We deliver more.
We negotiate with suppliers for better utility rates and terms.
2018 was another tremendous year of growth and membership value enhancement for NOPEC. The year was punctuated with numerous tangible examples of how NOPEC consistently delivers on its core mission — to serve our communities and our customers.

We started the year with a $9.2 million customer give back. We gave an on-bill rate reduction directly to our 500,000 residential and small business customers on their February through May electric bills. Each household saved roughly $18 and each business around $39 over the four-month program period.

We successfully launched two programs that gave dollars back to our communities as well. Our NOPEC Energized Community (NEC) grant initiative awarded more than $5.89 million to 214 communities that, to-date, has funded 168 different energy-efficiency projects across our footprint. The Community Event Sponsorship program provided more than $230,000 to our communities to help fund over 200 events in 197 NOPEC communities. We are pleased our General Assembly approved the continuation of these two exciting programs for 2019.

We also added 11 new electric and four new gas communities in 2018, including our first foray into the southwest portion of the state with the addition of the City of Springfield in Clark County as a member of our electric aggregation. The addition of these new communities, and several initiatives specifically designed to reduce opt-outs, boosted our electric customer count by 9% to over 510,000 while our gas customers grew to nearly 400,000.

The Preferred Pricing Program, which offers energy at-cost for municipal facilities, saved NOPEC member communities nearly $67,000 on street lighting, $79,000 on natural gas and $102,000 on electric costs in its first year. We closed two more PACE loans and our first STEP loan in 2018, totaling almost $500,000 in energy-efficiency financing. Our anti-solicitation Do Not Knock program was adopted by four new communities last year, adding more than 9,000 enrolled residents bringing our total enrollment to almost 13,000. And we launched a new brand campaign that significantly raised the awareness of NOPEC and debuted a new, better organized, more user-friendly website at nopec.org as well.

All this was accomplished while continuing to offer competitive pricing, staying diligent in our advocacy efforts to protect Ohio’s ratepayers from unwarranted charges and educating and servicing our communities and consumers.

And these are just the highlights of another very busy and productive year at NOPEC. You can read more about these and many other programs and accomplishments in the pages that follow. As always, we appreciate your support and feedback and look forward to more great things ahead for YOUR organization in 2019 and beyond.

Ron McVoy, Chairman, NOPEC Board of Directors
Customer Growth and New Communities for 2018

We lobby for laws that protect our communities.

New Gas Communities
- Cuyahoga County
  - City of Cleveland Heights
- Seneca County
  - City of Fostoria
- Stark County
  - City of Alliance
- Summit County
  - City of Cuyahoga Falls

New Electric Communities
- Clark County
  - City of Springfield
- Columbiana County
  - Fairfield Township
- Cuyahoga County
  - City of Cleveland
  - City of Cleveland Heights
  - City of Seven Hills
- Geauga County
  - Burton Township
- Medina County
  - Village of Chippewa Lake
  - Village of Gloria Glens
- Richland County
  - Village of Lexington
- Stark County
  - City of Alliance
- Summit County
  - Sagamore Hills Township

New Community Growth
- ’12
- ’13
- ’14
- ’15
- ’16
- ’17
- ’18

Natural Gas & Electric Accounts
- Gas
- Electric
- Total
- ’17
- ’18
- ’17
- ’18
- ’17
- ’18
Natural Gas and Electric Communities

Ashtabula County
Ashtabula
Ashtabula Township
Conneaut
Geneva
Geneva-on-the-Lake
Geneva Township
Harpersfield Township
Jefferson Township
Jefferson Village
Kingsville Township
North Kingsville Village
Plymouth Township
Saybrook Township

Columbiana County
Fairfield Township

Cuyahoga County
Beachwood
Bedford
Bedford Heights
Bentleyville
Berea
Bretannahl
Brecksville
Broadview Heights
Brook Park
Brooklyn
Brooklyn Heights Village
Chagrin Falls
Cleveland
Cleveland Heights
Cuyahoga Heights
Fairview Park
Garfield Heights
Gates Mills
Glenwillow
Highland Heights
Highland Hills Village
Hunting Valley
Independence
Lakewood
Linndale Village
Lyndhurst
Maple Heights
Mayfield Heights
Mayfield Village
Middlefield Heights
Moreland Hills
Newburgh Heights
North Olmsted
North Randall
North Royalton
Oakwood Village
Olmsted Falls
Olmsted Township
Orange Village
Parma Heights
Pepper Pike
Rocky River
Seven Hills
Solon
South Euclid
Strongsville
University Heights
Valley View
Walton Hills Village
Warrensville Heights
Woodmere Village

