

# NHEC Presentation to the OCA Advisory Board

**April 25, 2022**

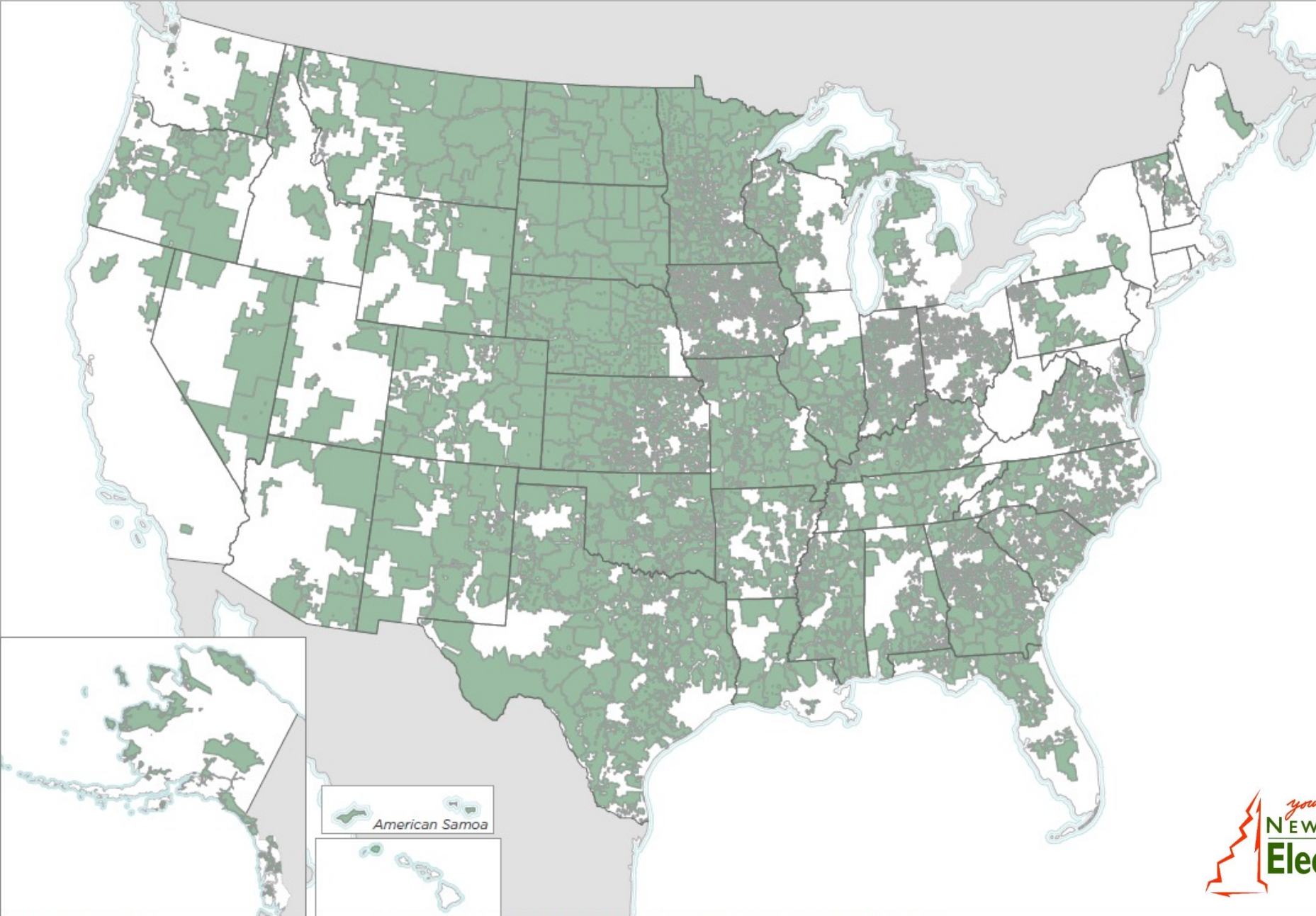


# Electric Cooperative History

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- Rural Electrification Act of 1936/FDR
- Serve rural America
- Low interest federal loans to build out electric infrastructure
- Built, owned, and operated by the communities served
- Purpose: electrify communities, empower the membership, improve quality of life





