



Minnesota State Rep. Michael Beard praised for his service

Missouri River Energy Services (MRES) recognizes Minnesota State Rep. Michael Beard (House District 55A, R-Shakopee) as its Featured Lawmaker. Rep. Beard has announced that he will not run for re-election to the Minnesota State House. He was first elected to the State House in 2002, and has served for 12 years.

Rep. Beard has been heavily involved in electric energy issues during his tenure in the Legislature. He has been a leader both in his service on House energy committees and in leading energy debates on the House floor. Also, as a resident of Shakopee, a municipal electric utility community, he has an understanding of municipal electric utility issues and he has brought that knowledge to the State Legislature. He has supported bills and amendments that have helped MRES and its members, including his support, in 2013, of efforts to exempt municipal electric utilities from the state solar energy standard.

Rep. Beard also has been a champion of small and independent business owners and has received the Guardian of Small Business award from the National Federation of Independent Businesses. In advocating on energy issues, he has used his knowledge of the impact of energy rates on businesses to make well-reasoned arguments for well-researched energy policy.

Rep. Beard has been a very engaged legislator and will be missed. MRES and its Minnesota members wish him well in his future endeavors.