

1725 U.S. Hwy. 12 E., Suite 100, Litchfield, MN 55355 • 320-693-3231 • www.meeker.coop

## Application for Membership and Electric Service

To set up an electric account, please complete this application. Once the application is received, we will use your Social Security number to run a mandatory online soft credit check to verify your identity in accordance with government-enacted Red Flag Rules. A deposit (see #15 on reverse) or good credit history are necessary to establish service. Please return this completed Membership Application on or before \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to avoid disruption in electric service. ☐ Single Membership ☐ Joint Membership Membership Type: ☐Business/Organization \_ SS# or Tax ID#\_\_\_\_\_ Drivers License # First SS# or Tax ID# Joint Applicant Name\_\_\_\_\_ Mid. Initial Drivers License # State Home Phone Cell #1 Cell #2 Work Phone E-mail Address Premise Address Street/PO Box Billing Address\_ Street/PO Box Check if <u>premise</u> address should be used as your billing address ☐ Permanent Residence or ☐ Seasonal Residence ☐ I own this home/building ☐ I rent this home/building — Landlord's Name\_\_\_\_\_ Landlord's Address ☐ I am 18 years of age or older I have read the "Conditions of Application for Electric Service" on the reverse side of this form and hereby agree to comply with same. By signing this form, I understand that I am authorizing an identity and soft credit check as outlined in #12 of the "Conditions." Please sign below. If signing on behalf of an organization/business entity, please include your title/official position. Signature Office use:

Location # Account # Transfer Date

(required if credit check comes back with adverse rating)

Deposit

## Conditions of Application for Electric Service

- 1) The signed Application for Electric Service shall constitute a contract between the parties upon acceptance by the Cooperative.
- 2) A Member is any person or entity purchasing energy and receiving such energy through facilities owned and/or maintained by this Association and meeting the requirements thereof.
- 3) The Applicant/Member's premises must be wired in compliance with the National Electrical Code.
- 4) Upon completion of the application or use of electricity prior to the completion of this application constitutes the acceptance of this application/agreement. The Applicant/Member agrees to comply with the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation, policies, bylaws of Meeker Cooperative, and the Member Handbook. The Bylaws and Statement of Nondiscrimination can be found on our website.
- 5) Billing for New Service will begin when the Cooperative has completed its construction. Electric service purchased from the Cooperative will be purchased at rates set by the Cooperative, which includes a minimum monthly charge regardless of energy used.
- 6) The Applicant/Member hereby authorizes the Cooperative the right to enter onto said Member's premises to construct and maintain the lines serving said residence/business, including all extra equipment and/or additional wiring subsequently attached, up to the meter or weather-head and lines on the premises serving other residences. This shall include the right to trim and spray the line right-of-ways, to maintain clearance in accordance with state, federal and RUS standards/specification. This shall also include the right to read, maintain and replace Cooperative meters.
- 7) If the Applicant/Member defaults on said Member's account and the Cooperative commences collection proceedings, the Applicant/Member must pay applicable late payment fees, interest and all costs of collection. Connections or reconnections shall be made when all delinquent accounts owed by the customer have been fully paid and all policies and regulations of the Cooperative have been met. The Applicant/Member grants the Cooperative a security interest in whatever capital credit the Applicant/Member is either currently entitled to receive or will receive in the future.
- 8) The Cooperative will endeavor to provide continuous service but does not guarantee an uninterrupted supply of electric service. The Cooperative will not be responsible for any loss or damage resulting from the interruption disturbance of service for a cause other than gross negligence of the Cooperative. The Cooperative will not be liable for any loss of profits or other consequential damages resulting from the use of service or any interruption or disturbance of service. Meeker Cooperative recommends that three-phase protection be added to three-phase equipment and motors to protect that equipment in the case of a single or multiphase outage or interruption of service.
- 9) Cooperative Members receive the Cooperative's monthly newsletter, the Meeker Pioneer. Annual subscription cost of \$5.00 is paid through the base rate.
- 10) All fees (deposits, construction charges and other applicable fees) that are not paid prior to the use of electric service shall be billed on the Member's regular electric bill. Payment on the bill will apply first to the balance of the fees and other charges until they are paid. If payment on the account is not sufficient to cover both the fees and electric usage, the account will go into "past due" status.
- 11) Operation Round Up® / Meeker Cooperative Electric Trust: Applicants applying for electric service are enrolled to participate in Operation Round Up. Your electric bill will be rounded up to the next highest dollar. Monthly contributions may range from \$.01 to a maximum of \$.99. Monies collected are used to provide grants to worthwhile activities and community projects within the service territory and college scholarships. Contributions may be tax deductible. To opt out of the program, please contact Meeker Cooperative.
- 12) I give my consent for Meeker Cooperative to conduct an identity check and soft credit check in compliance with the Red Flag Rules mandated by Federal FACT Act 2003, 16 C.F.R. 681. I understand that all information is confidential and will not affect my credit score in any way. If there are persons residing at the Member residence who are not members of the Cooperative, then it shall be the sole responsibility of the Cooperative Member of said residence to secure any and all electric information and/or communication from or to the Cooperative, or that in any way relates to the Cooperative, for the purpose of identity theft prevention. Further, in the event that the Member moves out of said residence, it shall be the Member's responsibility to immediately notify the Cooperative in writing stating that (i) they have moved out of said residence, and (ii) future Cooperative correspondence should no longer be sent in the Member's name to said residence. If the Member fails to comply with this requirement, the Cooperative shall not be liable for any resulting identity theft damages.
- 13) Meeker Cooperative is an Equal Opportunity Employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/ complaint\_filing\_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.
- 14) You agree, in order for us to service your account, collect amounts you may owe, describe services and products available, or otherwise communicate with you, that we may contact you by telephone at any telephone number (landline or wireless) associated with your account, which could result in charges to you. We may also contact you by sending text messages or emails, using any email address and phone numbers you provide us. Methods of contact may include using pre-recorded or artificial voice messages and/or the use of an automatic dialing device, as applicable. I/We agree that Meeker Co-op may contact me/us as described, including making products and services known or marketed to me.
- 15) Every new service application requires a soft credit check from On-Line Utility Services. If that check is negative, a \$400 deposit (minimum) is required to obtain electric service. For Large Single Phase, Large Three Phase, Large Power Peak Alert, and Irrigation services, the deposit will be \$20 times the total installed KVA for all Demand Billed accounts. Any required deposit will be held until the Member leaves the Co-op's service territory, and will be applied to the final bill, if any. Any balance (plus interest accrued annually) will be returned to the Member. Members 30 days past due or disconnected for a delinquent account will pay a minimum \$400 deposit or a two-month average bill (whichever is greater).