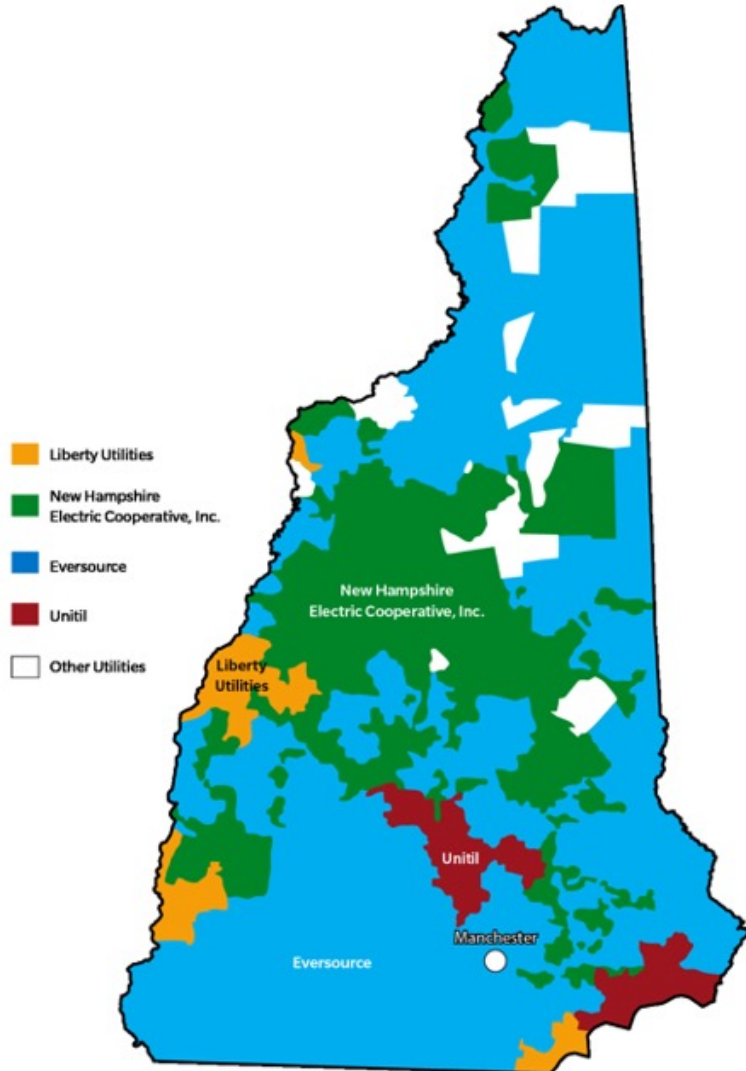
# Electric Cooperatives Today

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- 832 Electric Distribution Cooperatives nationwide
- 63 Electric Generation and Transmission Cooperatives nationwide
- Serve 56% of the nation's landmass
- Own and operate 42% (2.7 million miles of line) of all distribution and transmission nationwide - 48 states
- Serve 42 million meters including 92% of poverty counties nationwide



# New Hampshire Electric Cooperative



- Rural electric cooperative
- Founded in 1939
- First pole set in Lempster
- Not-for-profit
- Owned and governed by our members
- 85,000 members in 118 communities
- 6,000 miles distribution line

# History of NHEC Regulatory Treatment

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- **1997** - SB 116 the “Cooperative Regulatory Option Bill” passes
- **2000** – Members vote to approve proposal to elect to become exempt from many aspects of NHPUC regulation by 94.4% of ballots cast and NHEC files Certificate of Deregulation with the NHPUC
- **2000** – NHEC opened service territory to retail competition and becomes deregulated electric cooperative
- **2001** – HB 489 “Cooperative Energy Option Bill” removes limitation on NHEC’s ability to indefinitely offer energy services to its members and eliminate NHPUC jurisdiction over NHEC’s power supply procurement and its energy services rates, terms and conditions
- **2004** – Restructuring principles (SB 443) amendment reserves a “back stopping” authority for NHPUC in circumstances where they conclude NHEC has or will act “in a manner inconsistent with restructuring policy principles.”
- **2014** – NHEC and NHPUC enter into a Memorandum of Understanding documenting NHEC’s commitments concerning voluntary informational reports and communications it will provide to NHPUC



# Key Differentiators – Electric Co-ops vs. Investor-Owned Utilities

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- Member owned vs. shareholders
- Not for profit vs. profit
- Established to provide at-cost electric service
- Governed by an elected Board of Directors - elected by the membership
- Provide services to meet the needs of the membership
- Rural electric service provider: 14 meters/mile vs. 45 meters/mile
- Local and personal connection to the communities served
- Default service procured through a managed resource portfolio
- Capital Credits



# NHEC Key Initiatives – past and present

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- State-wide deployment of AMI (Automated Metering Infrastructure)
- 2.5 MW solar farm in Moultonborough, NH
- 2.5 MW battery unit in Moultonborough, NH
- Aggressive Electric Vehicle (EV) utility program
- Web site system for solar deployment by circuit in the state
- Customized member programs for beneficial electrification - reducing carbon footprint
- SCADA expansion ongoing across the electric distribution system
- Substation transformer replacement program across the entire state
- Direct burial cable replacement program: 400 miles
- First retirement of capital credits



# New Hampshire Broadband –FTTH

- Serving portions of Colebrook, Stewartstown, Clarksville, and Lempster NH through CARES Act – 1,100 passes (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act)
- Currently building out the entire towns of Acworth and Sandwich, NH – 1,800 passes
- Secured RDOF (Rural Digital Opportunity Fund) funding across the service territory
- Currently designing and building out Grafton County - 32 towns - 17,000 passes
- 1 gig upload and download service



**THANK YOU**

