

## Member Participation *is Key*



Bill Scott  
Great Lakes Energy  
President/CEO

**S**erving on a board can be both challenging and rewarding. I've served on various boards throughout my career in an effort to get involved in my community and offer my experience to organizations that I feel

provide a valuable service. It's a commitment of time and energy to take on a board position, but one that can return benefits for years to come.

members, the Great Lakes Energy board members take an active role in their local communities. Being a co-op board member requires a commitment of time and effort and the willingness to engage with our members and communities.

Great Lakes Energy's mission is to provide safe, reliable and affordable power – keeping your lights on is our primary goal. But, in addition to providing electricity to power your home, the cooperative offers other programs like energy efficiency programs and incentives as well as new renewable energy programs. As we change and grow with the ever transforming utility industry, it remains important to hear the voice of our members during the voting process.

Through active engagement and participation of the membership, the co-op can ensure it is leading in a direction that continues to support our mission and the best interests of members. Voting for board members or seeking a seat on the board is one way you can participate.

Board service may not be for everyone, but if you'd like to learn more please contact us. The first step is the nominating process, which begins this month. The election for board seats in districts 3, 4 and 5 will take place in July. Please see the related article in this issue for more details.

Did you know that Great Lakes Energy offers the opportunity for members to serve on our board of directors? At Great Lakes Energy, we are governed by a board of nine directors, elected by the membership, that provides strategic direction to ensure we continue to serve the interests of you, the member-owner.

The board provides leadership and guidance for the co-op and is a voice for the members. Democratic member control is beneficial to the co-op way of doing business and one of the core principles that defines a co-op. In addition to ensuring the co-op serves the best interests of its



### Free Electrical Safety Demonstrations

Free electrical safety demonstrations are available to schools and youth groups within the Great Lakes Energy service area.

**G**reat Lakes Energy presenters will come to your classroom and give students a free demonstration using a tabletop display.

The display includes a miniature energized power line. The presenter uses an insulated tool to show the arc given off by the power line when touched. Students will see a vivid demonstration of electrical safety during the 30-40 minute presentation.

School presentations are for second to seventh grades. Our show dates calendar fills fast, so please reserve a time soon. Visit the Community tab on [gtlakes.com](http://gtlakes.com) to fill out a safety demonstration request form.

## ATTEND A FREE ENERGY SEMINAR

A free energy seminar for Great Lakes Energy members will be held this spring.

Learn about rebates and incentives to help you save energy and money in your home.

Door prizes will be awarded. Winners will receive energy saving gifts.

**WHEN:**  
Saturday, June 3  
From 10 a.m. to noon.

**WHERE:**  
Holiday Inn Convention Center  
East Ballroom  
4079 W. U.S.-10  
Ludington, MI

**REGISTER NOW:**  
Space is limited, so please register by calling  
**1-888-485-2537**, ext. 8958,  
or email: [events@glenergy.com](mailto:events@glenergy.com).

# Three Openings on GLE Board

Nominating petitions are available in three districts for Great Lakes Energy (GLE) members who wish to seek election to the cooperative's board of directors.



Ric Evans  
District 3



Larry Monshor  
District 4



Dale Farrier  
District 5

Three board positions, each for three years, will need to be filled. Qualifying GLE members who reside in districts 3, 4 or 5 can seek election to the board.

#### COUNTIES BY DISTRICT ARE:

- District 3 - Antrim County
- District 4 - Otsego, Montmorency, Oscoda and Crawford counties
- District 5 - Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Manistee, Missaukee and Wexford counties.

The terms of directors Ric Evans of Ellsworth, Larry Monshor of Gaylord and Dale Farrier of Kalkaska expire this year. The three incumbents plan to seek re-election.

To get their names on the ballot, qualifying member-owners of the electric cooperative who maintain a primary residence within its service area must file a nominating petition with the co-op secretary.

Petitions must be signed by at least 50 active GLE members within the candidate's district.

Petition circulators are advised, but not required, to collect well over 50 signatures because some may not be valid.

Signed petitions returned by mail or in person must be received in the co-op's Boyne City office no earlier than Thursday, May 25 and no later than Friday, June 9.

Petition forms are available by contacting 888-485-2537, ext. 1331.

GLE members in each of the three districts will elect one candidate from within their district to fill the three positions on the board. Mail-in ballots will be sent with the July/August 2017 issue of *Michigan Country Lines*. Winners will be announced Aug. 23 at the GLE annual business meeting.



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

## Looking Out for You

1323 Boyne Avenue, P.O. Box 70  
Boyne City, MI 49712

WEB: [gtlakes.com](http://gtlakes.com)

TEL: 888-GT-LAKES

EMAIL: [glenergy@glenergy.com](mailto:glenergy@glenergy.com)

Great Lakes Energy is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



## Join People Fund Plus

NOW, YOU CAN MAKE A GREATER IMPACT IN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY WITH PEOPLE FUND PLUS.

