

Biography of John D. Hewa, P.E.



John D. Hewa is CEO of Pedernales Electric Cooperative, the nation's largest electric distribution cooperative. PEC provides energy services to the Texas Hill Country, one of the fastest growing regions in the United States, bordering the cities of Austin and San Antonio. PEC has been serving the Texas Hill Country for nearly 77 years and its early founders included then-Congressman Lyndon B. Johnson. Today, PEC serves over 265,000 homes and businesses in an 8,100-square-mile territory.

John's experience spans leadership roles in the municipal, cooperative and energy research sectors. John brings an innovative approach and perspective on utility management, energy delivery systems, telecommunications, and grid technology solutions.

Prior to joining PEC, John served as the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's (NRECA) Vice President of Research, Engineering and Technical Services in Arlington, VA. John's role at NRECA included leading the Energy and Power Division, addressing technical regulatory matters at the federal level, and heading up NRECA's Cooperative Research Network, facilitating the advancement of beneficial technologies among the nation's electric cooperative network.

Earlier in his career, John served as General Manager of Talquin Electric Cooperative and Talquin Water and Wastewater, delivering utility services in north Florida. During his time in Florida, John served on the Board of the Florida Electric Cooperative Association and as a Board of Director for Seminole Electric Cooperative, a generation and transmission cooperative providing wholesale power supply for over one million Floridians.

John served as the Director of Utilities for the City of Manassas, VA, overseeing the City's delivery of water, wastewater, electric and telecommunication services. He began his career designing transmission and distribution infrastructure at Bristol Tennessee Electric System.

John presently serves on the Board of the Solar Electric Power Association (SEPA), an educational non-profit dedicated to helping utilities integrate solar power into their energy portfolios for the benefit of the utility, its customers and the public good. He has proudly served the utility industry on various committees throughout his career, which include working to support the efforts of NRECA and the American Public Power Association.

John holds a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Tennessee and a master's degree in engineering management from the University of Tennessee. He is a licensed Professional Engineer.