



Columbia REA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Columbia REA Announces Restructuring in Ranks

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WALLA WALLA, WA — Les Teel, CEO of Columbia REA, announced a change in the company structure on May 16 at the monthly employee meeting. Following extensive work with the board of directors over the last few months, CEO Teel announced that current Marketing and Member Services Manager Scott Peters is moving into the role of Chief Operating Officer. Doug Case, formerly the Energy Efficiency and Marketing Specialist, will become the Marketing and Member Services Manager. Taking on portions of Case's previous responsibilities, Dan Andrews will now be the cooperative's Energy Information and Member Service Supervisor. Manager of Engineering and Operations, Dave Reller becomes the Manager of Operations and Grant Glaus, formerly the cooperative's System Engineer, steps into the role of Manager of Engineering. Of these changes CEO Teel says "By adjusting our staffing positions and responsibilities we will enhance our capacity to serve our members."

Chief Operating Officer Scott Peters has been with Columbia REA for nine years, he came from Golden Valley Electric where he was Member Relations Manager. This move aligns Peters to work with CEO Teel and the Columbia REA board of directors to help set the direction of the cooperative. Peters says "With the impending changes to our industry nationally, and the increasing growth we are experiencing locally, I am excited to be a key component to setting the future course of our cooperative."

Manager of Operations Dave Reller celebrated his 31st year with Columbia REA this month. He started his career as an engineer, working his way up the ranks to manage that department. "While this seems like a split of a department," Reller explains, "it is actually a more efficient and thorough way of organizing two departments that work so closely with one another but require fulltime oversight to continue best serving the needs of our members and potential future members."

Manager of Engineering Grant Glaus has been an engineer for 18 years, graduating from

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Montana Tech, and has been with Columbia REA for the last eight years. “Taking advantage of the close working relationship that Dave Reller and I already have established will lend itself to a smooth transition for our departments and our members,” said Glaus.

Manager of Marketing and Member Services Doug Case has been with Columbia REA for seven years. Case brings a network of solid relationships with regional farmers and irrigators as well as the greater business community. “I am excited to develop and grow the community relationships I have established over the years as Columbia REA continues to grow within our communities,” states Case. Glaus and Case are both graduates of the Northwest Public Power Association’s Senior Leadership Program.

Energy Information and Member Service Supervisor Dan Andrews began with Columbia REA 19 years ago in the engineering department. He then transitioned into member services as the Member Services and Billing Supervisor. Dan brings an in-depth knowledge of member services and energy efficiency to his new role. “We always encourage members to contact us with questions and concerns and I am looking forward to taking a more active role in finding solutions for our members,” Andrews said.

“This change is a great benefit to the cooperative and our members,” CEO Teel explains, “we are excited for our talented employees to grow within our cooperative to serve our communities in an even larger capacity.”

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Columbia REA is a member owned electric cooperative serving customers in Columbia & Walla Walla Counties in Washington and Umatilla County in Oregon. Local, trusted, serving you!

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