Geauga County
Auburn Township
Bainbridge Township
Burton Township
Burton Village
Chardon
Chester Township
Clairton Township
Hambden Township
Huntsburg Township
Middlefield Village
Montville Township
Munson Township
Newbury Township
Russell Township
South Russell Village

Huron County
Norwalk

Lake County
Concord Township
Eastlake
Fairport Harbor
Grand River
Kirtland
Kirtland Hills Village
Lakeline Village
Leroy Township
Madison Township
Madison Village
Mentor
Mentor-on-the-Lake
Painesville Township
Peninsula Township
Peninsula Village
Timberlake
Waite Hill
Wickliffe
Willoughby
Willoughby Hills
Willowick

Lorain County
Amherst Township
Avon
Avon Lake
Carlisle Township
Columbia Township
Eaton Township
Elyria
Elyria Township
Lorain
New Russia Township
North Ridgeville
Sheffield Lake
Sheffield Township
South Amherst

Medina County
Brunswick
Chippewa Lake
Gloria Glens

Portage County
Atwater Township
Brimfield Township
Charlestown Township
Deerfield Township
Edinburg Township
Franklin Township
Freedom Township
Garrettsville
Hiram Township
Hiram Village
Kent

Lorain County
Grafton Township
Penfield Township
Verona

Mahoning County
Ostrasen Township
Palmyra Township
Paris Township
Randolph Township
Ravena Township
Rootstown Township
Shalersville Township
Suffield Township
Sugar Bush Knolls
Windham Township

Seneca County
Fostoria

Summit County
Bath Township
Boston Heights
Boston Township
Copley Township
Copley Township

Trumbull County
New Falls

Southeast Ohio
Southeast Ohio Public Energy Council [SOPEC]

Electric Communities

Ashtabula County
Andover Township
Austinburg Township
Cherry Valley Township
Colebrook Township
Denmark Township
Dorset Township
Hartsgrove Township
Lenox Township
Monroe Township
Morgan Township
New Lyme Township
Orwell Township
Orwell Village
Pierpont Township
Richmond Township
Roaming Shores Village
Rock Creek
Rome Township
Sheffield Township
Trumbull Township
Wayne Township
Williamsfield Township
Windsor Township

Clark County
Springfield

Cuyahoga County
East Cleveland
Shaker Heights

Geauga County
Chardon Township
Middlefield Township

Lorain County
LaGrange Township

Richland County
Lexington Village

Summit County
Lakemore Village
Peninsula Village
Twinsburg

Trumbull County
McDonald Village
Community Outreach

Interacting directly with our member communities and residential customers is very important to NOPEC. In-person interactions take several forms and are extremely helpful in allowing us to communicate who we are and the services we provide.

Member Community Presentations:
In 2018, NOPEC conducted over 40 presentations at senior centers, community centers, and to civic organizations. These presentations allow us to communicate directly with the residents we serve, answer questions about NOPEC and share details about the many programs we offer.

Energy Bike Presentations:
Since 2016, NOPEC’s Energy Bike has been traveling to our member communities to engage with our younger energy users. The Energy Bike is a great tool to help educate children and adults on energy consumption and conservation. It’s fun and effective, allowing riders to see and feel in real time how much effort is required to generate electricity. The Energy Bike is free and available to any member community.

Schedule a presentation for your residents: Contact our Community Outreach Manager Tony Ramos at aramos@nopec.org.

We arm consumers with energy-saving ideas.

107.3 The Wave Senior Luncheons:
NOPEC partnered with local radio station 107.3 The Wave in 2018 as a sponsor of The Wave Senior Luncheon Series. Luncheons were held throughout northeast Ohio and were attended by over 800 residents. Helping our customers to understand their bills and how their personal behaviors and choices can result in lower energy bills is an important part of NOPEC’s mission.
Lake County Captains Family Fun Sunday Sponsorship

NOPEC again sponsored the Lake County Captains Family Fun Sundays at Classic Park. Throughout the season, we maintained a visible park presence through banners, promotional giveaways and commercials playing on the digital scoreboard. Over 24,000 people attended a Family Fun Sunday game and total season attendance exceeded 250,000 people.

Our Captains sponsorship included two Education Days that were attended by 3,500 students. Students got to learn more about NOPEC and energy.

NOPEC member community leaders were invited to join us at two member appreciation games to cheer on the Captains and enjoy a picnic lunch. Over 200 attendees from 24 NOPEC communities attended these events. Consumers attending Lake County Captains games were exposed to a bunch of fun ways to learn how to save money through the many energy-saving tips and ideas NOPEC shared with them.

