

Consolidation of two area electric coops rejected

(KNZA)--The members of two area electric cooperatives have defeated a proposed consolidation plan.

The announcement was made Friday in a joint release by the Nemaha-Marshall Electric Cooperative in Axtell, and Doniphan Electric Cooperative in Troy.

Recently, the Boards of Trustees for the two cooperatives had unanimously approved a vote by their respective members on the proposed consolidation.

Prior to Thursday's vote, the proposed consolidation plan was reviewed extensively during special meetings with members and employees of both cooperatives.

The vote was held both in-person at the cooperative offices and by mail ballot at Nemaha-Marshall Electric.

The proposed consolidation required approval of two-thirds of the voting members of both cooperatives, with a minimum of 50 members in each cooperative voting.

"We are disappointed with the outcome. The Boards of Trustees have worked diligently on this issue. However, these are member owned and member driven electric cooperatives. The members have spoken with this vote," said Daniel O'Brien, General Manager for DEC.

"Our organization appreciates the work by both Boards of Trustees, the consultants and key employees who have worked to develop this proposal," said Kathleen O'Brien, General Manager for NMEC. She added, "Going forward, we will continue to provide our members with best-in-class electric service."