



Biography for  
**RICHARD K. THOMAS**

Rick Thomas serves as Chief Executive Officer of the statewide organizations serving North Carolina's electric cooperatives. These organizations include North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation, a generation and transmission cooperative; North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives, a trade association; The Tarheel Electric Membership Association, a central purchasing and materials supply cooperative; and GreenCo Solutions, Inc., a service company to assist the state's electric cooperatives in the development and implementation of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.

Thomas has served the North Carolina electric cooperatives for over thirteen years in various capacities, including finance, power supply, information technologies and strategic planning.

He has broad experience spanning over thirty years in the electric utility industry, especially within the cooperative network. Prior to moving to North Carolina, he was employed by Upshur Rural Electric Cooperative in Gilmer, Texas, and later served as Executive Vice President and General Manager of Northeast Texas Electric Cooperative, a generation and transmission (G&T) cooperative consisting of six member distribution cooperatives located in Longview, Texas.

Thomas is a native of Nacogdoches, Texas. He is a Certified Public Accountant, and holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Stephen F. Austin State University. He and his wife, Suzanne, live in Wake Forest, NC, and have five children.