

enchantment

The Voice of New Mexico's Rural Electric Cooperatives

STUMPED

Collecting an Ancient Fossil Tree Stump



April 2017

SEC's Optional Renewable Resource Power Rider

Do you want to go "green" but circumstances prevent you from installing solar in your home or business? Would you like the peace of mind that comes with knowing you are helping to reduce your carbon footprint? Let us help you meet your environmental goals!

In 2016, approximately 26 percent of the energy Tri-State (SEC's wholesale power supplier) and its member systems delivered to more than one million consumers was generated from renewable resources, making the association one of the leading utilities in the country for using renewable power.

To assist in the continued development of renewables, Sierra Electric, in conjunction with Tri-State, offers its members an Optional Renewable Resource Power Rider. Members can choose to purchase 100 kWh blocks of renewable resources for just \$0.09 each. This rider is billed monthly as an added charge to the monthly rate under which the participating member is presently served.

For example, if your home or business averages 500 kWh each month, you may choose to purchase five 100 kWh blocks of renewable resources for just \$0.45 extra on your monthly bill!

Your purchase of these renewable resources blocks helps support the continued development of renewable resources for the electricity being generated and delivered to Sierra Electric and its members.

For more information, or to apply for the Optional Renewable Resource Power Rider, contact our office at 575-744-5231.

Note: The Optional Renewable Resource Power Rider rate can change annually based on review by Tri-State.

Making Changes to Your Membership

As a member you receive capital credits, which is the portion of the margin of profits retired by the Board of Trustees.

Memberships at the cooperative are considered either single or joint. Only married persons or those persons joined in a legal relationship are considered joint memberships. If you are married or in a legal partnership and are receiving a bill in only your name, then you may need to add your spouse or legal partner to the membership. To request the change, please send a signed letter including the date of the request, the full legal name of your spouse or legal partner and a note to add that person to your membership. Or, you can submit a copy of your marriage license or legal partnership documents and we will change your

membership to joint and add your spouse's or partner's name to the membership.

The other membership type is single. No other person can be added to a single person's membership.

The cooperative recognizes there are circumstances in which members may want person(s) to have access to their account, to receive a copy of the bill or to have their name appear on a bill. If you have questions about how to authorize a non-member access to your account, please contact our office.

Also, when a member is deceased, the membership should be terminated. If you are a spouse of a deceased member and there is no will, please contact us to transfer the membership into your name only. We will need a photocopy of the death certificate that indicates you are the surviving spouse.

If a deceased member has a will and has assigned an executor or personal representative, we can assign the name of the executor or personal representative to the account until the estate has been settled. Please provide a photocopy of the death certificate and a photocopy of the court documents or signed will naming you as the executor, inheritor or personal representative and we will ask you how you want to proceed with the membership—either terminating the membership, keeping it active until the estate is settled or transferring it to the inheritor of the estate.

If you are continuing to pay an account under a deceased member's name, please contact us to create a membership in your name so that you may receive the full benefits of cooperative membership.

Know What's Below: Call before You Dig

Whether it's a dreamed up deck addition or a landscaping masterpiece, summer weather is a great time for outdoor improvement plans to actually play out.

But if your planned projects include digging, like planting a tree or bringing in a backhoe for trench work, you'll have to wait a few more days so the job can be done safely. Underground utilities, such as buried gas, water and electric lines, can be a shovel thrust away from turning a summer project into a disaster.

To find out where utility lines run on your property, dial 811 from anywhere in the country a few days prior to digging. Your call will be routed to a local "one call" center. Tell the operator where you're planning to dig and what type of work you will be doing, and affected local utilities will be notified.

In a few days, a locator will arrive to designate the approximate location of any underground lines, pipes and cables with flags or marking paint so you'll know what's below. Then the safe digging can begin.

Although many homeowners tackling do-it-yourself digging projects are aware of "Call Before You Dig" services, the majority don't take advantage of the service. A national survey showed that only 33 percent of homeowners called to have their lines marked before starting digging projects, according to the Common Ground Alliance, a federally mandated group of underground utility and damage prevention industry professionals.

Never assume the location or depth of underground utility lines. There's no need: the 811 service is free, prevents the inconvenience of having utilities interrupted, and can help you avoid serious injury. For more information about local services, visit www.call811.com.

Board of Trustees

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Thomas Stroup	Trustee	Elephant Butte	District 2

Board Meeting

The board of trustees meets the third Friday of the month at 8:30 a.m. in the cooperative boardroom.



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Office Hours

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (M-F)

General Manager

Jimmy Capps

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative