



BRAZOS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Aspires to provide innovative and outstanding service to our members and customers.

May 11, 2025

REA Executive Order Signed 90 Years Ago Today

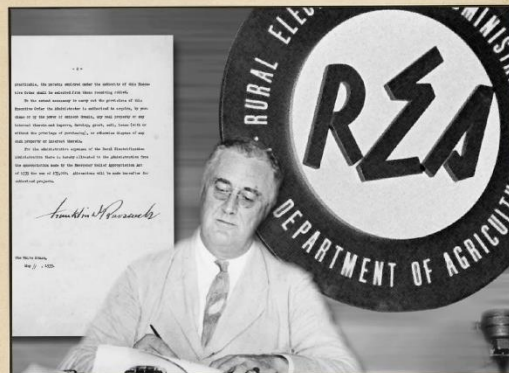
90 years ago today, a presidential signature turned 361 words into a movement that would elevate the quality of life throughout the country. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt issued an executive order creating the Rural Electrification Administration on May 11, 1935.

By 1937, [according to the United States Department of Agriculture](#), "the most spectacular increase of rural electrification in the history of the United States had been achieved. ... More than 1.2 million farms had electric service and the gap between urban and rural standards of living was closing. ... And like no other time in history, the economic landscape of rural areas changed."

Today, [according to NRECA](#), there are 832 distribution cooperatives and 64 co-ops that handle generation and/or transmission.

You can [read the full executive order](#) here.

EXECUTIVE ORDER 7037, SIGNED MAY 11, 1935



"I hereby establish an agency within the Government to be known as the "Rural Electrification Administration," ... to initiate, formulate, administer, and supervise a program of approved projects with respect to the generation, transmission, and distribution of electric energy in rural areas."

PRESIDENT FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT