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1 **CONTINUING RESOLUTIONS**

2
3 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 1**
4 **CONTINUING RESOLUTIONS**

5
6 In 1949 Central Power's membership organized and acted upon its resolutions according to topics in
7 order to give the membership a clearer picture of the positions taken by them in their annual meeting.

8
9 The membership directs that the resolutions be divided into "Continuing Resolutions", which represent
10 basic policy positions of the membership that continue over the years, and "Current Resolutions" dealing
11 with policies and problems of present interest;

12
13 THEREFORE, we resolve that the Central Power Electric Resolutions Committee shall review all
14 resolutions at each annual meeting before presentation to the membership, and that all resolutions are
15 subject to change by the membership at the Annual Meeting in the usual manner. (2007)

16
17 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 2**
18 **STRENGTHENING RURAL AMERICA**

19
20 Rural America produces a wealth of agricultural products and other necessary resources, making it the
21 backbone of the nation's economy. Rural America provides space for recreational needs, space for
22 commercial and industrial development, and an environment with "quality of life" fostering family values.

23
24 Rural America is under attack from several fronts. We are opposed to federal farm program budget cuts
25 aimed at reducing the budget deficit. Unrestricted foreign imports of varying qualities and quantities, high
26 input costs, investments in farmland by corporations and off-farm interests, and low prices for farm
27 products challenge agricultural producer's ability to operate. Programs in support of rural housing and
28 water development necessary to support life in rural America have been very limited. Adverse publicity
29 from the less informed members of the news media and political manipulation of prices for agricultural
30 products is commonplace.

31
32 We support measures that give the farmers and ranchers more equitable return for their products,
33 measures that improve Federal Crop Insurance Programs with coverage adequate to cover production
34 cost, measures that discourage foreign and corporation ownership of farm land, and measures that
35 maintain conservation practices at the local level between the farmer and local government conservation
36 services. We recommend rules and premiums for crop insurance cannot be changed during the crop
37 year.

38
39 We believe that successful rural development consistent with the needs of agriculture can markedly add
40 to the well-being of the residents in North Dakota and this nation. We support measures that promote low
41 cost housing and water development loans for rural people, and measures that promote rural commercial
42 and industrial development.

43
44 We believe energy independence serves the best interests of all of America, as price volatility for energy
45 from events outside our borders affects the prices of all goods and services for rural Americans whether it
46 be on fuel, feed, equipment and fertilizer at the production level, energy, equipment and logistics at the
47 processing level, or shipping, utilities and packaging at the consumer level. We support the extraction of
48 the country's vast supply of natural resources, as well as the construction and maintenance of
49 infrastructure, including pipelines, refineries and coastal shipping hubs, that supports the ability of the
50 United States to be energy independent as a means of national security,

51 We resolve to continue to expand the cooperative role in support of farm and ranch programs, in assisting
52 and aiding in domestic natural resource development, rural housing, and area development projects in
53 order to serve the best interests of rural America. (Revised 2022)

54
55 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 3**
56 **RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE SELF REGULATION**

57
58 North Dakota Rural Electric Cooperatives are directed by a consumer owner elected board of directors. The

1 director is responsible to the consumer for the efficient operation of the cooperative. Rate and management
2 decisions are made based on the needs of the cooperative in the best interest of the members at large. A one
3 person, one vote protects co-ops from unnecessary rate hikes. Margins from operations are returned to the
4 member in the form of patronage capital credits. We believe self-regulation of rural electric cooperatives has
5 proven its effectiveness over these many years through development of strong rural electric organizations
6 that provide stable rates and dependable power to its consumer members. We, therefore, ardently
7 support the present method of self-regulation by rural electric cooperatives. (2001)

8
9 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 4**
10 **ELECTRIC ENERGY CONSUMER BILL OF RIGHTS**

11
12 Central Power endorses the “Electric Energy Consumer Bill of Rights” as follows:

13
14 We, the consumer-owned not-for-profit members of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association,
15 endorse these rights for all consumers. We believe this Electric Energy Consumer Bill of Rights
16 represents the standard against which electric utility restructuring proposals at the state and federal
17 legislatures should be measured:

- 18
19 1. The right to have access to reliable, affordable and safe electric power.
- 20
21 2. The right to join together to establish and operate a consumer-owned not-for-profit electric utility.
- 22
23 3. The right of consumer-owned not-for-profit systems to be treated fairly and recognized as a
24 unique form of business.
- 25
26 4. The right to elect representatives to manage their consumer-owned form of business to best meet
27 their needs.
- 28
29 5. The individual right to privacy that assures information about consumers will not be released
30 without their prior consent.
- 31
32 6. The right to determine the scope of energy services to be furnished through their consumer-
33 owned not-for-profit utilities.
- 34
35 7. The right to use consumer-owned not-for-profit utilities to provide additional services that meets
36 the needs of their consumers and communities.
- 37
38 8. The right to work in cooperation with other consumer-owned entities with common goals. (1999)

39
40 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 5**
41 **CENTRAL POWER MARKETING PROGRAM**

42
43 The marketing of electrical energy has become an integral part of the operation of Central Power’s
44 members, by incorporating the marketing rates promoted by Basin Electric and the consumer marketing
45 work of the distribution members. We commend the efforts of Basin Electric and the Central Power
46 members, and further urge continued attention to this important aspect of cooperative and region stability.

47
48 We will continue to build upon the marketing rate structure of Basin Electric with the intent of offering the
49 greatest incentive possible for the marketing of electric energy. We fully support the marketing efforts of
50 its member cooperatives, and will continue to work towards enhancing the benefits of these programs
51 through dependable service and a compatible rate structure. (Revised 2022)

52
53 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 6**
54 **TOUCHSTONE ENERGY BRANDING ENDORSEMENT**

55
56 The nation’s rural electric cooperatives are in a very competitive and changing business environment.
57 Restructuring and deregulation efforts are commonplace. It is imperative that electric cooperatives unify
58 their efforts to survive in this environment. Extensive research has shown that being in touch with

1 consumers and the community and offering consumers a voice in the activities can be to the
2 cooperative's competitive advantage.

