

**GENERAL MANAGER/EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT**  
**BENTON RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**  
**PROSSER, WA**

Benton Rural Electric Association, through its executive search consultant, seeks an experienced leader to succeed its retiring General Manager/Executive Vice President.

Benton Rural Electric Association is headquartered in Prosser, WA. Prosser with a population of about 5,500 is a beautiful small town with a big country feel. Prosser is located in the lush Yakima Valley and celebrates its rich agricultural heritage with many world-class wineries and vineyards. With almost 300 sunny days annually, Prosser offers a variety of outdoor activities including hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, boating and golf. Prosser with over 30 local wineries has also been dubbed the “Birthplace of the Washington Wine Industry.” As the seat of Benton County, Prosser also offers a local hospital, and good school system for all grades.

Prosser is a short drive to the Tri-Cities area (Pasco, Richland, and Kennewick). The Tri-Cities has a population of 248,400. There are colleges in the Tri-Cities area where an individual can pursue a degree. Columbia Basin College has a full array of Associate Degree and Vocational/Technical career programs. Washington State University branch campus provides the opportunity to acquire undergraduate and master degrees in a variety of programs.

The Benton Rural Electric Association serves approximately 22% of the land area of Benton and Yakima Counties, or about 1,300 square miles. Service is provided to residential, commercial, industrial, and agriculture/irrigation members. The cooperative has a total utility plant value of over \$100 million which includes 62 miles of transmission line, 2,099 miles of distribution line, and 24 substations. The Association serves approximately 14,892 consumers and has 78 full time employees, of which about half are represented by a collective bargaining unit. The cooperative was energized in 1938 and has two branch offices which are located in Toppenish, Washington and in West Richland, Washington. The cooperative purchases wholesale power from the Bonneville Power Administration and Powerex a wholly owned subsidiary of B.C. Hydro in Canada.

Benton REA also serves as an Internet Service Provider, under the name of PowerNET, which was established in 1997 and offers a variety of internet access and technology services to thousands of people and businesses. These services include broadband wireless and dial-up Internet access services, technology consulting for businesses and individuals, basic PC repair for businesses and individuals, personal email service, dial-up accelerator service, business web page hosting and other commercial services.

The successful candidate should have a minimum of ten years of proven senior management experience in the electric utility industry, preferably in the rural electric cooperative program. It is required that the successful candidate hold a bachelor's degree from a four year accredited college, or equivalent combination of education and experience related to the challenges of the General Manager/Executive Vice President position. The ideal candidate will have political expertise and experience dealing with energy & regulatory issues on a state or national level. The position reports to a 9 member elected board of trustees.

Candidates should have proven senior management experience in the areas of finance and accounting, member relations, personnel and electric operations. It is mandatory that the CEO have strong interpersonal skills, strong oral and written communication skills, maintain a positive attitude, have strong leadership skills, be a team builder and work well with the employees, and have the ability to develop positive long term relationships with the consumer/members, community organizations, state and federal legislators, associated regional and national organizations, the employees and the board. Union negotiating experience is a plus.

With a full benefit package and relocation expense provided, annual compensation will be commensurate with experience and qualifications. The new General Manager/Executive Vice President should begin work sometime in May, 2012 for some overlap with the current GM who retires June 1, 2012.

Application packages need a cover letter, resume, recent salary history, along with 6 business and 3 personal references **by email only, no later than January 31, 2012** to:

**LANGLEY & ASSOCIATES EXECUTIVE SEARCH, INC.**

**Attn: Carol M. Langley, President**

**Phone: 303-694-2228**

**Cell: 303-888-4012**

**Email: [cmlangley@earthlink.net](mailto:cmlangley@earthlink.net)**

**All information kept strictly confidential – an EOE**