

Meet Brian Callnan:

WEC's New Director of Power Supply and Regulatory Affairs

Brian Callnan, who recently joined WEC as Director of Power Supply and Regulatory Affairs, is a public power lifer. He values the provision of electricity as a public good so completely that he isn't even really sure where that value originated—but he grew up on WEC lines in Middlesex, so maybe there was something in the air.

In any case, Callnan has spent his entire career in public power. He worked in power supply and planning roles at Burlington Electric Department and Vermont Public Power Supply Authority (VPPSA), then moved just across the Connecticut River to be Vice President of Power Resources at New Hampshire Electric Cooperative (NHEC), a utility more than seven times WEC's size. Most recently, he led the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire, a nonprofit organization similar to VPPSA.

Callnan's role at WEC is new, reflecting changes to the leadership structure that are designed to meet the Co-op's evolving needs in a shifting energy landscape. Callnan joins the management team to guide WEC toward successful regulatory compliance and power supply planning, explained General Manager Louis Porter. "We were very lucky that Brian was interested in the job, as he has extensive experience in both areas," Porter commented.

Callnan will work closely with JJ Vandette, WEC's Director of Special Projects and Innovation (a new

It's really important to me to be in public power. And I think WEC's a great place to participate in public power.
— Brian Callnan

management position as of 2024), as well as VPPSA and Ron Shems, WEC's legal counsel. Callnan will deepen and strengthen WEC's regulatory engagement, help the Co-op plan for a rapidly changing energy future, and is committed

to WEC's culture of member-ownership and member engagement, Porter said.

Member Voice in Planning and Regulation

WEC's 100% renewable portfolio and long-term contracts provide some protection against price volatility, Callnan said, which differentiates the Co-op from Callnan's previous work in New Hampshire. "New Hampshire utilities do not have as many long-term projects in place," he said. The Co-op has limited its exposure to the volatility of fossil fuel markets, but planning for the future means looking well ahead. Even long-term contracts have end dates, like the landfill gas-to-energy plant at the landfill in Coventry, which supplies upward of two-thirds of WEC's power. "The process of either extending those or replacing those, or even modifying the approach, is a multi-year process," he noted. "You don't wait until the end to make up your mind."

Callnan expects future decisions about contracts to be transparent and involve member engagement. Having someone in-house with power supply experience, he said, will help make sure those decisions are timely, informed, and mission-aligned. He

continued on page 8



Brian Callnan is WEC's first Director of Power Supply and Regulatory Affairs.

WEC Member Survey!

WEC is doing its periodic survey of members this September-October and would appreciate your thoughts and comments!

We are able to accept feedback from all members of the Co-op by doing the survey online and via email, so please check WashingtonElectric.coop starting in September and follow the link to let us know what you think.

If you are unable to access the internet but still want to leave your thoughts, please call the WEC main line at (802) 223-5245 and we will help you participate.

Federal EV Tax Credits End September 30

Federal legislation ends a slew of energy efficiency tax credits; state and WEC incentives and rebates continue

The federal tax credit of up to \$7,500 for new electric vehicles and up to \$4,000 for used EVs ends September 30. A slate of other beneficial electrification incentives end December 31, 2025. These ending tax breaks were intended to combat cli-

mate change and reduce dependence on oil and natural gas by shifting Americans' energy use to cleaner and more local and renewable sources.

For members who can benefit from an electric vehicle tax credit, now

continued on page 7

Washington Electric Cooperative
East Montpelier, VT 05651

PERIODICAL
US POSTAGE
PAID
E MONTPELIER VT
PE 711210

Inside


WEC receives FEMA mitigation grant: President and GM's Report, p. 2

Chart: Incentives and tax credits for WEC members, p.5

WEC Passes \$10 Million Mark in Returned Capital Credits: Seeking former members from 2000 for capital credit refunds, p. 6.

Community Fund Profile: Public Libraries, pp. 6-7

Safety Minute: Right-size your A/C. P. 8



Libraries are "so much more than books," said Gail Trede of Bradford Public Library.

President's and General Manager's Message

Milestone: Over \$10 Million in Capital Credits Returned to WEC Members

Federal Tax Incentives End Early; Member Survey; WEC Secures FEMA Grant

Federal Tax Incentives Ending

Steve: This is a complicated and fast-moving topic. Some of you have probably been following what's going on in Washington. With the change in political leadership, there's been a noticeable shift against renewable energy and beneficial electrification at the federal level. A lot of the tax incentives that helped people afford heat pumps, weatherization, and EVs are either going away or becoming harder to access.

These federal incentives were typically larger than anything WEC could offer. Ours were designed to work in tandem. So for members considering these technologies, this

may be the last opportunity to take advantage of federal support for some time to come.

Louis: There are two main ways WEC members will feel these changes. First is the direct impact: whether you as a homeowner or renter can access federal incentives. Second is the indirect impact: whether WEC can continue to tap into federal funding to help us invest in infrastructure or manage rates.

On the direct side, these changes are real and already underway. If you've been considering a heat pump, EV, or weatherization project and counting on a federal incentive to help you do it, that opportunity may not be there much longer.

On the indirect side, the good news is that nothing WEC has already received is being clawed back. We also haven't gotten notice that any expected funding is being withdrawn. That's partly good luck, and partly thanks to careful planning by staff. But the risk is real. As federal priorities shift, what's available to us also shifts.

One program that is unlikely to move forward is Solar for All. This was championed by Sen. Sanders and was in the process of being rolled out in Vermont when the plug was pulled at the federal level. It would have helped some members with lower incomes lower their bills using federal funding, but absent a successful legal challenge it is unlikely to move forward now.

Another question that sometimes comes up is, why can't I get my money back right away?

Louis: It's a reasonable question. The highly regulated, highly capital-intensive nature of an electrical cooperative, and the significant swings we can see in expenses due to things like major storms, is much of the reason why excess margins aren't refunded just a year or two after they're collected. A single storm can cost hundreds of thousands in equipment and labor. The financial stability of the organization has to be considered.

Steve: As Louis said earlier, a utility is a capital-intensive business requiring regular investment, and we are legally obligated to assure our lenders that we are a good risk thanks to the member equity we hold. So that excess money we collect represents the ownership that you, the WEC member, has in the organization. It's returned to you after some years. Each year, as members contribute to their share of the ownership, we return funds to members who paid in earlier. We return the most money to members who've been on the lines the longest in order to gradually shift the ownership of the cooperative to those members who are using the Co-op's service at the present time while keeping the total member equity about the same from year to year.