3 Central Power, has endorsed and encouraged all rural electrics to participate in the Touchstone Energy
4 branding program so as to clearly communicate the superior energy, service, and advantages that are
5 available to their consumers.

6
7 Central Power and its associated member owners believe the Touchstone organization can encourage
8 continued membership growth through responsible handling of membership fees now being received.
9 We believe new revenues should come through membership growth and object to further dues increases.

10 (Revised 2022)

11

12 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 7**

13 **CORPS OF ENGINEERS PERMIT REQUIREMENTS**

14

15 While we, the membership of Central Power Electric Cooperative, recognize the obligation of the Corps of
16 Engineers to oversee activities that impact navigable lakes, rivers, and streams, and to insure compliance
17 in these activities with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, which prohibits major disruptions in these
18 environments; we encourage the Corps of Engineers to conduct this oversight responsibility with a
19 minimal amount of burdensome paperwork requirements from the individuals and entities whose activities
20 are covered in the Act. (Pre-1996)

21

22 We understand that the Corps of Engineers personnel try to respond to Section 404 Permit requests
23 within 90 days. We ask that a written response within 90 days be mandated, giving either approval, or an
24 explanation for any delay. (2002)

25

26 We further believe that the determination of compliance with Section 404 in regard to farm dugouts and
27 stock watering ponds can and is being adequately and efficiently performed by local FSA and NRCS
28 offices at the time of application for cost sharing of these facilities, and that this local determination and
29 recording should continue to be regarded as a complete and sufficient permit process by the Corps.

30 (Pre-1996)

31

32 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 8**

33 **LEGISLATION**

34

35 We encourage the North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives and the National Rural
36 Electric Cooperative Association to continue their focus on legislative efforts as the primary activity of the
37 Associations. (Pre-1996)

38

39 We would urge rural consumers and rural cooperative directors to take a more active role in the legislative
40 process by actively seeking elective office and/or to actively participate in lobbying efforts for the rural
41 community. (Revised 2019)

42

43 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 9**

44 **RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE (RUS)**

45

46 Central Power believes that power supply financing for rural cooperatives is a wide-ranging and solid
47 investment in rural America's development, and that it provides worthwhile economic benefits to rural
48 communities while at the same time returning interest to the federal government.

49

50 The availability of dependable, reasonably priced electric power to rural America is as indispensable
51 today as it has been in the past. The nation's economic health and vitality rests on rural America's ability
52 to produce agricultural products and other necessary resources needed in this country and the world. We
53 oppose any attempts to end the Rural Utilities Service(RUS). Any attempts by the Administration or
54 Congress to limit or remove federal participation in the RUS loan program must be opposed by all rural
55 electric cooperatives. We believe the rural electric program deserves equal treatment in federal
56 assistance to that received by investor-owned and municipal utilities under federal tax laws. We ask for a
57 continued federal partnership with rural America through the RUS program. We see lower cost interest

1 rate financing and the loan guarantee program for generation and transmission cooperatives as non-
2 negotiable programs. (Revised 2015)

3

4 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 10**

5 **BASIN ELECTRIC MARKETING PROGRAM AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

6

7 The member systems of Central Power have demonstrated that benefits can be obtained through a
8 coordinated marketing program that creates advantages to the consumer. We commend Basin Electric
9 for the work it has done in building an effective marketing program through its rate structure and the work
10 of its member services department, and commend Basin Electric on its efforts to help provide professional
11 assistance in economic development to communities throughout the Central Power area.

12

13 We urge Basin Electric's continued support of local marketing programs. We also urge Basin Electric,
14 through its rate subcommittee, to further investigate and employ rate forms that will enhance the sale of
15 electricity, giving emphasis to long term rate stability and maximizing plant efficiencies. (Revised 2013)

16

17 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 11**

18 **BASIN ELECTRIC RATES**

19

20 Basin Electric, Central Power and the member distribution cooperatives have long recognized that we are
21 individual pieces of one large cooperative, stretching from the generator to the meter, and that the
22 success of one is the benefit of all. (Revised 2019)

23

24 Electric rates to the consumer must remain competitive. Cost control measures must be exercised at all
25 levels on both power and non-power costs. Central Power commends Basin Electric for recognizing the
26 continued problems of competition and rate disparity and urges rate stabilization. Reasonable wholesale
27 power and special rates are needed for attracting new commercial and residential loads. When making
28 rate changes or adjustments, we urge Basin to make rate adjustments that do not penalize those
29 cooperatives that have contributed to Basin's load growth and continue the dual/electric heating rate in
30 recognition of those member owners who willingly increased their electrical consumption under these
31 specific marketing campaigns during the years of surplus power. We urge Basin management to
32 continue utilizing the rate subcommittee along with the Manager's Advisory Committee as a viable source
33 of information and direction during the rate making process. (Revised 2017)

34

35 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 12**

36 **PREFERENCE CUSTOMERS**

37

38 Preference customers in the Missouri Basin signed on early in the formation of the projects for
39 allocations, and have consistently struggled for and supported federal hydro development. Rural electric
40 cooperatives, along with other preference customers that serve the public without a profit, built electrical
41 systems that incorporated this contracted source of power. Today they continue to rely upon this resource
42 as an integral part of their systems.

43

44 We believe that the rightful allocation continues to remain with these existing qualified preference
45 customers. As the capacity of federal resources is limited, we believe that careful consideration must be
46 given when providing allocations to otherwise qualified new customers at the expense of existing
47 preference customers. We further believe that non-contributing private interests, who would use the
48 benefits of the resource for self-gain, should not be at all entitled to this resource.