Community Event Sponsorship Program

In 2018, NOPEC made funds available to member communities to help support public events as part of our Community Event Sponsorship Program. This program provides financial support to organizations within member communities that host events for residents. NOPEC’s goal with this program is to help support events that rely on donations and are free and open to the public. The amount of funds allocated to each member community is determined by the average number of enrolled residential/business gas and/or electric accounts during the 2nd and 3rd quarters of the preceding year.

In 2018, over $230,000 was disbursed to organizations to help support over 200 events, many of which NOPEC representatives attended in person. The NOPEC General Assembly found this program very beneficial and has renewed it for 2019!

For questions about this program or assistance completing the disbursement process, contact our Community Outreach Manager Tony Ramos at aramos@nopec.org.
Expanding Awareness of NOPEC

In 2018, NOPEC launched a new marketing campaign designed to increase brand awareness and understanding of the benefits of NOPEC membership by clearly explaining how NOPEC negotiates lower energy rates while providing additional benefits to our customers. Reaching 99.5% of Northeast Ohio households, the campaign included television commercials, digital ads, billboards and print advertisements.

Website Launch

The launch of NOPEC’s new website provides an easy-to-use, streamlined communication tool that allows customers to easily access our rates, find information about our programs and gain a better understanding of the benefits of aggregation.
Focus Group

NOPEC hosted small business focus groups in 2018 to get a better understanding of the needs of small commercial customers within NOPEC member communities. This valuable insight will help us develop programs that benefit our commercial customers, increase customer retention and provide feedback on how to best communicate with local businesses in the future.

How Consumers Feel About NOPEC

The results are in. After conducting an in-depth consumer research study, we found that NOPEC’s 2018 marketing efforts helped to significantly improve brand awareness with existing NOPEC customers.

Significantly Improved Awareness

Dramatically Improved Brand Perception

73%
Residents with a Favorable Opinion of NOPEC

Improved Customer Retention Rates

Enhanced Message Recall

Better Understanding of Messaging + Increased Consumer Consideration of NOPEC = Improved Customer Retention Rates

How Consumers Feel About NOPEC

The results are in. After conducting an in-depth consumer research study, we found that NOPEC’s 2018 marketing efforts helped to significantly improve brand awareness with existing NOPEC customers.
Energy Efficiency Financing

NOPEC supports the economic strength of our communities by making our business customers more competitive with attractive financing programs to enable money-saving energy efficiency upgrades. NOPEC added a second program for energy efficiency financing in June 2018, offering $5,000 to $100,000 loans for eligible commercial properties. STEP (Savings Through Efficiency Program) is made possible through the USDA’s Rural Energy Savings Program. NOPEC is the first organization in Ohio – and one of the first in the country – to be awarded these USDA funds to help commercial property owners lower their energy consumption and costs through energy efficient upgrades. STEP loans have a fixed 3% interest rate with a 10-year term.

Anidraig Properties, LLC, became the first STEP borrower in September 2018. With its loan of just over $61,500, it financed extensive improvements to the building housing its operating company, Advanced Accounting Consultants in Middlefield Village. The improvements included lighting, doors, heating and air conditioning, roof replacement and insulation, for a projected annual energy savings of 16%.

NOPEC also financed two energy efficiency projects through its PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) program in 2018. Launched in 2016, this program offers financing for projects that require $100,000 to $500,000. Fixed interest rates start at 2.5%.

The home of Chagrin Valley Soap & Salve Company in Solon used the PACE program to finance a roof replacement. The company secured financing of $103,600 at 3.5% fixed-interest for 15 years. Thanks to our PACE financing, they’ll reduce the energy loss through their roof by 65%.

The East Cleveland Public Library (ECPL) also financed a project with PACE in 2018. Like Anidraig Properties, the ECPL is making extensive improvements to its facility. Projected annual energy savings from this $250,000 project are over $27,000. The planned improvements at the library include lighting, windows, boiler replacement, heating and controls. The library’s financing was structured with a 3.0% fixed-interest rate for a 10-year term.

Both PACE and STEP financing offer commercial property owners a tool to make their facilities more efficient and reduce utility costs. Eligible properties include private-sector offices, retail and industrial buildings, non-profit facilities, public-sector (government, health care, education) facilities and apartment buildings located in NOPEC member communities.

For more information about NOPEC’s Energy Efficiency Financing programs, contact Norma Fox Horwitz at nfhorwitz@nopec.org.
The NOPEC Energized Community (NEC) Grant Program, launched in January of 2018, was available to all NOPEC member communities (gas, electric and dual). The streamlined application process allowed communities to manage the grant program entirely online.