Returned Capital Credits Pass \$10 Million

Louis: Since 1998, WEC has returned over \$10 million to members in the form of capital credits. Crossing this threshold is a big deal. Despite serving an area that's financially as well as physically challenging, Washington Electric has returned a lot of money to current and former members. That's money members paid in their electric bills in excess, each of those years, of what was required to operate the utility.

Because of the capital-intensive ways in which utilities operate, it takes about 20 years to return the money. That is a source of frustration to some members, but we've returned more or less the same amount of money that's been in rate increases over that same period.

It also speaks to the core of what makes us a co-op. Investor-owned utilities don't return money to ratepayers.

Steve: Returning members' money is a basic cooperative principle. Some people might say, why did you collect more money from us than you needed to operate? The answer is because we're owners of the Co-op, and as owners we are required to own a share of the assets, or equity, in the organization if we expect to be able to secure long-term, low-interest loans to build and maintain the infrastructure of our utility grid. Just as a homeowner needs to hold some equity in a home if they want to obtain a home-improvement loan.

Before we issue any returns, the Board and staff review our finances carefully: margins, cash flow, upcoming needs. At heart, this is the main reason why you elect a Board of Directors from the membership: it's the members' money that's invested, and it's the Board's job to manage it in their best long-term interest of receiving reliable affordable power.

Louis: It's true that one of the obligations of a cooperative is to return money to members. Investor-owned

continued on page 3

Co-op Currents

Co-op Currents (Publication No. USPS 711 -210 and ISSN No. 0746-8784) is published every other month by Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc., 40 Church Street, P.O. Box 8, East Montpelier, Vermont 05651. The cost of this publication is \$.69, which is included in the basic monthly charge to each member. Periodical postage rates paid at East Montpelier and at additional offices.



Postmaster: Send address changes to *Co-op Currents*, P.O. Box 8, East Montpelier, Vermont 05651.

Board of Directors

President	STEPHEN KNOWLTON (May 2027)	East Montpelier knowlsf@auburn.edu	223-2230
Vice President	MARY JUST SKINNER (May 2026)	Middlesex maryjustskinner@gmail.com	223-7123
Treasurer	DONALD DOUGLAS (May 2026)	East Orange dondougla@gmail.com	439-5364
Secretary	BETSY ALLEN (May 2028)	Plainfield betsallen@gmail.com	535-7088
	SUSAN ALEXANDER (May 2028)	Cabot mullandmor@gmail.com	563-3259
	PAT BARNES (May 2027)	Vershire bpatbarnes@gmail.com	356-2210
	OLIVIA CAMPBELL ANDERSEN (May 2027)	East Montpelier sunshineOliviaC@gmail.com	522-8501
	JEAN HAMILTON (May 2026)	Plainfield Jean.myung.hamilton@gmail.com	777-6546
	BILL POWELL (May 2028)	Calais bpowell10001@gmail.com	223-1305
	LOUIS PORTER General Manager louis.porter@wec.coop	KATIE TITTERTON Editor katie@clearspotvt.com	TIM NEWCOMB Layout

Editorial Committee

Betsy Allen, *Puzzle Editor* Dawn Johnson Donald Douglas Jean Hamilton Louis Porter Katie Titterton

The Board of Directors' regularly scheduled meetings are on the last Wednesday of each month, in the evening. Members are welcome to attend. Members who wish to discuss a matter with the Board should contact the president through WEC's office. Meeting dates and times are subject to change. For information about times and/or agenda, or to receive a copy of the minutes of past meetings, contact us, at 224-2332, or visit wec.coop/board.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

Subscribe to digital Co-op Currents

Subscribe and change your preferences anytime at wec.coop/news.



Got something to say?

Letter to the editor, comment, or a story tip? Drop us a line at currents@wec.coop or Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 8, East Montpelier, VT 05651, Attn: *Co-op Currents*.



utilities do not do that. If there are excess margins between revenue and cost, they return that to shareholders. It's not an exact parallel, but if the Co-op brings in more revenue than it needs, we give that money back. We are obligated to do this, but there are other utility models that do it differently.

I'd be remiss here if I didn't make a plug for the Community Fund. We do encourage members and former members to consider donating their capital credits to the Community Fund. That fund supports local nonprofits. We concentrate on those smaller organizations that don't have a dedicated fundraising team, so we're a low-paperwork, accessible funding source for those nonprofits that serve our members.

Steve: It's voluntary, and an effective way to support organizations doing useful work in our towns.

Member Survey This Fall

Louis: This fall we'll do our regular five-year survey, with help from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association [NRECA]. We poll our membership on what they feel about the Co-op, what they want us to focus on, areas of concern, how important renewability is for them. It's very helpful for us if members respond to the survey.

We're doing a couple of things differently this time. We're doing the survey entirely electronically. We're not doing a telephone component to that survey. NRECA has discovered the statistical relevance and ability to weight surveys to accurately show the will of the membership can be done primarily through email, and it's difficult and expensive to get people to respond to telephone surveys.

We're doing two things to ensure we're getting good participation: we're



If WEC is going to meet the expectations of people who are using electricity for charging electric vehicles, running all-season heat pumps, and other uses, I think there's an expectation we need to keep improving reliability. This kind of targeted investment—using federal funds to address known weak spots—is a great example of what WEC has been achieving behind the scenes.

— Stephen Knowlton

doing a sampling who'll be a statistically valid and weighted survey of members, and we also plan on opening that response to all members who would like to participate.

We'll promote it widely so anyone who wants to opt in can do so. Notifications will come through email, Front Porch Forum, and bill messages. If you wish to take the survey but don't have internet, call us and we'll send you a paper version.

Steve: We want to hear from a range of members across all 41 towns—not just the ones who call or come to meetings. This gives us a more accurate picture of how our service is perceived so we better know where we need to improve and where we're doing well.

WEC Secures FEMA Mitigation Grant

Louis: Members will undoubtedly remember the Christmas 2022 storm. We had

something like 272 separate outage events, over half our members without power at some point, and more than 40 broken poles, which is a huge deal. Replacing a pole typically takes a half a day per pole, sometimes more.

