



Columbia Rural Electric Association

NEWS RELEASE

September 16, 2011

Columbia REA Awarded 2011 Business of the Year by Walla Walla Valley Chamber

Columbia Rural Electric Association (REA) is proud to announce that they were named the 2011 Business of the Year by the Walla Walla Valley Chamber of Commerce at the Business Awards Showcase on September 14th. In winning, it was noted that Columbia REA and its employees truly live up to one of the seven cooperative principles, Concern for Community, through sponsorships, support and volunteering. According to Les Teel, CEO, “We are thrilled about this award and happy to be a part of the Walla Walla Valley Chamber and the great things they do in our community”.

Scott Peters, manager of marketing & member services, notes that there has been a renewed focus on involvement in the communities we serve over the last few years and it has been noticed. In 2010 Columbia REA was awarded the Business of the Year award by the Dayton Chamber and they were named the Healthy Business of the Year by the Walla Walla Valley Chamber of Commerce. For two years in a row they have won the Best of the Best Places to work in the Walla Walla Valley area by the Walla Walla Union Bulletin newspaper’s reader’s poll. Columbia REA has been serving our member owners with reliable power for more than 73 years in Walla Walla and Columbia Counties.