This $6M program aimed to increase energy efficiency and upgrade energy infrastructure in member communities. Selected projects are now being monitored for energy cost savings, a long-term goal of the NEC Grant Program.

There were 168 projects approved across NOPEC’s jurisdiction for the 2018 calendar year. Funded projects ranged from a $255 LED light replacement to a roof replacement costing $167,768. Funding amounts were calculated based on the number of enrolled gas and/or electric accounts per community. Numerous communities utilized the 2018 NEC Grants to implement lighting and HVAC improvements in their buildings.

As the following examples illustrate, many communities got creative in implementing projects that best fit their needs.

- Both Knox Township and New Russia Township installed solar-powered LED stop signs at dangerous intersections to avert crashes.
- In Jefferson Village, the grant funded energy infrastructure at a pavilion built for special events.
- Walton Hills Village retrofitted existing holiday decorations with new LED lights.
- Orange Village is upgrading traffic signals and installing a battery backup system with generator hook-up to control the signals during power outages.
- The City of Athens is creating a solar-powered lighting system for public transit bus shelters.
- In the City of Macedonia, LED lighting upgrades will allow one of the Longwood Park ballfields to remain open for night time play.
- The City of Norwalk is now using 20’ fans to circulate air and balance out heating in its aquatic center thanks to the NEC Grant funding.

The NOPEC General Assembly has approved the continuation of this program with an additional $6 million for 2019.

For more information about the NOPEC Energized Community Grant Program, contact grants@nopec.org.

Since 2001, NOPEC has awarded more than $22 million in energy efficiency grants to our member communities.
NEC Grant Funded Projects

Ashtabula – Ashtabula
Annex Boiler Replacement

Ashtabula County – Ashtabula
Lift Bridge Lighting Upgrade

Ashtabula Township – Ashtabula
Peleg Park Christmas Lights

Athens – Athens
Public Transit Solar Bus Shelters

Auburn Township – Geauga
Streetlight LED Conversion Project
Mapleshade Cemetery Lighting Project

Avon – Lorain
Chester Road Improvements

Bainbridge Township – Geauga
Back up Generator
LED Lighting and Electrical Service Upgrades
Supply Gas Heat to Lakeside Building

Bay Village – Cuyahoga
Municipal Building Lighting

Bedford – Cuyahoga
City Hall, Service Garage and Community Center Energy Efficiency Improvements

Bedford Heights – Cuyahoga
Replacement of City Hall Doors, Police Department Doors, and Three Energy Efficient Fire Bay Doors

Bentleyville – Cuyahoga
Generator Repair

Boston Heights Village – Summit
AC Unit Replacements

Boston Township – Summit
Door Replacement

Brecksville – Cuyahoga
Service Garage Efficiency Improvements

Brimfield Township – Portage
Energy Efficient Furnace Upgrades
LED Lighting Upgrades

Broadview Heights – Cuyahoga
Lighting Upgrades and AC Unit Upgrades

Brooklyn – Cuyahoga
Street Light LED Upgrades

Brooklyn Heights – Cuyahoga
HVAC Supply Line Upgrade

Chagrin Falls – Cuyahoga
Hickory Hill Sanitary Pump Station Elimination Project

Chardon – Geauga
LED Lighting Project

Chester Township – Geauga
LED Lighting Upgrades
and New Generator

Claridon Township – Geauga
Street Light Upgrade

Colebrook Township – Ashtabula
Lighting Upgrades

Columbia Township – Lorain
Installation of Energy Efficient Metal Roof System for the Columbia Town Hall

Concord Township – Lake
Fire Department Facility Improvements
Service Department Energy Efficiency Improvements

Conneaut – Ashtabula
Gas Pipeline Infrastructure

Coventry Township – Summit
Window Replacement

Cuyahoga Heights – Cuyahoga
Energy Efficient Police Door

Dorset Township – Ashtabula
New Metal Roof on Township Garage

Eastlake – Lake
City Hall Control System Upgrade
Fire Department LED Lighting Upgrade
Service Garage Heater Replacement

Eaton Township – Lorain
Townhall Door Replacement & Outdoor Lighting Upgrade

Edinburg Township – Portage
Road Garage Insulation

Elyria – Lorain
State Route 113 Roadway Lighting Project

Elyria Township – Lorain
HVAC and Steel Door Update

Fairview Park – Cuyahoga
Senior Center Roof Replacement Project

Franklin Township – Portage
AC Replacement
Garage Lighting Project

Freedom Township – Portage
Energy Efficiency Upgrades to Historical School House

Garfield Heights – Cuyahoga
Dan Kostel Recreation Center Energy Improvement Project