FEMA has money that is available to repay public entities like electric cooperatives and municipalities for damage they incur from storms significant enough to be classified as FEMA eligible. But they also have a pool of money for mitigation projects which are likely to reduce the likelihood of outages in the future. Washington Electric put forward proposals for half a dozen of these mitigation projects

Ultimately, we received funding for one project, and that is a \$784,000 rebuild of the line on Bliss Road and Barnes Road in East Montpelier. FEMA will cover about \$578,000. We'll borrow the rest from the Rural Utilities

Service. We're going to rebuild most of that line with more resilient architecture to replace all the poles and move some of the poles from offroad to on the road.

This is a major project for Washington Electric. It fits squarely in the type of project we should be doing to minimize outages going forward and to speed restoration times given increasing damage from storms. I ask the readers and members of Washington Electric to support this project. Any project causes disruption and issues; as we embark in late summer and fall we're doing this to reduce outages and speed restoration of outages in that part of our territory.

Steve: A large part of the line in question is a major trunk line, and failure of that line due to trees falling on it disrupts a lot of people. So strategically improving that line should serve a lot of members well in the future.

Louis: It's a great point. That line feeds up to County Road and connects a large portion of our territory together.

Steve: Previous member surveys have always demonstrated to WEC the importance members place on maintaining and improving the reliability of WEC's power lines. We've had members come and talk at Board meetings about this topic. Frankly, if WEC is going to meet the expectations of people who are using electricity for charging electric vehicles, running all-season heat pumps, and other uses, I think there's an expectation we need to keep improving reliability. This kind of targeted investment—using federal funds to address known weak spots—is a great example of what WEC has been achieving behind the scenes.

Louis: That's exactly right, Steve. This is an attempt to address both storm cost and restoration expense, and increasing member expectations around reliability and restoration speed, and to fund it with a grant.

There are two things readers might be interested in here: this might be our first FEMA mitigation funding—different from major storm funding—and it's the first time we've used cable spacer



Crossing this threshold is a big deal. Despite serving an area that's financially as well as physically challenging, Washington Electric has returned a lot of money to current and former members.

— Louis Porter

line architecture. That's having three phase electric lines built in a bundle with a messenger wire above them to keep trees from falling on them. This is a line type increasingly used to prevent damage from storms, and I believe isn't one WEC has used in any significant way elsewhere in its territory.

Steve: I think this initial grant from FEMA is going to prove useful and is an example of our commitment to increased reliability. Thanks to the staff for putting in the work to secure the grant. The Board is fully supportive. It's a good outcome for members.

Wrightsville/Coventry Updates

Louis: We do have a purchase and sale agreement for the

Wrightsville hydro plant, but the sale depends on the buyer getting final approval for a Certificate of Public Good with the Public Utility Commission. Until then, WEC will continue to own and operate it.

Coventry continues to perform well. We're making a major upgrade to the chiller system. That's the part that removes moisture from the gas before it enters the engine. It's an important reliability and efficiency investment for a plant now 20 years old.

Steve: I think the staff and Louis in particular should be credited for their hard work to maintain our portfolio that is not only cost effective but also 100% renewable. Before I joined the Board, I maybe thought that WEC going 100% renewable was a respectable box to be checked as we move on to other tasks. I have come to recognize that it is a commitment that requires constant attention and judgement to manage it in the real world.

Louis: Thanks, Steve. A huge amount of that credit goes to our staff and Board predecessors who were wise enough to build Coventry. It was a great idea.

Steve: Yes; credit is due to previous Boards for the vision to get WEC into renewability well before the Renewable Energy Standard made it a requirement for all Vermont utilities.

Don's Chronicles

Co-op Currents highlights from
Don Douglas, Editorial Committee Chair



"As your Co-op Board Treasurer I am pleased to announce we have passed \$10 million in capital credits returned to our membership since 1998. If you were a member in 2000 or 2013, you'll see a bill credit in November. Newer members, you'll get yours too in time. Learn why in the President and General Manager's message above, and play my favorite game on page 6: find your former neighbors from 2000 who are owed a capital credit refund, and let them know WEC has a check for them!"

Have Your Finances Taken a Hit?

Don't let your WEC bill go past due, or grow beyond what you can manage. **Help is available:** A Member Services Representative will help you put together a budget that works for you. Plus, there are state programs that may help pay down your bill.

Call us today, and we'll help you put together a plan: 802-223-5245 or toll free at 1-800-WEC-5245.



Community Fund Profile: Your Local Library

Every year, *Co-op Currents* profiles one or more organizations that receive funding from WEC's Community Fund. Year over year, the Community Fund gives grants to libraries throughout WEC's service area, supporting general operations and some specific programs. Libraries in Vermont are not all funded the same way: some are municipal and town-funded; many others are private nonprofits. Grants and donations are vital to continuing these libraries' free, welcoming programming that sustains their communities.

What do public libraries offer their communities? "It's so much more than books," according to Bradford Public Library's director Gail Trede. At a time when much public funding for arts and humanities is being cut, Community Fund donations directly support arts programming at Bradford Public Library and Jaquith Public Library, in Marshfield. Supporting local libraries is a cornerstone of the Community Fund's grantmaking.

WEC's Community Fund is made up entirely of member contributions. About 14% of WEC's members donate their capital credit refunds to the Community Fund; others make donations out of pocket. This generosity allows the Community Fund to make grants to nonprofits serving the communities in WEC's service area. In 2024, the Community Fund distributed \$38,050 to local nonprofits. To learn how to donate your capital credits, or to make a contribution to WEC's Community Fund, contact Administrative Assistant Dawn Johnson at 802-224-2332 or Dawn.Johnson@wec.coop.


Poem Town: Bradford Public Library

Over the 17 years library director Gail Trede has worked at Bradford Public Library, she's seen a lot of change in how people use the space. Yes, people browse and check out books. But it provides much more to its community. It's a cooling center with free water when it's too hot outside. It's a place to get internet and tech support, including help applying for jobs and benefits. It's a place where parents working toward regaining custody of their children can have

Scarlet Tanager

Haiku by Arabella

Chirps in the warm breeze
Dives down on two worms at night
Bright rose red bird sings



Both poems and images courtesy Bradford Public Library

supervised visits. It's where people gather for interest groups and find lifelong friends. One library patron held a "Friendsgiving" celebration with people she met at Bradford Public Library's adult crafting group, said Trede. Recently, Trede was invited to be the keynote speaker for Bradford's sixth grade graduation. "I said, 'You guys, I've known you since you were toddlers at story hour. I've been there for many firsts, and the first is the friendships you made, when you learned what it is to be a community.'"

