

PURPOSE - MEMBERS - VALUE

At Southwest Power Pool, we work to help our member companies keep the lights on, provide the most economical power available, and keep the bulk power grid reliable and safe.

OUR PURPOSE

We are a Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) that manages the electric grid and enables member companies access to a cost-saving energy market. This provides the end user with reliable and affordable electric power. We are a nonprofit and designated by the Federal Energy and Regulatory Commission (FERC). We do not own generation, transmission or distribution.

WE SERVICE THE GRID by arranging for the transmission of electricity to wherever and whenever it's needed. That way – when you flip the switch – your lights come on. And our free-market system delivers the most economical power available when you need it. That keeps cost down.

WE PROTECT THE GRID by maintaining reliability in our region when conditions change – due to such things as weather or when a power plant or transmission line goes out of service unexpectedly. We safely keep the lights on and prevent blackouts.

WE PLAN THE GRID by coordinating the need for power with new resources and transmission lines to make sure the future grid is safe, economical, and able to meet your needs in the future.

OUR MEMBERS

Our members include investor-owned utilities, marketers, rural electric cooperatives, municipals, companies that own transmission, and state and federal agencies. Members own the transmission lines and generation equipment, including multiple generation sources.

We train operators who are responsible for day-to-day operation of the bulk electric system, plan for future improvements and additions to the transmission system, and comply with all legal and regulatory requirements established by the federal government, FERC and North American Electric Reliability Corporation.

OUR VALUE

Our members, and their ratepayers, benefit from increased reliability of the grid. And, we enable them to buy and sell electricity, with a focus on enabling access to the lowest cost power available.

Our independent analysis helps our members determine where to invest in improving existing or constructing new transmission lines. These lines are essential for both reliability and to ensure lower-cost power can be accessed.

Without the services we provide, a \$100 residential electric bill would be \$106.61. These cost savings do not reflect the value of avoided reliability problems such as the 2003 Northeast Blackout, which had an estimated \$4-\$10 billion economic impact.

FAST FACTS

Who We Are: Nonprofit FERC-designated Regional Transmission Organization (RTO)

Located: Little Rock, AR

Members: 80

Region: All or parts of Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas

Service territory: 370,000 square miles

Households served: 6 2 million

Miles of transmission: 48,537

Energy Market: \$12 Billion Annually

Employees: 570

Operates: 24 x 7

Average salary: \$85,000

Primary jobs: Electrical engineering and IT

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