Gates Mills – Cuyahoga
Boiler Replacement Mills Building

Geneva Township – Ashtabula
Replace Garage Roof

Grafton Township – Lorain
Fire Department LED Lighting Upgrades

Hanoverton Village – Columbiana
Village Hall Energy Improvements

Harpersfield Township – Ashtabula
Fire Station Furnace Upgrade

Harts Grove Township – Ashtabula
Insulation

Highland Heights – Cuyahoga
Fire Department LED Lighting Project
City Hall Replacement Windows
Shaker House Window Replacement

Highland Hills – Cuyahoga
Emergency Boiler Repair

Hunting Valley – Cuyahoga
HVAC Energy Upgrade

Huntsburg Township – Geauga
New Energy Efficient Windows

Jefferson Village – Ashtabula
Covered Bridge Pavilion Project

Jefferson Township – Ashtabula
Garage Overhead Door Replacement

Kingsville Township – Ashtabula
Township Garage Radiant Floor Heat Upgrade

Kirtland – Lake
LED Lighting Upgrade

Knox Township – Columbiana
Solar Powered LED Stop Sign

LaGrange Township – Lorain
Replacement Energy Efficient Doors on the Township Hall

Lake County – Lake
Nolan Building Window Replacement

Lakewood – Cuyahoga
LED Streetlight Replacements
Electric Vehicle Charging Stations
LED Signal Poles Conversions

LeRoy Township – Lake
Road Garage Heater
Town Hall Ceiling Fans Installation, Lighting Repairs and Electrical Panel Replacement

Macedonia – Summit
Longwood Park Field of Dreams Ballfield Lighting – Phase 1
North Royalton – Cuyahoga
City Green Electrical Upgrades

Norwalk – Huron
City Hall Lighting Upgrades
Police Station Electric Upgrades
Aquatic Center Fan Upgrades

Olmsted Falls – Cuyahoga
Fire Department Energy Efficiency Initiative

Orange Village – Cuyahoga
Traffic Signal Upgrades and Enhancements

Orwell Township – Ashtabula
Facility Improvements for Township Administrative Building

Painesville Township - Lake
LED Lighting Upgrades and new Fire Department Furnace

Paris Township - Portage
Electrical Upgrade for Fire Department Annex Building

Parkman Township – Geauga
LED Lights for 3 Buildings

Parma – Cuyahoga
Fire Department HVAC update

Parma Heights – Cuyahoga
City of Parma Heights Library Roof Rehabilitation Phase 1

Penfield Township – Lorain
LED Light Replacement

Pepper Pike - Cuyahoga
Garage Bay Infrared Heaters

Perry Village – Lake
Replace Fluorescent Lights with LED Maintenance Building Vehicle Storage Lights

Pierpont Township – Ashtabula
Scrolling LED Sign for Townhall

Randolph Township – Portage
Randolph Library HVAC Replacement

Ravenna Township – Portage
Fire and Road Departments Improvements

Reminderville – Summit
Service Department Updates
REC Center LED Update
Heritage Hall Energy Efficiency Improvements

Roaming Shores – Ashtabula
Police Department LED Upgrades

Russell Township – Geauga
Admin Electric Service Upgrade
Fire Station LED Conversion

Sagamore Hills Township – Summit
Safety Center Complete Roof Replacement

Shaker Heights – Cuyahoga
Energy Efficient Boiler Replacement at Police Department Building

Shalersville Township – Portage
2018 Shalersville Township Energy Efficient Project

Sheffield Lake – Lorain
LED Road Sign and Street Lighting
Senior Center Energy Efficient Lighting

Sheffield Village – Lorain
Municipal Building HVAC Retrofit/LED Upgrade

SOPEC – Athens
Biogas Facility Feasibility Study

South Euclid – Cuyahoga
Traffic Signal Installation: Notre Dame College and Cuyahoga County Public Library Driveways on South Green Road

South Russell Village – Geauga
Village Hall and Service Building Siding and Insulation

Springfield Township – Mahoning
Fire Stations LED Replacements

Strongsville – Cuyahoga
Ehrnfelt Recreation Center Energy Efficiency Roof Replacement

Suffield Township – Portage
Road Department Garage Roof

Tiffin – Seneca
City Annex Boiler Replacement

Timberlake – Lake
Village Hall LED Replacements

Troy Township – Geauga
LED Lighting Installed at Community House and Grounds

Twinsburg – Summit
Fire Station Lighting Improvements
Fitness Center Lighting Upgrades