The secret to the library's popularity is simple, said Trede. It's because it's a universally welcoming place. "Any program at the library, because everyone is welcome and it doesn't cost anything, that's what brings in a diverse population. It doesn't matter if you have a job or not, or a house to live in: everyone comes to the library."


And while the town of Bradford supports its library, the library is not municipally funded and must do its own fundraising. "We're dependent on grants, donations, and our annual appeal," said Trede, noting that community members are often surprised to learn the library is a private nonprofit, and librarians are not on town payroll.

A grant from WEC's Community Fund supports Bradford Poem Town. Now entering its eighth year, and steadily growing, this community-wide celebration of poetry takes place every April, during National Poetry Month. The intent of the program is to make poetry accessible to the community

Cardinal

Acrostic by Warren

Calm in its nest with nothing around
Angry at people taking pictures
Rising from its nest and eating worms at sunrise
Drinking from the river and digging for worms
Insects catch its eye from above
Noticing worms make it dive from the sky
Afraid to come out of the nest in springtime when the bears are out
Lurking in the sky looking for more worms



Both poems and images courtesy Bradford Public Library

Bradford's Poem City celebration, supported by WEC's Community Fund, draws first-time poets to award-winning published poets. It also supports art curricula, as shown by these two 2024 student poets' words and artwork. Reprinted with permission from Bradford Public Library.

and to inspire new readers and writers of poetry. "We have 100 folks from up and down the valley who submit original poetry that we format, professionally print, and hang throughout town," Trede explained. The Community Fund grant pays for this. Any funds left over help pay staff time for formatting, hanging, and later, distributing the handsomely printed works back to the poets.

The celebration draws people who have never before written a poem and well-known published poets; young children and elders; poets who write in English and in Spanish. "Some people don't think they are poets, and then they get a response from people in the community about how much they love their poetry," said Trede. And when that happens, Poem Town grows: poets

continued on page 6

2024 WEC Community Fund Recipients

- Adult & Teen Challenge

Age Well

American Red Cross

Aware Domestic & Sexual Vilance Services

Barre Community Justice Center

Barre Opera House

Barre Partnership

Bradford Public Library

Brookfield Community Partnership

Cabot Arts and Music Festival

Cabot Connects / Cabot Ride the Ridges

Capstone

Center for an Agricultural Economy

Central Vermont Adult Basic Education

Central Vermont Community Radio

Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice

Central Vermont Humane Society

Central Vermont Council on Aging

Chelsea Historical Society

Chelsea Public Library

Community Resilience Organizations

Cooperative Family Fund

Corinth/Vershire/Chelsea Window Dressers

Curtis Pond Association

Danville Chamber of Commerce

Duxbury Historical Society, Inc.

EcoForesters

Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium

Family Center Of Washington County

Friends of North Branch Nature Center

Green Mountain Council Boy Scouts of America

Hardwick Area Food Pantry
- Hunger Free Vermont

Jaquith Public Library

Just Basics, Inc

Lotus Lake Camp

Montpelier Alive

Mosaic Vermont

MRPS Montpelier Fall Festival

Neighbors in Action

NRECA International

Orange County Parent Child Center

Peacham Library

People's Health & Wellness Clinic

Plainfield Historical Society

Prevent Child Abuse VT

Recovery Partners of Vermont

Roxbury Free Library

Rural Vermont

Salvation Farms

Stuff-A-Truck

The Veterans' Place

Toys for Tots

Tunbridge Public Library

Twin Valley Senior Center

Upper Valley Haven

Vermont Center for Independent Living

Vermont Community Loan Fund

Vermont Council on Rural Development

Vermont Energy Education Program

Vermont Farm and Forests School

Vermont Food Bank

Vermont Granite Museum

Vermont Agricultural Hall of Fame

Washington County Mental Health Services

Woodbury Volunteer Fire Dept

Worcester Historical Society

To learn more about WEC's Community Fund:

wec.coop/capital-credits/community-fund

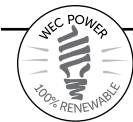
To donate Capital Credits or make a cash contribution to WEC's Community Fund:

wec.coop/capital-credits/community-fund-donations/

To request a Community Fund donation for your local nonprofit:

wec.coop/about-wec/wec-community-fund

You may also contact Dawn Johnson at 802-224-2332 or dawn.johnson@wec.coop.



Co-op Seeks Former Members from 2000 for Capital Credit Refunds

WEC Retires \$650,000 in 2025, Returning A Total of Over \$10 Million To Members

When you're a member of a cooperative, any excess revenue is returned to you and your fellow member-owners. This is a significant difference between shareholder-owned utilities and cooperatively-owned utilities. When for-profit utilities collect excess revenue, shareholders receive those profits. In 2025, the total amount returned blew past the \$10 million mark, at \$10,347,000. At a for-profit utility, all that money would go to shareholders—not ratepayers.

Members of cooperative utilities get excess revenue back over time in the form of capital credit refunds. A pool of funds is allocated for every year the Co-op collects excess revenue; the amounts are different year to year. WEC has been returning this excess revenue to members since 1998: this year, the Co-op will retire the pool of funds from the year 2000, and return a portion of funds from 2013 from members' Contribution In Aid Of Construction (CIAOC). Members who were on WEC lines in 2000 and 2013 will receive a bill credit in November; the Co-op attempts to reach former members who are no longer on WEC lines to send a check.

Listed below are the names of people or accounts from 2000 whose authorization forms were returned as undeliverable. Refunds to some individuals may be reduced by any uncollected or delinquent amounts owed to the Co-op. Refunds will appear as a credit on current members' November 2025 bills.

Former members are also entitled to receive refunds if they have remaining capital credits after they leave WEC's lines. To be eligible, former members must have a minimum \$50 capital credit distribution and submit an authorization form to the Co-op. For this reason, it's important to keep WEC informed of your current address even after you're no longer a member. The Co-op has recently begun offering conditional early retirements to the estates of deceased members or their heirs. Contact Dawn Johnson for more information at 802-224-2332.

