

The Bandera PROPHEET

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Bandera Electric Cooperative hosts international delegation to share expertise on energy conservation and broadband internet provision

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Bandera Electric Cooperative (BEC), a leading provider of energy solutions and broadband services, alongside NRECA International, has announced its hosting of a delegation from electric cooperatives across Zambia, Nigeria, Guatemala, Costa Rica, and The Philippines, in Boerne, on March 7. The purpose of this international gathering was to exchange knowledge and expertise on energy conservation through Apolloware technology and to explore the provision of high-speed broadband internet to cooperative members.

NRECA International is an affiliate of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). Since 1962, NRECA International has helped establish more than 250 electric utilities and electric cooperatives in 48 countries, empowering more than 160 million people worldwide. This international delegation attended NRECA's 2024 PowerXchange in San Antonio where each year, NRECA International hosts hundreds of international guests from various countries.

Recognized globally for its innovative approach to energy management and commitment to community development, BEC is excited to extend its expertise to international counterparts. The cooperative has been implementing cutting-edge solutions powered by Apolloware, an advanced energy management platform, to help members optimize energy usage and reduce costs effectively.

The visit from cooperatives representing diverse regions is a testament to BEC's leadership in the energy sector and its dedication to sharing knowledge for the betterment of communities worldwide. Through collaborative efforts, BEC aims to empower cooperatives globally with

the tools and strategies necessary to navigate the evolving energy landscape and promote sustainable development.

In addition to discussions on energy conservation, the delegation explored BEC's successful venture into broadband internet provision. Recognizing the crucial role of connectivity in today's digital age, BEC has been at the forefront of delivering high-speed broadband services to its members, bridging the digital divide, and opening up opportunities for education, business, and communication.

"We are honored to host this esteemed delegation from various corners of the world and share our experiences and insights on energy conservation and broadband internet provision," BEC CEO Bill Hetherington said. "At BEC, we believe in the power of collaboration and knowledge exchange to drive positive change and create a sustainable future for all. Through initiatives like this, we strengthen the global cooperative community and pave the way for a more resilient and connected world."

The visit included presentations, interactive sessions, and site visits to BEC's facilities to provide firsthand experience of its energy and broadband initiatives. Participants had the opportunity to engage with BEC experts and learn best practices that can be adapted and implemented in their respective regions.

BEC looks forward to fostering lasting partnerships with cooperatives worldwide through NRECA International and continuing its mission to empower communities through innovative energy solutions and broadband access.

For more information on NRECA International, visit www.nrecainternational.coop.

About Bandera Electric Cooperative: Bandera Electric Cooperative (BEC) is a member-owned electric distribution cooperative serving over 29,000 meters across seven counties in Texas. Committed to delivering reliable and affordable energy solutions, BEC strives to empower its members and communities through innovation, collaboration, and sustainable practices. In addition to its energy services, BEC provides

high-speed broadband internet to enhance connectivity and enrich lives in rural areas. For more information, visit www.banderaelectric.com.