Walton Hills Village – Cuyahoga
Village Hall, Service Garage and Community Center LED Upgrades
LED Holiday Decoration Retrofit

Wayne Township – Ashtabula
Community Center Ovens

Wickliffe – Lake
LED Upgrades
Fire Department Window and Appliance Replacement
Service Department Energy Efficient Glass Block Windows
Traffic Building Door

Willoughby – Lake
City Hall and Service Garage HVAC Upgrades
Police Station Lighting Upgrades
Downtown Traffic Control Box Replacements

Willoughby Hills – Lake
Fire Station Window and Door Replacement

Woodmere Village – Cuyahoga
Village Hall Lighting Upgrades
Since 2017, NOPEC has been working diligently to alleviate the growing problem of misleading and aggressive door-to-door energy solicitors with our Do Not Knock (DNK) Registry program. This program is designed to help protect residents in our member communities.

Our DNK program allows residents to add their address to their community’s registry to prevent for-profit solicitors from any industry from knocking on their doors. To implement this program, NOPEC works with elected leaders in member communities to pass appropriate legislation to establish a Do Not Knock Registry.

NOPEC manages the registry at no cost to the member community or its residents. NOPEC also assists with educating the public about the program as well as informing them of their protected rights. Residents in communities with our DNK program can register online at blocktheknock.com or by mail with postage paid registration cards available at their City or Village Hall. Once a resident signs up, they receive a window cling to display on their door.

There are currently 12 NOPEC member communities participating in the Do Not Knock Program with almost 13,000 residents enrolled.

- Alliance
- Brook Park
- Eastlake
- Highland Hills
- Mentor-on-the-Lake
- Newburgh Heights
- Parma
- Roaming Shores
- Tiffin
- Warren
- Wickliffe
- Willowick

For more information about NOPEC’s Do Not Knock Registry Program, contact Tony Ramos at aramos@nopec.org.
Community Employee Recognition Program

In 2018, NOPEC staff recognized the hard work of the Finance Directors and Fiscal Officers in our member communities. Our recognition program allowed NOPEC the opportunity to express our gratitude to these public employees who help us do our jobs to support them and their residents. These amazing individuals received a certificate of appreciation and a modest gift from NOPEC as thanks for their efforts.

In 2019, we’re recognizing the efforts of our member communities’ safety forces.

To nominate your Police or Fire Chief, please contact our Community Outreach Manager Tony Ramos at aramos@nopec.org.
Seventh grade girls from three Northeast Ohio middle schools participated in the 2018 NOPEC Energy Bike Project. Students from Olmsted Falls Middle School, West Geauga Middle School and Heskett Middle School spent two days building and wiring working energy bikes that were then donated to their schools to use in energy science curricula and share with organizations in their communities.

During the event, the students first learned the mechanics of the Energy Bike through educational materials provided by NOPEC. The girls then applied their knowledge by assembling and wiring the bikes so that the energy produced by peddling could power various light bulbs, radios, fans and hair dryers. They also participated in a variety of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) related games and activities. NOPEC provided the funding and support necessary to bring this program to Northeast Ohio because we recognize the importance of helping encourage the development of the next generation of STEM innovators.
Preferred Pricing Program

The Preferred Pricing Program (PPP) allows NOPEC member communities to buy electricity and natural gas for their municipal loads at cost. This program delivers significant cost savings to our member communities by offering the absolute best pricing available from NOPEC.

Since it was first introduced at the 2017 General Assembly, the program has saved member communities nearly $67,000 on street lighting, $79,000 on natural gas, and $102,000 on electric costs.

Community leaders can lock in 12, 24 or 36-month electric pricing and 12 or 24-month gas pricing for three municipal load categories.

Municipal Load Categories:
- Mercantile Commercial Accounts: Over 500 Mcf/year or over 700,000 kWh/year.
- High Load Factor Commercial Accounts: Accounts that typically run 24 hours a day, seven days a week, such as water treatment facilities.
- Street Lighting Accounts: CEI territory only.

For more information about this program, contact your community’s Relationship Manager at 440.248.1992 or email team@nopec.org.

Charging Station Program Update

NextEra, NOPEC’s energy supplier, is providing cell phone charging stations for use in public spaces, such as libraries and community centers, in NOPEC member communities.

