Social Media Contract for Youth Tour Participants

Name: ___________________________ Cooperative: ___________________________

Social media, such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, YouTube, personal texting, and others, are powerful tools of communication that can have significant impact on your personal reputation as well as the reputations of the cooperative you are representing, the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperative (AIEC) and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

Your parent/guardian and you must read and sign this contract acknowledging personal responsibility to use social media responsibly as a cooperative representative and a representative of AIEC on the NRECA Youth Tour. Please adhere to the following rules and guidelines when posting on social media sites while on Youth Tour or thereafter concerning Youth Tour:

- Think twice before posting. Privacy does not exist in the world of social media. Even if you think the information will disappear after a few minutes, an image with your name attached can last a lifetime. Consider what could happen if a post becomes widely known and how that may reflect on your reputation, the reputation of your family and friends, the reputation of your cooperative, AIEC and NRECA. Moreover, the information you place online could jeopardize your future when applying to college or a job for years after Youth Tour.
- Always be authentic. Be honest about your identity. If you post personally or use a Youth Tour hashtag, make sure you are being a positive representative of your cooperative, AIEC and NRECA Youth Tour.
- When posting on social media while on Youth Tour, you will not be disrespectful, disingenuous, inappropriate or offensive.
- Never pretend to be someone else when you post personally or as a Youth Tour representative.
- Be respectful and thoughtful. Youth Tour participants are committed to showing respect and dignity for all people and to the civil and thoughtful discussion of opposing ideas. Treat others the way you would like them to treat you on social media sites.
- Know the rules. Become familiar with the terms of service and policies of the social media sites and networks in which you participate and the appropriate code of ethics required for responsible online communications.
- If you have a question about something you want to post, please ask a tour leader.
- If any Illinois tour chaperone asks you to remove a post or a tag to the youth programs, you agree to do as requested.
- Students who engage in inappropriate use of social media sites, including electronic text, may be required to remove all posts in question from social media sites, be required to show tour leaders their social media sites when asked or be sent home at the expense of their parent(s), or be subject to any other actions that may be appropriate or required based on the circumstances.

These guidelines and rules are non-negotiable, and the consequences are dependent on the degree of misuse of social media.

Parent Signature(s) ___________________________ Date: ______________

Student Signature ___________________________ Date: ______________