively invest in their communities.

There will be important issues to explore in the next 10 years—and beyond. We look forward to working with the governor to implement a workable, common-sense plan for the 200,000 members of Oregon's electric cooperatives.

In the meantime, OTEC will not change what you have come to count on as a co-op member: affordable and reliable electricity, each and every day.

With regards,

Werner Buehler

Grassroots Program

The Oregon Rural Electric Cooperative Association works with cooperative members statewide through Power of Community, a grassroots program whose aim is to make sure consumers have a voice in legislative decisions that affect them.

To learn more or sign up for the program, go to www.oreca.org/powercom.php.

