

News Release



**Electric Cooperatives
of Arkansas**

Chris Bell selected for 2018 American Institute of CPAs Leadership Academy

Little Rock, Ark. — July 12, 2018 — Chris Bell, senior accountant for Arkansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. and controller for Today's Power, Inc., was recently named as one of only 41 CPAs honored by the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) tenth Leadership Academy on Oct. 7-11 in Durham, N.C.

Bell graduated from the University of Central Arkansas in 2011 with a Master's degree in accounting, is a certified public accountant, is a member of the Arkansas Society of Certified Public Accountants and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. He also holds the Cooperative Financial Professional Certificate.

The AICPA Leadership Academy is designed to strengthen and expand the leadership skills of professionals while they network with a peer group of CPAs. Attendees of the training are selected from public accounting firms, business and industry and consulting firms. To date, 310 CPAs have participated in the AICPA Leadership Academy.

"Chris is a great employee and has a heart for serving Arkansas' electric cooperatives," said Michael Henderson, executive vice president of AECl and president of TPI. "His desire to continue to hone his professional skills will benefit the cooperatives."

The Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas comprise 17 electric distribution cooperatives; Arkansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. (AECl), a Little Rock-based cooperative that provides services to the distribution cooperatives; and Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corp. (AECC), a generation and transmission cooperative. The distribution cooperatives provide electricity to approximately 500,000 homes, farms and businesses in Arkansas and surrounding states.

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