

**North Plains Electric Cooperative, Inc.**  
**Government-in-Action Youth Tour Interview Contest 2025**

The following are general facts about North Plains Electric Cooperative, Inc. and the electric cooperative industry. Judges will ask you some of these questions during your interview.

**1. What is a cooperative?**

A cooperative is a business organization which is owned and controlled by those who use it for their mutual benefit.

**2. How is North Plains Electric controlled and managed?**

It is controlled by the board of directors who are elected by the membership. It is managed by the general manager who is hired by the board of directors.

**3. Why do cooperatives hold annual meetings?**

It gives members the opportunity to select the board of directors and to hear and evaluate reports of the cooperative's operations for the past year.

**4. What are the duties of the board of directors?**

The board is the governing body of the cooperative. Acting as a group, they employ the manager and establish specific operating practices.

**5. Who is the President of the board of Directors?**

Craig Young, President

**6. Who has final authority in the cooperative?**

The membership of the cooperative, through the board of directors.

**7. Who is the general manager of North Plains Electric?**

Randy Mahannah

**8. When was North Plains Electric organized?**

March 2, 1944.

**9. How many miles of line does North Plains Electric own?**

3,876 miles

**10. How many meters are served by North Plains Electric?**

7,661 meters

**11. In what counties does North Plains Electric furnish electric service?**

Hansford, Hemphill, Hutchinson, Lipscomb, Ochiltree, Roberts, and Wheeler.

**12. Must an individual be a member to receive service from North Plains Electric?**

Yes. According to the bylaws of North Plains Electric, only members may receive electric service.

**13. What does RUS stand for?**

RUS stands for the Rural Utilities Service.

**14. Do all rural electric cooperatives operate the same?**

No. Each electric cooperative is an individual association owned and controlled by the members in its territory.

**15. Does the government give money to cooperatives to build their lines?**

No. Any money borrowed must be paid back in full, with interest.

**16. What is a non-profit Cooperative?**

The Cooperative does not make money for itself, but does, in a sense, for its members by supplying electricity on a cost basis.

**17. In what ways do cooperatives differ from ordinary corporations?**

Cooperatives, are organized for the benefit of those who are its members.

**18. How many electric cooperatives are there in Texas?**

76.

**19. Who is North Plains Electric's wholesale power supplier?**

Golden Spread Electric Cooperative, Inc., headquartered in Amarillo, TX.

**20. What is the relationship of North Plains Electric Cooperative to TEC?**

Texas Electric Cooperatives (TEC) is the statewide organization made up of individual electric cooperatives which are its members.

**21. What is the PUCT?**

The Public Utility Commission of Texas is responsible for regulating utilities to the best interest of both the consumer and the utilities. Electric Cooperatives are exempt from rate regulation but generally follow PUCT guidelines.