49

50 Central Power, therefore, adamantly opposes any effort to alter the traditional preference customer rights
51 as specified in the Flood Control Act of 1944. (Revised 2014)

52

53 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 13**

54 **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) AND THE CLEAN AIR ACT PROGRAMS**

55

56 The Clean Air Act was enacted to regulate pollutants deemed to be hazardous using scientific research
57 and accurate and consistent studies, and set appropriate regulations based on the assessments derived
58 from this research and studies. In addition, regulatory agencies across the country and subcommittees in

1 Congress are analyzing models and various data in an attempt to assign values to residual pollutants in
2 energy sources and require utilities to incorporate these environmental externality costs in their resource
3 plans.

4 We recognize that the use of each and every form of energy has an effect in some way upon the
5 environment. We also recognize that the comparison of any two or more forms of energy in regard to
6 these effects is much more complicated than measuring emissions. Central Power believes that the
7 science of comprehensive environmental externality analysis is nowhere near a stage that would enable
8 any regulatory body to accurately assign these costs. Central Power further believes that if this analysis
9 is to ever become a possibility, the use of a cap and trade, or any emission reduction system based on a
10 trading model or market that puts dollars before duty will not serve the best interests of the environment
11 or the utility industry.

12

13 Central Power opposes the EPA Clean Power Plan, or any reiteration introduced thereafter, because the
14 timelines and targets in it are unrealistic and the technology required to comply are not close to being
15 available on a commercial scale. Implementation of the Clean Power Plan will harm our member-owners,
16 all consumers of electricity in the United States, and the domestic energy reliability and security. Central
17 Power supports the legislative and legal efforts to overturn the rule, and during the current stay issued by
18 the United States Supreme Court urges elected officials to enact legislation that both prohibits the over
19 reach of authority of any regulatory agency, and develops a comprehensive energy strategy in regards to
20 emissions that is flexible, is based on sound scientific methods, takes into account regional differences,
21 maintains fuel diversity, and allows for sufficient lead time for compliance. (Revised 2022)

22

23 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 14**
24 **THE ENVIRONMENT**

25

26 Central Power supports the care and utilization of our natural resources. We believe efforts to protect the
27 environment must continue to be made at a rate of progress that both accomplishes the job and insures
28 the continued health of our nation's economy. We believe that is best accomplished through clear and
29 easily interpreted environmental laws and regulations in conjunction with a single, efficient and
30 predictable permitting processes and oversight of compliance at the local level that ensures needed
31 interpretations take into account the realities of the environment and local interests are being fairly
32 considered. (2019)

33

34 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 15**
35 **GREAT PLAINS SYNFUELS PLANT**

36

37 The continued operation of the Great Plains Synfuels Plant provides the nation with a valuable project to
38 develop a range of coal-based technologies. Research and development at the plant not only provides a
39 domestic alternative to traditional sources of energy, but also for the development of byproducts and
40 additional revenue streams from North Dakota's abundant coal reserves.

41

42 Central Power recognizes the potential for economic benefit for all of Basin Electric's membership from
43 the successful operation of the plant.

44

45 Central Power supports the continued production of anhydrous ammonia, and urea, both of which are
46 very important to the agriculture industry. (Revised 2019)

47

48 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 16**
49 **NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURE**

50

51 Since agriculture has historically been and is expected to remain the dominant industry of our state, the
52 North Dakota State Legislature should direct an investigation and study embracing the following:
53 (Pre-1996)

54

- 55 1. We recommend the expansion of Bank of North Dakota's beginning farmer programs. These
56 programs should provide a reduced, fixed rate of interest at the beginning of the loan at a
57 minimum. (Revised 2022)

58

- 1 2. Agricultural research funding should be increased and research activities should be extended to
2 cover the expanding roles of agricultural production. (Pre-1996)
3
- 4 3. Elementary and secondary education curriculums should place greater emphasis on subject
5 matter and course studies relating to agriculture and the cooperative business model. (Revised
6 2017)
- 7 4. We recommend support and expansion of the “Dakota Pride Cooperative” having goals of
8 providing opportunities to help stabilize the North Dakota economy. (2014)
9
- 10 5. We support a comprehensive statewide land use policy with township and county zoning
11 programs to protect agriculture’s economic interest that will restrict large hog and cattle feed lot
12 operations from locating directly adjacent to residential areas. We strongly encourage townships
13 and counties to establish their own zoning program standards so long as minimum State
14 requirements are met. (Revised 2003)
15
- 16 6. Laws should discourage concentration of farmland ownership by corporations and off-farm
17 interests. We call for strict enforcement of our state’s corporation farming laws. These laws must
18 be closely monitored and strengthened so they may continue to preserve production agriculture
19 for family farmers. (Revised 2004)
20
- 21 7. We are concerned about property tax increases and favor the real estate tax exemption of farm
22 homes and buildings. (1999)
23

24 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 17**
25 **TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY ACT**
26

27 The North Dakota Territorial Integrity Act of 1965 was enacted to eliminate the multitude of wasteful and
28 costly disputes over service area, the expense of which was ultimately passed along to the consumers on
29 both sides. This Act was formulated based on a philosophy that embraced the best interests of both
30 power suppliers and consumers.
31

32 Across the state, we continue to see instances of investor-owned utilities contesting territories that have
33 been long-established service areas of rural electric cooperatives. Invariably these territories are areas
34 experiencing growth or industrial development.
35

36 We further state that conditions within North Dakota and within the power supply industry have not altered
37 since the Act’s adoption to an extent that warrants changes in the Act, supported by a history of North
38 Dakota Supreme Court interpretations. Central Power Electric Cooperative opposes the introduction of
39 legislative changes or regulatory rulings, which would dilute the strength, and intent of the law.
40

41 We further urge the North Dakota Public Service Commission to consistently base its decisions in
42 assigning electric loads on the legislative law, knowing that such consistency will help reduce the number
43 of disputes having to come before the Commission. (Revised 2017)
44