If you know anyone on this list or their rightful heirs, please have the former member or beneficiary contact Washington Electric Cooperative directly at 802-223-5245 or 1-800-WEC-5245.

WEC's Community Fund

Approximately 14% of WEC members currently choose to donate their refunds to WEC's Community Fund. Any current or former member may direct their capital credit refund to the Community Fund as a one-time or ongoing gift. The Community Fund supports small not-for-profits serving Central Vermont communities. The people served by these organizations are often WEC members. The full recipient list is published on page 4. A report on 2025 Community Fund activities will be published in *Co-op Currents* in 2026. 🐸

Annabel S Adams	Jenifer Dean	Leo D Knapp	Jamie Riel	Carole M Sorensen	Cheryl Whitcavitch
Jean P Adams	Irving Deutsch	Florence S Knowles	Jeff Rogers	Oren H Spooner	Albert H Whitcomb
Krista W Ainsworth	Gina L Dexter	Ruth Lafreniere	Carol L Rose	Susan M Spooner	Josephine I White
David R Allen	Amy M Dolloff	Elaine D Lang	Scott J Rossen	Laurie Magoon Steve & Alan Appleton	Stuart White
William F Allen	Elisabeth H Dorries	Gladys Lawrence	Ellen M Roth	Josh Stockman	Brian Whitehouse
Darryl Appleby	Leonard D Dubrey	Harold Lawrence	Thomas E Roy	Teresa Stockman	Theresa J Whitney
Heather M Arcos	Melissa J Dunbar	James C Lefevre	Tammy Rudolph	Brian Tagliaferro	Jeff Willett
Marion A Aubertin	Shirley Eastman	Beth E Lindstrom	Janette S Ruiz	Dawn Tanko	James Young
Daria Babbitt	Amy B Eilertsen	Joseph W Loga	Gene Sanborn	Katy Taylor	Leslie C Young
Allan Bachman	Shane Elwell	Jeremy Lowcock	Jon Sanderson	Roland Thereault	John Zacharias
Autumn L Bacon	Sheila Emerson	Patricia A Lund	Andrew Santo	Josh Toalston	Jacob Zorn
Steven F Bailey	John Fiorentino	Gerald Macari	Victoria Saxl	Barbara C Tobin	Stephen Zuraw
Jennifer B Baker	Mary Flanagan	Jock Macdonald	Chad E Scribner	William Sharpe	Behre Piano Associates
Charles P Bankart	Deborah Flateman	Laurie A Magoon	William Sharpe	John Trollinger	Bombardier Transportation
Coldwell Banker	Cindy L Fleurrey	Linda A Martin	Bernard Shatney	Andrew J Trottier	Kultivar Inc
David Barr	Bradley Fleury	Anna L Mattoon	Gale M Shepard	Marc Tyburski	Orange County Sheriffs Dept
Fred Baruffi	Paul Foster	Keith Mazzarella	Ruth Shover	Jeffrey Welch	R Brown & Sons Inc
Adam S Bauer	Robert Foti	Dindah McCullough	Corrine Simmons	Lois A Welch	The Temple Of The Presence
Clinton R Bedell	Wilber C French	Robert E McEachern	Sherry Smiley	Beverly Wheeler	Vermont National Bank
Amy Bellavance	Harriet Gallagher	Robert J McNeill			
Deborah L Benoit	Michael C Garand	Shannon Mello			
Randolph O Berno	Norbert Garcia	Darryl & Jean Merchant			
Randy Berno	April Garfield	Cathy Merrill			
Tricia Biancone	Stephen Garrow	John R Mills			
Brenda Billings	Edith T Garwood	Linda Miner			
Paul & Gary Blake	Martha Gibson	Mark L Moody			
David Boileau	Queena M. Gilman-Waterman	Andrew S Moran			
Claire G Bonekamp	Eugene D Goodell	Elliott D Morse			
Carrie A Borrelli	Ray Gourdeau	Patricia F Nash			
Terry A Boyer	Jeffrey Gregoire	Anne Nethercut			
Signa E Braman	Darlene Grundy	Marilee Olander			
Linda M Brennan	Helen Guare	Virginia Osgood			
Willda Bresett III	Harry S Gunzel	Harold E Osmer			
Frederick H Budzyn	Jeffrey W Haggett	Nicole Otis			
Jessica Burke	Thomas Hanchett	Harry E Paquin			
Virginia A Button	Earle C Hatch	Clarissa Parker			
Edward P Cancelliere	Roger Hatch	Coleman B Parker			
Viggo F Carstensen	Jeffrey Hayes	Jason E Parker			
Paul J Cayia	Maurice E Hayssen	Kerry Paronto			
Ronald P Ceppetelli	Francis J Henry	Marie E Paton			
Diana F Chace	D Anne Herberg	Dick Peck			
Joel R Cherington	Benjamin B Hill	Loretta L Perry			
Douglas Clark	Beverly A Hill	Crystal L Peterson			
Martha C Clelia	Catherine M Hodge	John G Petrasch			
Clifton Cloud	Richard Hoisington	Kristine Petroski			
Alberta Cochran	Perry Hollyer	Albert S Phillips			
Susan R Cohn-Goss	Sarah Horton	Frank A Piazza			
Warren Coleman	Pearl A Houghton	James Picone			
Charles M Collins	Elisa Howes	Erica L Pierson			
Ruben Colon	Juanita Hoyt	Paul Pion			
Carlton Corrow	Richard A Ibey	Brenda A Plastridge			
Edward M Cragin	Janice M Jablonski	Angela Polczynski			
Carole G Crosby	Cass S Jaros	Karl Preus			
Henry Crowell	Lucy H Jefferys	Marlene Price			
James E Daniels	Suzanne R Johnson	John Purdy			
Shirley M Dauray	Suzanne R Johnson	Thomas Reagan			
Ellen E Davidson	Robert Julian	S Michael Reilly			
Phillip L Davis	Mark Kalat	Jeanne Richardson			

Emergency Resources

Financial and energy coaching

Contact your local Community Action Agency: Capstone at capstonevt.org or Northeast Kingdom Community Action at nekcavt.org.

