PROPOSED CODE OF REGULATIONS CHANGES

In March 2025, members are asked to vote for proposed changes regarding right-of-way easements & trustee qualifications



What is the Code of Regulations?

The Code of Regulations contains the rules under which the cooperative operates. It addresses key issues such as memberships, annual meetings, board nominations and elections, patronage, mergers, and more. Amendments or changes to the Code of Regulations can only be approved by the cooperative's membership.

Mid-Ohio Energy's Code of Regulations has been amended routinely over the co-op's history. The most recent amendments were approved by the membership in 2021, with changes including updates to modernize language and make provisions for the way we communicate and use technology.

This March, during the cooperative's annual election, members will be asked to adopt newly proposed additions to the Code of Regulations, relevant to a.) right-of-way easements and b.) candidate eligibility requirements for the Board of Trustees.

See below for the full text and explanation of proposed changes. If you have any questions, please contact our offices.

Right-of-Way Easements Add language to Section 3 of Article I.

In order to establish a member's obligation to grant the Corporation easements for the provision of electric service, the following amendment is suggested to be added to Section 3 of Article I:

"Each Member shall, as a condition of the provision of electric service, provide the Cooperative without charge such easements and rights-of-way in the Cooperative's standard form in reasonably mutually-agreed locations as necessary or convenient for the Cooperative for distribution of electric to serve such Member or other Members or patrons of the Cooperative."

Trustee Candidate Eligibility

Add language as new sub-paragraph under Section 3 (f) of Article IV

To waive the one-year waiting period for a spouse of a Member to be eligible to be a member of the Board, the following amendment is suggested to be added as a new sub-paragraph under Section 3 (f) of Article IV:

"3) for purposes of this paragraph (f), the one-year requirement shall be waived for the spouse of a Member if (a) the Member is otherwise in compliance with this Section 3; (b) satisfactory evidence of the spousal relationship is established; and (c) the spouse of the Member resided with the Member for at least one year prior to the spouse becoming the member. This subparagraph 3) does not alter any other requirement of this Code of Regulations for becoming a member or the qualifications for becoming a trustee, including, but not limited to, Article I, Section 5."

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why are these Code of Regulations changes being proposed?

The Code of Regulations is routinely reviewed by the co-op's staff and trustees.

The proposed changes for right-of-way easements are being recommended to reflect current co-op practices to preserve reliable power for all members. This helps us protect our ability to access / maintain our existing lines and equipment.

The changes to trustee qualifications are made to add flexibillity that provides a way for more members to get involved in the co-op's democratic process. The same candidate criteria and election process remains in place, however there would be added flexibility to allow the spouse of a member to enter the trustee nominating process.

How does the trustee requirements addition change trustee criteria?

No change in requirements. This solely allows the spouse of a member to place the service in their name and run as the member if they can provide proof of residency at the service location. Under the current Code, if the spouse not listed as a member, they would have to wait a full year with membership in their name before being eligible to run.

What is a right-of-way easement?

A right-of-way is a defined strip of land where our lines and equipment are safely constructed, maintained, and operated.

A right-of-way *easement* is an agreement allows your co-op to access and utilize a portion of property to maintain power lines and related equipment necessary to deliver electricity, without having to own that land.

Will this change how the co-op manages right-of-way zones?

This will not change the current process or methods used by the co-op to manage the right-of-way zone. It simply states that an easment should be provided by the member as a provision of receiving electric at a location.

Does a right-of-way easement provide unrestricted access to my property?

No, it does not grant unrestricted access to a member's property, nor can we add facilities without a mutual agreement. A right-of-way easement gives the co-op permission to access and maintain its lines and equipment in the specified zone Right-of-way zone

Although an easement allows us a right of entry, we try not to disrupt the property. Some impacts may be inevitable (such as tire marks from heavy equipment) but rest assured reasonable care will be taken to minimize any impact to the area.

Where can I view a full version of the Code of Regulations?

The text and relevant information will be included in the voter information packet mailed to all members in March. You can also find this information posted online at **MidOhioEnergy.com**.