45 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 18**
46 **RUS LOAN REQUIREMENTS**
47

48 The RUS program played a major part in development of rural electric cooperatives. Aging system
49 replacement and ongoing rural development call for a continued strong RUS loan program. With few
50 exceptions, this lending program has been an unparalleled success while maintaining an excellent loan
51 repayment record. (Pre-1996)
52

53 To obtain RUS loans, rural electric cooperatives must meet several requirements. Among these
54 stipulations are requirements that annual financial plan and operating budget be adopted satisfying RUS
55 required TIER and DSC ratios, and an updated power requirement survey and current long range
56 electrical system engineering plan must be maintained. In addition, rural electric cooperatives obtaining
57 RUS loans are required to have wholesale power contracts extending to the RUS loan maturity date.
58 (Pre-1996)

1 Because of the declining rural membership and the competition with neighboring IOU's, rural electric
2 cooperatives often have trouble meeting RUS requirements. While the TIER requirement was changed
3 from 1.5 to 1.25, the 1.1 Operating TIER and DSC remained unchanged. Member rates have to be
4 higher than necessary to meet this requirement. We encourage RUS to remove the Operating TIER and
5 DSC requirements for distribution cooperatives, as this requirement does not allow the use of GT capital
6 credit allocations and other non-operating income to meet Operating TIER and DSC ratios. (2000)
7

8 Central Power commends RUS for their use of reason and flexibility in establishing loan requirements
9 such as equity development plans based on what is reasonable for each individual cooperative, taking
10 into account the economics of that cooperative's service area. We encourage RUS to continue working
11 with cooperatives as a partner to reach mutually agreeable goals. (Pre-1996)
12

13 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 19**
14 **HYDRO RATES**
15

16 Central Power's members receive approximately 12% of their power from the Pick-Sloan Project
17 administered by the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA). The availability and pricing stability of
18 this resource is of vital importance to Central Power and its members. (Pre-1996)
19

20 WAPA's rates for Pick-Sloan power are, by law, set at a level to recover the costs of operation and
21 maintenance of the facilities and to repay in a timely manner the federal investment and interest costs for
22 the facilities, along with irrigation costs that are beyond the irrigator's ability to pay. Operation costs
23 include significant expense of coal-fired power purchased to cover the hydro generation lost during
24 drought years. High downstream water levels and flooding have a similar effect preventing release of
25 water, which also limits hydro generation in wet years. (Revised 1999)
26

27 We applaud the intent and work of the ongoing cost containment committee within WAPA, which is
28 designed to optimize efficiencies in every area, realizing this effort will reduce the magnitude of future rate
29 increases. We further urge WAPA to continue communicating and consulting with the customers in
30 finding ways to reduce costs, and when determining procedures for implementing necessary rate
31 adjustments. (Pre-1996)
32

33 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 20**
34 **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**
35

36 While agriculture and energy remain the two major industries in North Dakota, future growth and
37 development depends on new job creation and economic diversification.
38

39 The rural electric cooperatives across the state have become important instruments of business
40 development by providing incentive rates, business advice, marketplace assistance and zero-interest
41 loans. Many of our member cooperatives have become leaders and organizers for economic
42 development in their communities and service areas.
43

44 Central Power commends the member rural cooperatives, the Statewide Association and Basin Electric
45 for their energetic and persistent work on economic development projects throughout the state.
46

47 Central Power urges Congress to support and build upon legislation that encourages and provides for
48 economic development in rural America. (Revised 2022)
49

50 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 21**
51 **ENERGY & ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY TAXATION**
52

53 Central Power believes in fair taxes on the extraction or severance of finite energy resources as a justified
54 means of mitigating the impact of this process and compensating the public interest. We commend the
55 work of legislative bodies and industry in continually striving to maintain the delicate balance of proper
56 compensation and a healthy economy. For this reason, we strongly oppose implementation of additional
57 energy taxes, imposed on electric cooperatives only to increase revenue from energy. (Revised 2019)
58

1 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 22**

2 **CAPITAL CREDIT RETIREMENT**

3

4 The cooperative form of organization is the best form available to meet the needs and circumstances of
5 providing electric service. Every effort should be made to strengthen the cooperative concept and to
6 obtain greater member acceptance and support for it.

7

8 Member distribution systems have developed planned programs of capital credit retirements. These
9 capital credit retirement programs are important in order to develop a sense of ownership on the part of
10 the members and to reward our members for the capital they contribute. The margins of Central Power
11 Electric Cooperative are allocated to its member distribution systems as capital credits and are
12 reallocated to the distribution systems patrons. They then become part of the total capitalization of the
13 distribution system. This G&T Equity Capital should be revolved for the same reason the distribution
14 system's margins are revolved.

15

16 Central Power supports the concept of a coordinated program of G&T and distribution system capital
17 credit retirements, and believes that the G&T program and member distribution programs should be
18 coordinated as closely as possible so that distribution systems can develop plans to revolve all of the
19 equity capital allocated to the ultimate member-owners. (Pre-1996)

20

21 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 23**

22 **RENEWABLE ENERGY AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES**

23

24 We support expanded research and greater development of renewable energy resources such as wind,
25 water, solar, biomass, geothermal, battery storage, and industrial steam and flare gas recovery. We also
26 support more research and development of improved methods for power generation, transmission and
27 distribution. We believe the electric industry should continue to respond to consumer interest in
28 distributed energy resources (DER) and other electric technologies. We challenge our member
29 cooperatives to continue to lead the electric industry in the promotion and development of large
30 commercial scale renewable resources and consumer DER's based on sound economics. We believe
31 that any federal or state incentives that may be offered to promote renewable energy development should
32 be offered on an equivalent value basis to both consumer-owned and investor-owned utilities. We believe
33 consumer interest and needs should be met with technology that is currently available and revenue
34 neutral incentive rates, without need for government mandates, such as renewable portfolio standards, or
35 legislation that passes fixed costs unfairly on to other consumers, (Revised 2019)

