



TEXAS CO-OP POWER
MAY 2015



SOMETHING NEW UNDER THE SUN

CoServ Solar Station
becomes a reality
in Denton County ... PAGE 18



CEO MESSAGE: COSERV SOLAR STATION SOLAR FARM GENERATES EXCITEMENT



The CoServ Electric Board of Directors visited the CoServ Solar Station site in April after construction began. Standing beside the unpacked solar panels are (from left): Richard Muir, Clint Bedsole, Clyde Geer, Anne Vaden, Bill Ragsdale, Curtis Tally and Leon Pelzel.



By **DONNIE CLARY** President/CEO

Farms have existed in Denton County for more than a century, but CoServ will soon be harvesting a new type of crop for CoServ Electric Members: Solar energy.

Last spring, we informed you about our participation in this exciting renewable-energy project. A year later, I am happy to report that the **CoServ Solar Station** is taking shape in Krugerville and will be fully operational by this summer.

Located on 16 acres off Ike Byrom Road near U.S. Highway 377, the facility is part of the **Solar Utility Network Deployment Acceleration (SUNDA)** program, which aims to lower the cost of utility-scale solar power and make it a viable renewable-energy option for electric co-op members.

SUNDA is connected to a larger, nationwide collaboration with the **National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA)** and several other electric co-ops nationwide. It is sponsored by the **U.S. Department of Energy's Sunshot Initiative**, which was launched in 2011

to make subsidy-free solar energy cost-competitive with conventional forms of energy by 2020.

The CoServ Solar Station will allow CoServ Members to buy units of solar-generated electricity without investing thousands of dollars on long-term contracts, leases or rooftop installations. We are in the process of creating a Residential Solar Energy Rate, which will be publicized on CoServ.com when it is ready. (Please contact us today at **solar@coserv.com** if you are interested in hearing more about this rate.)

Solar power will be part of tomorrow's energy mix, and I'm proud to say that CoServ is among the first co-ops in Texas to be planning for it today. It's appropriate, too, that the reason we exist—to serve rural areas that had no electricity in the 1930s—continues more than 75 years later but with a twist: Now some of those same farms will help power the suburban cities that have sprung up and continue to grow in North Texas.

We plan to share more details about the CoServ Solar Station at the **2015 Annual Meeting on June 18** at the University of North Texas Coliseum in Denton. So if the great food and fine fellowship aren't enough to entice you to join us this year, maybe the continuation of this conversation will. We look forward to seeing you there.

Donnie Clary is a 24-year CoServ Employee. He was CoServ's Senior Vice President and CFO when the CoServ Electric Board of Directors selected him as the company's President/CEO in August 2014.

**ON COSERV.COM: More photos
and a time-lapse view of the
CoServ Solar Station's construction.**