



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **East River Electric Reorganizes Operations Division**

Last fall, East River Electric Power Cooperative had implemented a reorganization of its Operations Division, creating an Engineering Services Department managed by Dan Wall who had formerly been the manager of the Engineering/Transmission Services Department. At that time, a second new department, the Transmission and Substation Department, was created and Larry DeKramer, who formerly managed the Substation/Dispatch Department, was named manager of this department.

To complete this reorganization, East River Electric has merged its Information Technology Department with the Telecommunications Department.

The merger is being driven by ongoing smart grid applications and changes in the utility industry that are bringing these areas of technology closer together.

Chuck Lohsandt, who was the manager of the Information Technology Department, has been named manager of the newly-formed Information Technology and Telecommunications Department, which will be assigned to the Operations Division.

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“These organizational changes will serve to streamline services we offer for our member systems and prepare us for the technological demands for the future,” said Jeff Nelson, East River Electric General Manager.

Additionally, Mark Hoffman has been selected as the new Manager of Engineering Services Department to replace Dan Wall, who will retire in October. Hoffman and Wall will be working together to fully transition Hoffman into this position prior to Wall's retirement.

***East River Electric Power Cooperative*** is a wholesale electric power supply cooperative serving 24 rural electric cooperatives and one municipally-owned electric system, which in turn serve more than 92,000 homes and businesses and over 250,000 consumers.

*Our 41,000 square mile service area covers the rural areas of 41 counties in eastern South Dakota and nine counties in western Minnesota.*

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