

Andrew Falk

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

To provide electric utility service outside of municipal and/or IOU service territories.

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?

Depends. Our local electric cooperative locked us into some really expensive coal contracts that are only going to get more expensive. Perhaps there should have been more review before signing those long-term agreements.

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)?

I support net metering. It keeps more of our energy dollars local. What is the true PURPA rate?

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?

What will the proposed regulations cost? What rate or increase is deemed affordable or unaffordable?

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

Lack of young families coming back to rural Minnesota. We need to provide free preschool to every four-year-old no matter where they live. Young families are demanding this and going to communities that offer free preschool.