

Kevin Hopper first went to work for the Sho-Me Electric Power Cooperative, a Generation and Transmission electric cooperative headquartered in Marshfield, Missouri and covering twenty-five percent of the state, in May of 1981 as a nineteen-year old engineering student. He graduated from the University of Missouri at Rolla (UMR) with a BS in Electrical Engineering and a minor in Computer Science in 1985 and went to work for Sho-Me full time. In 1988 Hopper graduated with an MBA from Drury University. He went on to teach Economics and Strategic Management at Drury as an adjunct faculty member for twelve years. Hopper left his position as the Chief Operating Officer of Sho-Me in May 2008 to become Manager, Transmission Planning at Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc. (AECI) in Springfield. He is a member of various organizations including the SERC Engineering Committee.

AECI covers the state of Missouri, northeast Oklahoma, and southeast Iowa and a few of its registrations with NERC include Balancing Authority, Transmission Operator / Owner, and Transmission Service Provider. AECI has 5,200 MW of generation, over 170 interconnections with 20 neighboring utilities and along with six member-owner cooperatives, operates a transmission system consisting of 9,324 miles of lines at voltages of 69 kV through 500kV.

He is married and has four children.