Fuel

Running out of fuel? No matter where in Vermont you live, if you are in danger of running out of fuel this winter, call the toll-free Emergency Fuel Assistance number: 1-800-479-6151

Mental health: call 988

If you are in distress or crisis, call 988.
If you prefer to text, text VT to 741741 to reach a crisis counselor quickly.
For peer support, call/text 833-888-2557
More resources are at mentalhealth.vermont.gov

Food

Vermont Foodbank: 800-585-2265.
Capstone Community Action: capstonevt.org
Northeast Kingdom Community Action: nekcavt.org
3SquaresVT: 855-855-6181, vermontfoodhelp.com

211

Call 211 to find any emergency resource you need: food, mental health, fuel, shelter, and anything else.



Ending Federal Tax Incentives, Continuing State and WEC Incentives					
Device or project	Federal tax incentive	Federal incentive eligibility end date	State rebates and incentives	WEC rebates and incentives	State income-based bonuses
New EV/PHEV	Up to \$7,500	Purchase before September 30, 2025	Discount up to \$2,500 EV/\$1,500 PHEV	\$500 EV/\$250 PHEV rebate/PLUS \$500 income eligible bonus	
Used EV	Up to \$4,000	Purchase before September 30, 2025		\$250 rebate/PLUS \$500 income eligible bonus	
EV charger	Up to \$1,000	Chargers in service before June 30, 2026		FREE EV charger PLUS \$500 rebate when enrolled in PowerShift	
Heat pump	Up to \$2,000	Install before December 31, 2025	Discount up to \$2,000 ducted; up to \$450 ductless	\$100 bonus rebate (ducted only)	Up to \$2,200
Heat pump water heater	Up to \$2,000	Install before December 31, 2025	Up to \$4,500 rebate	\$100 bonus rebate	
Wood/Pellet stoves	30% of qualifying costs	Install before December 31, 2025	Discount up to \$400	\$100 bonus rebate	
Weatherization	Up to \$1,200	Install before December 31, 2025	Up to \$4,000/\$9,500 rebate for contracted work/\$100 materials rebate for eligible DIY projects		
Electrical panel	Up to \$600	Install before December 31, 2025	Up to \$10,000 rebate		
Home energy audit	Up to \$150	Install before December 31, 2025			
Rooftop solar installation	30% of qualifying costs	Purchase before December 31, 2025			
Battery storage installation	30% of qualifying costs	Purchase before December 31, 2025			
Geothermal heating installation	30% of qualifying costs	Purchase before December 31, 2025	Up to \$2,100/ton rebate	Up to \$2,000 bonus rebate	Up to \$500
Rebates through Efficiency Vermont, WEC, and other Vermont programs may be based on household income. Use the calculator at EfficiencyVermont.com/Calculator to determine your eligibility.					


Community Fund Profile

continued from page 4

return the next year, and newly inspired poets submit poems for the first time.

Summer Concert Series: Jaquith Public Library

Susan Greene, director of Jaquith Public Library in Marshfield, describes her library as a “thriving community center.” Access is the reason why: Jaquith Public Library is on a bus line and has public bathrooms and broadband internet. People visit the library to meet their needs — sometimes they don’t even go inside, Greene says that people from all over the area use the internet from their cars in the parking lot when the library isn’t open — and when there, discover everything else the library has to offer. Such as the summer concert series, which can draw 250 people on a warm clear night. WEC’s Community Fund is a sponsor of the series, which puts on six concerts a summer with Vermont musicians representing lots of genres. In 2025, the lineup included the country-western bluegrass of Colin McCaffrey and the What Not String Band; the harmonies of Fair Sparrow; and the beats of A2VT. Marshfield is a half hour by car from St. Johnsbury, Barre, Montpelier, and Hardwick, Green said, “so really if people want to do anything, they need to drive. This is a way for people, right in their

own community, to enjoy cultural and musical experiences.” The series also draws music lovers from throughout Central Vermont — many of whom are WEC members, Greene pointed out—who then, in a happy cycle, discover the library itself and its many resources. “It shows people we exist!” said Greene: it’s not only that the library promotes the music series, but the music series also promotes the library. Jaquith Public Library leverages the funding from WEC and other sponsors, Greene noted: at concerts the library holds a book sale, bake sale, raffle, and silent auction, and Just Food Hub sells fair trade treats. Sponsoring concerts helps the library raise money for future events and programming. “It’s a win-win-win, but we need that initial startup,” Greene said. “So the money from the Community Fund is crucial.” WEC’s Community Fund is also a big support for being a reliable year-over-year funder, and for having a simple application process,” Greene added. “We’re very, very, very thankful for that help. Without it we really couldn’t have the concert series, it’s that crucial. When Washington Electric responds, we’re just thrilled.” To donate your capital credits, or to make a contribution to WEC’s Community Fund, contact Administrative Assistant Dawn Johnson at 802-224-2332 or Dawn.Johnson@wec.coop. 

Puzzle

Community Fund: What Libraries Offer

E X I I C N I H K E B R L T G O J T K J L O Y C W
L V M B X B I E H M G T A A U E M W S M K K O O C
E L P Q I C I N H C O O L I N G F Z L T K A G I V
B O O K S Z L C T E E H T O X T V Q I O W A T E R
O J J W D S C F F E C J E G S L P H B D O O K M L
I B Q L Y G O I V N R A P J E G Q T O P V G F C X
C H S L B N P R N E E N E J M M A I Z W L S T W N
F E Q X N U T B R T E E E X Q T A P I A N Q H T R
L E W L D I F S P T E T Y T U N Z D X R V H Z Q K
F R I E N D S H I P O R M R A G B H D M T Y I I A
A S T I S C F C Z H L C E S E C W X B I F V D U R
Z M E E V F P Z I M R M I S R S W D Z N M G J E A
N P C E P M O F P E H U V F T Y T F Q G N R O O B
L O H O X Q E E J U I B H T Y G N R O D K E O Z S
N E S D B U O L D U A J L F H Q R C O D S X U B E
F M U H W Z E F R X W Z G I K X R O A O G K C P A
H T P V N C L O W Z I Y J B Q H U F U M M L B N X
S O P X M C O M M U N I T Y Q V V Z G P P S E Z N
A W O D G Q X F A N D D H I K M V C H Z S N A W B
F N R K G S U M M E R C O N C E R T S E R I E S Y
E H T H Z R E B U F C P C R X U R M T J I B T Y H
T O T K W J E E W S W C X C H S V S W C N Z P J S
Y J N M W F G Y N N E T M B Z U E C U L T U R E X
Z N Q D F W S Y Y N R F Y V J J K O S D L X N O A
R S D R O X L X Q D W N P J Q O A B V P X J S V W

Summer Concert Series	interest groups	
tech support	friendship	restrooms
community	Poem Town	internet
warming	cooling	culture
safety	books	water



How to Get Clean Energy Tax Breaks Before They Expire

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) of 2022 included financial help for climate-friendly choices for your home. You may wonder which tax credits, rebates, and discounts you qualify for, especially now that many of those benefits are being phased out. Tax credits are just one way to reduce the cost of home energy improvements. Whether you are able to use the tax credits or not, there's still good news: Efficiency Vermont's rebates aren't going anywhere. Here's what you need to know about the tax credits for homes and electric vehicles before they expire.

