

News Release



**Electric Cooperatives
of Arkansas**

Konecny Completes Year-long National Loss Control Internship

Little Rock, Ark. — Sept. 1, 2011 — Kevin Konecny, safety and loss control advisor for the Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas, recently completed the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA)/National Utility Training and Safety Education Association (NUTSEA) Loss Control Internship Program.

“The NRECA/NUTSEA Loss Control Internship is regarded as one of the top educational programs in the nation for safety and loss control professionals,” said Doug White, vice president of systems services for the Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas. “Kevin completed an intense year-long program. His commitment to continuous learning is to be commended.”

Konecny, a native of Stuttgart, joined the Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas in 2003 after working as a lineman for First Electric for 17 years.

NRECA's Loss Control Internship Program, which launched in the 1990s, includes a series of seminars and tests, a detailed course project, and a 30-hour OSHA course.

The program was developed by NRECA with input from member cooperatives and the National Utility Training and Safety Education Association. Through four seminars conducted over a period of 24 days, cooperative staffers are exposed to aspects of safety, loss control and instructional concepts designed to give them the skill to coordinate those programs locally for their organizations.

The Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas comprise 17 electric distribution cooperatives; Arkansas Electric Cooperatives Inc. (AECI), a Little Rock-based cooperative that provides various services to the distribution cooperatives; and Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corp. (AECC), a generation and transmission cooperative. The distribution cooperatives provide electricity to more than 500,000 members, or customers, in Arkansas and surrounding states.

For additional information, contact:

Rob Roedel, Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas, 501.570.2296 or rroedel@aeci.com

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