



NEWS RELEASE

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Brinkley Receives Electric Cooperative Leadership Award *A&N Electric Co-op Leader Honored by Statewide Association*

Tasley, Va. – Vernon N. Brinkley, Jr. has been honored by the Virginia, Maryland and Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives (VMDAEC) with the 2014 Electric Cooperative Leadership Award.

Brinkley, who retired last year after 31 years as President and CEO of A&N Electric Cooperative (ANEC), accepted his award at the VMDAEC annual membership meeting on July 28 in Williamsburg, Va.

In presenting the award, VMDAEC president and CEO Jack Reasor praised Brinkley for his four decades of dedicated and exemplary service to electric cooperatives. In addition to leading ANEC, Brinkley served for more than 30 years on the board of Old Dominion Electric Cooperative (ODEC), ANEC's power supplier, and was Chairman of the ODEC board from 2001-2004.

“During Vernon’s career, the Cooperative more than quadrupled in size, from fewer than 8,000 meters in the early 1980s to more than 35,000 meters today,” explained Jack Reasor, ODEC president and CEO during the award presentation ceremony.

Some of the Cooperative’s biggest changes came during Brinkley’s last five years of service. Following the acquisition of Delmarva Power’s service area on Virginia’s Eastern Shore in 2008, A&N applied for Virginia State Corporation Commission approval to bring all members under a unified rate structure. The cooperative also made substantial investments in right-of-way maintenance and capital improvements to ensure continuation of the Cooperative’s strong electric reliability record, one of the best in the region.

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“Vernon has served electric cooperatives wisely and well on a national stage, both as a Board member of the National Information Solutions Cooperative and as a stellar representative for many years on the board of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association,” said VMDAEC Executive Vice President Richard Johnstone. “His candor, wry wit and concern for the member-consumers of cooperatives all across the land have earned him the respect and admiration of his peers.”

Brinkley was thrilled to receive the 2014 Electric Cooperative Leadership Award as part of a luncheon celebration that included his family as well as many friends from sister electric cooperatives.

About ANEC

Headquartered in Tasley, ANEC is a not-for-profit energy provider that serves nearly 36,000 members in Accomack and Northampton Counties in Virginia and Somerset County, Md. For more information, visit www.anec.com.

About VMDAEC

Founded in 1944, VMDAEC is the trade association for the 15 consumer-owned not-for-profit electric distribution cooperatives that serve Delaware, Maryland and Virginia. The Glen Allen, Va.-based Association provides its member cooperatives with employee, director, and safety education and training, government relations and legislative support, and communications services, including the publishing of *Cooperative Living* magazine. For more information, visit www.vmdaec.com or www.co-opliving.com.

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