EV Pilot Program Update

NOPEC, in partnership with NextEra, is developing an electric vehicle car share pilot program. This pilot program will make electric vehicles, along with electric car charging stations, available to a limited number of NOPEC member communities.
NOPEC General Assembly members and guests from NOPEC member communities met on November 13 for the 2018 General Assembly Meeting.

Executive Director Chuck Keiper spoke to nearly 200 attendees about the evolution of the energy marketplace in Ohio and how NOPEC uses honest practices to differentiate themselves from retail, for-profit competitors.

“We’ll look out for you,” he said. “We understand human nature and we look out for the interests of our people. They don’t want to constantly worry or watch.”

NOPEC also announced the expansion of the electric program to include five additional rate options. Starting in January 2019, residents can remain in the program price option, a competitive rate that leverages the bulk-buying power of over 225 NOPEC member communities, or they can choose between a variable rate option, fixed rate options or 100% green options.

NOPEC announced the upcoming launch of two new programs for 2019: an electric vehicle car share pilot program and cell phone charging station program. Both programs were created in collaboration with NextEra Energy.
NOPEC utilizes the purchasing power of over 225 member communities to deliver savings to over 900,000 Ohio customers. But negotiating energy savings is just one of the ways that NOPEC works to deliver value to member communities and their residents. Our success and the value we bring to our members are based on a mission of aggregating, educating and advocating. We exist to serve our communities and customers. As a not-for-profit organization, we negotiate for lower energy rates and better terms and conditions. We educate residents and customers in member communities on how they can conserve energy and save even more on their energy bills. And we advocate for consumer-friendly energy legislation at both the state and federal level.

Currently in Ohio, there are hundreds of energy suppliers trying to sell electric and natural gas to your residents. These electric and natural gas retail suppliers often attract customers with low introductory rates only to eventually increase their rates without notifying the customer first. When the customer does notice the price increase and tries to shop for a different rate, we often hear they are subject to paying large cancellation fees. Recently, we have seen many examples of residents in NOPEC member communities who have opted out of the aggregation to jump on a seemingly attractive retail offer and ended up paying two or three times the amount they would have paid had they stayed with NOPEC.

It’s not just about price with NOPEC. Our customers benefit from the full value that NOPEC delivers.

We have your back! We provide customers a safety net free of hidden expenses and predatory practices. Our customers don’t need to be worried about finding themselves paying two to three times over market. NOPEC negotiates market-competitive pricing to minimize rate volatility, offers no risk terms and conditions, and delivers peace of mind.
Electric

Fe Customer Mix

- NOPEC 11%
- Utility Default (SSO) 12%
- PIPP 3%
- w/Retail Supplier 74%

Source: FirstEnergy Ohio Utilities (CEI/OE)–12 Month Historical Load Data as of YE '18

Natural Gas

DEO Customer Mix

- NOPEC 23%
- w/Retail Supplier 40%
- Other Aggregations 10%
- Utility Default SSO 9%
- MVR 1%

Source: DEO SSO/ACO
Auction Information Meeting 12/4/18

2018 NOPEC FirstEnergy (FE) Electric Residential Price vs. Other Market Options ($/kWh)

Electric Chart – Price Comparison Notes:
1) NOPEC Program Price blended for the FE Residential Portfolio (CEI/OE 73%/27%)
2) NOPEC Variable Price is 6% discount to the Utility’s Price to Compare (PTC)
3) “Others” represents the blended average 12-month Fixed Priced Residential Offers provided by the largest Retail Electric Suppliers* and the PTC in CEI/OE (72%/28%)
* Largest retail electric suppliers based on sales volume as reported in PUCO submitted annual reports as of YE 2017

2018 NOPEC Dominion East Ohio (DEO) Price vs. Other Market Options ($/MCF)

- NOPEC Program Price
- NOPEC Variable Price
- Others

2018 NOPEC Columbia Gas of Ohio (COH) Price vs. Other Market Options ($/CCF)

- NOPEC Program Price
- NOPEC Variable Price
- Others

Natural Gas Charts - Price Comparison Notes:
1) NOPEC Variable Price is $0.02/MCF (or $0.002/CCF) discount to the utility Standard Choice Offer (SCO).
2) “Others” represents the blended price of the average 12-month Fixed Price Offers provided by the largest Retail Gas Suppliers* and the SCO (DEO 70%/30%, COH 58%/42%).
* Largest retail gas suppliers based on sales volume as reported in PUCO submitted annual reports as of YE 2017.
Includes EarthEra® Renewable Energy Credits (REC) for 50% of the customer’s energy usage at no additional cost to NOPEC customers. But now NOPEC customers can choose to support growth in renewable energy by calling to upgrade their electric supply to include 100% renewable energy credits.