Home energy tax credits

The IRA offers tax credits for buying clean vehicles and appliances. There are also incentives to improve your home through weatherization or adding solar panels. The incentives make non-fossil fuel alternatives more affordable. Millions of households have used these tax credits so far, saving an average of \$130 a year on their energy bills. If you're able to make upgrades this year, talk to a contractor as soon as possible. This will help complete projects on time and maximize your savings. All projects must be completed by Dec. 31, 2025. Rewiring America is a nonprofit focused on the electrification of America's homes and buildings. They are tracking changes to these tax credits.

Electrical vehicle tax credits

Tax credits for electric vehicles (EVs) have helped double Vermont's EV fleet in recent years. But potential buyers will have to act fast. Most EV tax credits expire on Sept. 30, 2025. Usually, you can receive the tax credit immediately when buying or leasing an eligible EV.



- **Get up to \$7,500 off when buying a new EV.** Eligible EVs and electric trucks must meet certain requirements, like being manufactured in the U.S. and selling below a specific price. Buyers have to earn less than \$150,000 (or \$300,000 for couples) to qualify. *New vehicles must be purchased before Sept. 30, 2025.*
- **Get up to \$7,500 off when leasing an EV.** The eligibility requirements for leased EVs are less stringent than the requirements for purchased EVs, meaning there are more cars to choose from. The leasing company claims the tax credit and then usually applies the credit as a discount on the lease deal. *Vehicles must be leased before Sept. 30, 2025.*
- **Get up to \$4,000 off a used EV.** Qualifying EVs must cost \$25,000 or less and be at least two years old. Used EV buyers have to earn less than \$75,000 (or \$150,000 for couples) to qualify. *Used vehicles must be purchased before Sept. 30, 2025.*

Federal EV Tax Credits

continued from page 1

is the time to act. Keep in mind the incentives offered through Efficiency Vermont and WEC are not going away, and they are not tax credits. Most of them are rebates, and some are upfront discounts. Many of these incentives are scaled based on income, meaning that the lower your household income, the higher your rebate. Some bonuses are available

- **Get 30% of your costs back—up to \$1,000—for installing a home EV charger.** Most EV charging happens at home. Thankfully, tax credits for installing a home EV charger are available for a bit longer. *Chargers must be placed in service by June 30, 2026.* Your utility may offer additional EV incentives. Vermont electric utilities offer significant bonus rebates for buying an EV and charging equipment. Some also have special low rates for EV charging. Visit Drive Electric Vermont for all EV rebates available in Vermont.

Incentive Calculator: Find out what you qualify for

Rewiring America has an online calculator that helps you see which incentives you qualify for. The tool points to home and vehicle tax credits, plus state and utility incentives based on your zip code.

Is there time for Vermonters to make these investments?

The IRA's clean energy credits align with Vermont's climate goals in the Vermont Climate Action Plan. But many of these tax breaks expire soon. It may be difficult to make these

investments in time. The good news is that Efficiency Vermont's rebates and programs remain available. Beyond lowering your energy costs, these energy upgrades can benefit your home in other ways: Weatherization projects make your home more comfortable and resilient. A resilient home is more efficient for both heating and cooling. It has improved airflow and ventilation that can protect against mold, pests, and drafts. It can also better resist extreme weather, blackouts, and other hazards. Going electric will cut your carbon footprint. The three biggest contributors to your emissions are your car, home heating, and water heating. Heat pumps and heat pump water heaters continue to benefit the environment into the future as the grid becomes cleaner. Federal incentives will soon be phased out. But Efficiency Vermont can help Vermonters of all income levels save money into the future.

Published on EfficiencyVermont.com on August 19, 2025.

Direct link: efficiencyvermont.com/blog/our-insights/how-the-new-climate-law-could-help-you-save-money

to further reduce cost barriers for members below a certain income threshold. "Despite the federal government's retreat from combating climate change, WEC will continue to respond to our members' wishes and support beneficial electrification, energy resilience, and renewable, locally generated energy," said President Stephen Knowlton. "Our incentive policy is grounded in our shared belief that someone who can easily pay for an upgrade or benefit should not be subsidized by members who make significantly less money and may not be able to afford such upgrades or benefits themselves if our goal is to expand the use of clean electricity to everyone." See the table on page 6 for tax credits and their end dates, and what incentives remain through Efficiency Vermont and WEC.


Share Your Story: Seeking Members' Experiences with EVs and New Electric Appliances

When making a big decision, many of us seek advice from friends and neighbors who have already been through the same process. *Co-op Currents* invites members to write in with their honest experiences buying and installing hot water heat pumps, cold climate heat pumps, electric vehicles, and other new electric tech. Your tips and advice are valuable to fellow members considering similar purchases. Submit your stories to currents@wec.coop. Stories will be published as time and space allow. *Co-op Currents* will contact you to confirm before publication. Please keep stories to 500 words or less. If you have a longer story you'd like to share, please email first to inquire.

Don't Miss This!

Major or time-sensitive incentive picks from JJ Vandette, Director of Special Projects and Innovation

"Members, if you can use the federal tax credit for new and previously owned electric vehicles, there's not a moment to waste. Those go away at the end of September. However, WEC and Efficiency Vermont continue to offer a number of incentives to help reduce the financial burden of switching from fossil fuel to electric for lots of major purchases, including EVs. Use the table on page 6, and the incentive calculator at EfficiencyVermont.com/Calculator, to learn about incentives you can use."



Go Green. Go Electric. Go WEC!

