

Amy Wilde

1. What do you believe is the role of an electric cooperative in the community?

To provide efficient and affordable electrical power and other services to its rural members.

2. Do you believe the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) should be involved in setting rates, fees and charges for unregulated electric cooperatives that are governed by their consumers (members) through a member-elected Board of Directors?

Only if the rates go so high as to become an affordability issue or if complex environmental concerns develop. Most boards should be able to handle routine business.

3. What is your stance on the net metering laws in Minnesota? Do you believe electric cooperatives should be required to buy excess generation from members who own distributed generation? Do you think it is fair to require electric cooperatives to pay the retail rate rather than the lower rate at which they purchase power from the market (wholesale rate)?

Members who wish to generate electricity through alternative means should be able to sell excess generation to their co-op. Access fees, etc. may need to be negotiated. Cooperatives should be able to negotiate for market rates.

4. Right now, Renville-Sibley Co-op Power is trying to balance environmental goals with reliability and affordability. Are you concerned that the Clean Power Plan and additional proposed regulations in Minnesota will tip this balance away from affordability for our members?

Hopefully it will not, At the end of the day, sustainability should benefit everyone.

5. What is the biggest issue facing your district and how will you help alleviate this issue?

Three major concerns that local residents report include 1) sustainable transportation funding for state, county, township and municipal roads. Current revenues have been flat and not kept pace with inflation; more money needs to be put into the system. 2) Developing health coverage that is not so expensive. The ACA and MnSure exchange helped insure many, but did not include enough price controls. I would use my experience on a county hospital board and the PrimeWest Health Board to work on cost controls. 3) Lack of access to affordable high-speed Internet in some rural locations. Electric co-ops could help play a role in reaching those rural residents & businesses who need dependable service.