36

37 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 24**

38 **POWER MARKETING AGENCIES**

39

40 Selling the PMA's would drive up rural electric rates and threaten rural electric cooperative power
41 supplies, undermine their competitive position in an increasingly unforgiving industry and break faith with
42 American consumers who have been paying for government water projects for decades. (Pre-1996)

43

44 Currently, the power marketing agencies are required by law to set rates that return the costs of operating
45 and provide for a full repayment of government outlay plus interest within a specified period of time.
46 Under present plans, hydro facilities over time not only pay their own way, but make a profit for the
47 government. Current repayment practices facilitate stable rate structures when water levels fluctuate—
48 providing greater repayment during higher sales and payment postponement during times of drought.
49 (Pre-1996)

50

51 Central Power believes this power-marketing agency is a good investment in rural America. It serves as
52 a tool for evaluating the actual cost of serving consumers with adequate, reliable electric service in a
53 competitive, complex utility industry. (2018)

54

55 Central Power believes that the present system of hydro facility repayment is fair and equitable, and
56 follows the intent of Congress. We oppose any effort to impose market rates for the sole justification of
57 reducing the deficit, and oppose any switch from the present rate schedule to a straight-line structure.

1 The Pick-Sloan rate structure recognizes the fluctuating nature of hydropower resources and facilitates
2 rate stability while ensuring timely repayment of the federal investment with interest. (Revised 2004)

3
4 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 25**
5 **MARKET CONCENTRATION**

6
7 We are opposed to continued concentration in production marketing and processing of agricultural
8 products. We believe the federal anti-trust laws must be strengthened and vigorously enforced to
9 preserve the future of the family farm. (Revised 2019)

10
11 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 26**
12 **FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS TRADE**

13
14 Central Power strongly urges the President and the Secretary of Agriculture to maintain an awareness of,
15 and exercise powers granted under our nation's trade law in order to curtail the unrestricted flow of
16 agricultural products from other countries. (Revised 2019)

17
18 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 27**
19 **SHARED SERVICES**

20
21 Central Power recognizes that there are opportunities to bring about improvement of both economy and
22 efficiency through sharing services between and among rural electric cooperatives. This objective is an
23 identified goal in Central Power's strategic plan. (1997)

24
25 The membership of Central Power endorses the efforts to offer services to others and to take advantage
26 of services available elsewhere when it is economical and efficient to do so. The membership strongly
27 urges that Central Power and the member cooperatives embark on a comprehensive review to determine
28 further cooperative functions that would provide benefit by being shared within the Central Power
29 cooperative group. (Revised 2019)

30
31 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 28**
32 **HEALTH CARE PROGRAMS**

33
34 Central Power believes that access to quality rural health care is essential for the stability and
35 development of our area, and that rural electric cooperatives have a responsibility to represent the
36 interests of their members in this debate. We recognize that rural health services are at a competitive
37 disadvantage in availability, accessibility and cost compared to urban health care, and that resolution of
38 these problems requires a strong representation. Central Power supports the development of a health
39 care system that recognizes the unique services and needs of rural health care. (Revised 2012)

40
41 We encourage cooperatives throughout the state and member service territory to utilize self-funded
42 health insurance plans as a way to control health insurance premium costs, and further, encourage
43 member cooperative employees to participate in wellness programs as a way of controlling healthcare
44 costs on an individual level. (2017)

45
46 We support efforts to bring awareness to mental health issues in North Dakota, with a special
47 emphasis on suicide prevention. We call on our local, state, and federal governments to address
48 this issue and fully fund programs that provide prevention, hotline availability, education and
49 treatment options. We urge North Dakota's Congressional delegation to support these programs, which
50 would provide grant funding for mental health services to individuals engaged in any agricultural
51 occupation through the USDA. (2019)

52
53 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 29**
54 **MEMBER INVOLVEMENT**

55
56 Rural electric cooperatives today are facing problems whose solutions require the understanding and
57 support of their membership. The cooperative movement is a grassroots democratic movement, which
58 brought power to the rural areas through joint cooperation, ownership and oversight. One of the best

1 marketing tools available to the electric cooperatives is the loyalty of the membership based on its
2 interaction with the cooperative. This interaction can best be ensured by establishing programs involving
3 the membership in the decision-making process and structuring two-way communication processes
4 between the cooperative and the membership. Those rural electric systems which have utilized member
5 advisory committees, member attitude surveys, youth tour and scholarship participants, question and
6 answer sessions at member meetings and social media/technology have found these member
7 involvement programs benefit everyone involved. Such programs enhance the understanding of the
8 membership and the member's knowledge of the cooperative.

9

10 Further, we encourage cooperative leadership to conduct business in an open manner, where member
11 input is welcomed and considered. Doing so is essential in achieving support from the membership.

12 (Revised 2018)

13

14 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 30**
15 **SUPPORT OF AIR BASE RETENTION**

16

17 Central Power believes the two Air Force bases located within North Dakota's borders are strategically
18 located and do provide a necessary defensive role for the United States. In addition to their military
19 defensive role, we recognize the societal and economic benefits to this region as well.

20

21 We urge the Congressional Delegation and citizens of the communities of Minot and Grand Forks to
22 continue working to retain the specific mission performed at each of the bases. (Revised 2016)

23

24 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 31**
25 **INTEREST RATES**

26

27 The development and economic health of rural America depends on the availability of financial resources
28 at reasonable and stable interest rates. The need for credit is greatest when the market economy or
29 unfavorable weather create conditions that stress credit ratings of rural American citizens most. Central
30 Power believes development and progress cannot be obtained in rural America with hard to reach credit
31 and high interest rates.