Choose a People Fund donation level in addition to your rounded-up amount. Your donations are awarded in the form of grants to local community nonprofit groups.

All People Fund contributors earn the chance to win a \$100 bill credit twice per year. In 2016, the People Fund awarded \$204,752 in grants to local nonprofits. Visit [gtlakes.com](http://gtlakes.com) to see the list of grant recipients in your area.

### JOIN TODAY!

Working together, we can help enhance our local communities and meet the needs of so many.

### HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

\$65.42	Bill
\$00.58	People Fund Round-Up Amount
<u>\$ 2.00</u>	People Fund PLUS Amount (or any even amount you choose)
\$68.00	Total Bill

Sign up today by contacting us at

1-888-GTLAKES or visit [gtlakes.com](http://gtlakes.com).

## RECYCLE BULBS

### AT GREAT LAKES ENERGY

Recycle your used compact fluorescent lightbulbs (CFLs) and LED lightbulbs at your local Great Lakes Energy office.

### ONLY COMPACT FLUORESCENT AND LED LIGHTBULBS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Great Lakes Energy is looking out for you by providing a COMPAK Recycling Center box in the lobbies of its eight service centers. Simply place your CFLs and LEDs in the environmentally-secure container. The co-op will ship them to Next Level for Recycling, Inc. (NLR) which disposes of waste products quickly and properly. CFLs and LEDs help you save energy.

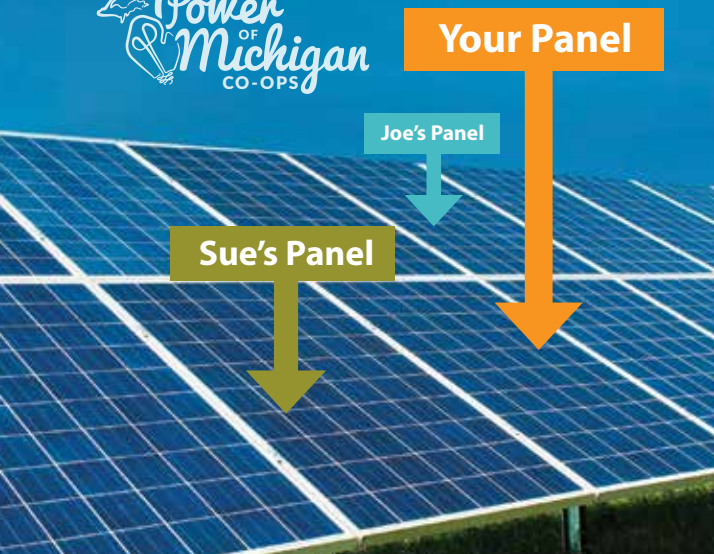
#### ACCEPTED



#### NOT ACCEPTED



# Building a brighter tomorrow, together.



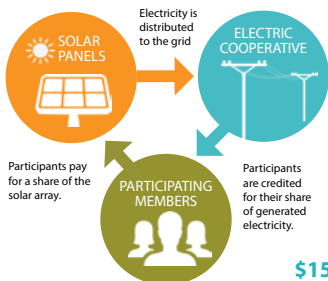
## Go Solar With No Panels On Your Property

Great Lakes Energy is proud to offer a community solar program that gives our members an easy and affordable way to support renewable energy. Get a panel subscription through our SpartanSolar community array and start getting solar credits on your utility bill today. Learn more at [spartansolar.com](http://spartansolar.com)



# 3 Renewable Energy Options

## 1 Community Solar

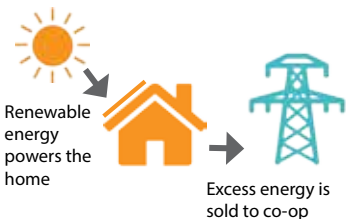


### Option Details

- 15-year agreement
- Credit of \$0.10/kWh generated
- \$600/panel upfront or \$10 monthly (for 5 years) payment subscription

**\$150 rebate** for residential/seasonal members who pay upfront.

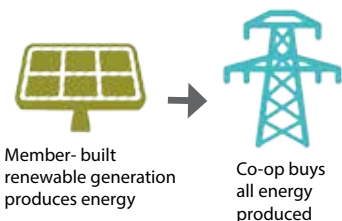
## 2 Net Metering



### Option Details

- 10-year agreement
- Retail offsets for kWh produced and used in facility
- \$0.056/kWh generated and placed on the grid
- 20 kW cap

## 3 Buy-All/Sell-All



### Option Details

- 20-year agreement
- \$0.10/kWh generated and placed on the grid
- One megawatt cap
- On premises