

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?

Newman: No. The PUC is a perfect example of the overreach of the Minnesota regulatory scheme which has become increasingly burdensome on all Minnesotans. Coop rate payers (members) have direct access to their elected representatives who are accountable to them. No such accountability exists with the PUC.

Wilde: 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.