32

33 We urge Congress to make stable and reasonable priced interest on financing a national objective.
34 Congress is applauded for supporting the Farm Credit System. We urge further national legislation to
35 help businesses and farms in the rural areas obtain credit terms similar to traditionally prosperous regions
36 of our country. We further urge continuation of the low interest programs initiated by the State of North
37 Dakota, and encourage the Bank of North Dakota to remain a part of insuring credit availability in the
38 State. (2012)

39

40 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 32**
41 **DIVERSION OF FEDERAL POWER REVENUES**

42

43 Water and power interests have enjoyed a long-standing, mutually beneficial partnership under federal
44 reclamation law through which the federal investments at multi-purpose hydropower projects have been
45 largely repaid. Central Power Electric Cooperative urges Congress and the Executive Branch to adhere to
46 principles and policies of federal law governing designation of project uses, allocation of costs and
47 irrigation assistance repayment for existing and future federal projects. (2014)

48

49 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 33**
50 **AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS UTILIZATION COMMISSION**

51

52 We support continuation of the North Dakota Agricultural Products Utilization Commission whose mission
53 is providing research and marketing grants to create new wealth and jobs through the development of
54 new and expanded uses for North Dakota agricultural products. (2019)

55

56

1 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 34**
2 **PICK-SLOAN POWER FOR IRRIGATORS**

3
4 Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program hydropower to support authorized federal irrigation projects was
5 designated for the “first lift” out of the Missouri River. Hydroelectricity was also intended to be a source of
6 power supply for consumer-owned electric utilities and state and federal agencies to maintain economic
7 development in the region. Because the federal hydro resources are limited, and because any reduction
8 in fixed allocations to rural electrics will negatively affect all North Dakota rural electric consumers, Central
9 Power supports the current utilization of the hydropower resources and opposes broadening the purposes
10 for which hydropower may be used. (2000)

11
12 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 35**
13 **OIL AND GAS PRODUCTION AND EXTRACTION TAXES**

14
15 We believe North Dakota will continue to experience growth due to the increase in oil and gas
16 development. Central Power is in support of this development that has generated billions of dollars in tax
17 revenue. The positive benefits of development bring challenges in building and maintaining roads and
18 water systems as well as funding schools, law enforcement, ambulance and fire protection, and meeting
19 social service and other community needs. We believe that the state of North Dakota should tax oil and
20 gas development sufficiently to provide the revenue necessary to compensate for the loss of these one-
21 time resources, to build adequate infrastructure, and to address the other costs and impacts to state and
22 local government from this development. (Revised 2016)

23
24 **CONTINUING RESOLUTION NO. 36**
25 **HARMONICS**

26
27 Non-linear electrical loads associated with customer loads, such as variable frequency drives and
28 electronic ballasts, while reducing energy costs and extending equipment life, can cause negative effects
29 to other customers down line. This “harmonics” primarily affects communications and data processing
30 equipment. Central Power encourages its members to adopt policies that require their members to
31 comply with the latest revision of IEEE 519. (2014)

32

1 **CURRENT RESOLUTIONS**

2
3 **CURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1**
4 **FARM BILL LEGISLATION**

5
6 Family farms are decreasing as production and land ownership is being concentrated into the hands of
7 larger-than-family sized and corporate farm units.

8
9 Central Power believes that farm bill legislation must provide direction and emphasis to ensure that
10 control of agriculture is vested within the family farm. The family farm should be promoted as a
11 production unit that produces a fair return on investment. Central Power believes there should be fairness
12 in farm support legislation, supporting a combination of commodity loan rate increases and more effective
13 targeting of program benefits providing family farm income protection. (Revised 2017)

14
15 Specifically, we urge support of the following agendas:

- 16
17 a) Remove loan caps from CCC loans and use 75% of production costs as a loan basis, lengthen
18 loan terms from the current nine-month term to a period of up to 15 months at the discretion of
19 the producer, and re-establish the farmer-owned reserve. (1998)
20
21 b) Tax breaks should be allowed for agriculture processing plants who sell their facilities to farmer
22 owned cooperatives. (1998)
23
24 c) Changes are needed in crop insurance and revenue insurance provisions to provide a safety net
25 for family farm operations at an affordable price with adequate protection levels. Measures
26 should be taken to deter crop insurance fraudulent practices. We request that rules for crop
27 insurance, once established, should not be changed during that crop year and benefits, including
28 subsidies, should be targeted to family size farms. The effects of quality losses and multi-year
29 claims on production histories must be minimized so that a producer's coverage is not
30 diminished. Future benefits of the farm program, including federal crop insurance subsidies,
31 should be targeted to family size farms. (2018)
32
33 d) We encourage support of continued research and funding of alternative agricultural technologies
34 to help farmers improve yields, fight crop diseases and pests, and improve crop quality. This
35 research should include the study of alternative crops and alternative uses of agriculture
36 commodities. This action will help American farmers remain competitive for world commodity
37 markets. (1999)
38
39 e) North Dakota farmers should not be subjected to unreliable grain quality tests. All grain testing
40 should be fair and accurate. (2022)
41
42
43 f) We encourage Congress to support a permanent disaster provision within the farm bill. (Revised
44 2008)
45
46 g) We encourage congress to support a permanent waiver from DOT's electronic log book mandate
47 for agricultural products, with priority to livestock. (2018)
48

49 **CURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 2**
50 **INTERNATIONAL TRADE**

51
52 Access to global markets is critical for farmers and producers. US agricultural exports account for a large
53 portion of farm income, farmers and ranchers rely heavily on strong export markets and fair trade to
54 maintain commodity prices and farm revenues. However, the objective and enforcement of many US
55 trade agreements and the growing national trade deficit can lead to unfair trade practices that harm the
56 farm and ranch economy.

1 International trade agreements when properly designed are useful methods that reduce world trade
2 tensions and increase development opportunities creating economic growth. Further, the international
3 trading structure under the world trade organization provides a forum for working with allies to address
4 trade disputes. Congress and the administration need to ensure trade agreements require currency
5 valuations to be balanced, include labor and environmental standards, and protect national sovereignty.