Safety Minute: Aim for “Just Right” With AC Units

By David Young

This was another hot summer, and the warm weather will continue for several more weeks. There are a lot of us in Central Vermont who have no problem navigating a class-4 road after an ice storm in February, but who wilt when it's 90 degrees and humid. These days, nearly everyone I know, my family included, makes use of window air conditioners. We all love the moment it kicks on and starts blasting cold air. But if you're not using the right size unit for the space, that cool comfort could come at a higher price than you expect.

A small, inexpensive 5,000–6,000 BTU window unit can be great for cooling a bedroom down to sleeping temperature. But say you're trying to cool a whole house downstairs with one: if that unit is too small for the space, it will have to run constantly, and it won't cool as effectively as you want. Not only will that spike your



David Young, Safety and Environmental Compliance Specialist

electric bill, it also overworks the AC, which can lead to overheating, tripped circuits, or in the worst case, a fire. Small units also need to be able to cycle off in order to defrost themselves. If they're overworked with no breaks, they can't do that either.

On the other hand, if the unit you choose is too large for the area you're cooling, you're looking at an expensive upfront cost and a difficult installation, because these things are heavy. For larger units, you may need an electrician to run extra wiring or install a dedicated circuit.

A lot of folks who install cold climate heat pumps discover that they offer cooling as well. It requires electrical work and upfront cost to install heat pumps, but WEC and Efficiency Vermont also offer incentives. Heat pumps are a great long-term solution and convenient once installed, but they also need to be correctly sized. Too small, and you'll run into the same problems of overuse and inefficiency.



Make sure the air conditioner you're using is the right size for the job, run it moderately throughout the day, and aim for a temperature that's comfortable—not cold.

Too large, and you may be wasting money on capacity you don't need.

Here's one more thing to think about: comfort doesn't have to mean keeping your house at the same temperature year-round. In the

summer, 75 degrees with low humidity feels just fine for most people. Running your AC moderately throughout the day, instead of cranking it full blast when you get home, keeps your space comfortable and prevents your system from “sprinting” through peak hours when energy demand is highest. That helps your Co-op and ultimately helps your bill.

Here's what you need to know:

- Match your AC unit to the size of the space. Too small means overuse and higher risk; too large means higher cost and installation issues.
- Think about comfort, not chill. A steady 75 with low humidity often feels better (and costs less) than short bursts of cold air.
- Run your AC more moderately throughout the day to avoid peak-time strain on your unit and on the grid.

Members can recommend Safety Minute topics and request safety presentations from David Young for their school, organization, or community group. Contact him at 802-224-2340 or david.young@wec.coop.

Brian Callnan

continued from page 1

sees helping members understand the complex world of power supply as part of the job. “I often hear that folks feel like power supply and the energy markets are complicated,” he said. “I really try to make those subjects seem less complicated so we can have good participation when discussing the pros and cons of a decision.”

And, he added, this skill supports his regulatory work as well. If Vermont's Department of Public Service (DPS) is the citizen advocacy wing of Vermont's regulatory structure, he explained, a healthy working partnership supports the natural alignment of WEC members and the DPS's role. Callnan said that in his previous role at VPPSA, he enjoyed the process of working with DPS, “sharing tools and processes with the Department and taking the extra time to explain things because we all want to make sure we are benefiting the ratepayers and members as best as we can.”

Vermont and its sister state also have very different regulatory approaches to electric power, Callnan noted. And regulation significantly shapes the environment in which co-ops like WEC operate. In New Hampshire, for example, the electric cooperative is responsible for setting rates and there is very little in the process that requires state oversight, he explained. Not so in Vermont,

where the Public Utility Commission (PUC) reviews all utility rate increase requests.

Beyond rates, Vermont grapples with its responsibility as a state for setting energy policies that influence its citizens' and visitors' climate impact. Legislation like the Renewable Energy Standard and Clean Heat Standard are examples of this. The purpose of regulations is to set rules around legislative priorities set in law, Callnan explained. “How do those regulations impact utilities from cost, efficiency, and operational efficiency standpoints? There's a lot there for regulators to continue to consider.”

Regulations may incentivize or restrict certain actions, but perhaps counterintuitively, their existence is evidence of more citizen engagement—not less. Because regulations are established through rulemaking after a law is passed, there is opportunity for democratic engagement at every step. “A law doesn't just show up and start working,” Callnan explained. “There's deliberation on the law, deliberation on the rule, deliberation on public advocacy—every element of that is an opportunity to make sure WEC members are heard.”

Small but Nimble

“WEC is a standout in the co-op world,” Callnan said. “Co-ops

When you're the size of WEC, you can do innovative things a little bit quicker.

— Brian Callnan

struggle with getting folks engaged. Keeping membership engagement high is important for any member organization, not just the electric industry. WEC's figured that out. It's nice to be part of that.” Engagement shows up in multiple ways, like in contested elections for seats on the Co-op's Board of Directors, and high uptake of renewable and efficient technologies.

“There are a lot of challenges going forward, but you turn those into opportunities, and they really are,” Callnan said. “You have a membership that is really engaged with net metering, that is engaged in switching over their transportation and heating fuels to electricity all while trying to keep costs in check. All those efforts create new opportunities for WEC to work with its members to affordably adopt these technologies if they are on their planning horizon.”

This allows WEC to be nimble, and to shift gears faster than larger utilities might be able to. “We're able to do things a little bit quicker and directly impact members. Where a utility four times the size may have trouble because it's also going to have four times the members, and more infrastructure needed in order to meet that larger population,” Callnan said, “when you're the size of WEC, you can do

innovative things a little bit quicker.”

With staff like JJ Vandette focused on scaling new opportunities and Callnan ensuring regulatory compliance and long-term strategy, the Co-op is well-positioned to turn future challenges into community-centered innovation.

And that's why Callnan is pleased to be at WEC. “Electricity is kind of like water: everyone needs it. So how do you take a human need and get it delivered to community members in the most efficient way, the most economical way, and if you have a renewable aspect to it, how do you do that and meet those same needs? How do you pull all that up and still not break the bank?”

That question has been a guiding one for Callnan. As a member-owned, not-for-profit cooperative, “you don't have the profit aspect, and that has felt right to me.” Public ownership creates the opportunity, and responsibility, to make tangible differences that benefit members. “You manage a power portfolio and can pass those benefits directly on to everyone on the system. You don't have many opportunities to do that in life.”

“It's really important to me to be in public power,” he said. “And I think WEC's a great place to participate in public power. I'm excited to be here.”

