

New beginnings and a bright future for Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative (“CMEEC”)

CMEEC, a six-member joint action agency headquartered in Norwich, CT, is pleased to introduce Dave Meisinger, CMEEC’s Chief Executive Officer, to the New England public power community. Dave joined CMEEC just over a year ago, in January 2020, relocating to Connecticut after serving as Vice President of Power Supply & Regulatory Affairs at EnergyUnited Electric Membership Corporation in Statesville, North Carolina. Prior to that, Dave worked for seventeen years as an attorney in private practice, focusing on the energy and public utility sectors.

Dave has already accomplished much for CMEEC in his one “short” year with CMEEC. In February 2020, he advocated for and received Board approval for the establishment of a Strategic Planning Committee for the purpose of creating a long-term vision for CMEEC’s staff and Board of Directors. This was a top priority for Dave and the Board, and CMEEC’s Strategic Plan was ultimately approved by the Board in October. Since then work has begun on implementing the Strategic Plan with attention to such items as decarbonization, organizational development, power supply enhancements, communications and financial planning.

Last March, when the Covid-19 pandemic became a reality for southeastern Connecticut, Dave’s guidance led to a smooth transition to full remote working. Under his leadership, staff were able to continue working safely and to move forward and maintain customer and member focused activities without missing a beat. In April, Dave was instrumental in closing on an advanced forward bond sale that enabled CMEEC and its six member utilities to refinance approximately \$60 million dollars of higher interest rate tax-exempt debt, saving the members approximately \$1 million dollars per year. With Dave’s insight and participation, CMEEC’s credit rating was upgraded by Fitch from A+ to AA- in May of 2020.

Dave has also made some effective workforce changes and cultural shifts, helped to improve CMEEC’s budget process, and has even delved into the intricacies of ISO-NE markets.

Dave says he is “very excited” to be at CMEEC, and that he looks forward to partnering with the CMEEC Board, staff and stakeholders to deliver on CMEEC’s value proposition for its member electric utilities (Norwich Public Utilities, Groton Utilities, Jewett City Department of Public Utilities, Third Taxing District of the City of Norwalk, South Norwalk Electric and Water, and Bozrah Light & Power): “It is an exciting time to be in public power, and I look forward to leading CMEEC into its next stage and to continue to deliver on CMEEC’s core purpose.” Welcome Dave!