6

7 CPEC urges the administration to build a coalition of trading partners to deal with countries that trade
8 unfairly, resolve trade issues that affect producers and ensure the WTO can act as a neutral arbitrator in
9 trade. We also call on Congress and the administration to remove retaliatory tariffs that target producers
10 of agricultural products and until these tariffs are removed, provide adequate financial support to
11 producers negatively impacted by trade disputes. (Revised 2022)

12

13 **CURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3**

14 **BOVINE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHY (MAD COW DISEASE)**

15

16 Given the discovery of cattle infected with BSE (bovine spongiform encephalopathy), we believe the
17 following steps are necessary to ensure consumer confidence in the safety of U.S. beef and beef
18 products. These measures will help restore and stabilize domestic and export markets, and minimize any
19 economic damage resulting from the discovery of the disease in the U.S. from an animal of Canadian
20 origin.

21

22 We need strict enforcement of trade laws and labeling law as to provide protection to consumers and
23 livestock producers from the importation of livestock diseases such as Bovine Spongiform
24 Encephalopathy (BSE). Immediately ban the processing, blending, and shipment of meat from animals
25 tested for BSE, until test results are known. This will ensure that potentially-infected beef products do not
26 enter the marketplace resulting in further losses of consumer confidence and costly product recalls.

27 Since the full extent of BSE in foreign countries and foreign animals is uncertain, a concerted effort must
28 be put in place to prevent further expansion of the disease into the U.S. production and market system.
29 USDA should suspend and rescind prior rule-making and regulations governing the importation of live
30 cattle and beef products from foreign countries.

31

32 Implement reasonable, cost effective rules for mandatory country-of-origin labeling. This will restore any
33 loss of consumer confidence in our food safety by providing additional information to consumers and
34 improving the traceability of products through the food chain.

35

36 Proprietary information should be used only for tracing animal or health diseases and for implementing
37 country-of-origin labeling. Meat packers should not have access to the information which could be used
38 to manipulate price discovery.

39 Producers should not be liable for food-contamination incidents, such as food recalls due to e-coli
40 contamination that results from improper meat processing.

41

42 Support emergency economic assistance for producers who suffer economic losses as a result of the
43 BSE discovery. Without a commitment of federal assistance, many beef producers and rural communities
44 are likely to suffer irreparable damage as a result of the incident which was beyond their control.

45

46 USDA should continue to ban the use of all animal protein in feed, ban the use of poultry litter, waste, etc.
47 in feed for cattle, and ban the practice of using restaurant and cafeteria waste products in animal feeds.
48 (Revised 2016)

49

50 **CURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4**

51 **ETHANOL & BIO-BASED FUELS**

52

53 North Dakota citizens benefit from the ethanol industry in several ways. Ethanol production provides
54 jobs, makes use of locally grown grain and biomass, and provides a clean burning, environmentally
55 friendly source of energy. (2000)

56

57 The nation benefits from the ethanol industry that provides an alternate source of energy, making this
58 nation less dependent on foreign oil. We encourage others to use this high quality fuel and encourage

1 service stations to offer ethanol fuels to help build demand for this agriculturally derived alternative fuel.
2 (2016)

3
4 We encourage the Governor and the North Dakota State Legislature to support state ethanol producers
5 and plant development by passing legislation extending ethanol producer incentives, matching the federal
6 government's commitment to this industry. (Revised 2013)

7
8 We also encourage Congress to pass legislation promoting development of bio-diesel fuel production and
9 use, which would make this nation more self-reliant as well as use surplus grains. Our comprehensive
10 national energy policy must include the use of renewable fuels including ethanol and bio-based fuels.
11 (2001)

12
13 **CURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 5**
14 **WETLANDS**

15
16 Existing wetlands should be used to their fullest capabilities, with existing waterways and impoundments
17 recognized and included for their benefit to wildlife habitat as well as for recreation. Wetland easements
18 and purchases should have all wetland areas outlined on land maps, with the duration spelled out in
19 specific years. We believe all factors, such as displacement of existing overhead lines to underground,
20 marking of lines with diverters and any environmental impact remedies are given full consideration in the
21 easement process.

22
23 We oppose passage of any legislation which would expand the Army Corps of Engineers jurisdiction over
24 isolated wetlands and even ground water by eliminating the "navigable" requirement from the Clean
25 Water Act. We strongly oppose the Environmental Protection Agency and US Army Corps of Engineers
26 ruling codifies a new definition of "waters of the United States" and support the efforts to fight the rule in
27 the courts and urge elected officials to work to pass common sense legislation that protects both the
28 waterways and the livelihood of our farmer-rancher member owners. (Revised 2016)

29
30 **CURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 6**
31 **ADEQUATE RUS LOAN FUNDING**

32
33 A large portion of electrical lines, substations, and facilities serving electric consumers in sparsely
34 populated rural America has been in service beyond the original estimated life expectancy and is in need
35 of replacement. The need for capital to renew existing plant and build new facilities continues at a level
36 that clearly justifies a well-funded, well-managed loan program. A strong Rural Utilities Service (RUS) is
37 vital to the financing of the nation's rural electric network of generation, transmission and distribution
38 facilities. (Revised 2004)

39
40 For these reasons Central Power believes:

- 41
42 1. Loan levels should be maintained to meet necessary credit needs of rural electric
43 cooperatives and reduce the backlog of pending loan applications.
44
45 2. Federal Financing Bank funding of RUS guarantees should be continued.
46
47 3. Hardship insured loan programs should be continued.
48
49 4. RUS and Office of General Counsel staffing and funding levels should be returned to
50 adequate levels to allow for timely processing of insured loans. (2018)

51
52 **CURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 7**
53 **BASIN ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS**

54
55 The role of providing reliable and affordable electric energy to North Dakota's rural areas is a joint
56 responsibility of Basin Electric and its membership. It is therefore imperative that there is a mutual
57 interdependence of the Basin membership to Basin Electric.

