

Tri-State's cooperative approach to a clean grid

We're taking bold steps to create a brighter future and cleaner grid. We will do it responsibly, putting reliability first and with the goal of lowering rates to our members. We started down this path a decade ago with our first solar array and today we're charting a full-scale clean transition for the future.

Tri-State's Responsible Energy Plan will be:

Cooperative

Tri-State has decades of experience developing the transmission and generation that our members need. We do this not by making a profit from our members, but by striving to be the most reliable, affordable, responsible partner they can find. This philosophy is why we believe our cooperative business model will allow us to accomplish what our members need at a lower cost than other business models.

Clean

The clean energy transition is here and we will take advantage of all it has to offer. Tri-State is partnering with Governor Ritter and Colorado State University's Center for the New Energy Economy (CNEE), among others, to develop a comprehensive Responsible Energy Plan (REP) defining our cooperative approach to a cleaner grid. The REP will meet our members' needs and legislative and regulatory requirements while moving toward the goal of reducing rates, so our rural consumers and communities also have the opportunity to share in this clean energy future.

Green

We've been steadily adding renewables for a decade and today there's more economic benefit to renewables than ever before. In 2019, we have already announced the addition of 204MW of wind and solar, we issued our sixth RFP for renewable generation in June, and we're just getting started.

Invested

More and more of our members are interested in developing community-scale generation and we will support their efforts. We've opened conversations with solar and energy services providers to lay the

foundation for a strategic solar alliance that will make more community-scale solar, energy storage and electric vehicle infrastructure available to our members at lower cost and effort to them.

Flexible

We are facilitating more opportunities for our members to develop local generation by revisiting the types of membership classes and contracts that we offer. Our member-representative contract committee is actively considering the many options available for expanding contract flexibility and will make their recommendations to the board.

Predictable

It would be increasingly difficult to manage compliance and rates through all of these changes across the four states in which we operate if each state made its own rate determinations. As a result, Tri-State's Board directed us to pursue federal regulation, which will centralize rate-approval authority with a single entity. The board has historically overseen this decision-making itself, but the number of factors to manage are only growing, and consolidating this process with in one regulatory body will not only simplify rate-setting but make rates more predictable for our 43 members, regardless of what state they're in.

Supportive

As a cooperative, we are invested in our employees and the communities we serve and operate. We will be working closely with local and state officials to minimize negative impacts to the community through potential economic development assistance programs and federal and state transition assistance.

In achieving our priorities, our actions will define us as:

A Leader

Tri-State will chart the path to the clean energy future as a forward-thinking, increasingly flexible, increasingly clean, and member-driven cooperative. Working with our members, we are adopting the priorities of our board and will implement them in a way that responsibly meets expectations while maintaining reliability and affordability for every member.

Responsive

Tri-State is our members, and we will reinforce our commitment to our members' needs, provide them more opportunities to express their opinions and facilitate their ability to affect change. We have always been member-driven, and we're throwing our energy behind the board's directive to lead the way in becoming increasingly clean and flexible to better power our members.

Clear

We are partnering with Governor Ritter and CSU's CNEE, among others, to clearly define our path to a clean future, detailing how Tri-State will take advantage of fast-changing market opportunities to expand our renewable portfolio and otherwise implement our Responsible Energy Plan.

The Best Value

We have an independent streak in the West, and we like to have a say in where we're going. In a cooperative, our 43 members make decisions together, and having a say is important. That's why, as a cooperative of cooperatives, values, goals and costs matter here. Tri-State will continue to offer value and convenience: the one-stop-shop for everything it takes to generate and deliver power to the plug. And our members decide how that's done.

Tri-State and our members are transitioning to a cleaner grid and brighter future, together. By being increasingly clean, flexible and member-driven, we believe this future is in reach. With broad cooperation in pursuit of this shared vision, we know it is.

Tri-State is taking a cooperative approach to a clean grid.



TRI-STATE

Tri-State's mission is to provide our member systems a reliable, affordable and responsible supply of electricity in accordance with cooperative principles.