Pricing for NOPEC’s new fixed rate and 100% renewable products is available at www.nopec.org/option3.

In Spring 2018, NOPEC reduced electric rates for 500,000 Northeast Ohio electric customers.

The reduced rates resulted in a $9 million customer giveback. On average, the rate reduction equaled nearly $18 for residential customers and $39 for small business accounts over the four-month program period, February through May.

More Electric Product Options to Choose From

NOPEC eligible residents and small businesses now have more electric program options than ever before. Our program price is a competitive rate that leverages the bulk-buying power of over 225 NOPEC member communities. Residents can also choose to join the variable rate option which is 6% less than the utility’s price to compare (PTC) for residential accounts and 4% less than the PTC for commercial accounts. Customers who prefer to lock in a rate are now able to choose between a 12-month or 24-month fixed rate option.

NOPEC also introduced 100% renewable energy alternatives as well. In addition to complying with Ohio’s Renewable Portfolio Standard, the electricity supplied by NESO to the NOPEC electric aggregation includes EarthEra® Renewable Energy Credits (REC) for 50% of the customer’s energy usage at no additional cost to NOPEC customers. But now NOPEC customers can choose to support growth in renewable energy by calling to upgrade their electric supply to include 100% renewable energy credits.

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## Financials

### (accrual basis)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Jan – Dec ‘18 (unaudited)</th>
<th>Jan – Dec ‘17 (unaudited)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest Income</td>
<td>$692,832</td>
<td>$524,230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management Fees – Natural Gas</td>
<td>6,381,578</td>
<td>3,110,105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management Fees – Electric</td>
<td>10,181,665</td>
<td>6,699,113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Fees</td>
<td>328,736</td>
<td>378,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUES</strong></td>
<td><strong>17,584,811</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,712,298</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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| **EXPENSES**           |                           |                           |
| Commercial Programs    | 133,502                   | 122,429                   |
| Communication Services | 61,280                    | 69,880                    |
| Community Training     | 0                         | 2,087                     |
| Community Sponsorships | 234,250                   | 0                         |
| Computer Support       | 52,978                    | 28,337                    |
| Contract Labor         | 113,464                   | 83,158                    |
| Customer Database Management – Electric/Gas | 0                     | 11,148                    |
| Customer Giveback      | 9,200,000                 | 0                         |
| Depreciation Expense   | 57,581                    | 51,269                    |
| Insurance              | 12,659                    | 12,660                    |
| Legal Fees – Electric/Gas Aggregation | 976,406                 | 729,570                   |
| Marketing              | 1,718,508                 | 1,118,882                 |
| Membership, Association & Training | 74,441                | 104,099                   |
| Meetings               | 25,340                    | 16,967                    |
| Office Equipment       | 15,407                    | 6,757                     |
| Office Supplies        | 67,304                    | 30,920                    |
| Organizational Development | 83,806                  | 41,742                    |
| Postage and Delivery   | 17,860                    | 12,323                    |
| Professional Fees      | 85,851                    | 179,647                   |
| Sales Support          | 147,340                   | 79,581                    |
| Staff Fringe Benefits/Payroll Tax (NOTE A) | 451,929                | 374,769                   |
| Staff Salaries         | 1,336,076                 | 1,033,738                 |
| Grant to NOPEC, Inc. and support for CRES | 7,300,000               | 800,000                   |
| Telephone              | 35,552                    | 36,759                    |
| Travel                 | 73,832                    | 101,745                   |
| Utilities              | 19,301                    | 13,939                    |
| **TOTAL EXPENSES**     | **22,294,667**            | **5,062,406**             |
| **NET**                | **(4,712,856)**           | **5,649,892**             |

### OTHER INCOME/EXPENSE

|                        |                           |                           |
| Rental Office – Net    | 26,300                    | 13,800                    |

### NET REVENUES AFTER EXPENSE

|                        |                           |                           |
| **NET**                | **$(4,686,556)**          | **$5,663,692**            |

**NOTE A:** No expense effects of GASB 68/75 – Pension and OPE Benefits – on staff fringe benefits are included in the 2018 or 2017 amounts herein.
The Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) is the largest non-profit retail energy aggregation in the United States. Currently, NOPEC supplies electricity and natural gas to more than 900,000 residential and small business customers in over 225 member communities in 17 Ohio counties.

Since 2001, NOPEC has saved its members more than $300 million in cumulative energy savings and has awarded more than $22 million in energy efficiency grants. For more information about NOPEC, visit nopec.org.