58

1 The All Requirements Contract constitutes the financial and philosophical backbone of Basin Electric
2 Power Cooperative because it enables Basin Electric to plan, create, and finance the generation and
3 transmission facilities that are and will be needed by the members if they are to compete in the evolving
4 economic world, and because they provide the tangible evidence of mutual cooperative purposes.

5
6 It should, therefore be a prerequisite that any district or its Class A Member having a voting member of
7 the Basin Board of Directors be required to execute an All Requirements Contract with Basin that requires
8 a minimum annual purchase of wholesale power from Basin Electric. (1998)

9
10 **CURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8**
11 **WIND FARM RECLAMATION**

12
13 Many distribution member landowners are very interested in the potential opportunity to obtain additional
14 income from leasing wind rights to wind energy developers as North Dakota's potential as a prime wind
15 energy location continues to be recognized. To assure fairness and protect landowners in this industry
16 we support legislation to provide legal protections and minimum terms that must be a part of all wind
17 leases and options. In addition, we urge state legislators and other elected officials to enact legislation
18 that requires the reclamation of all wind energy projects, at the developers cost, once the useful life of the
19 wind project is completed to restore the land to its previous condition. (2006)

20
21 **CURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 9**
22 **CAMPAIGN FOR COOPERATIVE SUCCESS**

23
24 We urge NRECA, Touchstone Energy, Statewide and fellow cooperatives to engage in a proactive
25 campaign focusing on all of the positives that have arisen over the years as the rural electric cooperative
26 movement has grown and prospered. This is a great story, and we encourage the telling of it. Examples
27 of positives are the numerous jobs and economic contributions cooperatives provide, the Harmony Lake
28 reclamation project, Operation Round Up, and recognition of the cooperatives use of state of the art
29 technology from power plant (emissions control) to the meter (AMR usage) that have been implemented
30 without, or prior to, being mandated. (2010)

31
32 **CURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 10**
33 **HIGHWAY SAFETY IN MEMBER SERVICE TERRITORY**

34
35 We encourage ND DOT to request federal funding in the budget cycle for the four laning of Highway 281
36 & 52 from Jamestown to Minot. With the increased traffic, safety has become a concern. (2012)

37
38 **CURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 11**
39 **NET METERING**

40
41 Central Power opposes net metering and feed in tariffs unless the net metered generator compensates
42 the retail cooperative for services used by the net metered generator, including distribution and
43 transmission infrastructure and backup services required by the net metered generator and supplied by
44 the retail cooperative. (2019)

45
46 **CURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 12**
47 **COMMENDATION TO NRECA AND NDAREC**

48
49 Central Power Electric Cooperative commends NRECA and NDAREC for their continuing efforts to
50 strengthen and unify the membership, for their effective work in presenting the rural electric perspective to
51 Congress and throughout the state of North Dakota, for their coalition building among the diverse groups
52 and organizations around the country and for the informational services provided to their members. (Pre-
53 1996)

54
55
56
57
58

1 **CURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 13**

2 **COMMENDATION TO MIDWEST ELECTRIC CONSUMERS ASSOCIATION**

3

4 Central Power commends the efforts of Mid-West Electric Consumers Association (Midwest) for its
5 steadfast service to the electric consumers in the Missouri River Basin. ([Pre-1996](#))

6

7 **CURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 14**

8 **COMMENDATION TO THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION**

9

10 Central Power members commends the Congressional Delegation for their continuing support of the RUS
11 program, for support of preference power, for support of the recent focus on regional haze authority, for
12 their strong support of the Great Plains Synfuels Plant, for opposing deregulation, and for their continued
13 fight for the survival of family farm program, the dominant industry of North Dakota. ([Revised 2001](#))

14

15 **CURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 15**

16 **COMMENDATION TO THE GOVERNOR OF NORTH DAKOTA**

17

18 Central Power members commend the Governor for his support and understanding of the important role
19 of rural electrics in state development and economic progress. ([Revised 2016](#))

20

21 **CURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 16**

22 **COMMENDATION TO BASIN ELECTRIC AND CENTRAL POWER**

23

24 Basin Electric is commended for navigating through the difficult financial circumstances of the past
25 several years, and the adverse effects on their electric rates. With the significant margins being
26 generated at Basin, we encourage them to strongly consider both power bill credits and reduced rates in
27 the immediate term. We commend Basin for continuing to explore the sale of its subsidiaries. Central
28 Power is commended for continuing their commitment to return Basin's power bill credits as well as their
29 own margins that exceed budget to the membership. Those credits, passed on by Central Power along
30 with their own excess margins returned as power bill credits and capital credit retirements, keeps member
31 distribution cooperative rates competitive. ([Revised 2022](#))

32

33 **CURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 17**

34 **COMMENDATION TO BASIN ELECTRIC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOAN PROGRAM**

35

36 Basin is commended for its Economic Development Loan Program whose purpose was to provide low
37 interest, long term funding for its members to enhance the quality of life in rural America, create or retain
38 jobs in rural areas, or to contribute to load development. ([2004](#))

39

40 **CURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 18**

41 **COMMENDATION TO CENTRAL POWER'S DIRECTORS, MANAGERS AND EMPLOYEES**

42

43 The past and present directors, managers and employees of Central Power are commended for their
44 steadfast, dedicated service over the years of Central's existence. We applaud the efficient, successful
45 and safe operation of the Cooperative for the benefit of its members. ([1999](#))

46

47 **CURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 19**

48 **COMMENDATION TO U.S. ARMED SERVICES.**

49

50 Central Power supports our troops and commends members of the U S. Armed Forces and their coalition
51 partners for the bravery, dedication, and heroic personal contributions exhibited in the cause toward world
52 peace. ([Revised 2022](#))

53

54