PRESIDENT'S PREROGATIVE

TO: **IEDA Board**
FROM: **Glen Vortherms**
RE: **IEDA Membership Recruitment**
DATE: **September 7th, 2026**

The President's Prerogative is an initiative to attempt to educate members and increase engagement. We will take time to discuss issues to enhance participation, improve knowledge exchange and enhance IEDA operations.

History

IEDA's membership, budget and dues have evolved over time. While IEDA's core mission hasn't changed much, we have attempted to adapt to some of the changes in both the water and power industry to increase IEDA's value to its members.

Membership has expanded since IEDA was restructured, with seven new members added. This is mostly due to relationships of existing members with these new members. The purpose of this prerogative is to explore the concept of Associate Memberships.

Prior to the reformulation of IEDA, associate members were members who received the information, could participate in IEDA meetings, but were not able to vote. They essentially received all the benefits at about half the cost.

We instituted a policy that public water and power entities should only be full members to avoid some opting in at a discounted rate. During the most recent Advisory Committee meeting, I was surprised how many statewide associations

utilize associate membership for entities that we would traditionally target for sponsorships.

We have recently been contacted by Rainmaker, which is a cloud-seeding company. They have an interest in possible sponsorship or becoming an associate member. The IEDA by-laws allow for associate membership, but we currently haven't approved/accepted any associate members.

Agenda Discussion

1. What is the Board's position on adding associate members?

2. Besides sponsorship of the IEDA Annual Meeting, what access/benefits would be included?

3. What would associate membership dues look like?

4. Do you have any large accounts payable customers that you think would be a good fit for associate membership?

5. Other ideas or questions?